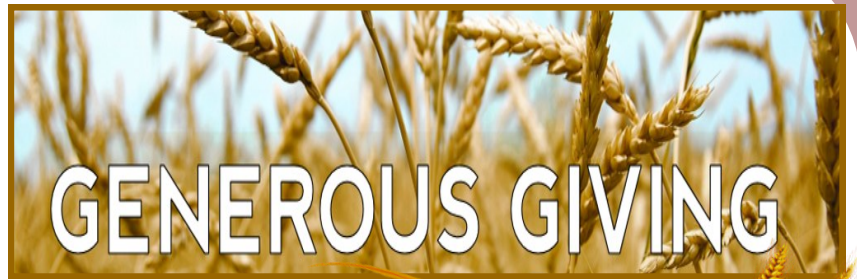




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"Five To Thrive" Campaign — A Small Monthly Commitment for a Huge Impact in Shelby Co.

We wish to extend a challenge to you:

- ☑ If you know of someone who has benefitted from an SCCO home repair,
 - ☑ If you have heard of a low-income family who's been helped by the affordable furniture at Hero's Attic,
 - ☑ If you have seen an SCCO Community Service Project improve an elderly or disabled person's yard,
 - ☑ If you're aware of how many people are helped by SCCO Bridging the Gap to find needed resources,
- If you would like to see **these** programs continue into the future, then ask yourself, "Can I afford to give just \$5.00 every month to support this local organization which does so much good for so many?"

We hope the answer is "Yes!" and that we can count on you to step in and become an integral part of SCCO's financial solution.

SCCO is growing and we need your help to sustain that growth. Over the past couple of months, we've had to access our meager savings just to meet payroll expenses on at least 4 different occasions. Thankfully, we had a little to draw from, but it is quickly evaporating. Non-profit organizations like ours rely on committed staff to do the work which needs to be done on a day-to-day basis. The only way to maintain that staff is for SCCO to develop a solid, consistent base of monthly donations from which we can budget our expenses.

Our "Five to Thrive" campaign has been our attempt to build this base. The concept is a simple one: \$5 per month is considered a base unit of support. Sign up to be a monthly donor for as many units as you are comfortable with. Perhaps it's 1 unit at \$5, or maybe it's 6 units at \$30, or possibly 10 at \$50. The dollar amount is up to you and your comfort level, but the fact of the matter is that SCCO can only provide these valuable services if we have proper financial support and a committed staff to carry out our mission.

Thank you for accepting the challenge of being part of the SCCO Funding Solution!



Client Corner

Home Repair ~ "As a widow of six years, I have found it very difficult to get persons to help me around my home with repairs and advising me on those projects. Such a relief to have SCCO help me and have those projects completed." M.U. Harlan, IA



Bridging the Gap ~ "The most important thing about SCCO Bridging the Gap is helping people that are in need to get them on the right path to a better future."
S.Z. Harlan, IA



From the Director :

Fall is in the air and with it comes the beginning - of the end, of another year. They seem to fly by the older I get, and I know I'm not the only one who feels that way. As this will be the last newsletter of the year for SCCO, it's time to reflect on 2025 and share some thoughts and statistics for you to enjoy!

After $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year has passed, our Home Repair Ministry has been on 205 service calls and has tallied 466 hours of labor, while accomplishing 326 different jobs for area residents in need of help around their homes. 87% of those service calls were for repeat clients, which indicates the scope of the need and the confidence those clients have in our services.

Women—single, widowed, divorced, or heads of households—accounted for 69% of all service calls made. Again, this indicates that the help which SCCO provides impacts the lives of many who are in vulnerable circumstances and do not have a support system in place for this type of work when it comes up. Women like M.C. from Harlan who still remembers our help to her in a time of need a few years back:

"The most important thing about SCCO's Home Repair has been their ability to help in an emergency, or near emergencies, in a timely and sometimes immediate manner, regardless of your financial situation. My mother had foot surgery, and I was unaware that she would not be able to put any weight on her foot when she got home. We needed a wheelchair ramp put in within 48 hours, and SCCO was able to do that for us. We've also had some plumbing issues arise and they have always been there to help us when we were unable to get plumbers out to take care of it. I believe SCCO provides an invaluable service to our community. They have been a blessing and Godsend to me and my family. Thank you for all of your help and all that you do!"

This is just one of the hundreds of grateful clients which we've been able to help over the past 20 years of serving Shelby County and surrounding communities. Not all calls represent an emergency, but to those who rely on us for this type of work it is certainly peace of mind and assurance that there is some place to call and someone to help them in their time of need. It's probably not a stretch to say that everyone reading this newsletter is either in the 69% of women needing help or know of one who falls into that category. A mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, niece, daughter, friend, neighbor- we all have someone in our lives who could use a little help.

Are you able to stand with those faithful donors of ours who financially support SCCO on a regular basis? We can only provide these valuable services to our community with your ongoing financial assistance. **Please consider filling out the enclosed response form to sign up as an ACH monthly donor** or to send in an annual donation to help us end 2025 in the black and propel us into next year.

Thank you in advance for helping us to help them!

Ron French Executive Director-SCCO

