



PADUCAH COOPERATIVE MINISTRY

SHARE A NEW START CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

OUR MISSION

Paducah Cooperative Ministry seeks to “Do God’s Work with Human Hands” by uniting individuals, businesses, community organizations and congregations to address basic human needs. We are committed to serving our neighbors with dignity, respect, and compassion.

OUR IMPACT

161

Fresh Start Village

Women and children served with 76% moving to stable housing.

1,470

Support Services

Instances of household support to help break cycles of homelessness.

800

Food Pantry

Families served each month.

5,503

Volunteer Hours

Hours of service from community members who support program operations.

OUR PROGRAMS

Since its founding in 1973, Paducah Cooperative Ministry (PCM) has been a beacon of hope, providing essential services to individuals and families in Paducah and McCracken County who face homelessness, hunger, and hardship.

PCM’s Fresh Start Village operates as the only transitional housing in Paducah and McCracken County for those in poverty, offering women and children a safe space with wraparound services, community support, and a pathway to independence. Through life skills workshops, job preparation, financial planning, and access to vital resources, residents gain the tools needed to rebuild their lives.

Beyond shelter, PCM’s support services provide financial assistance and connect individuals who have experienced homelessness with partner organizations, helping to break the cycle of instability and foster long-term self-sufficiency.

PCM’s food pantry is a vital lifeline, serving families each month with groceries, ready-to-eat meals, and specialized nutrition support for seniors. With demand increasing 41% in 2023, PCM remains committed to ensuring that no one in our community goes hungry, strengthening lives through compassion and service.

CONTACT US:

sharepcm.org

270-442-6795



THE NEED

Homelessness in Paducah often goes unseen but exists in our neighborhoods, schools, and congregations. In 2022, Mercy Health—Louis Hospital identified housing instability and food insecurity as major social issues impacting health. That same year, 112 homeless individuals were recorded in McCracken County by Kentucky Housing Corporation, a number that surged 71% by 2024.

PCM has witnessed this rise firsthand, receiving 75 monthly shelter requests and placing an average of 11 households in Fresh Start Village, which housed 49 guests per month for an average stay of 116 days in 2024. Food insecurity compounds the crisis, with PCM's pantry serving 41% more households in 2023 and over 5,100 households in 2024. Homelessness and food insecurity are deeply connected issues that require a coordinated, community-wide response to restore hope and stability to those in need.

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EXPANDING CRITICAL SERVICES IN 2025

As homelessness rises in Paducah and McCracken County, PCM has identified a critical gap in services: the need for an emergency overnight shelter. While Fresh Start Village provides longer-term transitional housing, there is no immediate refuge for individuals and families in crisis.

To address this, PCM is launching a 50-bed emergency shelter for men, women and children. More than a place to sleep, this facility will offer dignity, security, and essential services, including secure storage, shower facilities, and meals. Guests will also have access to community health workers who provide personalized support, the shelter will offer nutritious meals, shower facilities, and personalized support from trained community health workers. Through partnerships with local organizations, guests will gain access to employment resources, housing assistance, and mental health services, ensuring they receive the comprehensive care and guidance needed to regain stability and build a path toward long-term independence.

As part of its expansion, PCM's food pantry is moving to a larger facility at 425 Legion Drive that will enable the adoption of a client-choice model—an approach that redefines how food assistance is provided. This model transforms the traditional pantry experience into one that mirrors a grocery store, where guests can shop and select groceries based on their individual dietary needs, cultural preferences, and household sizes. The client-choice model is about more than food distribution; it is about respect, dignity, and empowerment. By giving individuals and families the autonomy to choose the items that best suit their needs, the model fosters a sense of normalcy and control during times of hardship.

By leveraging community collaboration and targeted solutions, PCM remains a vital force in addressing homelessness and food insecurity, offering hope and stability to the most vulnerable members of our community.



GET INVOLVED

PCM embodies the best of our community—faith, compassion, and a commitment to caring for our neighbors. Through this campaign, we can ensure PCM remains a vital anchor for those in need, providing safety, sustenance, and opportunity.

Join us in this essential work and help build a brighter future for Paducah—together, we are doing God's work with human hands.

To learn more about the
Share a New Start Capital Campaign or to make a
donation, please visit www.sharepcm.org