

IN MISSION & MINISTRY

United Methodists at Work Rebuilding Lives & Communities



“What a joy that we have ... to provide so much to so many that need it.”

Tens of thousands of Kansans lack the basic necessities that many of us take for granted. As a United Methodist, you are making a difference through the ministries of United Methodist Open Door and United Methodist Western Kansas Mexican American Ministries.

Started in 1974, MAM offers a comprehensive array of social, spiritual, educational and medical programs through centers located in Garden City, Dodge City, Liberal, Ulysses, Johnson and Satanta.

“We are a Christian organization first,” said Stephanie Waggoner, MAM director. “That is where our heart and soul will always be. And I think you see that in all that everyone does. Everyone who works here truly believes in the ministry and the mission to provide care to those in need.”

MAM’s food banks serve more than 7,000 people and its clothing banks serve 6,500 families each year. While the agency’s name implies a focus on Mexican-Americans, MAM serves people of all races and ethnic backgrounds.



“What a joy that we have the privilege and support of the United Methodist conference and local churches to be able to provide so much to so many that need it,” Waggoner said.



United Methodist Western Kansas Mexican American Ministries

“I hear a lot of times, ‘Well, why don’t you just let the local church do that?’” said Rev. Deann Smith, executive minister at United Methodist Open Door. “Well, we are the local church doing that. What we do is connective in mission

Filling a Need



United Methodist Open Door



and ministry. We support those agencies that have the professional knowledge to help the families.”

Located in Wichita, United Methodist Open Door, formerly United Methodist Urban Ministry,

focuses on providing food, clothing and shelter to people in need through seven programs.

The balanced-nutrition food-boxes are distributed to 3,000 families each month. Over half of those served are on fixed incomes from Social Security or disability. The Klothes Kloset serves 17,000 families each year.

Open Door also works both with people who have become homeless and with people who are on the brink of becoming homeless through several programs. The Drop-In Center is the only daytime shelter in the area. It serves 160 people each day. The Transitional Housing program helps individuals and families who have become homeless get back on their feet. VisionQuest targets people on the verge of becoming homeless and helps them stay off the streets.

United Methodists at Work ...

Partial funding for Open Door and Western Kansas Mexican American Ministries comes from the conference’s mission and ministry funds.

MAM and Open Door, with your church’s support through the conference mission and ministry fund apportionments, are rebuilding lives and communities in Kansas every day. ■

Learn More About ...

Open Door at www.umopendoor.org.
MAM at www.ummam.org.