

# Dixon Area Caring Center

By Susan Hohman

Approximately four years after the inception of the idea for a local facility that catered to the core of needs in our community was birthed, the Dixon Area Caring Center opened its doors for business on March 18, 2008. Patterned after two other local resale stores – St. James Caring Center and Good Samaritan, of Waynesville – the DACC offers the best of both types of store. Items are reasonably priced, and the layout is conducive to ease of shopping. The food pantry remained offsite until the shelves were up, some three to six months after the Caring Center opened. Food pantry items are available once a month to residents of the Dixon R-1 school district who face an emergency situation.

The adage: “See a need, fill a need” describes the efforts behind the Dixon Area Caring Center (DACC). Conceived in the minds of two caring, industrious individuals eleven years ago, the establishment now stands as a testament of their perseverance. Seeing the need to expand the food pantry offered by their church, the two submitted a written presentation to the pastor and board at Dixon Assembly of God. They proposed being able to stock the pantry with proceeds from a thrift store. Pastor Larry Albertson then shared this proposal with the Dixon Ministerial Alliance.

Caring Center Director, Mendy Sinden, and Store Manager, Anna Parton, utilize their organizational skills to rotate



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items on a regular basis. In addition, three part-time employees: Wanda Gray, Phyllis Holtsclaw, and Greg Lee round out the regular staff. DACC obtained a grant to fund the hiring of Mr. Lee, who is in charge of handling all things related to the recycling program on the premises. Some of Mr. Lee’s duties include regular dumping of the recycling bins, baling the items for transport and taking apart and separating electronics objects.

In addition to the thrift store and food pantry, a community room is available for classes and learning workshops. “Celebrating Recovery,” a substance-abuse course, meets at DACC each Monday evening, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Also, Good Samaritan of Waynesville has partnered with the Caring Center to distribute com-

modities on the third Thursday of each month between the hours of 1:00 and 3:00 p.m., which is an added blessing for local families in need.

A Christian, not-for-profit, 501-C-3 corporation, Dixon Area Caring Center depends on its board (currently 12-members strong), and the generosity of community benefactors to see that the doors stay open and the lights remain on. The food pantry is also stocked with donations from various members of our community. Since 2014, DACC has operated a

recycling program on the grounds, as mentioned above. Containers for #1 and #2 plastics, tin, and aluminum are found outside the building, for folks to drop off materials suitable for recycling. DACC also accepts paper and cardboard for recycling, but those materials must be dropped off inside the facility during regular business hours. And, they have teamed with a recycling company that accepts clothing in any shape, and DACC receives funds for those items to pour back into the operation of the Caring Center.

Each year, the DACC hosts its annual Back to School fair in Au-

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## Welcome Everyone! Come Worship With Us!



### Dixon Assembly of God

810 West 4th Street,  
P.O. Box 1190  
Dixon, MO 65459

1assemblyofgod@windstream.net

573-759-7290  
573-759-6526 (Fax)

**Pastor – Scott Ballard, Sr.**

SERVICES: Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  
• Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
Evening - 6:00 p.m.  
• Wednesday Bible and Youth - 6:30 p.m.

#### Ministries:

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