

**Organization Name** Mercy's Gate – updated April 20, 2024



**Liaison(s)** Steve Shively

**Who is served** El Paso County

**Funds used for** Unless we specify what we want the grant to support, it will go into the general operating fund.

**Mission of Organization** Mercy's Gate was founded in 1982 as Northern Churches Care by five area churches who wanted to offer low-income families a simple food pantry. In 2012, the name changed to Mercy's Gate to better represent the expanded services offered to neighbors in crisis, now throughout El Paso County. The Mercy's Gate Mission can be summed up by their motto, "Changing Lives, One Neighbor at a Time."

For people in crisis, Mercy's Gate offer relief, the hope of the Gospel, and vision for restoration. In 2022, Mercy's Gate directly impacted 29,647 people in crisis within the El Paso County community by providing:

- Housing Assistance: 1,426 people impacted
- Utility Assistance: 615 people impacted
- Medical Assistance: 1,158 people impacted
- Household and Clothing Assistance: 1,982 people impacted
- Transportation Assistance: 3,034 people impacted
- Food Pantry Assistance: 11,755 people impacted
- Compassion Services:
  - Prayer and Counseling: 1,243 people impacted
  - The Hope of the Gospel: 485 people impacted
  - Community Referrals: 675 people impacted
- Seasonal Services: 4,772 people impacted
- Additional Services: 2,520 people impacted

Mercy's Gate core values include:

- Christ-centered: they follow Jesus' leading and seek to share His love.
- Compassion: they listen to understand, leading us to act in love.
- Teamwork: they coordinate efforts as the hub to achieve a common goal.
- Stewardship: Mercy's gate maximizes money, time and relationships to achieve and demonstrate results.

**How St. Michael's Can Volunteer** As individuals. there are many opportunities for you to volunteer time and talent at Mercy's Gate. Some of them are reflected here: Food Pantry Host,

Food Pantry Shopper, Prayer Volunteer, Greeter, Food Pantry Stocker, Food Pick-up Volunteer, Advocate, Front Desk Volunteer, Phone Volunteer, Data Entry Volunteer, COPE Volunteer, Special Events Volunteer. There are also seasonal opportunities as well such as Income Tax Preparation. Needs for volunteers are always changing but current needs are provided on their website: [www.mercysgatecs.org](http://www.mercysgatecs.org).

For more information on this program, contact our St Mike's co-liaisons, Steve Shively by email at [steve.shively@comcast.net](mailto:steve.shively@comcast.net) or Bob Pettis at 719.339.1724. You can also contact the Mercy's Gate Program Manager, Jenny Kay at 719.427.2115. Jenny can also be reached at: [jenny.kay@mercysgatecs.org](mailto:jenny.kay@mercysgatecs.org).

**How St. Michael's has Engaged in the past** As a church, St. Michael's supports Mercy's Gate with grants through the Outreach Program and periodic food drives to benefit the food pantry. St. Michael's is a charter church partner. 3 people are directly involved. Recipient of donations from all donation drives.