



bringing HOPE to children
and families

Serving Our Neighbors (SON) Ministries

A message from our Executive Director

We are passionate about doing all we can to support children and families in the suburban setting as they take steps OUT of poverty. We are responding to God's call on my life March 3, 2007 to **love, feed and serve the children facing poverty** in my suburban town (where one in four children is facing poverty) and **mobilize the community to Serve Our Neighbor**. Next, we are responding directly to the needs that the children and families we are called by God to serve, are sharing with us: helping move people toward what the women, parents and even the children we serve have literally said would help them the most each time we ask: work/jobs.

Poverty is moving to the first ring suburbs across the U.S.A. One in four children in the Hilliard School district is facing poverty; one in five in Dublin and nearly one in three in Worthington and Westerville. God calls us to love and serve the poor. Studies show that **"A child raised in a poor household has more than a 1 in 3 chance of spending the rest of their life living in poverty."** According to a recent Columbus Dispatch article. **This is our motivation. This is what we want to break. We are providing ladders to help children and their families escape poverty.**

God is showing us that all He has built at SON Ministries, in the first five years, has been a structural foundation to support helping people move toward meaningful and lasting employment: **JOBS**. Helping children as they grow (with enough healthy food, with tutoring and homework help) and their parents (with English, Job Readiness, Legal Advice) are all to support finding employment that will allow families to be stabilized and dreams to be fulfilled. We believe education and

connecting adults to meaningful work is the best way to empower them to break the cycle of poverty families. We have seen it to be true repeatedly. We have responded to learning that preschool for disadvantaged children today is workforce development for 20 years from now. Thus far, SON Ministries has made strong efforts in helping adults and children toward fulfilling their employment potential now and in the future in three significant ways: **Adult Job Readiness training**, multiplication of **Taco Bell Jr.** (see inside story highlighting our 10th summer), **Early Learning** for preschool aged children at our Family ESL program.

We believe: people get work done but work also gets people done. When we work, we use our God-given passions, gifts and talents to make a difference in this world, in our community, our schools and our homes. Working and serving God is truly a blessing. Our jobs are a large part of who we are and how we express who God created us to be. We are working toward a Social Enterprise – a for profit company that will employ teens and adults we serve who otherwise might have barriers to work as well as help to fund the work of SON Ministries.

New This Year

A structured time of prayer with staff and community members "Pray for Hilliard" every Tuesday 9am-9:30am. We lift the entire community in prayer asking God to protect, bless and be glorified.

Our *Community Education* surged due to the increase in requests for us to facilitate Poverty Simulations, by suburban school districts and community groups. The Poverty Simulation is a unique, enlightening half day experience that helps individuals begin to understand

what life is like with a shortage of money and an abundance of stress. It moves people to think about the harsh realities of poverty and to talk about how communities can address the problem collectively with a Hand Up, full of respect. Most importantly, it encourages people to make a difference.

We are humbled to serve the children and families God brings us from 41 countries. My friend Aaron Starr shared with me a realization he had this year: children facing poverty are tough, adaptable, rough around the edges, will go anywhere and have strong survival skills. All together creating a unique skillset that God could use to send to the ends of the earth to proclaim Him. I agree! We want children to learn how much God loves them and we are showing His love tangibly through the relationships we build at the effective programs we offer through this ministry.

Join this exciting community building movement – as an individual, a church, a business, a civic association – together we are Serving Our Neighbors by helping our neighbors fulfill their dreams of meaningful and lasting employment – all to the glory of God.



Kim Emch
Founder and
Executive Director

Serving Our
Neighbors (SON)
Ministries

Programs & Services

Hilliard Free Lunch Summer Camp for Kids

(Since 2008)

Addressing the needs of low-income families when school is not in session - serving children ages K-18: breakfast, lunch, FUN pro-social day camp activities and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Nutritious food and physical activities promote healthy child development.

Developing Entrepreneurs:

Taco Bell Jr. (Since 2012): child invented restaurant, fully run by K – 8th grade children at one site inside the free summer lunch program. Customers are local leaders and business people. **NEW:** Children’s Enterprises at 2 additional sites: replicating our Taco Bell Jr. model. Equipping children with



entrepreneurial/ business skills and expose them to business leaders in their community. Helped them identify as future entrepreneurs and leaders, taking steps out of poverty. Partnered with Junior Achievement of Central Ohio.

Educational Initiatives address summer learning loss:

Reading Buddies: Older children, teens and adults read with younger children.

Teen Internship

Program: Teens from diverse socioeconomic, cultural and religious backgrounds

receive training and leadership opportunities in a 4 week volunteer term as they develop a lifelong commitment to Serving Our Neighbor.

Connecting Families to Resources

Responding to family requests by phone and in person.

Founded and maintains www.HilliardHelps.org (Since 3/10), a centralized listing of community specific resources that links families in need with a network of caring organizations and community members.

Programs to respond to emerging community needs with partners

The Good Tidings Christmas Store where low-income parents joyfully purchase new toys at dramatically reduced prices with Cornerstone Christian Fellowship. (since 2013)

FREE Legal Clinic through partnership with Columbus Bar Association. (Monthly since 2012)



Consults and partners with organizations to respond to community needs:

New School Shoes: each child who attended our summer program received a new pair of shoes of their color/style choice and size to start off their school year. Partnership with Cypress Church. (NEW 2016)

Free Water Safety/Swim Lessons for low-income children. Partnership with Hilliard Parks & Rec. (Since 2015)

Back to School Supply Store: coached a church partner in the “dignity store” model of responding to community needs. Low-income families shop for new school supplies at dramatically reduced prices. Partnership with Hilliard Presbyterian Church. (Since 2015)

Family ESL Program

(Since 2008)

A school year length, full family educational program to help break the cycle of poverty.

Early Childhood: infants and preschool aged children are cared for and receive elements of early literacy and kindergarten readiness preparation.

Kids Club: school-aged children receive academic support, recreational programming and healthy snacks. **NEW:** community partners, “Snack Angels”, help us provide substantial nutritious snacks or light meals to hungry children nightly.

Teen Internship Program: teens from diverse socioeconomic, cultural and religious backgrounds



receive training, leadership opportunities in a four week volunteer term as they develop a lifelong commitment to Serving Our Neighbor.

Adult ESL (English as a Second Language) Classes: adults study English and improve their employability and income security. **NEW:**

Parents as Educators: invited professional educator to coach parents on how to work with their children at home over the summer to minimize summer learning loss and develop a lifelong love of learning and reading. **Job Readiness** (Since 2013): adults learn valuable skills critical to finding meaningful employment including resume building and interview practice in partnership with The Salvation Army.

Community Education

Teaching organizations, businesses, churches, individuals and schools:

Poverty Simulations: for groups of 47-100 people, to uncover the challenges of poverty, break down barriers, generate a compassionate response to community action.

The Community Development model: working to help children and families take steps out of poverty through partnerships, collaboration, a hand up and respect based efforts.

The SON Ministries model: of identifying and addressing needs in other suburban communities to reach more children and families facing the unique challenges of suburban poverty.

Community building through volunteer recruiting and coaching: of 569 people dedicating 16,495 service hours to Serve Our Neighbor building a compassionate community where all gifts and talents are utilized and community is built and all are transformed.

Teens in Service Training Class: training young people to connect to meaningful service and to begin to develop a life-long commitment to Serving Our Neighbor.



Children’s Business Entrepreneurial Summer Camp



HoRIZE’n Shine



America’s Best Cookout



Taco Bell Jr.

featuring eggs and pancakes with mix ins. Each restaurant ran once a week for five weeks and the children worked and planned in preparation throughout the week. More than 225 members of the community came as customers to support the children: from the Hilliard Mayor, Children’s Hunger Alliance board members, State Representatives, Columbus and Hilliard City Council members, Ohio Dairy Assoc. president, school district administrators, principals, teachers and many more!

School year 2015-2016 as we prayed seeking God’s will about our priorities for summer lunch 2016:

- First we knew we would FEED the children, hunger is real in suburban poverty and we needed to start there as we had for nine years.
- Second we knew we wanted to pour LOVE into the children, believe in them, pray with them, DREAM with them.
- Third we asked ... if we were so blessed with time with nearly 1,000 children created in the image of God, who are also facing poverty, what would the third thing be that we would do this summer?

We all agreed the BEST programming activity SON Ministries has done at the Hilliard Free Lunch Summer Camp for Kids was “Taco Bell Jr.” as this teaches children how to dream BIG, work hard and run their own business. We pray it is helping them escape a life of poverty. Praying I felt God saying “flip it”. So we got an AMBITIOUS vision: what if we flipped our summer camp into a Business Entrepreneurial Summer Camp that taught children K-8th grade how to run their own business – replicated Taco Bell Jr. to multiple lunch sites – as well as fed the children a free lunch because they are facing poverty. It was ambitious but we agreed the children were worth it!

Next, we contacted Junior Achievement and asked them to partner with us so we could teach the children deeper business skills to help them run their business. We recruited six of our SON Ministries Champions who are themselves entrepreneurs. They were trained in the J.A. materials then came to our lunch sites for five weeks and taught the business material to the K-8th grade campers. We then invited Special Guest Entrepreneurs to come to camp to speak and tell their own stories of hard work, perseverance and resilience.

SON Ministries J.A. Teachers:

- Alex Bates–Cameron Mitchell Restaurants
- Andy Christenson–Wholesale Automotive Solutions
- Bart Griffin–Griffin-Lantz Insurance
- Charlie Steitz–Sauer Group Inc.
- Cindy Teske–Darby Creek Elementary
- Janet Prior–Allrite Logistics
- Steve Thompson–MOS Salon
- Wayne Holmes–Charleys Kids

Special Guest Entrepreneurs:

- Cameron Mitchell–Cameron Mitchell Restaurants
- Charley Shin–Charleys Philly Steaks and Bibibop
- Linda Ulrey–Flyers Pizza
- Norman Chesrown and family–Chesrown Chevrolet Buick GMC
- Patrick Clark and Tom Grey–BMW Financial Services
- Tommy Gallo–Gallo’s Food Group
- Waylon Willoughby–Chick-fil-A Hilliard

Three Taco Bell Jr. founders (now high schoolers) traveled to two lunch sites to teach and coach the children at those sites how to start, then run a restaurant. We recruited, trained and mobilized adult volunteer teams for “kitchen support”. Cameron Mitchell Restaurants helped us launch one site that invented America’s Best Cookout – including vegetables from the UALC Community Garden. They sent a chef to our site each week to teach and help the children in the kitchen. The third site invented HoRIZE’n Shine brunch restaurant

The first week of camp, one of the Taco Bell Jr. founders (now in high school) shared with me that he was preparing to go to technical school to study culinary. That same day, coincidentally, I was set to meet two regional chefs from Cameron Mitchell Restaurants about helping us launch a second child invented/run restaurant. I introduced the three of them the following week (in the Taco Bell Jr. kitchen where this young man was cooking). The chefs promptly offered him a behind the scenes tour at three of their High Street restaurants saying they wanted to be sure he was sure that he would love the industry. The tour happened and the young man got to taste many delicious foods saying his favorite was the “lamb burger” at The Guild House. The young man shared that he felt so comfortable in the kitchens he toured and did see himself pursuing this career field. He announced that the chefs had offered him a job!

Our 10th summer was a turning point in vision for SON Ministries – the year we became more determined than ever, to pull out all the stops, to help remarkable children in our town escape poverty!

The children are learning work ethic, problem solving, conflict resolution and working as a team to accomplish something amazing! The community grows, as leaders see how the children (in poverty) can do great things when surrounded by adults who love them unconditionally through Jesus and encourage them to DREAM!

Kim Emch

Founder and Executive Director
Serving Our Neighbors (SON)
Ministries

Addressing Suburban Poverty = One Stronger Community!

SERVING CHILDREN FACING SUBURBAN POVERTY

1,987 TOUCHES
OF SERVICE

SUMMER LUNCH CAMP
925
CHILDREN SERVED

FAMILY ESL
297
CHILDREN ATTENDING

10,978
MEALS SERVED

GOOD TIDINGS
CHRISTMAS STORE
765
CHILDREN
SERVED

230
CHILDREN BUSED
TO LUNCH SITES

SERVING FAMILIES FACING SUBURBAN POVERTY

884 TOUCHES
OF SERVICE

20 ZIP
CODES

SUMMER LUNCH CAMP
478
FAMILIES

FAMILY ESL
154
FAMILIES

FROM
41
COUNTRIES

FROM
34
COUNTRIES

GOOD TIDINGS CHRISTMAS STORE
252 FAMILIES
SERVED

RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

931 TOUCHES
OF SERVICE

NEW SCHOOL
SHOES
227

FREE LEGAL
CLINIC
102

JOB
READINESS
26

SCHOOL SUPPLIES
81

ADULT ESL
200

FREE CHILDREN'S
SWIM LESSONS
33

PARENTS AS
EDUCATORS CLASS
25

CONNECTIONS
TO RESOURCES
237

POUNDS OF
FREE PRODUCE
1675

MOBILIZING VOLUNTEERS

569
VOLUNTEERS

795

SERVED **16,495** HOURS

CREATED AND FILLED
VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER LUNCH CAMP
197 ADULTS **162** YOUTH

FAMILY ESL
203
6,299 HOURS

8,415 HOURS

FREE LEGAL
CLINIC
15

CENTRAL
OFFICE
29

CHRISTMAS
STORE
189

112 HOURS

644 HOURS

1,025 HOURS

CREATING PARTNERSHIPS

112 COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS FORMED

CHURCHES **23** BUSINESSES **23** COMMUNITY GROUPS **26** SCHOOLS **7** INDIVIDUALS **33**

EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY

630 COMMUNITY
MEMBERS

FACILITATED **9** POVERTY SIMULATIONS

The Tucker Family

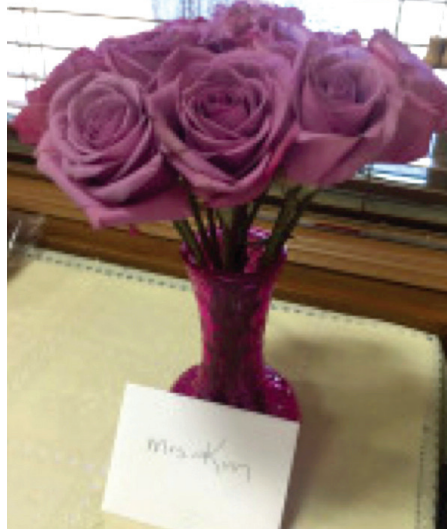
July 29, our last day of Hilliard Free Lunch Summer Camp for Kids 2016, a summer staff member brought these flowers and this thank you note to our Executive Director, Kim Emch, saying, “A mom from the lunch site came looking for you, asking me to give them to you in thanks for the summer camp for her children!”

Mrs. Kim

A simple “thank you” doesn’t seem to be enough. The “SON’s Ministry” has given my family so much this summer. After almost 2 years my husband and I have finally found full-time work (after being laid-off after 12 years with a company). As we become financially stable again, extra activities such as camp for 2 children is NOT in the budget.

Not only did your program give them healthy meals every day but they openly and lovingly received great experience, fun activities, character building tasks, great memories, new friendships, shoes, school supplies, encouragement and a multitude of limitless kindness that reminds us of the precious love only those who know God can give.

More than that, I cannot thank you enough for all that your ministry gave to my family... fulfilling many of our needs and leaving us with our dignity. We didn’t have to be ashamed because you guys humbly, kindly, warmly welcomed us daily. We are so grateful and appreciative. Please accept these flowers as a reflection of the beauty we see in you. Thank you.



SON Ministries’ Values

- PEOPLE are our priority – RELATIONSHIPS are our goal.
- We see each person CREATED in GOD’s own image; each has a purpose and a voice.
- We bring HOPE to children and families in need by connecting them to people, resources and a hand up.
- We build up COMMUNITY one respectful, empowering relationship at a time.
- Through PARTNERSHIPS, we strive together for the BEST for our community.
- We nurture DREAMS to alleviate poverty.
- We are inspired by the unexpected...Join us!

The Tucker Family

Our Executive Director met this mom at our Friends and Family night at her daughter’s lunch site a few weeks earlier. They connected as women, moms, neighbors. They talked about serving the community and their faith in God and His provision. The mom shared about how her family had moved to Columbus a brand-new city, transferred by her husband’s company, only to be laid off. How they had struggled financially but how God had provided, just in time at each need. She shared how the summer lunch program had provided her family with much needed cucumbers and squash to take home (from the UALC Community Garden), school shoes and how the names of the staff “green shirts” and Teen Interns “orange shirts” had come to her family dinner table nightly as her daughters talked about their fun day at camp.

Most of all she shared how this summer camp helped her family feel “part of the community” as they went through a tough time.

SON Ministries: bringing HOPE to families facing suburban poverty, helping them take steps out of poverty by feeding body, mind and spirit.

Teen Interns: Developing Future Servants

Several years ago, we noticed both the children in our summer lunch program aging (and still wanting to come to camp) and our volunteer teenagers wanting to volunteer beyond what their parent’s vacation time would allow. We started a Teen Internship program. Teenagers who make a big commitment of days/hours to one of our programs (summer or school year) can apply to become a Teen Intern. They submit references, go through an interview and training. Some of these “orange shirts” served 100 hours in one summer, some over 450 hours in their high school career. **God is powerfully at work in the teens lives through their service at SON Ministries, teaching us all to trust in Him.**

One Teen Intern’s story:

I’m an immigrant; I left my home, my language, and my (extended) family almost 10 years ago for Ohio. Our family spent most of our savings to resettle in another country, everything was unfamiliar, and I missed my grandmother. However, for a fearless 9-year-old me, it was more of an exciting adventure rather than a detrimental obstacle in life.

As the years passed, I started discovering my identity: I am a Christian, a feminist, an artist, and a scientist. Being an immigrant and struggling with finances was a part of my life story, but it wasn’t a person whom I identified with. I wrestled with this for a while growing up, and many other children in this position do as well.

At SON Ministries, I see the children genuinely laughing, forming friendships, and trying new things that are outside of their comfort zones. They challenge each other, and they show their love for each other unapologetically. At SON Ministries, neither the money or cultural barriers burden these children’s hearts. People serve each other out of respect and love, not out of pity.

I have always been pretty independent, and I started saving my money since the fourth grade. Later on, the money from summer jobs, birthdays, and babysitting added onto it, and it became my own little college fund that I never had. It really wasn’t all that much, but it comforted me to just have it exist under my control.

Finally going through the college application process and senior year in general, I have seen just how much Jesus had been providing for me all of my life. Not just circumstantially and financially, but in terms of investing in me, protecting me, and loving me unconditionally.

I’m so blessed to be attending my dream college this fall, and if I work consistently throughout



the year, the tuition and fees are manageable. Gradually, I discovered that I didn’t want any other source of solace and comfort other than my God. I hope to live that way in the future, and for now, I want my (entire) savings \$5,707.43 to go where I’ve heard His voice speaking so clearly: SON Ministries.

With SON Ministries, I’ve fallen in love with service itself. I think that we sometimes misconstrue the meaning of service with a feeling of self-pride or even pity (or you know, those volunteer hours), but SON Ministries has clearly shown me that service means to be a servant of God, and therefore a servant of His children at SON Ministries.

I respect those at SON Ministries because of their courage and talents; I do not pity the families we serve because they have nothing to be pitied for. They are as loved as I am, have their own families that they care for, and are individual minds with enormous strengths.

This connection to the act of service reminds me to be sincerely humble and to act out of passion instead of obligation in everything that I do.

Hannah Lee
Teen Intern SON Ministries
Summer 2013-May 2016

SON Ministries’ VISION

SON Ministries is the catalyst connecting the community together in the Hilliard City School District and beyond to be a place where:

- No child experiences the hopelessness of hunger.
- Families working their way out of poverty are connected to resources that will meet their basic needs, so hope is restored, families are stabilized, and community is built.
- Local churches partner to demonstrate the Gospel through their service and relationships with people in need.
- Community members join the movement by developing relationships across socioeconomic, cultural, and religious barriers.

For the whole law can be summed up in this one command:

“Love your neighbor as yourself”

Galatians 5:14

How Can You Help?



1 Be a champion for our cause — Help us tell our stories!



2 Invite others to be engaged!



3 Make an investment in our IMPACT!

What Things Cost

\$20,000 Cost to run one Hilliard Free Lunch Summer Camp for Kids site for the summer

\$500 Monthly Cost to connect families to life-improving resources

\$10,000 Cost for two buses including drivers to bus children to the Hilliard Free Lunch Summer Camp for Kids site for the summer

\$175 Cost to send one child to the Hilliard Free Lunch Summer Camp for Kids for the summer

\$2,500 Cost to run one Hilliard Free Lunch Summer Camp for Kids site for one week

\$300 Cost to send one child to Family ESL Program for the entire school year

\$2,000 Cost to run Family ESL Program for one week including homework help and supervised recreation

\$90 Monthly technology costs for communication with families/participants and volunteers

Learn More

Visit us Online:

Website: www.SON-Ministries.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sonministries

Blog: sonministriesblog.wordpress.com

Donate

Donate Online:

www.SON-Ministries.org/donate

Mail a Check:

SON Ministries

2300 Lytham Road, Columbus, OH 43220

Volunteer and Pray

Visit our website to learn about opportunities.

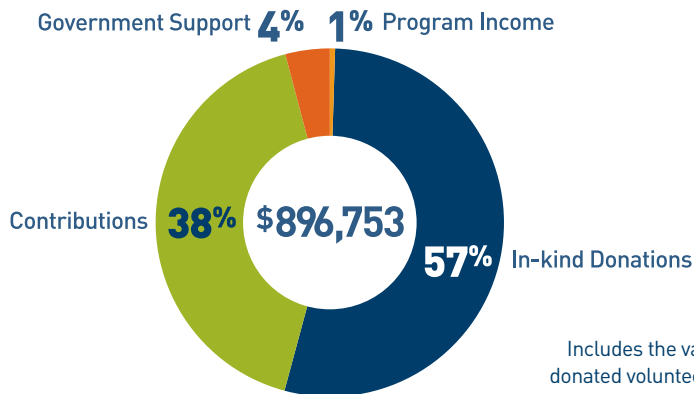
Adult, teen and family volunteers are always needed, as is prayer, to keep all programs running throughout the year!

Support SON Ministries while shopping

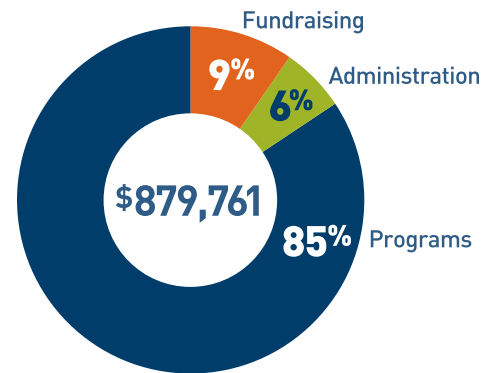
Register your **Amazon** Account through AmazonSmile at www.smile.amazon.com

Set up Community Rewards through **Kroger** at www.kroger.com/communityrewards

Revenue Summary



Expense Summary



Our Board of Directors

Irma Chon

Youth Pastor, Cornerstone Christian Fellowship Church
Chair; Pastor Liaison

Helen Davidson

Retired CFO Make-A-Wish Foundation,
Treasurer
Board Member

Kim Cooper

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Cardinal Health
Board member

Joan Malarkey

Retired, Executive Director Community Connection for Ohio Offenders
Board Member

Kim Emch

Founder and Executive Director
Serving Our Neighbors (SON) Ministries
Board Member

Shawn Oakley

Healthcare Professional
Board Member

Son Ministries' Central Staff



Kim Emch

Founder and Executive Director
kemch@SON-Ministries.org



Alison Rooney

Director of Programs
arooney@SON-Ministries.org



Sarah Florimonte

Development and
Communications Associate
sflorimonte@SON-Ministries.org



Kathleen Turvy

Manager of Programs
kturvy@SON-Ministries.org



Julie Comer

Administrative Assistant,
Programs PT
jcomer@SON-Ministries.org



Sarah Griffith

Operations Coordinator PT
sgriffith@SON-Ministries.org

Plus: 569 Volunteers and 2 OSU Social Work Interns

Community Support Through Partnerships

- Churches
- Community Members
- Schools
- Businesses
- Community Groups

Thanks to:

- Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church
- UALC The Church at Mill Run
- Hilliard Church of Christ
- Hilliard City Schools

We'd love for you to share our mission's message. Please forward this community impact report to your network. Grow with us; OWN with us! Become a SON Ministries' Ambassador.

SON Ministries is registered with the state of Ohio as a tax exempt, not for profit 501 c3 organization. Accordingly, donations made to SON Ministries may be tax-deductible.

Please Donate

Donate **NOW** online OR mail a check to
SON Ministries—Your donation will change lives.
www.SON-Ministries.org/donate

Mailing Address:
SON Ministries
2300 Lytham Road
Columbus OH 43220
614-586-7939
www.SON-Ministries.org