

## 2023 Board of Directors

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Secretary  
Valerie Butler  
James Clarke  
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Angelo Milan  
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### Operations Officers

Rick Rowlands,  
Executive Director  
Ed Hipp, Treasurer



### Major Donors



Obici Healthcare Foundation  
Isle of Wight County  
Town of Smithfield  
United Way of South Hampton Roads

## 2024 DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

### DEAR FRIENDS OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH:

2023 was a challenging and rewarding year for the Isle of Wight Christian Outreach Program. COP increased our client base by several hundred families and provided more services in all programs compared to previous years. In recognition of COP's dedication to their mission, the community voted it the "Best Community Service Organization" and the "Best Local Cause" in IOW County.

As our programs have grown we have been able to update our facility with additional shelving and refrigerated storage. We have also added one large van and one refrigerated van. Through these additions we have increased our services to the county and hope to expand our services even more in the near future.

As you can see from the program descriptions in this brochure COP has reached all segments of the county from babies to the elderly. None of the services could have been provided without the dedicated volunteers that gave of their time and talent to help the needy. Of course, the support provided by the community in the form of money, food donations and encouragement is also key to the success of our mission "To help the poor, the needy and the sick in Isle of Wight County."

Please consider a donation of your time or money. A few hours or a few dollars a month can make all the difference to keeping our doors open. Visit our website to learn more about our programs, how to volunteer and how to make on-line donations.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and  
the volunteers of IOW Christian Outreach Program, thank you.

Owen R. Rowlands , Executive Director



Since 1991, this 100% volunteer organization has dedicated itself to serving those in Isle of Wight County who need us most, with food, dental, home repair, emergency financial assistance, children's books, furniture, linens, and housewares.

## 2023 Annual Report



Rick and Cheryl Rowlands

402 Grace Street, Smithfield, VA 23430

Hours: Monday 11am-6pm

Wednesday and Friday 11am-3pm

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[facebook.com/IOWCOP](https://facebook.com/IOWCOP)





## COP Mission Statement

To help the poor, needy and sick of Isle of Wight County

## 2023 Program Stats

**FOOD** - Our largest program.

We are now providing food to over 500 families equating to 1400-1500 individuals per month, both through distribution from our facility as well as monthly deliveries.



**DENTAL** - Through two IOW County dentists, we helped to provide dental services to 239 Isle of Wight County residents and spent over \$70,000.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES** - Now more than ever, our clients are in need of assistance with back rent, utility bills, and in some cases, prescription costs. In 2023 we served 77 clients and spent nearly \$20,000.



**DIAPERS** - We distribute both baby and adult diapers, plus wipes, donated cribs, blankets, formula and many other baby items every week. An average of 145 households were helped per month with over 31,000 donated and purchased diapers distributed.



**FURNITURE, HOUSEWARES AND LINENS**  
Thanks to generous donations, we were able to provide everything from dishes, pots and pans to towels, sheets and comforters, plus small and large appliances, mattresses and living room furniture to over 250 residents.

## Food For Thought (literacy program)



Since our literacy initiative began in 2016, over 26,000 new/gently read books have been distributed to IOWC children! In 2023, through FFT's literacy partnerships, 1330 books were distributed to IOWC Schools' Pre-Kindergarten students, 236 books through the Dept. of Social Services during home visits for personal libraries, and 122 books through the Western Tidewater Infant and Toddler Connection in Isle of Wight during home visits for personal libraries. FFT's 12 Little Lending Libraries, which are scattered throughout the county near COP clients' residences, distributed 910 books. The FFT "Book Angels" also issued 35 birthday coupons for redemption at the Smithfield Blackwater Library and 282 pairs of pajamas with books from the Pajama Program. FFT was a very active Community Partner for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program and coordinated on-site registration for over 65 children, birth to age 5.



**HOME REPAIR** - Our hard working repair team helped 32 homeowners install or repair roofing, ramps, steps, flooring and more, and spent \$23,860.



## Additional Programs

**SOUPER SATURDAY**  
With the help of local businesses, churches, clubs and individuals, we raised over \$5000 for IOW Social Services to help folks with heating/cooling costs.

**HOG JOG**  
This is a challenging 5k run through downtown Smithfield and surrounding countryside that raised over \$25,000 for Christian Outreach in 2023.

**SENIOR ANGEL TREE**  
This annual program provided Christmas gifts to 223 senior residents 65+ who would otherwise not receive gifts.