



**Send Relief**  
Memphis





## Contact Information

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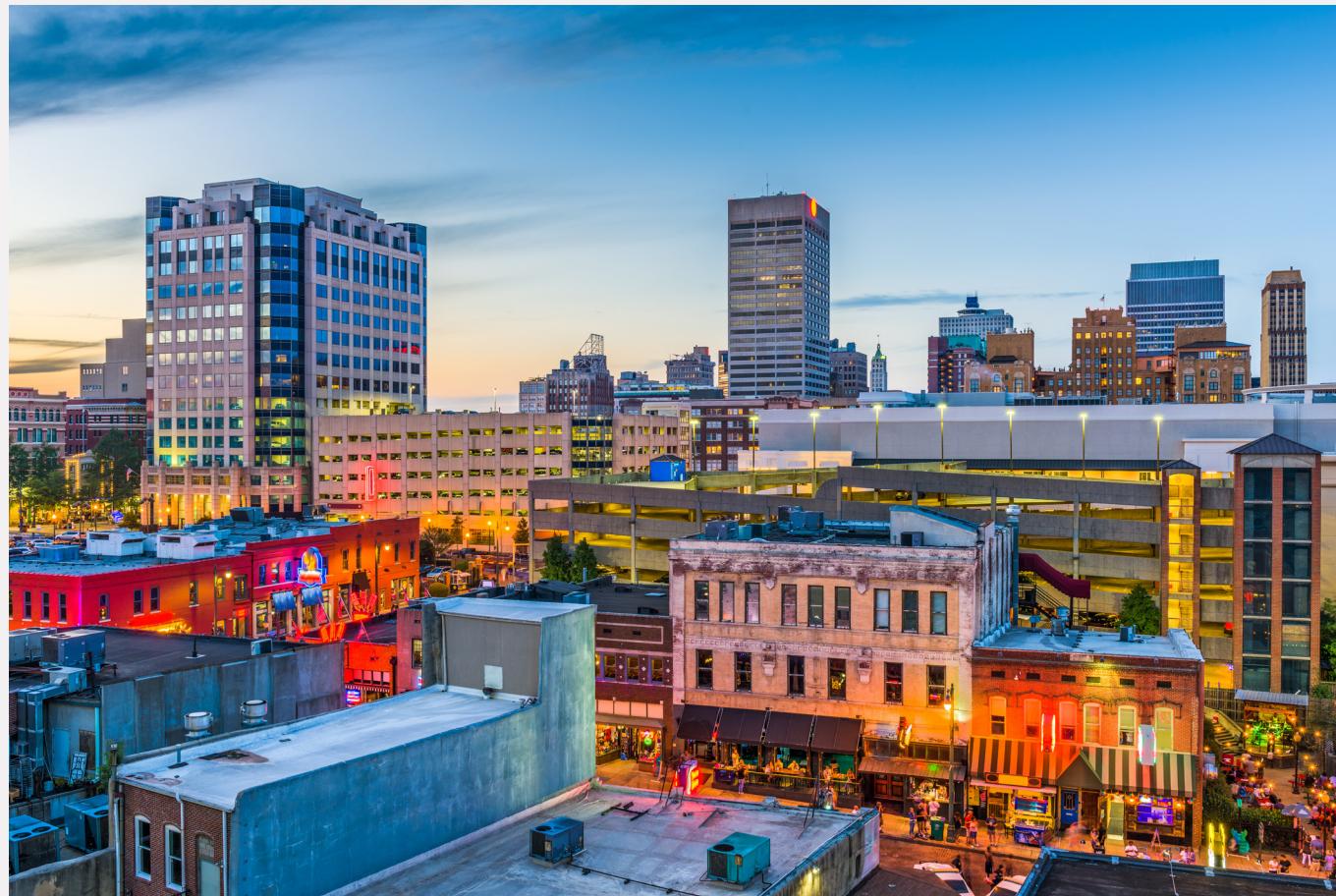


## Meeting Needs, Changing Lives

Send Relief works with churches and volunteers to meet needs and change lives in communities within the U.S. and around the world.

By offering help and hope to the most vulnerable in collaboration with missionaries, local ministries and churches, your gifts and efforts through Send Relief have a long-term impact.

With Send Relief's help, churches and partners like you receive resources and training to be the hands and feet of Jesus to communities in crisis, refugees, human trafficking survivors, those affected by natural disasters and vulnerable children and families.



## Ministry Centers

Send Relief ministry centers deliver compassion ministry within local communities while providing mission trips and training opportunities for churches all over the country. The goal of ministry centers is twofold: serve communities well and encourage others to do the same.

All over North America, Send Relief ministry centers actively assess community needs, develop ministry strategies, deliver ministry and provide opportunities for others to go on mission.

# Community Snapshot

**Memphis is aptly described, by one local pastor, as a “gritty” city that you don’t choose; it chooses you. The rich soil of the Delta brought its first inhabitants, and the Mississippi River kept them close by.**

It is a city that has survived war and occupation, plagues,loods and Jim Crow by reinventing itself time and again while never coming fully to terms with its past.

For now, in a post-industrial age, with an economy built around rapidly advancing technology, logistics, warehousing and the service industry, thousands across the city continue to fall behind by the new direction of the economy.

People want to live, work and flourish, but the obstacles are many.

Life is difficult in a city where the poverty rate soars to **25%** of the population.

Roughly **20%** of renters pay more than 30 percent of their income on housing. This contributes to vulnerability for individuals and families in the Memphis area. Persistent racial disparities and socioeconomic inequalities continue to be a struggle for residents. With a median household income of \$41,200, many residents live below the national poverty line.

Working conditions affecting family stability contribute to increased vulnerability: The demands of a global economy are pushing more businesses to 24-hour cycles.

- It does not provide adequate time to care for and raise children—subjecting many low-wage workers to the additional burden of childcare expenses.
- With a workforce largely dominated by logistics and service work, many must work multiple jobs to make ends meet.
- Others work 10 to 12-hour shifts or longer, up to six days a week. Include the volatility of variable shift work, and there is often little room left for even self-care.

Increasing prison populations also contribute to the need for community ministry: At any given time, more than **2,000 inmates** reside in the county jail as they await trial.

- At the end of August, it was 2,158 persons, with 2,045 of those inmates awaiting trial for a felony charge and 113 for misdemeanors.

- For every person detained, there is a family on the outside who must adjust to their absence.
- When children are involved, the risk of delinquency increases, further complicating things.
- For these individuals and families, the stigma of incarceration often becomes a barrier to connecting with others who can help support and walk alongside them as they journey through the criminal justice system.

# Memphis Ministry Center Snapshot

## Ministries

We are facilitating and developing ministry, discovering and engaging community, unifying and mobilizing churches

### Strengthen Communities

#### Food Distribution

We are partnering with Dwelling Place Christian Church as they serve 2,500 people monthly in the Raleigh community

#### Care for Refugees

We are partnering with Refugee Memphis as they serve refugee families

#### Mobilization Opportunities

**Building Renovations:** through a combined effort of contractors and volunteers [skilled and unskilled] we will mobilize churches and individuals to join in building renovations



*"A Christ-centered partnership is essential because it displays the nature of God. It infuses life in those who send relief and those who receive it. And it provides a more significant base of assets to love and support those who need and require assistance."*

*—Shun Abram*

# Memphis Ministry Center Partnerships

**The Memphis Ministry Center, a partnership between The Dwelling Place Christian Church, Mid-South Baptist Association and Send Relief, hopes to provide a refuge for hurting hearts.**

It's not just a physical location for refuge but also a place where people will see the heart of Christ.

As the Memphis Ministry Center continues to renovate its building, their focus is on developing partnerships with like-minded ministries to fill the space.

"The center is searching for persons of peace who will help us identify further needs," Shun Abrams, the center director, explains. "We need others to help us connect our neighbors with resources to bring about transformation in the community and we believe Send Relief is going to help catalyze that movement among all our churches to continue to reach out to the community together."

Currently, the Memphis Ministry Center is still in early talks with several other organizations focusing on bringing aboard after-school and athletic programming for children and youth, additional support for refugees entering the workforce and measures to reduce recidivism.

Opportunities for people across the city to be inspired to start, grow and join businesses as

they meet new neighbors through this center are needed to focus and expand their collective efforts further into the community.

As they continue to establish the center in the community, their most significant challenge is bringing different groups together for a common purpose in a shared space. So far, they've seen more than 250 volunteers serve.

God has used the experience of pastoring the saints gathered at Binghamton Community Church for the last 15 years to help the Memphis Ministry Center understand Memphis better as a neighbor.

Pastor Leon, who shepherds The Dwelling Place Christian Church, has helped them get to know the immediate neighborhood around the Ministry Center.

"In both places, I've seen the willingness of neighbors to invest themselves in their community to bring about change," Abram said. "I am greatly encouraged by the way they have welcomed us and the mission of the Memphis Send Relief Ministry Center, and look forward to what God continues to do."

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*—Shun Abram*



# History of the Memphis Ministry Center

Established in 2021, The Memphis Ministry Center is a partnership between The Dwelling Place Christian Church, Mid-South Baptist Association and Send Relief. For nine years, The Dwelling Place has served the community with its monthly mobile food pantry and feeds an estimated two thousand persons in a 2,500-mile radius. They currently share a building with the Memphis Ministry Center in the Raleigh neighborhood, roughly 13 miles from downtown.

The work of the Memphis Ministry Center is about establishing relationships to bring a holistic transformation of both individuals and

whole people groups through a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled, God-glorifying compassion ministry.

“There are some deep generational wounds between races, family members and neighbors in the community,” Shun describes. “I long to see them all reconciled and made whole in Christ. But only the Spirit can do this work. Not by patching old wineskins but through new ones.”

While this work may look different household to household and even by neighborhood,

the Ministry Center hopes that through training, modeling of a life-giving culture of discipleship in the Ministry Center will invite others into the body of Christ and provide every believer with an opportunity to learn to be better neighbors in a Luke 10:27 way.

The Ministry Center also hopes individuals and families learn to flourish in their God-given roles through education and training. Families will find healing from the wounds of generational trauma through people accessing these resources. Competent, affordable mental health care that connects them to a local church will be accessible to all.





# Memphis Ministry Center

## Future Ministry Plans

**Good Samaritan:** (Homeless Families) Core Compassion Ministry that will serve housing and food insecure families in Shelby County schools. The ministry center is connecting churches, small groups, families and individuals to serve alongside these families.

**Building Renovations:** through a combined effort of contractors and volunteers [skilled and unskilled] the ministry center will mobilize churches and individuals to join in building renovations.

**Sports Programming:** (At-Risk Youth) The ministry center is developing a core compassion ministry that will serve at risk youth through an after-school athletic discipleship programming.

## Vision

"The Memphis Send Relief Ministry Center exists to create and facilitate pathways to love our neighbors through a mobilized church."

Many people groups call Bluff City home, with countless languages spoken, placing the world within the 40/240 interstate that circles the city.

And God is here, moving among his people throughout, helping them to see their community afresh. Both the depths of lostness and possibilities for a new life in Christ.

We desire to be a place where the richness and beauty of such a diverse people Christ is gathering to himself are on full display day by day.

A place where even the stranger will know: here in this place, they are seen, loved and wanted by God. All through a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled, God-glorifying compassion ministry anchored by the local church.

Meeting needs. Changing lives.

# Get Involved

One of the most powerful ways to show the most vulnerable the love of Christ is by taking steps toward them. By helping churches be the hands and feet of Jesus, Send Relief supports and provides opportunities for those who desire to respond directly to these needs in lasting, meaningful ways while sharing the hope of the gospel.

## Give

Your gift provides critical, immediate help to families and communities that need it most. Give today to provide practical care and share the love of Jesus.

[Click here or scan the QR code to give](#)



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## Serve

Participate in various compassion opportunities by taking a mission trip and vision tour to a ministry center around North America. Mission trips can include apartment outreach, food pantry ministry, after-school programs, sports ministry, canvassing, prayer walking, homeless ministry, physical labor, serving at-risk families and university campus ministry. The trip also includes aspects of training and equipping so you can learn how to connect and serve the international and refugee communities in your cities.

[Click here to sign up](#)





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