

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019



OASIS OF HOPE MINISTRIES  
AND  
TURNING POINT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



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# GREETINGS



**I AM HONORED TO SERVE AS PASTOR OF SUCH A GREAT MINISTRY. WE HAVE THE DESIRE TO INTRODUCE AND SHARE JESUS WITH THE LOST AND ENCOURAGE THOSE WHO HAVE ACCEPTED JESUS TO GO ON TO NEW LEVELS.**

## **Pastor Catherine Sledge**

The 2019 theme for Oasis of Hope Ministries was The Year of Abundant Harvest. We began the year with the 21-day Daniel Fast and that set the foundation for Apostle Alvin Donald Sledge and I to seek the heart of God for the ministry. This solid foundation of seeking God's direction was so important and vital during the death of Apostle Alvin Sledge on May 10, 2019. He always trained, taught God's word, allowed others to share in the ministry and encouraged each person to use his/her talents and gifts to the glory of God.

## **THE VISION**

I have continued faithfully to carry on the vision of my husband with a passion to operate the ministry in a "Spirit of Excellence". My husband told me January 17, 2019 as I was updating him on the ministry, "Catherine, you lead the ministry as the Holy Spirit leads you". That put me in a position to spend lots of quality time with the Holy Spirit and this is what has taken Oasis of Hope to a new level. Throughout 2019 our dedicated Executive Board and entire Team Oasis family worked for the betterment of the ministry. We were blessed by God to beautify the current building, pay off the land located near the church, support Community Enhancement Through





Service and to operate each ministry within the ministry in powerful ways to impact lives spiritually, physically and emotionally. Oasis continued to work hand in hand with Turning Point CDC to support all the many positive efforts of this organization.

I have always loved the fact that Oasis is a teaching ministry and the Empowerment Learning groups (Men and Women's Christian Education, Bible Study and Morning Worship, Health Seminars) always conducted meaningful and life-changing sessions with God's word as our foundation. I believe that everyone who availed him/herself to God went to

another level in 2019. I stay excited about what God is doing in this area of the vineyard. He has blessed Oasis of Hope Ministries in such a powerful way that we have to give Him the glory.

I know that Apostle Alvin Donald would be very proud that his "Living Legacy" continues and that we all endeavor to please Jesus Christ through a life of service because of our love for our Savior. I thank God for the ministry because we all come out to Hear the Word, Believe the Word and Apply the Word.

*Catherine Sledge*

# MINISTRIES WITH PURPOSE

## COUPLES' VALENTINES MINISTRY

Twelve beautiful couples participated in the Couples' Valentine Ministry Saturday, February 9, 2019 at RibEyes in Henderson, North Carolina –

Alvin and Catherine Sledge, Charles and Delilah Marrow, Harold and Sandra Mitchell, William and Lorine Taylor, Larry and Brenda Yancey, Braxton and Chalis Henderson, Michael and Chandra Mathias, Frank and Freeler Williams, James and Manuela Inman, Ray and Kimberly Dawson, Sidney and Carolyn Crews, Maurice and Kimiko Williams. The theme was

"My Endless Love". The couples enjoyed kissing at the sound of "The Bell", music by Larry Yancey, Couple activities/games, dancing, a delicious dinner and lots of laughs. Sidney and Carolyn Crews won the prize for their free meal and we were blessed to have Jareth Johnson JPhoto & Company to take pictures and DJ Maurice Williams to play beautiful music. Each spouse presented a gift and there were endless opportunities to express love.



## CHILDREN, YOUTH & SINGLE'S VALENTINE CELEBRATION

The annual celebration to honor our Children, Youth and Singles for Valentine was held Friday, February 1, 2019. This year's theme was "God's Endless Love". This was a dressy affair and the twenty-seven participants enjoyed a delicious fellowship meal, games, dancing, crafts/activities, prizes and God's

Word taught by Minister Wiline Isom. The winners of the WalMart gift cards were Dorothy Wilkerson, Silas Henderson and Minister Wiline Isom. The couples of Oasis sponsored the event to ensure that everyone feels special for Valentine.



## RUN WARRENTON 5K

Team Oasis participated in the Run Warrenton 5k Race, Run, Walk, Scoot event Saturday, April 27, 2019. Proceeds for the event will support charity. The ministry looks forward to supporting this event to help great causes.



OASIS OF HOPE MINISTRIES  
IS A MINISTRY OF EXCELLENCE,  
IMPACTING THE WORLD  
WITH A PRACTICAL MESSAGE  
OF FAITH, EMPOWERING  
WORD-HUNGRY PEOPLE TO  
EXPERIENCE AND EXEMPLIFY  
THE GOD-QUALITY OF LIFE.





## COUPLES' END-OF-SUMMER AND HOLIDAY POTLUCKS

The Couples' Ministry enjoyed an End-of-Summer Potluck at the home Dr. Braxton and Chalis Henderson in September. This was a time of fellowship and fun as the couples played games together and enjoyed a meal. A total of five couples attended the potluck. In December, the couples also enjoyed a festive potluck at the home of Minister Sidney and Carolyn Crews. The couples participated in games, a gift exchange, and fellowship meal. We love spending time with other Godly couples and learning from each other.

## FAITH CONFERENCE 2019

Oasis of Hope Ministries hosted Faith Conference 2019 June 5th, 6th and 7th. This year's theme was The Faithful Shall Abound In The Blessings of God. Pastor Gracie Perry of Greater Works Ministry and Elder James Williams of Holy Temple COGIC were the speakers. Psalmists were Larry Yancey and Devni Joseph and Aleesa Gupton ministered in dance. Each night we heard powerful testimonies of faith and enjoyed wonderful fellowship.



## CHRISTMAS AT OASIS 2019

The first Sunday in December is designated Christmas at Oasis. All worshippers receive a special gift/token of appreciation, enjoy games and Christmas crafts, and fellowship during our Christmas meal. We enjoy singing, God's word, testimonies and spending time with our church family during the Christmas season. We know that Jesus is the reason for the season!





# MINISTRIES WITH PURPOSE

## CELEBRATING A SPECIAL CALLING

Ministers Sidney Crews, James Inman and Manuela Inman received their Certificate of License as a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ Sunday, October 20, 2019. Pastor Catherine Sledge presented the certificates, The Dake Annotated Reference Bible, Teaching To Change Lives Leadership Course materials and a wallet size certificate. Along with Senior Minister Wiline Isom, the Ministers were recognized for their commitment and dedication to what God has ordained for Oasis of Hope Ministries.



## EASTER CELEBRATION

Palm Sunday was observed Sunday, April 14, 2019 with all worshippers receiving palm leaves to remember the Triumphant Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Resurrection Sunday was celebrated April 21, 2019. All worshippers received a treat bag and the VIP's coordinated two Easter Egg hunts following a powerful Morning Worship experience.

# MINISTRIES WITH PURPOSE

## THE JOHN MAXWELL GLOBAL YOUTH INITIATIVE

On April 17th, 2019, Renascence participated with the youth attending Oasis of Hope Ministries in a world-changing youth movement that empower youth to be the change they wish to see in the world. During the JMT Global Youth Initiative, Renascence owner, Donnamarie Newkirk who is a certified member of the John Maxwell Team, hosted the local event. The Maxwell Team has a goal to reach 500,000 young people during the year of 2019 across the world! Youth who attend these events participate in various exercises empathizing making good choices that positively affect themselves and others. Renascence utilized the John Maxwell iChoose curriculum and Teen Action Choices from Whole person Associates. The children were equipped with information to explain how growth is a part of their

own personal attitudes. The children participated in role plays to learn how attitude and value to self can inspire and steer them toward intentional fulfillment of their purpose. They also participated in a segment to discuss bullying and how choices can impact the outcome for both observers, and the bullied individual.

The events are FREE and open to all children and youth groups, ages 8-18. The events are available throughout the year in educational, group, or religious environments. Primarily held during the months of April and October, Global Youth Initiative, founded by John Maxwell, has become the primary program utilized by Renascence Empowerment & Wellness.





## LEADERSHIP TEAM ATTENDS FAITH IN RURAL COMMUNITIES WORKSHOPS

Saturday, April 13, 2019 Pastor Catherine Sledge, Chalis Henderson, Minister Wiline Isom and Carolyn Crews attended Faith in Rural Communities Workshops at Faison United Methodist Church. The workshop covered the basics of Asset-Based Community Development and how it can help a church expand its missional impact. Our team joined other church leaders from across eastern North Carolina as we learned the unique role churches play in helping their communities thrive.



## KING'S KIDS & YOUTH EMPOWERED SPIRITUALLY (YES!)

Our youngest worshippers at Oasis are the King's Kids and YES! students. We make sure their needs are met spiritually with age-appropriate lessons and lots of hands-on activities. Thematic units are used to teach the children. Sessions are held Sunday mornings and each Wednesday night. We have a dedicated team of teachers and Instructional Assistants working with the children and refreshments are served during each session. We give special thanks to parents/guardians for faithfully bringing the children to church.



## EMPOWERMENT LEARNING GROUPS

Each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. the Men of Honor and the Women of Purpose can be found studying God's word in their "Empowerment Learning Groups". During 2019 the men studied The Blessing by Kenneth Copeland and the women studied God's Will For You by Gloria Copeland. Not only do we see spiritual growth in our adults, but the VIP's, YES! and King's Kids are growing in many areas as they participate in these learning groups.

Wednesday nights from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. is sheer excitement as Bible Study takes place for the adults, VIP's, YES! and King's Kids. Various themes/series are taught throughout the year for the adults and the youth can be found participating in lots of projects, interactive play and hands-on learning. Snacks are served and everyone enjoys God's word.



# VICTORIOUS IDENTIFIED PREDESTINED (VIP)

**VIP's Youth Ministry serving ages 10-18**

## VIP'S BIBLE STUDY

In 2019 our goal was to continue teaching the Word to our youth so that they will know and understand the Word and be able to apply it to their own lives. Also that when they hear the Word taught or preached, they will be able to know if what is being taught is from the Word. We expanded our Wednesday night Bible Study from one Wednesday a month to two a month (2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month). This has been very successful. VIP's are engaged and involved. We thank God for his guidance. The adult teaching team worked together wonderfully. We are studying the book Acts. We have finished studying Acts 1 thru 19. In 2020 we will begin our studies with Acts 20. In all of our getting we want to get understanding of the Word.

## VIP'S SUNDAY EXPERIENCE

We thank God for the Sunday Experience. The Lord laid on Dr. Braxton Henderson's heart to begin a study on Sundays which would be different from their Wednesday Bible study. The youth gather together and learn in their own environment and discuss things that directly relate to their own lives with a biblical perspective. The Sunday experience has been received well by the VIP's and God had truly blessed. Plans are to continue the Sunday experience in 2020 with the help of the Lord.

## LEARNING EXPERIENCES

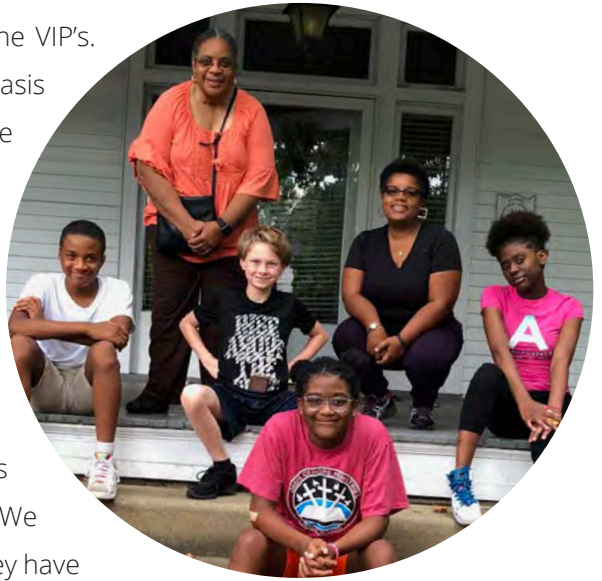
During 2019, the VIP's were in charge of the 4th Sunday morning service. They presided over the service as worship leaders every 4th and 5th Sunday. During 2019- June through December 5th Sunday- the VIP's were in charge of the complete service including ministering the Word. September 29, 2019 was Oasis of Hope's celebration of Family and Friends' Day. The VIP's were in charge and we especially enjoyed the skit, dancing and in general how well our youth conducted themselves. To God be the Glory. We are endeavoring to prepare our youth with the knowledge of how to conduct an orderly service run by the Holy Spirit. This year they did well, and are still learning to be accountable and responsible.





## COMMUNITY SERVICE

In 2019 we introduced a new plan of community service for the VIP's. They continue to help out in whatever way they can within Oasis of Hope Ministries such as Community Day, assisting with the King's Kids and YES! on 1st and 3rd Sundays and on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. During the summer of 2019 the VIP's offered their services to Oasis members. They were able to serve 3 family members of Oasis by clipping hedges, washing dishes, cleaning rooms and garages and doing some yardwork. Some VIP's had an opportunity to help cook as well. This was a great success and we hope to expand this next year. One of our goals was for the VIP's to come together and get to know each other. We believe that this has been accomplished for most of the VIP's. They have bonded together in so many ways. We pray that this will continue.



## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Our goal was to take trips outside of the church with the goal of fostering camaraderie. On November 27, 2019 we went on a trip to United Skating of America in Raleigh. It was a successful day and the VIP's enjoyed themselves and continued to bond with each other. We want to instill in our youth that as Christians we can have fun and still live our lives to the fullest pleasing the Lord.

# TURNING POINT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



## Greetings!

What a year 2019 has been! Turning Point CDC continued to serve the counties of Warren, Vance, Granville, and surrounding areas through our education, health and wellness, economic development, and community engagement initiatives. We were blessed this year to establish successful partnerships to take our programs to a new level. We are blessed for the support that we have received from our communities and will continue to work on behalf of rural communities to see them thrive and flourish.

Our work has always been grounded in love and compassion for our neighbors. This year, we received an immeasurable amount of love as we coped with the passing of our founder, Apostle Alvin D. Sledge. Alvin Sledge co-founded Turning Point CDC with Catherine Sledge in 2001 with a mission to do more than just ministry through the church organization, but to serve and develop the communities that we are actively engaged with on a regular basis. We will always strive to honor the legacy of Alvin Sledge by continuing the work of Turning Point CDC that he began many years ago.

I encourage you to get engaged with Turning Point CDC through your financial giving, time volunteering, or by offering your talents and skills. I hope that reading this report you are as encouraged as I was as I reflected on the impact that we are making on our community. We thank God for the resources to continue to serve people and families through Turning Point CDC. Please continue to keep this area lifted in prayer.

In service,

*Chalís S. Henderson*

Chalis S. Henderson, Executive Director





## STEAM DREAMS

We launched “STEAM Dreams”, a program that allows youth to explore their imaginations and creativity to make their dreams become a reality through science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. We were able to hire Janelle Inman as our STEAM Program Coordinator. We hosted both school-based and community-based STEAM events this year!

We continued to partner with Athletes for Computer Science and Microsoft to teach computer science fundamentals and coding to 4th and 5th grade students in the Warren County School district. We expanded our reach and currently work with about 50 4th grade students at Dabney Elementary School in Vance County Schools District.



On Saturday, March 30th, 7 girls participated in Microsoft’s DigiGirlz event at the Microsoft at the Streets of SouthPoint Mall. The girls were introduced to coding and women in STEM. After a presentation, the girls were able to create their own game using “makecode”. The girls began by creating “sprites”, which are their own characters, and then coding instructions for the game. Each of the participants learned something new and gained new skills.

**STEAM DREAMS IS A PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS YOUTH TO EXPLORE THEIR IMAGINATIONS AND CREATIVITY TO MAKE THEIR DREAMS BECOME A REALITY THROUGH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, AND MATHEMATICS.**

We established great partnerships with North Carolina State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to support our educational programs. Undergraduate students from NCSU’s School of Design created prototypes and design layouts for our Creating Success Mobile Learning Lab. Computer Science undergraduate students at UNC serve as College Student Facilitators for our school-based STEAM Dreams program.

We received funding from the Protolabs Foundation to support our STEAM Dreams programming. We are also looking forward to partnering with Betabox Labs in 2020 for our school-based program.

We are continuing to seek financial support for our Creating Success Mobile Learning Lab with the goal of launching pilot programs in 2020.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our 10th Annual Community Day was a huge success and was our biggest event! Special thanks to Microsoft for sponsoring this year's event. The Community Day snapshot is included in this report. We hope to continue to grow the event to serve our community.

In partnership with Oasis of Hope Ministries, we continued to support the FGV Smart Start (monetary and program sponsors), Adolescent Parenting Program (service on advisory board), Safe Kids (service on advisory board), Ronald McDonald House (monetary and product donations), and Vance County Department of Social Services (Thanksgiving gift cards).





# COMMUNITY DAY 2019

A big heart felt thank you to everyone who helped make our 10th annual community day a success!



**550+**

OVER 550  
PEOPLE IN  
ATTENDANCE



**216**

BOOK BAGS  
FILLED WITH  
SCHOOL SUPPLIES



**23**

COMMUNITY  
VENDORS



**19**

FREE  
HAIR CUTS  
PROVIDED



**9**

BIKE  
HELMETS  
GIVEN AWAY



Vendors: Microsoft, The Help Center NC, Vance County Cooperative Extension, Vance County Safe Kids, Franklin Granville Vance Smart Start, Reach Out & Read, Adolescent Parenting Program, Ella Baker Educational Project of NC, Henderson-Vance Recreation & Parks, Warren County 4-H, Alice Aycock Poe Center for Health Education, Safe Space, Inc., Vance Granville Community College, Pretty Tough Designs, Omni Visions, Inc., ZSpace Labs, Gia L. Photography, Green Rural Redevelopment Organization's Mobile Farmer's Market, Vance County Fire Department, BetaBox Labs, Piedmont Community College, Healthy Blue NC, and Sweet Bees Delightful Treats.

Entertainment by DJ Duane Palmer, Aleesa Gupton, Matilda Bullock (line dancing), Vance County High School Marching Band, Erica Harding (zumba), and Annie Perry (comedy).

Oasis of Hope sponsored free hotdog meals and Lawrence & Perry BBQ Food Truck and Brain Freeze were also available.

Haircuts provided by Raheem Cousins and Dr. Braxton Henderson.

Bike helmets were given away by Vance County Safe Kids.

Event included a Community Yard Sale



Pastor Catherine Sledge,  
[www.oasisofhopemin.org](http://www.oasisofhopemin.org),  
252-433-0003, 2495 US Hwy 1-158 Business,  
Henderson NC 27536



[www.turningpointcdc.org](http://www.turningpointcdc.org),  
252-621-5190





# HEALTH & WELLNESS

We hosted a series of “Simple + Beneficial” Health Workshops in 2019. We partnered with the Granville Vance Public Health Department to share resources about diabetes prevention programs in our community. In May, we partnered with Henderson Family YMCA to offer free group exercise classes for our community. Classes included yoga, Zumba, silver sneakers, and line dancing. Each participant received a free lunch box.

We received funding from Partners in Health and Wholeness to support our health programs. In 2020 we will be creating an outdoor classroom and community garden!



## Grade A Nutrition

On September 18, 2019 Janelle Inman facilitated a back to school nutrition education seminar. This simple yet beneficial workshop discussed ways to pack healthy and safe lunches, ways to snack the smart way, and how to create simple healthy snacks. This seminar was geared for all ages from kids to adults. Healthy “combination food” snacks were served for refreshments. A total of 29 participants varying from adolescents to seniors attended this workshop. Fun games such as Roll and Respond and Jeopardy were played with participation of all attendees. This workshop was designed to help spread awareness and knowledge about nutrition and its importance.







## SIMPLE + BENEFICIAL

HEALTH & WELLNESS SERIES



### A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY

Our first Simple + Beneficial Health & Wellness workshop, "A Little Goes a Long Way," was a huge success! Janelle Inman, Health & Wellness Intern, facilitated this hands-on seminar and the Henderson Family YMCA provided free passes to all of our participants. Everyone enjoyed healthy snacks and valuable, practical information.

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Total Attendance: 35

100% found the workshop to be very helpful

92% plan to become more active based on the information presented

100% found the workshop activities very helpful



**OASIS**  
OF HOPE MINISTRIES









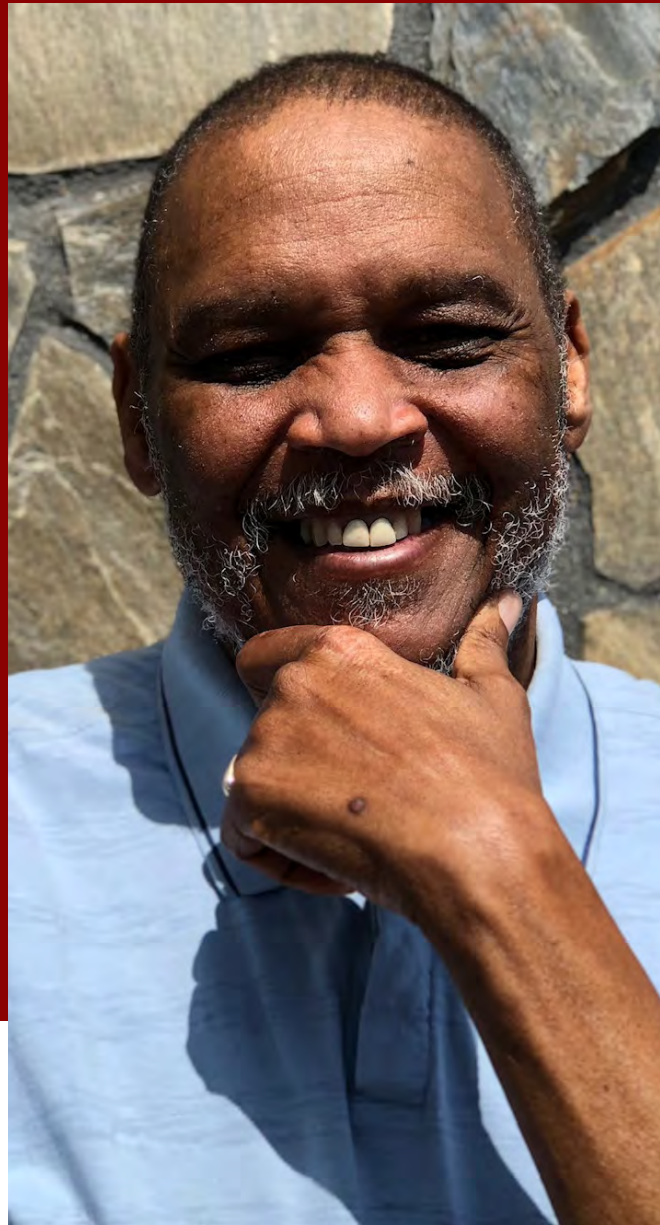




I N M E M O R Y O F A P O S T L E

# *Alvin D. Sledge*

WE WILL ALWAYS HONOR  
AND CONTINUE THE  
LEGACY OF OUR LEADER,  
SPIRITUAL FATHER ,  
APOSTLE, AND FRIEND



## OASIS OF HOPE MINISTRIES



252-433-0003



[oasis@oasisofhopemin.org](mailto:oasis@oasisofhopemin.org)

## TURNING POINT CDC



252-621-5190



[info@turningpointcdc.org](mailto:info@turningpointcdc.org)



2495 US Hwy #1 158 Business. PO Box 2656. Henderson, NC 27536