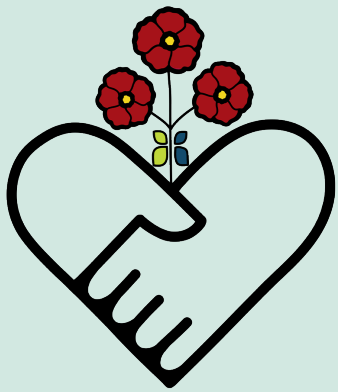


2025–2026  
ANNUAL REPORT



**ABIDE**  
Respite Ministry

For more information, contact Brandi Anderson, Director  
email: [abide@firstcentenary.com](mailto:abide@firstcentenary.com) or call/text: 423-203-5046.

47 families served

9,100 hours given by volunteers

34 new volunteers added

57 volunteers serving weekly

7,500 hours of respite provided for caregivers

4,200 lunches served

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

- University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
- Chattanooga State Community College
- H.A.B.I.T.  
Human Animal Bond in Tennessee of UT College of Veterinary Medicine
- Love on a Leash
- Children's Enrichment Center of First-Centenary United Methodist Church
- Chattanooga Food Bank
- McKamey Animal Center
- Kidney Foundation
- Chattanooga Zoo
- Chattanooga Lookouts
- Scenic Clay Arts
- Tennessee Aquarium
- Little Country Farms
- Chattanooga Symphony and Orchestra
- Local 3 News

## **VOLUNTEERING AT ABIDE**

We run on Volunteer Power! Are you interested?  
Here is how you get started:

1. Schedule a visit to ABIDE and see the program.
2. Background check through F-CUMC.
3. Read the volunteer training manual and watch the 2 hour online training video.
4. Sign all paperwork and follow the ABIDE volunteer covenant.
5. Begin volunteering at ABIDE!

For more information, contact Brandi Anderson  
at [abide@firstcentenary.com](mailto:abide@firstcentenary.com).



## WAYS YOU CAN GIVE

### **Volunteer:**

Volunteers are crucial to this ministry and provide companionship to our friends each and every week

### **ABIDE Discretionary Fund:**

Discretionary Funds are used to enhance the day by day program by providing a diverse compilation of activities and community partners.

### **Al and Chris Bowles Scholarship Fund:**

Scholarships are used to financially support families with the cost of ABIDE program fees.

Donations to ABIDE Respite Ministry are greatly appreciated as every dollar goes towards improving our program. Simply follow the QR code to donate online.



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

ABIDE Respite Ministry's third year has been marked by meaningful growth, deepened relationships, and a continued outpouring of compassion. What began as a vision has flourished into a vibrant community where genuine friendships are formed and both participants and caregivers feel supported, valued, and loved. Each gathering has been filled with moments of joy, laughter, and connection, reflecting the heart of the ministry and the dedication of those who serve. This year, ABIDE has not only expanded in numbers, but also in impact—strengthening its foundation and extending its reach to better serve families in need of respite and care.

As we step into our fourth year, we do so with hopeful anticipation and a renewed sense of purpose. The growth we've experienced inspires us to dream even bigger—welcoming more volunteers, deepening community partnerships, and continuing to create a space where grace and care abound. With each new opportunity, ABIDE remains committed to its mission, trusting that the year ahead will bring even greater connection, support, and transformation for all who walk through our doors.

With deepest gratitude,  
Brandi Anderson, Director  
Addie Nix, Assistant Director  
ABIDE Respite Ministry  
Oak Street Center  
433 Oak Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402



Hours of Operation:  
Mondays - Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

