



# In The Driver's Seat

A Publication of Good News Garage

Good News Garage



A member of Ascentria Care Alliance



## Driving toward Success

When Good News Garage places a car with a client, it's with the goal of creating economic opportunity and independence. Erika Paine is a shining example of how a car can empower and change someone's life.

When Erika received her "new" 2006 Subaru Outback from Good News Garage in October 2015, she was working at Addison County Community Trust in Vergennes, VT, as an administrative assistant. Immediately after receiving her car, Erika was able to increase her hours from 30 to 40 hours a week because she didn't have to rely on the bus schedule or getting rides from friends. Since she now was able to drive to Boston to attend a training program, she received a promotion to certified occupancy specialist in December. Erika was able to attend another training program in February for further certification.

"Having my own car has given me more than extra hours in my job," shared Erika. "It's put me on a career path."

Erika has a five-year-old daughter, Cady, who also has benefited from having their own car. "We're looking at ballet classes, which Cady has been wanting to take," said Erika. "Not having to depend on others for rides or take the bus means she can participate in more activities, like attending friends' birthday parties on the weekend. Without a car, that would have meant adding up to two hours each way by bus or not going at all if it wasn't near the bus line."

Erika said it's the first time since having her daughter that she feels like she's a fully-contributing member of society. She's enjoying not having to rely on others for her transportation needs.

"The best thing about having my own car is the independence!" exclaimed Erika.



*Erika Paine and her daughter with their car*

In 2015 Good News Garage helped to empower 222 families like Erika's. For more information about how your vehicle can help transport a neighbor in need toward self-sufficiency, visit our website at [GoodNewsGarage.org](http://GoodNewsGarage.org).

## Empowering a Fellow Ascentria Program

In August 2015 a generous donor gave Good News Garage (GNG) their handicap accessible 2005 Dodge Caravan. The family had gone to Ride-Away in Essex Junction, VT to purchase a new van, and the salesman suggested they donate their older one to GNG. Ride-Away also donated the cost of repairs to the wheelchair lift.

Good News Garage is pleased to have passed the van along to a fellow Ascentria Care Alliance program, Lutheran Creative Living, a community-based respite program for adults with developmental disabilities in Andover, MA.

Lutheran Creative Living currently has one resident who uses

a wheelchair. Without this van he would be unable to attend group activities with housemates, one-on-one outings with staff and various appointments.

"This van will enable our client to be a part of his community and enjoy all of the things his fellow residents do," said Sarah Pederson, Lutheran Creative Living program manager. "We at Lutheran Creative Living feel so fortunate to have two vans again. That's the only way all eight residents can participate in the same outings together. It is our mission to provide our residents with the most fulfilling lives possible. Thanks to Good News Garage we are able to do just that."

# Multiple Donors Provide Mileage for GNG Programs

In 2006 Susan Swain was working as the director of a New Hampshire nonprofit when she met Bob Buckley, then GNG program manager at an event. "I had never heard of Good News Garage," recalled Susan, "and was completely taken with the concept of the program. I was working with disadvantaged women, so the idea that donated cars were repaired and provided to people in need was so incredible!" When the transmission in her Chrysler minivan with 115,000 miles needed replacing, she called Good News Garage to donate it. The van was repaired and went into the GNG VT Ready To Go shuttle service to help transport families in need to work, appointments and daycare.

Since then, Susan's dedication and support of Good News Garage has increased dramatically. In the fall of 2007, Susan was hired as the GNG NH/MA marketing manager and has since donated two more times. "Every vehicle our family has given was used by GNG in different ways, which is pretty cool," commented Susan. "In addition to our minivan, my son's older Ford Mustang was sold by GNG with the proceeds helping to repair other cars, and last fall I donated my beloved 2007 Ford Freestyle which was awarded to a working mom in New Hampshire. As a GNG employee for eight years and a three-car donor, I feel privileged to have provided the 'keys' to help change someone's life and to witness first-hand how impactful and critical reliable transportation can be."

Susan's donation story is not unique. "Good News Garage has many families who have donated four or five vehicles to the program" said Bob Buckley, GNG director of operations. "Giving to Good News Garage becomes a tradition for families, because once they donate, they understand the impact these cars have on people's lives and the communities we serve."

"For example," continued Bob, "we have a New Hampshire family who has donated four different types of vehicles in five years including a classic 1976 Triumph Spitfire, a nearly new Honda Phantom motorcycle and a Boston Whaler boat. Each vehicle was sold to support the program."



*Susan Swain, GNG marketing director, along with her daughter, Reed, recently donated their family's third vehicle to GNG.*

"We have donated and will continue to donate to GNG to help provide vehicles to those in need of transportation," commented the donors who chose to remain anonymous. "New Hampshire doesn't provide much in the way of public transportation, especially if you live in a small town, so most people need access to a car to be able get to work and deal with everyday demands. We really appreciate the work done by GNG in helping people obtain and maintain their cars. Good News Garage really helps families!"

"The passion and dedication these folks feel toward Good News Garage is experienced by most people who donate to us," commented Bob. "Once you donate to GNG, you're hooked!"

For more information about how your donation can empower local families in need, visit [GoodNewsGarage.org](http://GoodNewsGarage.org) or call 877.GIVE.AUTO (877.448.3288).



*The vehicles above — all donated by the same New Hampshire family — are an example of some of the unique and specialty donations that Good News Garage receives. Proceeds from auctioning donated luxury and specialty vehicles help fund GNG programs.*

# A Project Car with a Heart to Be Auctioned in 2016

Have you heard about the Good News Garage restoration project with *Hemmings Sports and Exotic Car*? In March 2007, a gentleman from Fitchburg, MA, donated his 1979 MGB to Good News Garage. The MGB was in need of extensive repairs, so Good News Garage partnered with *Hemmings Sports and Exotic Cars* in Bennington, VT, to undertake a full restoration of the classic roadster.

“The MGB was the perfect candidate for a Hemmings’ project — running, but in sad shape,” said David LaChance, editor of *Hemmings Sports and Exotic Car* magazine. “At the heart of the project was our knowledge that, as we worked to prepare this car for the road, our efforts would ultimately help Good News Garage assist individuals and families in need of transportation. Both our volunteers and our vendors were happy to go the extra mile.”

Hemmings worked with automotive businesses, car clubs and individuals who donated all the parts and services and performed the repair work. The project was completed in 2014, and Good News Garage displayed the MGB at events and car shows throughout New England during the summer and fall of 2015.



*The MGB is currently on display at Owls Head Transportation Museum in Owls Head, ME.*

The MGB is currently on display at Owls Head Transportation Museum in Owls Head, ME and will be auctioned off there on August 20, 2016. All proceeds will benefit Good News Garage programs and help to provide reliable transportation to families in need.

“Good News Garage is grateful to Hemmings and all the volunteers involved with this project,” said Bob Buckley, GNG director of operations. “Collaborations like this enable us to continue to do the work we do!”

To view the MGB restoration project, visit [GoodNewsGarage.org/Hemmings-MGB-Restoration](http://GoodNewsGarage.org/Hemmings-MGB-Restoration).

## Did You Know?

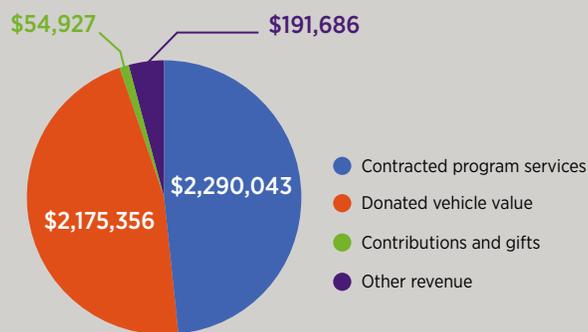
Good News Garage accepts donations of unique, high-end vehicles. Donated luxury and specialty vehicles are sold at auction, with the proceeds funding repairs on other more suitable cars. In the past year, vehicles we received and auctioned at Owls Head Transportation Museum in Maine include a 1977 Ford F150 truck, 1981 Mercedes convertible, a 2002 Landau Georgie Boy RV, 2004 Lexus RX 330, and a 2006 Acura RL sedan. The proceeds from these auctions covered the cost of repairing more than 15 program cars!



*This donated 2007 Acura MDX is a luxury midsized SUV with all-wheel drive and many features including heated seats, navigation system, backseat DVD player and a roof rack. It will be auctioned at Owls Head on August 20, 2016.*

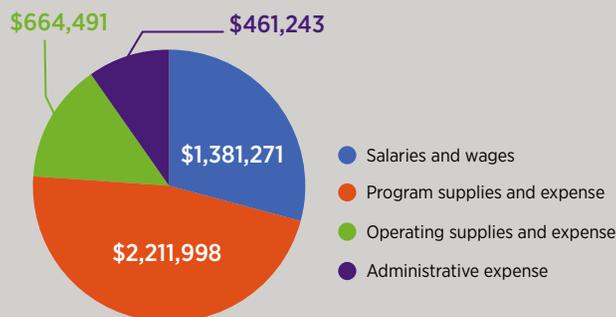
## Financials for Fiscal Year 2015

### Revenues and Support



Total Revenues and Support **\$4,712,012**

### Expenses



Total Expenses **\$4,719,003**

# How You Can Help

There are many ways you can support Good News Garage in our mission of providing reliable, affordable transportation to neighbors in need.



**Donate Money** – All financial donations to GNG help to ensure the ongoing success of our programs. To make a donation, visit [GoodNewsGarage.org](http://GoodNewsGarage.org). Here are just some examples of the ways your gift helps:

- \$25 windshield wipers
- \$50 oil change and tire rotation
- \$100 transmission service
- \$250 brake replacement
- \$400 a set of tires
- \$500 timing belt/water pump replacement
- \$1,000 shocks and struts replacement



**Donate Time** – GNG relies on the dedication of many volunteers who donate their time and talents in support of our programs. Volunteers help in a number of ways, including picking up and delivering donated cars, staffing events in the community, distributing posters and marketing materials, and providing office assistance. If you're interested in volunteering with Good News Garage, you can find out more information and sign up on our website: [GoodNewsGarage.org/Volunteer](http://GoodNewsGarage.org/Volunteer) or call us at 877.GIVE.AUTO (877.448.3288).



**Donate Materials** – GNG welcomes donations of new and gently used tires and car parts, gas cards for clients and car care items for families receiving a car: jumper cables, tire gauges, first aid kits, wiper fluid, ice scrapers, flashlights and car cleaning supplies. If you'd like to make a donation of materials, call us at 877.GIVE.AUTO (877.448.3288).



**Repair Your Car** – If you live in the Burlington, VT, area, consider bringing your car to GNG for maintenance or repairs. All proceeds from the garage fund GNG programs and services. Call 802.861.2990 to schedule an appointment.



**Connect With Us** – You can keep up with the latest news and updates about Good News Garage by following us on Twitter @goodnewsgarage; liking us on Facebook [facebook.com/goodnewsgarage](http://facebook.com/goodnewsgarage); or emailing [info@goodnewsgarage.org](mailto:info@goodnewsgarage.org) to sign up for our email newsletter.

# Good News Garage 2015 Numbers

- 33,620** rides scheduled through our Ready To Go program in Vermont, an increase of almost 5,000 rides in the past two years.
- 4,400** reliable vehicles placed with families in need since 1996.
- 3,280** dollars raised during the #GivingTuesday campaign in November. Many thanks to our business donors — Grappone Auto Group and Bond Auto Parts — the Ascentria Care Alliance board of directors, and all our generous donors.
- 1,898** total vehicles donated, a 17 percent increase over 2014.
- 377** vehicles donated in December — shattering all previous monthly donation records!
- 222** vehicles placed in Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts.
- 19** events and car shows attended by GNG staff in 2015. It also is the number of years we've been transporting families toward self-sufficiency!

# Ascentria 2015 Numbers

As a member of Ascentria Care Alliance ([ascentria.org](http://ascentria.org)) Good News Garage is part of a larger family of programs serving others throughout New England. Here is a snapshot of what is happening throughout the organization:

- 319,133** hours of care provided by our In-Home Care Program staff in New Hampshire, serving more than 410 clients in nine of the state's ten counties.
- 33,804** appointments scheduled by our Language Bank staff, serving needs in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont and Maine. This resulted in over 76,033 hours of interpretation by 231 staff in 61 languages.
- 5,000** number of clients whose lives are touched daily by Ascentria programs.
- 865** refugees resettled in New Hampshire and Massachusetts by our Services for New Americans Program.
- 124** children found safety and security in a stable home setting through our Foster Care Programs in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

# Repair your car...Change a life!



*Cameron Stommel, service manager, with former client and current customer, Rose Geiger*

Good News Garage Retail Garage Service in Burlington, VT, prides itself on its number of loyal repeat customers. In particular are the former Good News Garage clients who continue to use the garage to service the vehicles they've received from GNG.

Rose Geiger is one such customer. Rose received her "new" car, a 2004 Buick LaSabre, in January 2014. Almost two years after receiving the car, "Victoria," as she was named by Rose, is still providing dependable transportation to the Geiger family. "My car takes me up mountains to get to work!" exclaimed Rose, who is currently working at a hotel in Waterbury, VT.

Rose counts on the service department of Good News Garage to make sure that her car is in good working order. "Only GNG works on my car," said Rose. "They're like family to me. I trust them to keep her running!"

The GNG VT Retail Garage has been repairing donated vehicles that are awarded to local, low-income families since 1996. In June 2014, it began providing repair services to the general public. As a social enterprise, the revenues generated by the Retail Garage are used to support the programs and services of Good News Garage.

For more information about our Retail Garage Service, visit [GoodNewGarage.org](http://GoodNewGarage.org) or call 802.861.2990 to schedule a service appointment.

## Car Show and Events Schedule

|         |                            |                    |
|---------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 6/4/16  | Classic Car Show           | Shelburne, VT      |
| 6/11/16 | Motor Mania                | Nashua, NH         |
| July    | The Point Concert Series   | Burlington, VT     |
| 7/23/16 | Show of Dreams             | Hudson, NH         |
| 8/13/16 | Antique & Classic Car Show | Stowe, VT          |
| 8/20/16 | New England Auto Auction   | Owls Head, ME      |
| 9/17/16 | Street Rod Nationals       | Essex Junction, VT |

## Community Supporters

Good News Garage greatly appreciates the support we receive from many businesses and organizations.

A & M Towing – East Hartford, CT  
Allen Automotive – West Rutland, VT  
Ascension Lutheran Church – South Burlington, VT  
Auto Care Plus – Manchester, NH  
Auto Clinic – Barre, VT  
Auto Service Solutions – Manchester, NH  
Bluebird Barbeque – Burlington, VT  
Bob and Sons Automotive – Manchester, NH  
Bond Auto Parts – VT and NH  
Boston Area Car Club – Boston, MA  
British Cars of New Hampshire – NH  
British Invasion – Stowe, VT  
Calvary Episcopal Church – Underhill, VT  
CC Tomatoes – Concord, NH  
Connecticut MG Club – CT  
Covenant Community Church – Essex Junction, VT  
Don's Tires – Manchester, NH  
East Main Street Auto Repair – Newport, VT  
Ferguson's Automotive – Windsor, VT  
Fox Imaging – Tilton, NH  
Frank's Front End – Manchester, NH  
GE Foundation – Fairfield, CT  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Jericho, VT  
Granite State Glass – Manchester, NH  
Grappone Automotive Group – Bow, NH  
Hartford/Springfield Auto Auction Co-op – E. Granby, CT  
Haviland's Service Station – Brattleboro, VT  
Hemmings Motor News – Bennington, VT  
Historic Motor Sports – Candia, NH  
Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church – Newington, NH  
Infinity Car Wash – Manchester, NH  
J & L Service Center – St. Albans, VT  
Jericho United Methodist Church – Jericho, VT  
Little Red Kitchen – Burlington, VT  
Loomis Auto Exchange – Bennington, VT  
Manchester Auto Wash – Manchester, NH  
Nashua Telegraph – Hudson, NH  
Owls Head Transportation Museum – Owl's Head, ME  
Papergraphics – Merrimack, NH  
Performance Towing – Manchester, NH  
Quality Motors – St. Johnsbury, VT  
Ride Away – Essex Junction, VT  
Riverview Garage – Morrisville, VT  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church – Colchester, VT  
South Elm Automotive – Manchester, NH  
Thomas Hirschak Auction House – Williston, VT  
Three Jacks Towing – Middleton, MA  
Tires Too – Londonderry, NH  
United Church of Danbury – Danbury, NH  
United Church of Underhill – Underhill, VT  
Vermont Automobile Enthusiasts – VT  
Vermont Mutual Insurance Group – Montpelier, VT  
XVI Corporation – Dover, NH  
WCAX TV – South Burlington, VT



# Donate a car...Change a life!

GoodNewsGarage.org 877.GIVE.AUTO (877.448.3288)

## A Message from the Director



When I began working for Good News Garage as a New Hampshire vehicle processor in 2004, we were a widespread program with little collaboration or ongoing planning between offices. We were repairing and awarding donated vehicles and helping families, but operations were state-focused.

Today, we are blessed with a different scenario and future.

The Good News Garage “family” has blended our staff and services to work hand in hand ... streamlining processes and sharing resources, allowing us to help more people. Some recent milestones include the growth of the VT Repair Garage Service which filled 951 appointments in 2015, and seeing

a 17 percent increase in vehicle donations over 2014. We’re expanding our client services in 2016 with the relaunch of the JumpStart program, and we witnessed a record breaking December for donations (377!).

We continue to be humbled by exceptional vehicle donations and increased financial giving from you — our neighbors and businesses — who support Good News Garage and our “wheels to work” mission. Yes, we are poised and ready to enter our 20th year running strong — like a finely-tuned automobile. I truly believe the best is yet to come for Good News Garage!

Thank you for being a partner in our journey,

Bob Buckley  
Director of Operations

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