25TH ANNIVERSARY • 2001–2026

THE COAT

A Legacy Of Service. A Future Of Hope.

The People. The Purpose. The Possibilities.

A digital magazine of Coat of Many Colors Ministries, Inc. Meet the people behind the work. See how learning helps our neighbors move forward.

Inside This Issue

Our beginnings • Community supporters • H.O.N.O.R. Mentoring • Five academies • The vision for H.O.N.O.R. Village

OUR PURPOSE - Helping People Gain Independence Through Education and Empowerment.

Explore Our Anniversary

Volume 1 • Issue 1 • 2026 • Anniversary Edition

IN THIS ISSUE

YOUR NEXT CHAPTER

Read a story. Learn something. Find a way to help.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

YOUR FIRST STEP

Choose one story that fits your need today. Use its button to find current help or learning.

Our Story | Pages 3-8

The mission, our roots in 1995, community supporters, the 2019 award, and mentoring.

Learn A Skill | Pages 9-14

Five academies and practical lessons in artificial intelligence, daily life, home projects, media, and cooking.

Find Support | Pages 15-20

Food, counseling resources, community help, KMEJ Radio, and the planned H.O.N.O.R. Village.

Make It Yours | Pages 21-25

Nuggets of Knowledge, ways to help, sources, Pente, and a printable family activity.

Find Your Next Step

THE FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

A MISSION WORTH PRESERVING

Helping People Gain Independence Through Education and Empowerment.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

TRY IT TODAY

Write down one goal. Choose one small action you can finish this week.

People Come First

CMCM began with a desire to help our neighbors. A meal can meet a need today. Learning a useful skill can help someone take the next step tomorrow.

Many Hands. One Purpose.

Volunteers, board members, educators, friends, and community partners have shared time, tools, ideas, and support. This magazine honors that work.

The Mission Continues

Our next chapter brings learning and practical help together. We want people to gain skills, grow in confidence, and help someone else.

Take One Small Step

Choose one skill you want to learn. Start with a free lesson. Practice it, then tell someone what helped you.

Meet CMCM

Proposed founder-message text for Dr. Michael A. Hayles Sr. to review; not a signed statement.

STEPS ALONG THE WAY

ROOTS THAT REACH BACK

The work began before the anniversary clock.

Original AI-generated symbolic illustration; not a historical photograph.

PRESERVE A MEMORY

A name, a date, and a short story can turn an old photo into useful history.

1995 • The Beginning

Dr. Hayles recalls beginning operations at Porter Chapel in 1995. Members and officers helped the early work take root.

2001 • A Lasting Foundation

CMCM received federal 501(c)(3) recognition in March 2001, according to the founder. This anniversary marks 25 years since that recognition: 2001-2026.

2011 And Beyond • A Place To Serve

County records describe CMCM job-skills training at the Lone Star Community Center by 2011. The center remains home to the CMCM Service Center.

Save A Piece Of History

Write the names and dates you know on a copy of an old photo. Keep the original safe. Clear details help the next generation understand the story.

Read Our Story

PEOPLE WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE

THE HEART OF CMCM

A legacy is built one act of service at a time.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

PASS IT ON

You do not have to know everything to help. Share one skill you know well.

Mrs. Emily Thomas

Dr. Hayles credits Mrs. Thomas and Christian Computer Ministry with computer classes for seniors, a dedicated volunteer team, and an introduction to the Texas A&M equipment connection.

Educators And Volunteers

Teachers, pantry helpers, photographers, board members, and neighbors have shared what they know. Some have served across many years and many kinds of work.

Help Us Remember

Our list of names is still growing. Share a memory, a photograph, or the name of someone whose service should be honored. Please send only material you have permission to share.

Service Comes In Many Forms

Teaching, sorting supplies, making a phone call, and helping someone read a form all matter. A useful skill can be a gift to a neighbor.

Share A Memory

Acknowledgments are based on the founder's recollections; this is not a complete historical roster.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

PARTNERS IN POSSIBILITY

Regular support helps the work continue.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

STEADY SUPPORT MATTERS

Time, supplies, and regular giving all help a community program plan ahead.

April Sound Ladies Association

A special thank-you for helping our neighbors and supporting CMCM's work.

Lone Star Cowboy Church

Thank you for monthly support and meat contributions through the church's meat ministry.

Benui Baptist Church And Mount Mariah Baptist Church

Thank you for regular financial support that helps CMCM serve the community.

Porter Chapel And Our Regular Contributors

We honor Porter Chapel AME Zion Church's officers and members for helping us get started. To every monthly and regular contributor: your steady care matters.

Meet Our Partners

Current supporter acknowledgments supplied by Dr. Hayles. No donation amounts or meat weights are claimed.

2019 • STATEWIDE RECOGNITION

SERVICE TO VETERANS

H.O.N.O.R. Mentoring received a Governor's Volunteer Award.

Original AI-generated mentoring illustration; not the award ceremony or actual participants.

A SKILL CAN TRAVEL

When one person learns and teaches another, useful knowledge reaches farther.

The Official Record

The Texas Governor's Office named H.O.N.O.R. Mentoring the 2019 Service to Veterans Award recipient. Its announcement was published October 15, 2019.

Learning That Reaches Others

The announcement describes veterans in the justice system tutoring fellow participants in reading, math, English, GED preparation, college preparation, and reentry.

Why It Matters

A person who learns can also teach. Mentoring gives people a way to use their experience and skills to help someone else.

Teach What You Know

Pick one simple skill. Show the steps. Let the learner try. Offer patient feedback, then let them practice again.

Read The Official Award Record

EVERYONE HAS SOMETHING TO GIVE

Helping Our Neighbors Overcome and Rebuild.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

ASK. LISTEN. PRACTICE.

Good learning starts with a clear question and grows through practice.

Share A Skill

Reading, planning, and clear communication can open doors. A mentor helps someone practice and keep going.

Build A Next Step

Learning can support a plan for work, further education, and daily life. Progress takes practice and support.

Everyone Helps One

The village vision carries this idea forward: people who grow can return to encourage others. A helping hand can become the start of another person's journey.

Listen Before You Teach

Ask what the learner wants to do. Find out what they already know. Build the lesson from that starting point.

Explore H.O.N.O.R.

The 2020 Peacebuilder recognition is a founder-reported milestone; its original issuer record remains to be confirmed.

FIVE ACADEMIES • ONE MISSION

LEARN IT. USE IT.

Build confidence with a useful first lesson.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

CHECK WHAT YOU LEARN

Try a new skill in a small, safe way. Ask for help when something is unclear.

Artificial Intelligence And Media

Learn how to ask computer helpers clear questions and check their answers. Explore simple audio, video, and photography skills.

Everyday Living And Do It Yourself

Practice planning your week and everyday tasks. Learn how to plan a small project and choose a safe next step.

Culinary Academy

Learn basic home cooking. Understand ingredients, prepare a simple meal, and practice kitchen safety. This is not chef training or food-manager certification.

Start With A Free Class

Each academy begins with a free starter. Visit the academy page for current lessons and access. Completion certificates show course completion, not a professional license.

Explore All Five Academies

ASK A CLEAR QUESTION

Good instructions help a computer helper understand your goal.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

LEARN. CHECK. APPLY.

Try one small task. Read the answer. Check it before using it.

Five Parts To A Useful Prompt

Say who the helper should act as, what you need, the background, any limits, and how the answer should look.

Try This At Home

Act as a patient teacher. Help me plan three meals using rice and beans. Keep the steps short. Show a shopping list.

Check The Answer

Artificial intelligence can make mistakes. Check names, dates, costs, and important advice using a trusted source.

Keep Private Things Private

Leave passwords, account numbers, health records, and other private details out of your prompt.

Explore The Artificial Intelligence Academy

MAKE ROOM FOR YOUR GOAL

A simple plan can make a busy week easier.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

START SMALL TODAY

A short plan you use is more helpful than a long plan you never begin.

Pick One Goal

Choose a task you can finish this week. For example: make a food list, find a free class, or sort one folder.

Choose A Time

Put the task on your calendar. Keep the first step small enough to fit into the time you have.

Plan Your Spending

Write down money coming in and bills coming due. Cover needs first. Make a plan for the next small expense.

Notice What Worked

At the end of the week, name one thing you finished. Adjust the next step when your plan needs to change.

Explore The Everyday Living Academy

PLAN BEFORE YOU FIX

Know the task. Know your limits. Work safely.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

MEASURE. PLAN. PRACTICE.

Learn the safe steps before picking up a tool.

Look First

Read the instructions. Identify the tools and supplies needed. Check whether the task is suitable for a beginner.

Start With A Safe Project

Organize a drawer, label a shelf, or plan a simple storage system. Small tasks help you practice without rushing.

Know When To Stop

Electrical, gas, structural, and major plumbing work may need a qualified professional. A class is not a trade license.

Keep A Project List

Write what you need, the cost, and the steps. Finish one project before buying supplies for the next.

Explore The Do It Yourself Academy

TELL ONE USEFUL STORY

Clear sound and a simple message matter more than fancy gear.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

CREATE WITH PURPOSE

Your story can help a neighbor learn, find a service, or take part.

Choose Your Message

What should the listener learn? Write one short sentence that answers that question.

Record In A Quiet Place

Reduce background noise. Speak clearly. Make a short test recording and listen before recording the full story.

Use Good Light

Face a window or another soft light. Keep the camera steady. Record only people who agree to be included.

Practice A Thirty-Second Story

Name the topic, share one useful point, and give one next step. Check the facts before sharing.

Explore The Media Academy

COOK FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

Learn basic home cooking, one meal at a time.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

PRACTICE BUILDS CONFIDENCE

Home cooking skills help you understand your food and use what you have.

Read The Whole Recipe

Check the ingredients and steps before you begin. Gather your tools. Ask for help with anything unfamiliar.

Keep Food Safe

Clean hands and surfaces. Keep raw foods separate. Cook to safe temperatures. Chill foods promptly.

Plan A Simple Meal

Choose ingredients you already have. Compare prices. Practice one recipe before trying a harder one.

What Completion Means

A certificate shows completion of the class only. It is not a chef credential, food-handler permit, or food-manager certification.

Explore The Culinary Academy

Food-safety reference: foodsafety.gov/keep-food-safe/4-steps-to-food-safety. These lessons are basic home cooking, not professional certification.

PRACTICAL CARE

FOOD TODAY. HOPE FOR TOMORROW.

Help starts with a need we can meet.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

PLAN A SIMPLE MEAL

Start with what you have. Pick a few ingredients. Make a list before you shop.

Plan Before You Visit

Check the food distribution page for visit details and calendar updates. Call before coming if you are unsure what to bring.

A Useful Habit

Before shopping, look at the food you already have. Plan a few meals around it. Make a short list so less food goes to waste.

Give Time. Share A Skill.

Pantry service takes a team. Visit the volunteer page to learn how to apply and take part.

Make Your Food Go Further

Plan to use foods that spoil first. Label leftovers with the date. When you are unsure about safe storage, use trusted food-safety guidance.

Plan Your Food Visit

Dates and hours can change. Use the current service page rather than an archived magazine for your visit.

A FIRST STEP TOWARD SUPPORT

CMCM helps people find a path to counseling resources.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

ASK FOR THE NEXT STEP

A clear question can help you find the right place to begin.

Start With A Question

Ask where to find help and how to make first contact. You do not need to share private treatment details with CMCM.

A Planned Partnership

CMCM is preparing a referral partnership with Brand New You Counseling Services. Availability depends on the provider and the completed agreement.

The Counselor Handles Care

The provider decides whether services fit your needs, handles clinical intake, and discusses appointments, fees, and insurance.

Use The Current Page

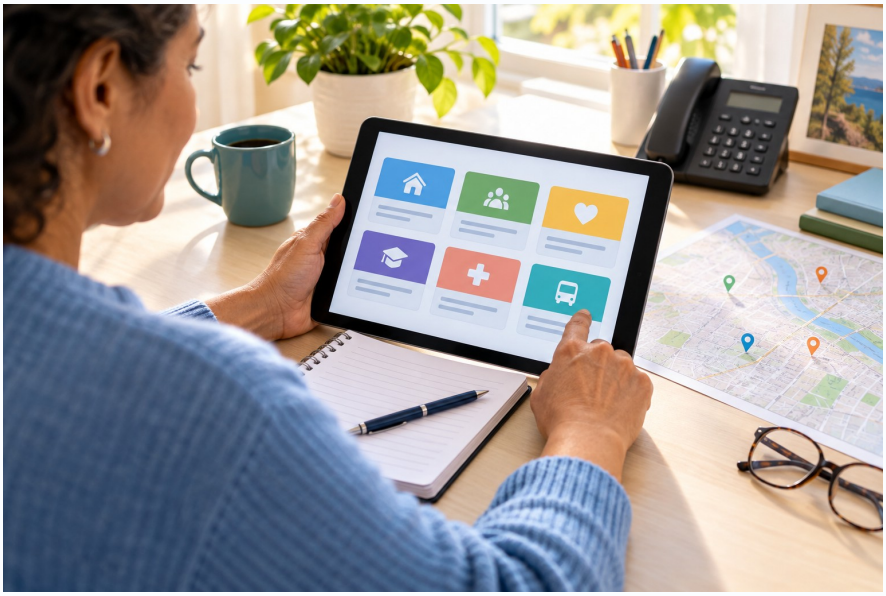
Check the CMCM counseling page for current options. Do not rely on an archived magazine for service availability.

Find Counseling Resources

This magazine is educational. It does not provide counseling or promise appointments, insurance coverage, or free treatment.

FIND A TRUSTED START

Use a clear question and a reliable source.



Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

CHECK BEFORE YOU GO

Confirm the date, location, and contact details with the service provider.

Education And Training

Explore CMCM academies for a free starter. Ask a local college about adult education, costs, and entry requirements.

Food And Daily Needs

Check CMCM food distribution and the community resource page. Confirm hours and visit rules before traveling.

Veterans

Start with VA.gov for official benefits and service information. Ask an accredited representative about claims help.

Prostate Health

Ask a healthcare professional about your personal risk and the benefits and risks of screening. A PSA result alone is not a diagnosis.

Explore Community Resources

References: va.gov; cancer.gov/types/prostate/psa-fact-sheet. General education only; a healthcare professional can advise on your situation.

EMPOWERMENT ON THE AIR

KMEJ RADIO

Music. Community. A chance to connect.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

YOUR COMMUNITY HAS A VOICE

A useful local story can help a neighbor discover an event, a service, or a new idea.

Part Of CMCM

KMEJ Radio is part of CMCM's Education and Empowerment Division. It gives the community another way to connect.

BIG MIC'S Southern Soul Show

Saturday, 8–10 a.m. and 8–10 p.m. Central. Check the station for current programming.

Tell Us What's Happening

Share a community event, suggest a topic, or tell us what you want to hear. Send clear details and a way for the team to contact you.

Share A Clear Event Notice

Include the event name, date, time, place, cost, and contact person. Send it early so the station can review it.

Listen And Send A Community Message

OUR NEXT CHAPTER

H.O.N.O.R. VILLAGE

A place to learn. A path toward independence.

Original AI-generated campus concept; not an existing facility or final design.

BUILD IT IN STEPS

Land first. Then funding, planning, permits, and qualified partners. Each step supports the next.

First • Find The Land

The current plan seeks 30–60 acres in East Montgomery County. Suitable land, funding, engineering, permits, and operating partners must come first.

A Practical Beginning

The proposed first building would bring offices, meeting and learning space, a commercial kitchen, and about 100 restaurant seats together.

Room To Grow

The broader vision includes transitional housing, hands-on training, coordinated support, and spaces where neighbors can gather.

A Way To Help

Landowners, builders, suppliers, and companies can share interest in helping. An expression of interest is not a binding pledge.

See The Plan And Offer Support

Concept only. No completed campus, secured site, construction schedule, or guaranteed income is represented.

A CAMPUS WITH PURPOSE

Start with practical spaces that serve people and support the mission.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

LAND. LEARNING. LEGACY.

Each step needs suitable land, funding, qualified planning, and approvals.

A Business Training Center

The proposed first building includes learning rooms and practical business education. Meeting rooms could also serve community groups.

A Kitchen And Restaurant

Plans include a commercial kitchen and about 100 restaurant seats. These spaces could support training, catering, and earned income.

Services Under One Roof

The first building is planned to include offices, private counseling rooms, pantry storage, and copying, printing, and scanning services.

Offer An Idea Or A Resource

Landowners, suppliers, builders, and companies can express interest in helping. Interest is not a contract or a binding pledge.

Share Interest In H.O.N.O.R. Village

All facilities are proposed. No land purchase, construction start, opening date, or income is guaranteed.

THREE WORDS. ONE LESSON.

Lasting Wisdom. A small message can lead to a useful action.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

NUGGETS OF KNOWLEDGE

Three Words. One Lesson. Lasting Wisdom.

Faith. Hope. Love.

Trust that learning is worth the effort. Look for a next step. Show care through what you do for someone else.

Learn. Practice. Share.

Choose one new skill. Try it safely. Explain it to another person in your own words.

Ask. Listen. Learn.

Ask a clear question. Give the other person time to answer. Be willing to learn something new.

Plan. Start. Finish.

Write down one small task. Begin it. Notice what helped you finish and use that lesson again.

Turn A Nugget Into A New Skill

These are original CMCM educational sayings, not quotations attributed to historical figures.

MAKE YOUR PART COUNT

Small steps can build a stronger community.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

ONE USEFUL ACTION

Learn a skill. Help a neighbor. Share a resource. Small actions add up.

Learn Something

Try a free lesson. Practice the skill. Share what you learn with someone else.

Volunteer

Tell us about your interests and skills. The team will explain the next steps before you begin.

Support The Work

Give if you choose. Share the website. Introduce a possible partner. Visit Shop To Support for upcoming music and learning products.

Stay Connected

Need help or want to share an idea? Call 936-597-4179 or email cmcmiorg@gmail.com. We are glad you are here.

Find A Way To Take Part

THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY

Keep the history clear. Keep the mission moving.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; not actual CMCM people or places.

TRUST AND VERIFY

Read the source. Check the date. Separate confirmed facts from plans and memories.

Our Source Material

This issue draws from The COAT 25th Anniversary Editorial Preview, CMCM's anniversary research record, and Dr. Hayles's contributor recollections and corrections.

Independent Historical Records

The Governor's Office documents the 2019 award. County records describe 2011 training. Local coverage records community presentations and support. The anniversary page links to these records.

Editorial Review

Founder wording, precise legal dates, historical names, photo permissions, and final credits remain subject to review. Unverified client counts, funding percentages, and event dates are not published here.

About This Edition

Every section uses original AI-generated editorial artwork. People are fictional. The anniversary logo is CMCM artwork. The campus image is a concept. This edition remains private for review.

Open The Historical Sources

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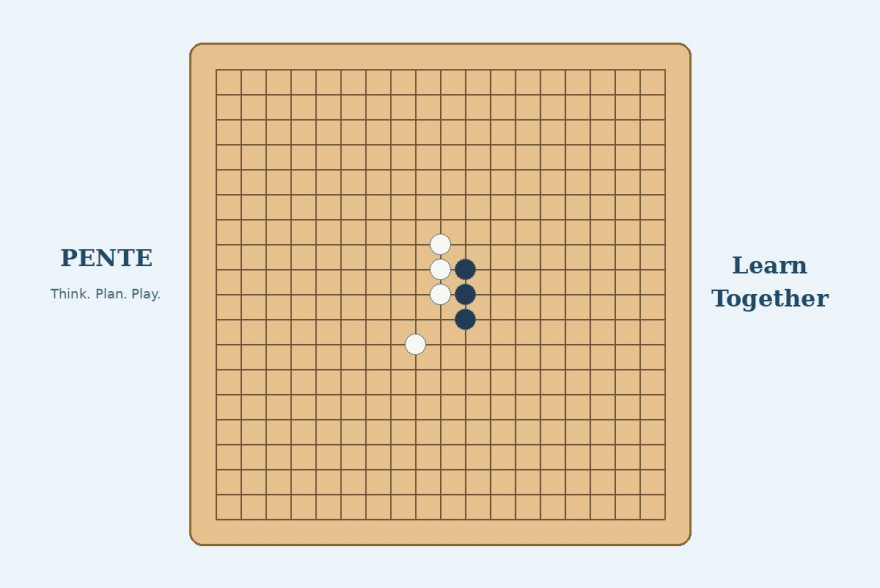
TRY PENTE TOGETHER

A game of looking ahead, taking turns, and learning from each move.



Original educational board illustration. Pente uses a 19-by-19 grid.

LOOK. THINK. LEARN.

After a game, share one move that taught you something. Respect matters more than winning.

Begin With The Board

Standard Pente uses a 19-by-19 grid. Stones go on line intersections. Two players take turns placing one stone.

Two Ways To Win

Make five stones in an unbroken straight row, or capture five pairs of the other player's stones.

How A Capture Works

Place a stone so two opposing stones sit between two of yours in a straight line. Remove that opposing pair.

Learn Before Competing

First practice placing stones and spotting pairs. Review the full rules before playing a standard game or tournament.

Read The Pente Rules

CMCM learning and tournament ideas are future plans, not a scheduled competition. Use large paper marks with children instead of small stones that can be choking hazards.

PRINTABLE FAMILY ACTIVITY

DRAW YOUR NEXT STEP

Learn together. Make something useful. Share it.

Original AI-generated editorial illustration; people and places are conceptual.

ONE LESSON TODAY

Write your own three-word nugget and explain it to someone.

For Children

Draw a book, a plate of food, and a helping hand in the boxes below. Color each picture. Tell an adult what it means.

For Adults

Choose one simple task for the week. List the tools or supplies you already have and one safe first step.

Learn Together

Ask: What did we learn? What can we try? Who could we help? Let every family member answer.

Take It With You

Print this page for your family. Return to cmcmi.org for free starters and current community information.

Find A Free Starter Class