

South Texas Atheists for Reason
www.SouthTexasAtheistsforReason.org

ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2017

Community – Commitment - Compassion

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To Our Members

The purpose of STAR is to focus on two things, **building a family of friends** and **community service**. We are Atheists, and we are also Humanist. We encourage trusting science, common sense, logic, and environmental preservation. We believe we can be good without a god. Our community service is a way we can express to the public that we are and share in the betterment of humanity.

2017 was a tough year for STAR. We had several new people and lost a few due to moves and life changes, some good and some not. The result was the membership and participation had dropped. Even with that, we had more events and hours this year than 2016. It was because we pulled together and got through it. We didn't have much time to do new member recruiting and we are trying to start out the year with a better plan.

Things we are doing differently include posting the events up to 3 months in advance so that you can plan to be there. These platforms help us remind you regularly to help us be more efficient. We will be engaging the new people who sign up and hope you will help with that and inviting them to the upcoming events. We do not want anyone to feel pressured, and we know life can be crazy busy and time slips away. We hope the friendly reminders are helpful and welcome any feedback if it's not.

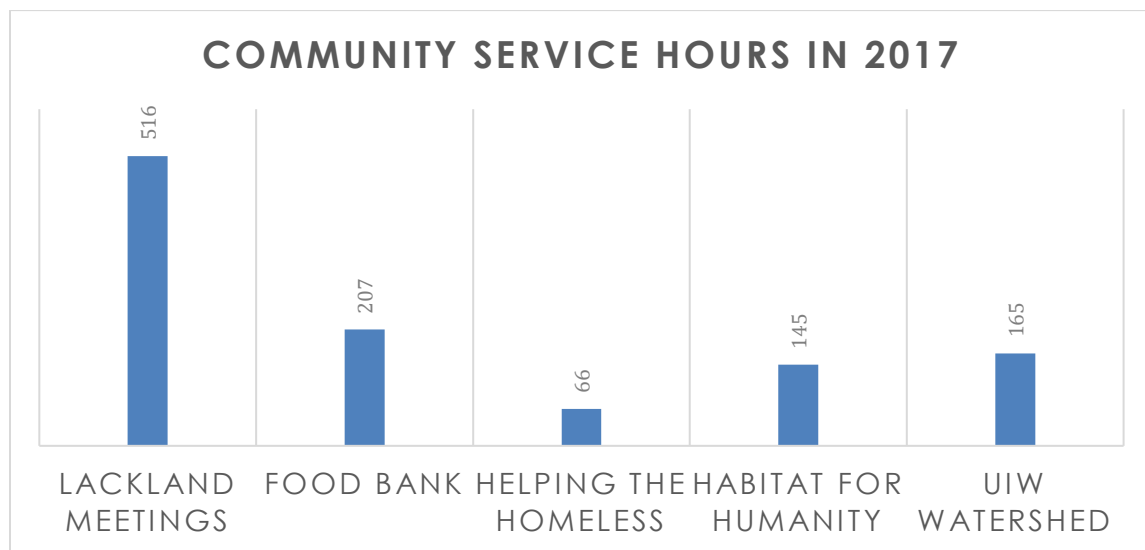
In 2018, we need your talents, suggestions, engagement and participation. We believe we have a great foundation of a very active group, but we cannot live up to our potential without an active membership. We know there is interest because we have over 700 followers on Facebook and 101 members on Meetup, and another 260 in the Facebook group. Our numbers are increasing each month without increased participation.

Please let us know how we can change that and live up to our potential. If you are interested in only one event, one aspect of what we do, even if you can only give your time once a month, it would be helpful. Thank you for all those who have supported us and continue to do so. We look forward to a productive 2018, together.

The Board of Directors,
South Texas Atheists for Reason

Overview of Community Service

In 2017, our members were involved in **1099 hours of community service events**. We are very active and love the team building community service events. Our Lackland meetings have had a total of over 49,000 for the year with our highest attendance at 1204. Most of the meetings took place in a 1000 capacity theater and on occasion, we had to turn away up to 324 people.



We had 14 special events this year.

- Nebula
- Atheist Easter
- StarTender – fundraiser November
- Thanksgiving
- Winter Solstice
- Krampus Night
- StarTender – fundraiser February
- Fort Sam – Placing of the Flags
- Festival of Faiths – Representing Humanists
- Independence day
- Labor Day Picnic
- Diaper Bank Volunteer

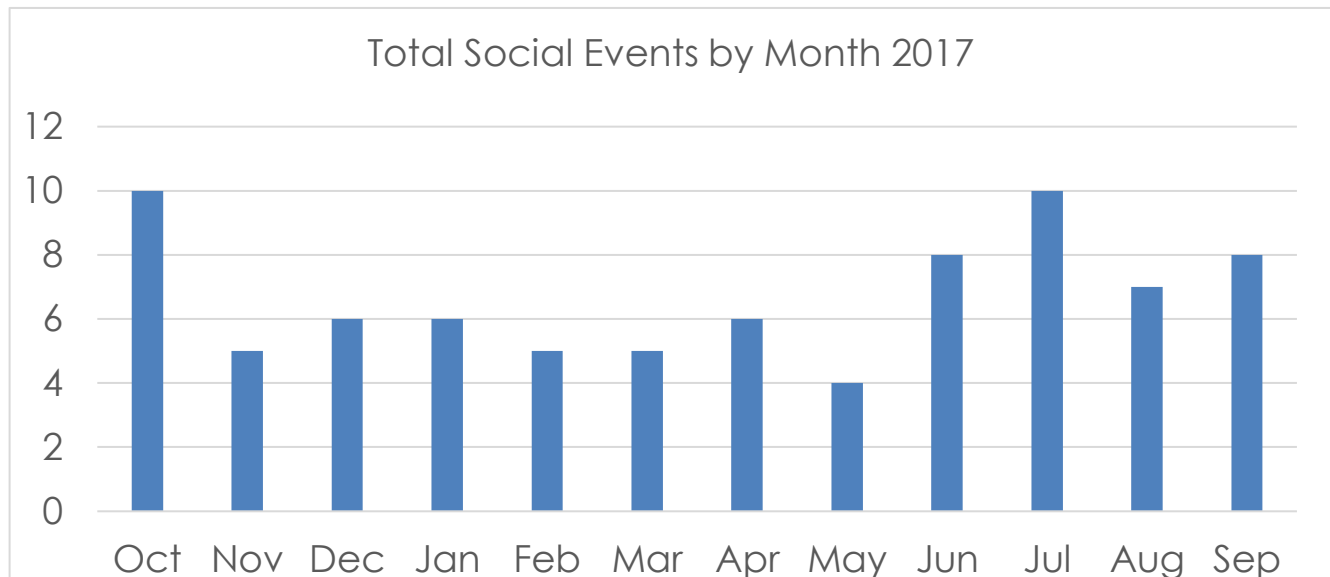
Fundraising events brought in additional money and boosted engagement through our social media channels.

Online Presence

Platform	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Dec
FB Group	189	187	190	198	210	212	217	226	235	244	256
FB Page	362	384	388	454	492	524	544	586	636	663	692
Twitter	63	64	64	73	74	83	87	93	108	112	120
Instagram	41	44	44	51	58	65	71	76	78	85	89
AHH FB	522	526	530	533	535	534	542	544	552	548	541
AHH Twitter	56	59	60	57	62	69	75	84	96	99	99
JBSM FB	546	578	583	608	628	637	683	726	737	736	754
JBSM Twitter	180	186	188	190	196	204	208	215	218	219	229
TOTALS	1959	2028	2047	2164	2255	2328	2427	2550	2660	2706	2780

In the year of 2017, we increased our social followers by 821 or 41%.

Social Events



We had a total of 80 scheduled social events in the year of 2017. That is an average of 1.5 events per week. We like to give everyone a chance to get to know other members. Our other social events were to allow for all age groups.

Financial Summary

2017	REVENUE	EXPENSES	EARNINGS
General Fund	\$3,271.34	\$1,881.91	\$1,389.43
Helping the Homeless Fund	\$2,961.00	\$3,143.32	\$ -182.32
Totals	\$6,232.34	\$5,025.23	\$1,207.11

Revenue came from Donations, Membership Dues, Swag, and Fundraising events.

The expenses are for Facebook promotions, event supplies, purchasing of SWAG, website hosting and domain name, sponsorship to Fiesta Youth, and bank maintenance fees.

Since we plan to do much more this year than last, we have increased our memberships but also, they will not be prorated and will last to the one-year anniversary. Spacing out the membership dues throughout the year will help us with sustained income.

A breakdown of all expenses and income will be available upon request.

Goals for 2018

If you are interested in any of the following efforts, please let us know your thoughts or ideas. We need people with passion for others to help other humans.

ADVOCACY

Building our presence with social justice matters is important to us. We will keep the membership informed about local issues and our stance on it. There are several affiliated groups that do events and we will notify the membership through social media channels when they are taking place and how to connect with other STAR members that are attending.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

We would like to increase our membership and our activity levels to be able to accommodate at least 10 people at each event per weekend. We know that people have lives and can't be at every event but having a steady group of people that can switch out and support the team would be our goal.

EDUCATION

We are working to make sure that accurate information is offered to the community and the school system! Accurate information about Planned Parenthood, proper sex education, stopping the whitewashing of history and more.

SOCIAL EVENTS

We are doing our best to have more social events in different locations to accommodate those who would like to come to them closer to their house. We will have at least one Sunday evening Family Dinner (Starry Night) on the West side every 6 weeks for potential and paid members. The social events are weekly and monthly and for special occasions. There is something for everyone and we hope you will join us to help build our teamwork and friendship family.

BUILDING ENGAGEMENT

We are focusing on deepening our relationships with our members and families. Our purpose is to build a community by doing community service and social events. We welcome new members, but we want to make sure it is a good fit for those who are willing to share their lives with us.

Meet the Board

Board member serve for 2-year terms.

<p>VICKI GETTMAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</p>	<p>JED GETTMAN DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS</p>	<p>CHAD CAIN DIRECTOR OF FINANCE</p>
		
<p>Oct 2015-Current Re-elected for Oct 2017-2019</p>	<p>Oct 2015-Current Re-elected for Oct 2017-2019</p>	<p>Oct 2016-Oct 2018</p>
<p>STEPHANIE BARTLETT DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS</p>	<p>CHERRI PITTS DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION</p>	<p>DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL MEDIA</p>
		<p>VACANT</p>
<p>Jan 2017-Resigned Jan 2018</p>	<p>Apr 2016 - Apr 2018</p>	

STAR was created by secular families for secular families. We wanted a positive environment to live our own truths without judgement, without fear of retaliation, and real support without religion. Our purpose is to be a support group, friendship circle, and positive place to be where you feel comfortable to be your authentic self. We all have issues in life and we are finding that we can deal with them more effectively with a positive, supportive group of people who truly care, and we can do it without any god.



South Texas Atheists for Reason
southtexasatheistsforreason@gmail.com
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