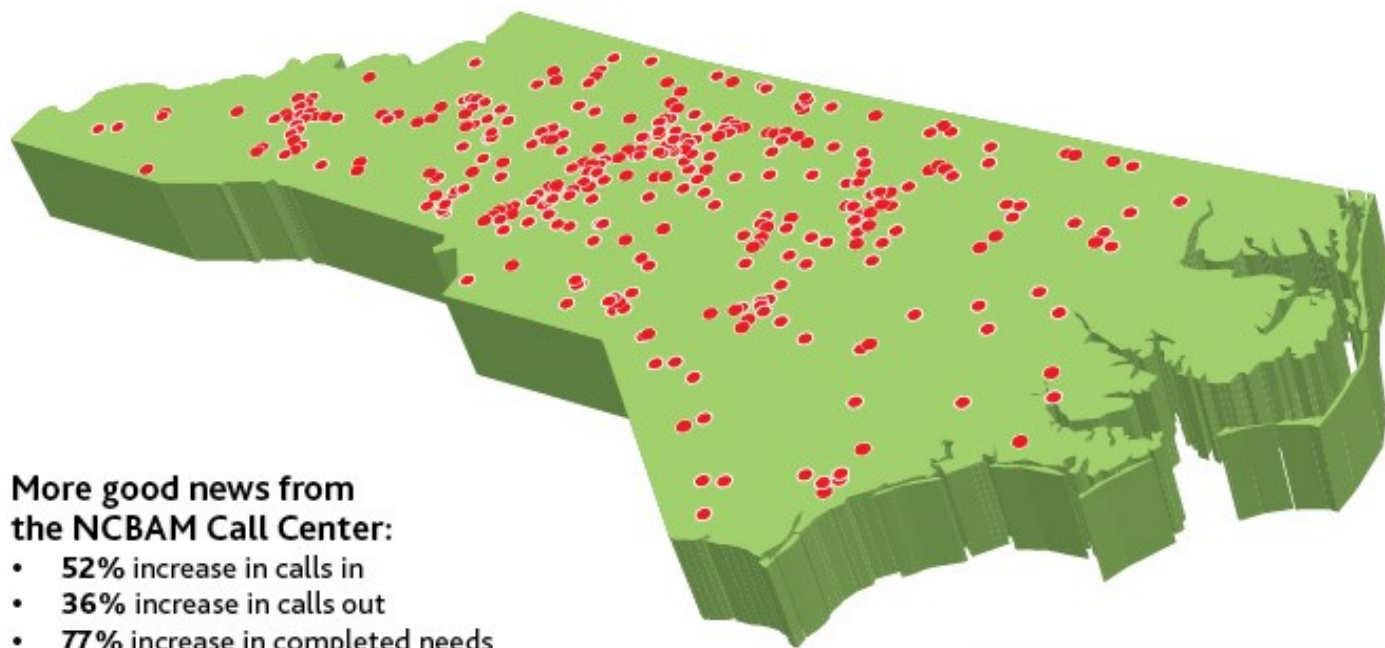


North Carolina
Baptist Aging Ministry
**2018 Ministry
Highlights**
JANUARY 2019



**More good news from
the NCBAM Call Center:**

- **52%** increase in calls in
- **36%** increase in calls out
- **77%** increase in completed needs

Other ministry highlights:

- **8 new** educational workshops
- **5 national awards** from the Baptist Communicators Association
- **3 new outreaches:** *Home Safe Home, The Heart of the Caregiver, Disaster Preparedness*
- **1 new CareAble curriculum:** *Servant Volunteers in Action*

● = increased safety and independence for a frail-aging adult because of a wheelchair ramp or other vital need met through the NCBAM Call Center.

2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Disaster Preparedness for Aging Adults

Disasters often reveal those most vulnerable and, sadly, older adults are typically disproportionately affected. During Hurricane Katrina, seniors accounted for 74% of casualties even though only 15% of the population. NCBAM's new *Disaster Preparedness* outreach helps churches plan, implement, and maintain *Disaster Preparedness* ministries in order to protect those most vulnerable in their communities. Disasters don't plan ahead, but your church can, and NCBAM is ready to help!

NCBAM Call Center Responds to Hurricanes Florence and Michael

The NCBAM Call Center received more than 70 hurricane-related calls. Call Center specialists worked closely with Baptists on Mission, FEMA, and other agencies to refer callers to shelters, feeding units, and other sources of help. Call Center specialists also prayed with and encouraged callers affected by these disasters and took extra steps to share God's love by making follow-up calls in some of the more severe situations.

Rampin' Up! 2018

In the spring of 2018, NCBAM completed its 4th *Rampin' Up!* This biennial event has been held every other year since 2012 during Operation Inasmuch. This year, Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina used proceeds from its upscale resale store, Fancy Finds, to provide \$10,000 in matching funds for building supplies. The NC Baptist Foundation provided an additional \$2500 to help fund the outreach. These funds helped 40 churches increase their ramp outreach and bring increased safety and independence to many in need.

Senior Adult Ministry Leadership Events

NCBAM held four events to equip and encourage senior adult ministers and lay leaders. A statewide event was held in Thomasville in May and three fall regional gatherings were held in Boone, Thomasville, and Raleigh. These events were planned by AAIM (Aging Adults Innovating Ministry)—a network of senior adult leaders who work with NCBAM to equip leaders and strengthen ministries.

The Heart of the Caregiver

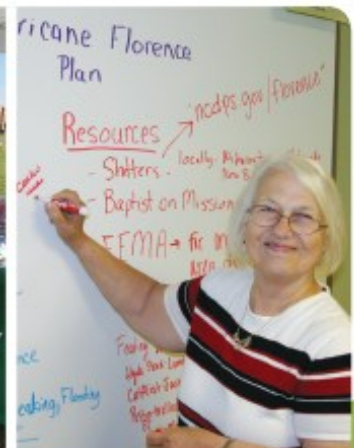
NCBAM's partnership with Mary Tutterow and *The Heart of the Caregiver* kicked off in September with a 90-minute workshop in Thomasville. This outreach will offer Christ-centered support to family caregivers and include special publications, live events, and webinars. By supporting family caregivers, NCBAM positively impacts the quality of care and the ability of families to help elderly members age in place.

Senior Adult Programming

NCBAM broadened its programming in 2018. From balance screenings, to navigating TV providers, to developing healthy spiritual practices, NCBAM provides lively presentations that address issues relevant to the health, safety, and independence of older adults. In addition to local churches and senior centers, NCBAM presented at senior adult retreats at Fort Caswell and Camp Caraway.

Aging Well Conferences

Hosted by local churches, NCBAM held three Aging Well Conferences in 2018 and plans to extend the outreach in 2019. Aging Well Conferences provide a day of education, inspiration, fun, and fellowship for seniors with a focus on aging well spiritually, physically, and emotionally.



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

From Strength to Strength, 2009-2019

As NCBAM approaches its tenth anniversary this year, it's gratifying to recall how God's hand was on the ministry from the very beginning. He blessed our efforts as the team was formed and partners came on board. And now, it's amazing to look back over the years and realize that each year God faithfully caused the ministry to grow from *strength to strength*.



The initial structure of NCBAM has remained in place from the beginning – the Call Center and the work of the ministry's Regional Directors. From that base, each year has seen new partnerships, expanded outreaches, and the addition of unique cutting-edge programs that support NCBAM's mission to help adults 65+ maintain their independence.

In 2018, we added a new training curriculum (*Servant Volunteers In Action*), eight new educational workshops, and launched three new programs—*Disaster Preparedness for Aging Adults*, *Home Safe Home*, and *The Heart of the Caregiver*. You can read more about these programs inside.

In addition to releasing new services in 2018, we were also prayerfully planning an outreach to address what has been called "the silent killer"—*social isolation and loneliness* among older adults. Health professionals link the effects of isolation and loneliness to high blood pressure, depression, cognitive decline, and a 30% increased risk of premature death. Moreover, isolation affects more than just the isolated. Our communities lose without the knowledge and perspectives of older adults.

NCBAM's outreach, called *One Hope: A Spiritual Response to Isolation and Loneliness*, will include a dedicated outreach of the NCBAM Call Center called *The NCBAM Hope Line*. We're also planning tools and resources to help churches address isolation and loneliness in their communities. *One Hope* will seek to connect the lonely with community, and ultimately, with Christ. Look for more information to be released this spring.

In 2019, we'll celebrate our tenth anniversary by honoring the servant volunteers, churches, public agencies and private sponsors that have partnered with us to provide *help for the journey* to North Carolina's aging. We'll also raise \$10,000 for the Rev. Otis Goins NCBAM Foundation so that ministry projects can be funded in perpetuity. Thank you for your continued support in 2019 as we celebrate *A Perfect 10!*

Together, we got this!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandy C. Gregory". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**BLESSED IS THE MAN
WHOSE STRENGTH IS IN
THEE...THEY GO FROM
STRENGTH TO STRENGTH.**

Psalm 84:5-7