



**ST. JOHN'S MERCY
NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRY**

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Neighborhood NEWS

May 2009

Staff:

- Sharon Neumeister, RN
Director
- Cheryl Persons
Outreach Coordinator
- Terri Durst
Outreach & Administrative Assistant
- Sr. Marilyn Wittenauer, RSM
Volunteer
- Lauren Gulley
Gateway Vincentian Volunteer

- **Ball Drive**
- **Ashworth Scholarship**
- **Mother's Day Cards/Photos for Homeless**
- **Ministry On Tour**
- **Breast Health Screenings for Uninsured**
- **Health Topics Bulletin Boards on Website**
- **Upcoming Ministry Volunteer Opportunities**

Mission:

St. John's Mercy Neighborhood Ministry, a department of St. John's Mercy Health Care, connects the economically underserved with appropriate health and social service resources. In partnership with community organizations, we improve access to care and quality of life for those in need.



BALL DRIVE

Clean out your garage and help St. John's Mercy Neighborhood Ministry get kids off the couch this summer, away from the video games, and outdoors playing SOMETHING!

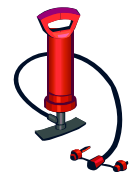
We are asking departments and friends to collect "GENTLY USED" balls & equipment. (Specific items are listed below.) Balls & equipment must be CLEAN, in GOOD CONDITION, READY TO USE, and still have some LIFE in them.

Items needed:

- Baseballs**
- Basketballs**
- Footballs**
- Kick balls**
- Soccer balls**
- Softballs**
- Tennis balls (new cans only)**
- Volleyballs**
- Wiffle balls**

Additional Items:

- Air pumps**
- Ball gloves**
- Bats (baseball & wiffle ball)**
- Tennis rackets**



All items will be shared through partnering agencies providing summer camps/activities for youth in need.

DEADLINE: Friday, May 22

Items should be delivered to the Ministry office or departments may make arrangements for delivery using St. John's Mercy Courier Service, 314-264-7517.

Ashworth Scholarship



In 1997, the Sisters of Mercy Health System established the *Ashworth Scholarship Award* in recognition and appreciation of Ron Ashworth, now retired President and CEO of Sisters of Mercy Health System. Each year, St. John's Mercy Neighborhood Ministry has the privilege of selecting one of the tuition-based schools we collaborate with from where the recipient(s) will be chosen.

We offer this annual \$1,000 award to a student or \$500 to 2 students who demonstrate *good citizenship, strong academic performance and a desire to achieve.*

Principals send a brief description of the student(s) and family situation, need for tuition assistance and how student(s) meet the stated criteria. This year, two students from St. Frances Cabrini Academy were awarded the scholarship.



Past recipient schools include:

Catholic Elementary Schools

Bishop Healy	St. Cecilia
Holy Family	St. Frances Cabrini Academy
Notre Dame	St. John the Baptist
Resurrection	St. Pius V.

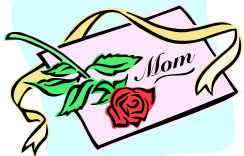
Middle Schools

Marian Middle School
De La Salle Middle School at St. Matthew's

Sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of Mercy Health System operates facilities and services in a seven-state area encompassing Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas. Health System services are provided by approximately 29,500 co-workers and 4,000 physicians.

MOTHER'S DAY CARDS & PHOTOS

MOTHER'S DAY, SUNDAY, MAY 10



Ministry staff will offer free Mother's Day cards and photos to the homeless and/or low-income neighbors at lunch programs held at Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ and Centenary CARES at Centenary United Methodist Church on April 29 & 30.

This program, in its fourth year, receives donated cards each year from Recycled Paper Greetings, Inc. The clients choose cards for a special "mother" in their life, and the Ministry staff help read and write in them as needed, and pay for postage.

Clients also have the opportunity to enclose their digital photo printed at no charge.



GET CONNECTED!

Visit the Neighborhood Ministry's website:

www.stjohnsmercy.org/services/neighborhoodministry



MINISTRY TOUR

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEER COWORKERS!!

Fellow Mercy Coworkers warmly welcomed the Neighborhood Ministry staff as we visited numerous Mercy locations in April to thank them for their WONDERFUL SUPPORT of us and our partnering community agencies.

Coworkers learned more about volunteer opportunities, including how they can access the information on the “Mercy Gives Back” website, and ways they as individuals and departments can support the Ministry through

Direct Service

- Volunteering in the Community
 - Visiting & serving meals to the homeless
 - Preparing & packing meals for people with HIV/AIDS and Cancer

Indirect Service

- Department Collections
 - Socks
 - Adopt-a-Family
 - Personal Care Items

Financial Support

- Monetary Donations
 - Chili Cook-offs
 - Dress Down Days
 - Individual Donations

If you are interested in holding a collection drive, volunteering or would like to learn more about “Mercy Gives Back”, call the Ministry office at 314-865-0927. See the back page of this newsletter for some upcoming community service volunteer activities.

BREAST HEALTH SCREENINGS



ATTENTION WOMEN BETWEEN AGES 40-64: Have you had your annual mammogram AND clinical breast examination by your health care professional?

The St. John’s Mercy Mammography Van is in the community helping uninsured women access breast cancer screenings and will soon be visiting the following 3 sites:

May 5

Holy Name of Jesus Church
10235 Ashbrook Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63137

June 3

International Institute
3654 S. Grand
St. Louis, MO 63118

June 24

St. John the Baptist Church
4170 Delor
St. Louis, MO 63116

Call St. John’s Mercy David C. Pratt Cancer Center, 314-251-6400, for more information or to make an appointment.

Funding for this program is provided by: Missouri Show Me Healthy Women, Susan G. Komen for the Cure St. Louis Affiliate, and St. John’s Mercy David C. Pratt Cancer Center

REMINDER: Do your breast self-exam once a month.

NEW WEBSITE FEATURE

May is “Asthma and Allergy” month. Go to the “Bulletin Boards” section of the Neighborhood Ministry website to print your “ready-made” flyers today! You’ll also find a calendar listing common health topics which are focused on each month. www.stjohnsmercy.org/services/neighborhoodministry

UPCOMING MINISTRY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Coworkers may visit the "Mercy Gives Back" website on the St. John's Mercy intranet for complete details of these events plus view additional community volunteer opportunities.

St. Vincent's Church

4:15 – 6:30 p.m.

10 – 15 co-workers needed to serve dinner

June 1

June 29

Peter & Paul Community Services

6:15 – 8:30 p.m.

5-6 co-workers needed to spend 1 on 1 time talking with the men and serve dinner.

May 13

June 23

Centenary Cares Outreach

Centenary United Methodist Church

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

2 – 3 co-workers needed to help prepare, serve and clean up lunch

May 8

June 12

Food Outreach, Inc.

Cook & Pack

8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

10 co-workers needed to assist with food preparation, cooking, and packaging home-cooked meals for persons living with HIV/AIDS or Cancer.

June 20

August 8

Food Distribution

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

5 co-workers needed to fill food orders at our on-site "grocery store" for persons living with HIV/AIDS or Cancer.

May 16

July 18

**CALL THE NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRY TO SIGN-UP
FOR ANY OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES, 314-865-0927.**