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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

August 2009

Staff:

Sharon Neumeister, RN
Director
Cheryl Persons
Outreach Coordinator
Terri Durst
Outreach & Administrative Assistant
Sr. Marilyn Wittenauer, RSM
Volunteer
Coming mid-August!!
Gateway Vincentian Volunteer

- **Summer at the Ministry**
- **Welcome to the Neighborhood**
- **Area Back to School Fairs**
- **Street Soccer Homeless League**
- **Grace Hill Services Relocated**
- **Blankets of Kindness**
- **Here's Something to Celebrate**
- **Baseball, Hot Dogs and Parties with the Sisters**
- **YMCA Book Fair and Tutor Training**
- **AND MORE**

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.

SUMMER AT THE MINISTRY

WOW! The summer is flying by!! I guess that's why we didn't publish a July issue! Here are some highlights of what's been happening at the Neighborhood Ministry:

- We said good-bye to Lauren Gulley, our 2008-09 Gateway Vincentian Volunteer, in June and are anxiously awaiting Alexa Previti, 2009-10, to arrive in mid-August.
- The Suburban Journals interviewed Mercy coworkers regarding our commitment to extending our Mercy compassion beyond the walls of the Medical Center by performing community service. To read the article go to: <http://suburbanjournals.stltoday.com/articles/2009/07/21/west/news/0722mid-stjivolts0.txt>
- The St. John's Mercy Nursing "2008 Patient Care Report" featured an article and photo highlighting *Mercy Gives Back* and the Ministry's role scheduling community service opportunities. (This internal publication can be found on the St. John's Mercy Intranet under "News and Pubs".)
- During the noon meal program at The Bridge (formerly Centenary CARES), we helped guests complete the homeless census form that is required by the City of St. Louis twice a year.
- We received a donation of 550 new pairs of KLOGS shoes from Latitudes in Sullivan, MO. The shoes were distributed to community agencies and will be offered to those in need at no charge.
- We closed our fiscal year in June under budget!!!



Sr. Marilyn Wittenauer helps a guest at The Bridge complete a homeless census form.

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Joint Neighborhood Ministry and Isaiah 58 Ministries recently expanded their services by adding Parish Nurses, Colleen Richmond and Kathy Pondoff respectively. Isaiah 58 also has a new community support worker, Margaret Bluett. Welcome to the neighborhood, ladies. We look forward to working with you!

AREA BACK-TO-SCHOOL FAIRS

Many of these fairs will be offering back-to-school physicals and vaccinations. Bring your children's health records and insurance information with you.



ST. LOUIS DREAM CENTER & HEALTHCARE USA

August 1 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
4324 Margaretta Ave., 63115
1-800-566-6444

9TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FESTIVAL

August 1 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Chambers Park (Compton & Franklin)
(314) 371-8585

LYON @ BLOW K-8 SCHOOL & HEALTHCARE USA

August 8 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
516 Loughborough Ave., 63111
1-800-566-6444

GRACE HILL'S MURPHY O'FALLON HEALTH CENTER

August 8 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
1717 Biddle, 63106
(314) 814-8745

UNION AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR

August 14 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
733 Union Avenue, 63108
(314) 584-6447

JOINT NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRY BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR

August 15 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
2911 McNair Avenue, 63118
(314) 771-3987

METRO ASSOCIATES, INC

August 15 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Gravois Park (Compton & Potomac)
(314) 772-8993

Reminder: August 7-9 is the tax free weekend when purchasing school supplies, clothing and some computer equipment. You will not be charged Missouri State Sales Tax and certain restrictions may apply.



STREET SOCCER HOMELESS LEAGUE

Good luck to the St. Louis Roadies and their volunteer coaches who will be participating in the July 31-August 2 *Street Soccer USA* tournament in Washington D.C. What makes this unique is that all players are homeless men. The 5 players from St. Louis (4 on a team) will compete with 15 other cities in the qualifying rounds and a national team will be chosen to play in the Homeless World Cup in Milan, Italy.

Check out the Post-Dispatch article at this website:

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/stlouiscitycounty/story/2EFD2F603BE3ECA4862575FD007E2702?OpenDocument>

P.S. If you haven't already seen one, pick up a copy of St. Louis' new C3 Magazine, a publication devoted to local non-profits in the community. Peter & Paul Community Services is featured in the July Vol. 2 issue. FREE copies are available at Schnucks, Dierberg's or Straub's grocery stores.

GET CONNECTED!

Area resources are just a click away! Visit the *Neighborhood Ministry's website:*

www.stjohnsmarcy.org/services/neighborhoodministry

GRACE HILL SERVICES RELOCATED

Due to a fire in April, the services at Grace Hill Water Tower Health Center, at 4308 N. Grand, have been relocated to 2524 Hadley, next door to the Grace Hill Settlement House, now called Grace Hill Hadley Health Center. The new Water Tower facility will be built at 4414 N. Florissant and is scheduled to open in the summer of 2010.

Transportation services continue to be available by calling the appointment line, (314) 814-8700.

BLANKETS OF KINDNESS

Lisa Featherston, Executive Assistant at St. John's Mercy Health Care, and her family donated three large bags of blankets to the Winter Homeless Outreach Program. The blankets were delivered to The Bridge at Centenary United Methodist Church, 1610 Olive, where they will be stored until winter.

While at The Bridge, Anne O'Donnell, Associate Director of Human Services, introduced Lisa to Richard N. Richard had been homeless, but was boarding a bus that day to Richmond, VA where a job awaited him. Richard was given a blanket for the bus ride.



Lisa Featherston with Richard N.

HERE'S SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE!



Mary Haddad, RSM, the Director of the Neighborhood Ministry at its inception in 1996, will celebrate her Silver Jubilee as a Sister of Mercy this September.

In 2000, Sr. Mary left the Ministry to serve on the Sisters of Mercy Leadership Team in St. Louis. After furthering her education with an MBA in health care from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN, she served as an administrative fellow for Saint Anthony's Health System in Alton, IL. She recently accepted the position of Senior Director of Sponsor Services at Catholic Health Association.

Congratulations, Sr. Mary!! If you would like to make a donation to the Neighborhood Ministry in honor of Sr. Mary Haddad, you may mail your check to: St. John's Mercy Foundation, 615 S. New Ballas Rd., St. Louis, MO 63141, 314-251-1800, or pledge online at <http://www.stjohnsmercy.org/foundation/sjmmc/default.asp>.

BASEBALL, HOT DOGS AND PARTIES WITH THE SISTERS



The Major League Baseball All-Star Game in St. Louis presented an opportunity for Mercy coworkers to celebrate the night with the Sisters of Mercy residing at Catherine's Residence, many of whom are retired.

Nearly 20 Mercy coworkers signed up through the "Mercy Gives Back" website and everyone enjoyed the festivities of the evening!!

YMCA BOOK FAIR AND TUTOR TRAINING



Come to the YMCA Book Fair, August 21-26, 2009 at Kennedy Recreation Center, 6050 Wells Rd, St. Louis, MO 63128. For more information on location, times, admission fees, etc., visit their website: <http://www.ymcastlouis.org/BookFair>

The YMCA Literacy Council will be conducting tutor training in September. Training for Missouri Certification requires 12-hours of classroom time (2 6-hour sessions held on consecutive Saturdays). Upon completion, you will be paired with a low-literacy or an English-learning adult.

For more information, call the YMCA Literacy Council, 314-776-7102. Fees of \$20 include box lunches both days.
Note: Mercy coworkers should contact the Neighborhood Ministry for enrollment 314-865-0927.

WEBSITE FEATURE - www.stjohnsmercy.org/services/neighborhoodministry

September is "Cholesterol Education Month". Go to the Neighborhood Ministry's "Bulletin Board" section on our website to find ready-to-post information on Heart Disease, Nutrition and Exercise.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Our blood supply is dangerously low in the St. Louis area. Please consider donating today.

St. John's Mercy Blood Donor Room – 314-251-4483

American Red Cross – 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543)

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 sites:

September 16

Isaiah 58 Ministries
2149 S. Grand
St. Louis, MO 63104
314-776-1410 – office

November 4

Pilgrim Congregational UCC
826 N. Union
St. Louis, MO 63108
314-584-6447 – parish nurse

Please call the location 2-3 weeks in advance to schedule an appointment, and call St. John's Mercy David C. Pratt Cancer Center, 314-251-6400, for more information on breast health.

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.

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.

Agencies with volunteer needs, may call the Ministry to discuss collaborative opportunities.

St. Vincent’s Church Meal Program

4:15 – 6:30 p.m.

10 – 15 co-workers needed to serve dinner to homeless or low-income individuals and families

Aug 24 – **FULL**

Sep 28 – **FULL**

Oct 26

Dec 1

Dec 29

Peter & Paul Community Services

Emergency Men’s Shelter

6:15 – 8:30 p.m.

5-6 co-workers needed to spend 1 on 1 time talking with the men. Departments or groups may also sign up to cater the evening meal to 70 men.

Aug 18

Sep 23

Oct 22

Nov 17

Dec 16

The Bridge Meal Program

Centenary United Methodist Church

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. or 11:00 – 1:00

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

Aug 14

Sep 11

Oct 9

Nov 13

Dec 11

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.

Aug 8

Oct 17

Dec 5

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.

Sep 19

Nov 21

Catherine’s Residence – Mercy Center

Catherine’s Residence is home to retired Sisters of Mercy. Volunteers are needed to spend time with the Sisters talking, sharing a talent, reading, etc.

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