



The Newsletter of Monroe County United Ministries

Working Together

July 2014

Happy Birthday, Dear MCUM

This year, MCUM supporters have been celebrating MCUM's 75th anniversary of service provision to Monroe County's most vulnerable residents. Last month, MCUM held a reception at the Monroe County History Center in honor of the exhibit in the museum's Community Voices Gallery.

July will also be a month of grand celebrations that you will not want to miss. MCUM will have a display in the Showers Building beginning July 1 and continuing throughout the month. Additionally, MCUM's childcare students, supporters, and friends will participate in the City of Bloomington's annual 4th of July Parade downtown. Come and cheer MCUM on (and get some candy!) and check out the float! If you are a former emergency service client, childcare family, volunteer, or employee and want to walk with us, please contact Katie Broadfoot at 812-339-3429x18 for details.

Matchstick Campaign Still Rolling!

MCUM's endowment at the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County will ensure MCUM's essential programs are available as long as there are neighbors in need. The Matchstick Endowment Matching Initiative will help your support of MCUM's endowment make an even greater impact. For every two dollars donated by the community, the Foundation will add an additional dollar to MCUM's endowment. This year, MCUM's Board of Directors has set the Matchstick goal to \$10,000. Will you help MCUM meet its goal?

Donations should be made directly to:

Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe County
101 W. Kirkwood, Suite 32
Bloomington, Indiana

Don't forget to note that the donation is for MCUM's endowment. For more information about this opportunity, contact Katie Broadfoot at 339-3429 x18 or fundraising@mcum.org. To check on MCUM's current campaign balance, contact the Foundation at 333-9016.

Mark Your Calendars: "Each One, Feed One" Coming August 22-24

Save the date for MCUM's ninth annual "Each One, Feed One" Community Food Drive! This year's event will take place Friday, August 22 through Sunday, August 24.

The goal this year is to collect 15,500 pounds of food over the three-day period—an ambitious jump from the amount of food collected during last year's drive, but on par with earlier years' donations.

Last year, generous community members contributed more than 12,800 pounds of food and \$1,500 in cash to the initiative. About 200 volunteers gave 740 hours of time to help collect, transport, and sort food donations, as well as spread the word about MCUM's mission. Community support is critical to the success of the drive, which restocks MCUM's Food Pantry after summer months, when donations typically decline.

Want to help ensure your neighbors have access to food in times of crisis? This community effort will again rely on 200+ volunteers for a variety of tasks, from event planning to distributing flyers and sorting donations on the big weekend.

Contact Meri Reinhold today at 812-339-3429 x11 or mcum@mcum.org to learn more about the impact you can make with just a couple hours of your time!

Food Pantry Needs

MCUM welcomes donations of all non-expired, nonperishable foods for its Emergency Food Pantry, but currently there is a special need for:

- Cooking Oil
- Drinks - fruit and instant
- Sugar
- Pudding
- Ramen Noodles

Cleaning Closet Needs

Cleaning and hygiene supplies can't be purchased with food stamps. The following items are in high demand:

- Tooth Brushes - Adult
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Children's Tooth Paste
- Q-Tips
- Deodorant for Woman and Men
- Shaving Cream
- Hair conditioner
- Lotion
- Razors
- Mouth Wash

Childcare Needs

The Childcare Program needs all kinds of supplies, including:

- Gently used MP3 or Personal CD Players
- Storage Containers (6 quart, 15 quart, 20 quart)
- Bean Bag Chairs
- Gently used Vibrating Pillows
- Kaleidoscopes

Opp House Needs

Opportunity House can find new homes for your gently used items, with proceeds benefiting MCUM's programs. Please consider donating items such as:

- Paper and plastic bags
- Fabric and yarn
- Towels
- Craft materials
- Pots and pans

Office Needs

- Highlighters
- Silverware for kitchen

MCUM also gladly accepts *paper grocery sacks* for the food pantry. Paper bags hold more than plastic and stand up nicely. Please ask for paper when you shop and bring them to MCUM to reuse.

Volunteer Opportunities

For more information about these or other volunteer opportunities, visit www.mcum.org, call (812) 339-3429, or email help@mcum.org.

Featured Volunteer Position

"Each One, Feed One" Community Food Drive Volunteers (August 22-24):

200+ volunteers are needed for a range of tasks, from event planning in the coming months to distributing flyers at stores, picking up or sorting donations, and packing donated food into the pantry during the big weekend.

Contact Meri at mcum@mcum.org or (812) 339-3429 x11 to find out how you can help!

Maintenance Volunteers:

Volunteers are needed to perform basic maintenance tasks of any skill level, from changing light bulbs to basic carpentry. Work is usually performed between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Contact Meri at mcum@mcum.org or (812) 339-3429 x11.

Fresh Foods Coordinator:

MCUM seeks an energetic individual to coordinate fresh foods for its emergency services clients. This person will organize and manage the refrigerator, and coordinate pick-ups from the food bank. Contact Cliff at help@mcum.org.

Opportunity House Volunteers:

Opportunity House, a resale shop located at 907 W. 11th Street, is MCUM's important partner. Volunteers are especially needed to sort and price items and serve as cashiers. Call (812) 336-2443 for more information.

Each One, Feed One Community Food Drive

Are you ready to make a BIG impact in one weekend? MCUM needs volunteers to serve your neighbors in need during the tenth-annual “Each One, Feed One” Community Food Drive, Friday, August 22 through Sunday, August 24, 2014. Volunteer by yourself or as part of a group! Your efforts will help MCUM meet the goal of raising 15,500 pounds of food in only three days, which will re-stock MCUM’s emergency pantry until the holiday season. Shifts typically last three hours and volunteers should feel comfortable with light lifting and standing for periods of time.

Volunteer positions available:

- Store Volunteer – pass out shopping lists to entering customers and collect food, hygiene products, and cleaning items
- Drivers and Riders – follow designated routes to pick up donations from stores and deliver them to MCUM for sorting
- Sorters – sort donations as they arrive at MCUM
- Can Wranglers – take sorted food into its home in the pantry.
- Troubleshooters & Substitutes –fill in wherever needed!

So how do you sign up? Visit www.mcum.org or contact Meri Reinhold at (812) 339-3429 x 11 or mcum@mcum.org. Thank you for taking the time to feed those who need your support.

Answer the Call for MCUM

When you upgrade your cell phone, stop to consider how to dispose of your old phone responsibly and support MCUM’s programs at the same time! MCUM participates in the Shelter Alliance Program, which pays MCUM \$.50-\$.35 per phone. Phones are recycled or refurbished by this company with zero landfill and no-export policies. In addition, your phone will raise money to fund MCUM’s important services.

Phones, chargers, iPods, and other small electronics can be donated at Opportunity House, MCUM’s offices, and anywhere MCUM items are collected. Please stay tuned for new collection sites in the coming months, or contact Katie Broadfoot at fundraising@mcum.org if you have any questions about this initiative.

MCUM Rolls Out a New Website!

Thanks to the tireless efforts of our friends at ServeIT’s Nonprofit Clinic through Indiana University’s Informatics Department, MCUM is proud to unveil its newly made-over website. At the same URL (www.mcum.org), you can now find a fresh, modern face and all the MCUM-related information you need. Be sure to check it out, and tell us what you think!

Thank You!

We would like to extend special thanks to...

- The friendly MCUM volunteers who staffed an information table for MCUM at the Farmer’s Market last month.
- The Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute volunteers who spent several weeks this summer volunteering on various MCUM projects. Special thanks to the volunteers who constructed MCUM’s 4th of July Parade!
- Those who attended MCUM’s reception at the Monroe County History Center in honor of MCUM’s exhibit in the Community Voices Gallery.
- Nadia Kang for her great first month as MCUM’s Development Assistant intern.
- Chad Walden for allowing MCUM to decorate and use his trailer in the 4th of July Parade (and for pulling it during the parade!).
- Lee Van Buskirk for volunteering to help with maintenance work.

Sponsor a Swimmer

MCUM preschoolers are visiting the pool again this summer! Swimming supports motor skill development, teaches children about water safety, and is a fun way for them to cool off.

Parents pay an additional fee for their children to participate. Your gift of \$28 can provide a “swimmership” for a child. Get in a summer state of mind by sending in your donation today!

Congregation Spotlight: First Presbyterian Church

by Katie Broadfoot

One of MCUM's founding congregations, and currently a member congregation*, First Presbyterian Church has been avidly supporting MCUM's high-quality childcare and emergency services programs from their inception. Over the course of First Presbyterian's involvement with MCUM, the congregation and special groups within the First Presbyterian community have contributed \$358,650.82 and nearly 33,000 pounds of food, household products, and personal hygiene items to MCUM.

Last fall, First Presbyterian hosted an event in conjunction with Bloomington's Lotus Festival, entitled, "Eating Around the Equator," which boasted delicious treats, live music, and fellowship. A portion of the proceeds raised during this event were donated to MCUM, and the agency was given the opportunity to speak during the event. In addition to sharing special event success with MCUM, First Presbyterian Church provides the agency with consistent, monthly unrestricted support, as well as frequent food donations. A number of MCUM's current and former volunteers are also First Presbyterian Church members. Well-rounded effort from this congregation is very much appreciated and is to be commended - thank you, First Presbyterian Church!

**Member congregations are those groups that made an unrestricted gift to MCUM in the previous calendar year. For more information about MCUM's relationship with the Faith Community, or to arrange a presentation to your church group, contact Katie Broadfoot at 812-339-3429 x 18 or fundraising@mcum.org.*

A special thank you to Community Foundation...

For underwriting part of the cost of nutritious food and valuable exercise equipment to promote a healthy learning environment at MCUM.
Our students enjoyed delicious fruit this summer!

Thank You, Pantry Donors

MCUM depends on donations to make a difference for local households in crisis. Listed here are some of the groups and individuals who have recently contributed food, cleaning supplies, and/or hygiene products:

- Mary Lou Craig
- Jef & Pam Davidson
- First Christian Church
- First Presbyterian Church
- Indiana University Health Center
- Allison Lake
- Basilla Jean Rogers
- St. Thomas Lutheran Evangelical Church
- Trinity Episcopal Church

MCUM provides *magazines* in the emergency services waiting room. If you are finished with your monthly subscription and it's still in good condition, drop it off at our office. Our clients will appreciate your generosity!

Celebrate with MCUM!

Join MCUM's anniversary activities throughout the year! Volunteers are needed to help plan and implement all aspects of the activities below. No time to volunteer? That's okay—grab a friend and visit MCUM in the following places throughout the year!

July

Display in Showers Building

Friday, July 4

MCUM in the 4th of July Parade

October

Saturday, October 4

Community Open House at MCUM

Early October

MCUM Restaurant Week

MCUM is grateful to CFC properties, Inc., Old National Bank, and Ivy Tech Community College, whose support makes these activities possible.

In addition, MCUM will hold its traditional events throughout the year. Keep an eye on future newsletters for all announcements and updates!

Traveling this summer?

MCUM gladly accepts **travel-size shampoos and conditioners** for emergency services clients. These small items can go a long way toward helping your neighbors in need feel more secure, prepared, and confident for their day!

Renewal of MCUM's High Standards of Care

Last week, MCUM's high-quality, affordable childcare program earned renewal of its accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), and was also awarded a renewed "Level Four" in the Paths to Quality voluntary assessment program. Both NAEYC and Paths to Quality are voluntary quality-focused standards of achievement.

MCUM's childcare program is the only NAEYC-accredited center in Monroe County that primarily serves low-income families. NAEYC accreditation is based on a program's comprehensive quality of care, demonstrated by meeting standards based on the latest research on development of young children including the promotion of positive relationships between children and adults, teachers, and the community, the program's incorporation of an age-appropriate curriculum with effective teaching approaches, assessment of each child's development and progress, and others.

"We're proud to be recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards," said Meri Reinhold, Executive Director. "NAEYC accreditation lets the community know that children in our program are getting the best care and early learning experiences possible."

The Paths to Quality status demonstrates MCUM's ability to meet the health and safety needs of each child, provide an environment that supports children's learning, support curriculum that guides school readiness, and sustain National accreditation. Tina Burress, MCUM's Education Coordinator, says that having Level Four status "shows parents that we are passionate about the quality of early childhood experiences of each child in the program." In fact, high-quality early childhood education programs like MCUM's have been proven to provide long-term benefits to individuals and families as well as the community at large well into the future.

Congrats to MCUM's childcare program staff on a job well done!

Thank You, Volunteers

Volunteers make our programs possible. Thank you to all who shared their valuable time and talent with us recently!

- Loretta Alonso
- Amanda Behnke
- Margaret Chittum
- Su Cowling
- Randi Crim
- Zixuan Feng
- Diane Gregory
- Xuanyi He (Maya)
- Duane Hornick
- Pat Hornick
- Larry Jacobs
- E. Veronica Lenard
- Judy McDougal
- Leon McDougal
- Chris Meyer
- Carol Peterman
- Ann Schepper
- Betty Schoonmaker
- Paul Schoonmaker
- Sibe She
- Joanne Weddle
- Wuchen Yang (Joyce)
- Yajuan Zhao
- John Zilvinskis

We'd like to give a special shout-out to our friends at the Unitarian Universalist Church, who volunteered on Saturday, June 14. These gracious community members spent the afternoon washing windows and building racks for the food pantry in honor of their retiring minister. They even left Volunteer Coordinator, Cliff Edens with memorabilia to commemorate the occasion.

For information about how your group can get involved in an afternoon session, contact Cliff at help@mcum.org.

Make MCUM Part of Your Legacy

For 75 years, generous community members like you have rallied with MCUM to provide essential services like high-quality, affordable childcare and emergency assistance to Monroe County residents who need a helping hand. Your support has helped thousands of individuals get back on track to self-sufficiency.

You can ensure that MCUM's programs have an impact for the next 75 years and beyond by making a gift to MCUM through your estate plan. Numerous giving options and tax incentives allow you to create a lasting legacy in a manner that suits you and benefits the community. Gifts of all sizes boost MCUM's capacity to serve local residents in need of support.

Making a bequest to MCUM is a simple, meaningful way to show your commitment to helping your neighbors in need. Below is sample language for your will or trust to guarantee MCUM's ability to put your gift to its best possible use.

I hereby leave [specific dollar amount/specific property/rest and remainder, etc.] of my estate to Monroe County United Ministries, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation in Bloomington, Indiana, to be used for the benefit of the organization in such a manner as the board of directors may elect.

If you would like to find out more about the impact you can have, contact Katie at (812) 339-3429 x18 or fundraising@mcum.org.

Announcements for Parents

Important Dates

July 4 MCUM Closed

July 14 Conscious Discipline Session 3a
(5:15-7:30 p.m.)

July 19 Conscious Discipline Session 3b
(9:00-11:00 a.m.)

July 24 Conscious Discipline Session 3c
(5:15-7:30 p.m.)

Spread the Word

Do you know families who may be interested in high-quality, affordable childcare for their young children? Send them our way! MCUM has spaces available for 2 and 2.5 year olds in the newly reopened Puffin classroom. Share your stories about how MCUM's program has contributed to your child's development and prepared him or her for success in school, and let interested parents/guardians know they can contact Traci 812-339-3429 x10 or childcare@mcum.org for more information. Thanks for your support!

Childcare Staff

Childcare Director: Traci Mehay

Education Coordinator: Tina Burress

Cook: Denise Garrett

Assistant Cook: Derrick Mackie

Childcare Classroom Information

Puffins

2-2.5 year olds

Teacher: Sarah Norzinskey

The Puffins are welcoming summer with lots of fun water play and summer activities! We will continue to play in the water all of July, which will include the sprinklers, bubbles, a water table, and squirt toys. Other summer activities that the children will take part in are various sensory items, such as sand, rice, play dough, and of course water!

Aside from water play, we will continue learning our numbers and alphabet letters through songs, puzzles, stamps, and books. The children will also be learning about the beach and how people go on vacation in the summer. Some of the books we will read are, "Seashore Baby," "Minnie's Vacation," and "Summer."

The children will also learn to work with paints in different ways, such as paint brushes, stampers, sponges and bubbles. Many of the activities the children can help make, like the bubbles and paint, will help them understand processes of creating things and will allow them to learn to take turns mixing and stirring.

Overall the Puffins will be very busy with the combination of learning inside and bringing it outside as well.

Seahorses

2.5-3 year olds

Teacher: Jessica Mackie

The month of July will be spent reviewing all that we have discussed over the past few months. Some of the areas we will brush up on are the letters of the alphabet and their sounds, numbers, counting to 10, color names, shapes, and much more. We will review these areas through books, music, play dough, puppets, games, art, and whatever other fun ways we can come up with!

During the month of July, we will focus primarily on:

- The letters Aa-Zz and their sounds
- Numbers 6-10
- Oval and heart shapes
- The colors orange, black, and white
- Counting objects and numbers 1-10
- Classroom and school guidelines
- The right way to wash our hands
- Appropriate bathroom procedures
- Our food experiences for July will be plums and squash

In addition to celebrating all we've learned, the Seahorses will continue to enjoy water play during our outside time two mornings a week. Our water play includes sprinklers, water tables, and other exciting activities to cool off and have fun this summer!

As a safety measure, each class has started using "safety buddies" to get from one place to another. The children are encouraged to hold hands with their safety buddy and are asked to help keep one another safe. During July, the Seahorses will discuss why keeping one another safe is so important and work together to come up with additional ways that we can stay safe at school, at home, and everywhere.

Childcare Classroom Information (continued)

Penguins

3 year olds

Teacher: LaDawn Joyner
Aide: Sarah Landrum

During July, the Penguins will be reviewing what we have learned throughout the year. We will talk about plans for the fall, such as who will be moving up and who will be staying a Penguin. We will continue to go to Mills Pool on Tuesdays and have water play on our playground on Wednesdays.

We will be reading Friends at School, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, and Chicka Chicka Boom Boom. As we read these books, we will talk about what we learned from them and test to see if they remember who wrote each book. We will talk about what we learned in school this year and our favorite aspects of school.

The Penguins will measure each other to see how we have grown this year. We will learn to sort things by size, color, and texture. We will watch plants grow and make sensory bottles and lava lamps. But don't worry, no heat will be used!

During the beginning of the month, we will be talking about Independence Day and what it means for us as Americans. We will be making flags, fireworks, and patriotic paper lanterns.

The Penguins will be doing some fun art projects, as well. We will be painting with colored glue and use eye droppers and measuring cups to do drip and twist painting. We will also be painting with marshmallows. Lastly, we will make plastic cup flowers.

The Penguins will start learning our addresses and phone numbers. We will also be reviewing shapes, colors, numbers and letters, too!

Otters

4 year olds

Teacher: Brittney Denton
Aide: Keelea Kile

The July theme for the Otters is "What We Have Learned." We will be reviewing the "popcorn" words that we have been learning, as well as the letters, numbers, and letter sounds. Parents can be working with their children at home on talking about and defining their emotions. We are going to continue working on this at school, as well as continuing the steps of Conscious Discipline. The Otters will continue to swim throughout this month on Thursday, and we encourage parents to participate if they are able.

The popcorn words we will review this month include: jump, make, red, run, three, two, up, yellow, this, out, play, want, will, with, now, good, four, not, where, little and funny. The letters we will be learning/reviewing are Qq, Vv, Xx, Yy, and Zz.

This month we will be learning about chronology and time to explain things. We will be learning about the words past, present, and future.

We will be celebrating Independence Day on the 3rd of July with a little party, and parents are welcome to attend. We will also be learning about July 4th and what Independence Day is for. We hope everyone has a fantastic three day weekend!

We will also continue working on:

- Counting, sorting, and patterns
- Letters and numbers 1-30
- Defining, identifying, and handling our thoughts and emotions
- School and classroom expectations
- Writing our names, popcorn words, and numbers

Dolphins

5-6 year olds

Teacher: Kim Clay
Aide: Vanessa Schultz

The Dolphins will start this month preparing for our Independence Day celebrations by making cool crafts, reading books and so much more. We will discuss our country and what makes it great. We will look at a map of the USA and talk about the different states as we find where we live and the different places we have visited. After spending some time talking about Independence Day, we'll talk about the fun times we can have at the county fair. We'll talk about the animals we might see, foods we might taste, and the rides we might enjoy if we were to spend time there.

During the last weeks of July we will be winding down from our fun filled school year as we look forward to a new one. We will talk about the good times we had over the year and what we enjoy most and why. Even though it will be sad to say goodbye to all the fun, we realize that we have a lot to look forward to as we enter a new school year. We will also be saying goodbye to our friends that will be heading off to begin a new journey at a new school. First we will recap on all the fun and exciting things we did in the Dolphin room and end the month with a goodbye celebration.

In addition to learning about Independence Day and wrapping up the school year, we will review our:

- Letters and sounds
- Sight words
- Common core standards
- Using words to express our emotions



Monroe County United Ministries

Non-Profit Organization
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Member Agency

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Save a tree! Sign up to receive this newsletter online. Email development@mcum.org, or call (812) 339-3429 x15 to make the switch.

Staff:

- Executive Director: Meri Reinhold
- Development Associate: Katie Broadfoot
- Development Associate: Megan Reece
- Emergency Services Coordinator: Cliff Edens
- Emergency Services Caseworker: Justin Smith
- Office Manager: Shannon Hampton
- Childcare Director: Traci Mehay
- Education Coordinator: Tina Burruss

Hours of Operation:

Office

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - noon and 1-4 p.m.

Childcare

Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Emergency Services

Monday - Friday: 8 - 11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m.

*On days of high demand for services, MCUM may stop taking applications earlier than posted hours.

Opportunity House

Opportunity House, located at 907 W. 11th Street, is a volunteer-run resale shop that raises funds to support MCUM's programs. Our **new store hours** are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Saturday, with donations accepted 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call us at (812) 336-2443 or follow us on Facebook!

Donations of gently used items are always welcome, including: books, clothing, household items, collectibles, toys, and linens.

Opportunity House is stocked with everything you need for the summer season and priced to sell. Come in to find abundant spring and summer clothes, toys, decorations, and many other unique items.

New volunteers are always needed and welcome! Come visit with us to get out of the house for a few hours each week or month. As garage sale season gets into full-swing, also keep in mind that Opp House is a great place to bring "leftovers." Or, simply donate your items to us and save yourself a lot of work! Proceeds go to a great cause, to benefit the children and clients of MCUM.

 Please recycle this newsletter or share it with a friend.