



# Working Together

September 2016

## Back to School with MCUM

Inside this Issue:

- Learn why accreditation and high-quality standards make a difference in childcare programs
- Accept an invitation to our upcoming party!
- View our needs list
- Upcoming opportunities for YOU to make a difference
- ... and more!

## Investing in Quality Care Matters

MCUM's Childcare Program has recently been re-accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and continues to maintain its Level 4 status through the Paths to Quality voluntary assessment program.

... continued on page 3.



Why MCUM?

**37**  
children are currently enrolled on MCUM's fee scale\*

Did you know MCUM's fee scale removes a major barrier to parents' employment by enabling them to send their children to our licensed, accredited program all day, all year?

*\*An additional 48 children are enrolled through the CCDF voucher program.*

Currently, in Monroe County:

**19%**

of kids live in poverty

**21%**

of kids don't know where their next meal is coming from

**67%**

of kindergarteners are not ready for their first day of school

At MCUM, we set these kids up for a lifetime of success:



## Current Needs

### Food Pantry

The Each One Feed One food drive brought in 13,800 lbs of food! We still need 2,200 lbs, especially of:

- Cereal
- Proteins (tuna, chicken, beef stew, etc.)
- Canned fruit
- Rice
- Dry beans
- Spaghetti sauce

### Cleaning Closet

- Shampoo
- General cleaner spray
- Mens & women's underwear

### Childcare

- Plastic bins with lids any size
- 24 piece puzzles
- Barbies
- Felt any color
- Lamination 3ml.
- Construction paper any color
- Artificial flowers

MCUM 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.

## Free Family-Friendly FUN with MCUM

September 25

3-6 pm

RSVP: kbroadfoot@mcum.org



## Each One, Feed One a Success

Over a ten-day time period, the community came together to add 13,800 pounds of food and hygiene items to our pantry and cleaning closet. Thank you! We are especially proud considering the torrential downpour we experienced during our collection times. Our community also raised more than \$12,500 for our new self-sufficiency center (emergency services). We'd like to thank the volunteers who so generously helped make this year's food drive so successful:

- |                            |                            |                           |                           |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • John & Wendy VanderZee   | • Pat Martin               | • Amelia, & Walt Predmore | • Vicky Polansky          |
| • Flo Davis                | • Mary Ellen Brown         | • Nathan Broadfoot        | • Cheryl Munson           |
| • The Kiwanis Club         | • Pam Christenberry        | • Mike & Tina Burress     | • Scott Goodall           |
| • Carol Darling            | • Rush Chesmore            | • Evelyn Pender           | • Natasha Magers          |
| • Daryl & Kathleen Boggess | • Steve & Traci Mehay      | • Shannon Hampton         | • Brittney Denton         |
| • Carol Peterman           | • Phil Stradling           | • Marcie & Anna Ropp      | • Lori Garraghty          |
| • Rae Ann Tibbs            | • Lorena Miller            | • Norm & Jeanne Overly    | • Leslie Green            |
| • John & Mary Jo Sgro      | • Cherri DuPree            | • Bill & Phyllis Perkins  | • Sandi Clothier          |
| • Jo Weddle                | • Amy Lanham & family      | • Marcie Francis          | • Joan Caulton            |
| • Lucy Young               | • Lauren Zarazee           | • Phyllis & Debbie Eads   | • Joel Schneider & family |
| • Dan Kirwin               | • Addy & Laura Kao         | • Sally Baird             | • Amy Young               |
| • Steve Ingle              | • Kathy McDonald           | • Linda Easten            | • Byron Bangert           |
| • Doug & Dawna Petersen    | • Janet Schell             | • Jenn Webeck & family    | • Jane Harnett            |
| • Diane Gregory            | • Gail Seegert             | • St. Thomas Youth        | • Judy Bush               |
| • Naomi Orsay              | • Carolyn & Libby Anderson | • Barb Clark              | • Tom & Vicki King        |
| • Amal Altoma              | • Melissa Spas             |                           | • Abbas Smiley            |
|                            | • Andrew, Miles,           |                           |                           |

# The Buzz about Quality, Accredited Early Childhood Education

You already know MCUM's childcare program is the only one of it's kind in Monroe County: the only one to be licensed, accredited, & of the highest possible quality to focus on low-income families. But, what does that mean and how much does it really matter - especially for those without children? Let's break it down:

## Accreditation.

MCUM is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). To receive and maintain accreditation, MCUM meets the following 10 criteria (in a nutshell!):

- 1. Relationships: promotes positive relationships to encourage each child's sense of worth & belonging
- 2. Curriculum: implements a curriculum that promotes social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive learning & development
- 3. Teaching: program uses developmentally-appropriate teaching methods
- 4. Assessment of Progress: measures children's learning & development to inform program approaches
- 5. Health: promotes nutrition & health for children and staff
- 6. Teachers: employs staff with necessary qualifications
- 7. Families: establishes & maintains relationships with each family
- 8. Community: uses community relationships & resources to support achievement of program goals
- 9. Physical Environment: safe environment with indoor & outdoor play spaces
- 10. Leadership: program effectively implements policies that support stable staff & strong personnel, fiscal, and program management.

## Quality

MCUM is a Level 4 (highest possible) program through the Paths to Quality voluntary assessment program. Level 4 indicates MCUM meets basic health & safety standards (1); offers a consistent daily schedule, planned activities for children, and information for families (2); implement a curriculum that promotes school-readiness (3); and, have achieved national accreditation (4).

## How do accreditation & quality impact our community?

As of this July, Monroe County's unemployment rate was **5.1%**. Children who attend high quality, programs like MCUM's:

- are more likely to finish high school & more likely to earn a higher degree.
- are more likely to be consistently-employed as adults.



*Which means...*

- + job access
- + consumer buying power
- supportive services

Quality and accreditation also influence civic participation. Compared to their peers who do not attend high-quality, accredited programs, children...:



- experience lower delinquency & incarceration rates (*up to 43% less!*)
- + have more preparation to be effective, loving parents of the next generation
- + participate more in society as adults





## Monroe County United Ministries

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Bloomington, IN 47404  
Permit #186

827 West 14th Court  
Bloomington, IN

812.339.3429 phone  
812.339.2912 fax

mcum@mcum.org  
www.mcum.org



### Inside This Issue

- p1 Childcare Statistics
- p2 Fall Open House, Volunteer Thank You's, & Needs
- p3 Impact of Accreditation & Quality

Save a tree!

Sign up to receive our new eNewsletter.  
Email [development@mcum.org](mailto:development@mcum.org) to make the switch!

### Staff

Executive Director: Erin Predmore  
 Development Associate: Katie Broadfoot  
 Emergency Services Caseworker: Sandi Clothier  
 Emergency Services Caseworker: Jenn Webeck  
 Office Manager: Shannon Hampton  
 Childcare Director: Traci Mehay  
 Education Coordinator: Tina Burress

### Hours of Operation

Office  
Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. 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 1-3:15\* 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. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, is a volunteer-run resale shop that raises funds to support MCUM's programs. We are open 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:

### A Message from the Store Manager:

Opportunity House is getting ready to stock its shelves for the fall season - light coats, Halloween costumes, cornucopias, and more!

Please follow us on Facebook to stay up-to-date about our weekly sales.

And... don't forget to tell your friends about us!



Please recycle this newsletter or share it with a friend.