



# Working Together

March 2017

### Inside this issue:

- Childcare Family Spotlight
- MCUM Hunger Games
- Intern Spotlight
- Spring Auction
- Get involved

### Our Mission:

Monroe County United Ministries creates lasting solutions to economic, educational, and social injustice in our community through quality services, collaboration and innovation.

### Our Vision:

Our vision is a community free of poverty and injustice.

## Childcare: The Richardson Family

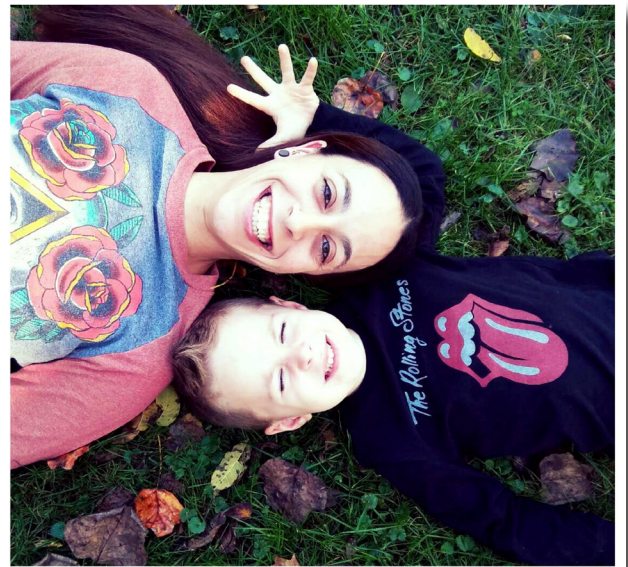
“I chose MCUM for Jagger for a number of reasons. I went to MCUM when I was a child as well. I have very fond memories from my experience there, and I am glad I got such a great start to life. I am so grateful they have a sliding scale for their fees because it makes it affordable for single parents like myself, while at the same time I know that my son is getting quality care and a quality start to his education there. Jagger has made such wonderful friends at MCUM, and I have been able to make connections to other parents and faculty as well. The staff is so helpful, not just when it comes to Jagger, but also for having resources available to the community and families.

Since Jagger has been enrolled in MCUM’s childcare program, he has improved his overall social skills. He has been able to efficiently use his words to communicate with those around him. His number recognition has increased greatly, and it’s so great to see his writing skills improve already. While I was working and going to school, I knew that he was in a great place, which made it easier for me to concentrate on my studies and work.

Jagger has had some great experiences at MCUM. We have both made friends because of it. We thoroughly enjoy the lunches they arrange, like the Thanksgiving meal, the programs that they put together and all the parties they have.

Thank you MCUM and all the staff.”

- Aimee Richardson



Aimee and her son Jagger love to spend time together outdoors fishing and playing.



Food insecurity describes any household that struggles with having enough food to eat. It also describes nearly half of Monroe County residents. The MCUM Hunger Games is a two-month community challenge to raise awareness and support for MCUM’s hunger-fighting services.

**Will you volunteer as tribute** to help take the odds out of hunger for 611 people?

During March and April, help MCUM raise \$30,000 and collect 11,000 pounds of food to support its Self Sufficiency Center and client choice pantry. Financial donations will be proportionately-matched.

Are you part of a group, team or business? Here’s how you can get involved!

**Step 1: Sign up.**

Select a contact person for your District and sign up online at [www.mcum.org/hungergames](http://www.mcum.org/hungergames)

**Step 2: Earn points.**

Earn points by collecting food, raising money, stocking the hygiene and cleaning closet, participating in challenges like: the canstruction competition, and volunteering. Be sure to check out the full points sheet online!

**Step 3: Lead the way to taking the odds out of hunger.**

We will keep a running leaderboard so that you can see where your District ranks in the challenge. In addition to the honor of becoming the MCUM Hunger Games Champions, the winning District will receive prizes.

Individuals are also welcome and encouraged to participate. Simply bring donations to MCUM or donate online ([www.mcum.org/donate](http://www.mcum.org/donate)).

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**Meet MCUM’s Newest Team Member!**

Michaela is MCUM’s Cox Civic Scholar. Her goal is to get more student groups like Greek organizations, student clubs, and dorms involved at MCUM. She is a freshman at Indiana University and loves her major in elementary and exceptional needs education. She was born and raised in Muncie, Indiana and has two siblings who she loves to pieces - Nathaniel, 17 and Olivia, 8. Her family has three dogs, but since they are so far away, she spends a lot of time at the puppy stores around Bloomington. Her favorite things to do in Bloomington include being on the morale committee of the Indiana University Dance Marathon and trying out local foods and activities. Michaela wants to work with students with special needs after she graduates. She has loved every minute of working at MCUM so far. “MCUM is so unique, and I love our mission and everyone here!” she said.



Michaela is in charge of student involvement at MCUM, but eager to get involved in as many other ways as she can.

## Current Needs

### Food Pantry

- Canned chicken
- Canned fruit
- Canned tuna
- Canned soups

### Cleaning Closet

- All-purpose cleaner
- Laundry soap
- Toilet paper
- Dish soap
- Shampoo
- Conditioner

### Kitchen

- Around 23Wx35H dry erase board & markers
- Microwave - any size at least 1000 watt
- Baking dishes - all sizes (glass)
- Mini muffin pans (at least 24+)
- Mini bread loaf pans 6-12 contained in 1 pan
- 6 bread pans
- Cutting boards with handle
- Large cutting knives
- Pairing knives
- Radio/CD player
- Gallon measuring jug
- Gallon pitcher with closable lid

**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.**

## Upcoming Events



MCUM's 11th annual spring luncheon will be held at noon April 30 at the Bloomington and Monroe County Convention Center.

Guests will be treated to a delicious hot buffet meal, a silent and live auction, and, most importantly, an opportunity to engage in MCUM's mission.

Check out [www.mcum.org/springluncheon](http://www.mcum.org/springluncheon) for more information!

### Other ways to get involved at MCUM:

There are many different ways to get involved at MCUM:

- Join our monthly **online giving club**: when you enroll, we'll deduct your donation automatically each month - it's easy and convenient!
- Donate gently used items to **Opportunity House** - or shop there!
- Support MCUM's future by giving to its **endowment** through the Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe County.
- Give your time. We are always looking for **volunteers** in our food pantry, childcare and office. We even offer **internships**
- **Donate** with cash or check to MCUM by visiting or mailing in your donation.





## Monroe County United Ministries

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Bloomington, IN

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mcum@mcum.org  
www.mcum.org

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

Save a tree - sign up to receive our eNewsletter.  
Email [kbroadfoot@mcum.org](mailto:kbroadfoot@mcum.org) to make the switch!



### Inside This Issue

- p1 Childcare Family
- p2 Hunger Games, Intern Spotlight
- p3 Upcoming Events

## Hours of Operation

### **Self Sufficiency Center**

#### **Monday, Thursday, & Friday**

Appointment only: 8:00-12:00

Food pantry only: 12:00-5:00

Walk-ins: 12:00-4:30

#### **Tuesday:**

Appointment only: 8:00-12:00

Food pantry only: 12:00-7:00

Walk-ins: 12:00-6:30

**Wednesday:** CLOSED

### **Childcare**

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

### **Main Office**

**Monday - Friday:** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Leadership Staff

Executive Director: Erin Predmore  
Development Director: Katie Broadfoot  
Office Manager: Shannon Hampton  
Childcare Director: Traci Mehay  
Education Coordinator: Tina Burress

## 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: books, clothing, household items, collectibles, toys, and linens.

### **A Message from the Store Manager:**

We are in need of new volunteers! We offer a variety of positions including sorting, pricing, and cashiering and would love to have you join us. Call Nicola at (812) 336-2443 to learn more about becoming a volunteer.

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



Please recycle this newsletter or share it with a friend.