

# Working Together

December 2018

## Your Path is Launching Soon!



We are excited to announce that our new program, *Your Path*, is set to launch in January! You may have heard bits and pieces about it, and now we're ready to share more details.

*Your Path* is a new initiative in our Self-Sufficiency Center, which we're offering as a link between our two existing programs: the Self-Sufficiency Center and the Compass Learning Center. Specifically, we plan on reaching out to our population of parents with children enrolled in Compass as our first cohort for the program. If that includes YOU, then you might be interested in applying.

*Your Path* is for those who are ready to think about making a change in one or more stressful areas of their lives that pertain to their household's ability to become and remain self-sufficient. This program is designed around the concept of a household's journey to self-sufficiency being like a path. *Your Path* looks at five important and inter-connected topics that contribute to the household's self-sufficiency: family stability, well-being, financial management, education and training, and employment and career.

This is a self-driven program where clients work with a coach to:

1. **Assess** where they are on each step of the path & help pinpoint where they would like to be;
2. **Prioritize** the areas that are most important to them and their families;
3. **Set** personal, specific goals with concrete steps that move them toward self-sufficiency;
4. **Connect** with community resources that will help support their journeys, and;
5. **Celebrate** successes.

**We believe our clients are the experts on their own situations.** To that end, *Your Path* is client-led, client-directed, and highly flexible. According to Steve Thomas, Self-Sufficiency Center Program Director, "this program is setback-tolerant. We know things happen all the time that can throw people off-course. Change is a courageous undertaking, and we are partners in creating this together."

*Your Path* clients will be in good hands, as MCUM has hired a new coach, **Kay Goodman**, to help provide direct services to our clients. Kay comes to us from SCCAP, where she was an advocate for Head Start families. We also have an Assistant Coach, **Madison Silvers**, starting in January. Madison has volunteered in the SSC and was most recently employed part-time at Compass Downtown. With the addition of these two coaches, we will be fully staffed and ready to serve!

**Interested in *Your Path*?**  
**We've set a goal of enrolling 8-12 families in *Your Path*'s first year.** We're currently collecting names of interested individuals. If *Your Path* feels like it might be a good fit for you, please contact Steve Thomas at [stthomas@mcum.org](mailto:stthomas@mcum.org) or (812) 339-3429 x 14 to express your interest and receive a flyer with more details about next steps.

## Current Needs

### Food Pantry



Store-bought pies  
(please deliver by 12/10)

- Canned fruit
- Canned meat (esp. chicken)
- Canned pasta (Chef Boyardee, Spaghetti-Os, etc.)
- Canned carrots, potatoes, and mixed veggies
- Canned tomatoes or pasta sauce
- Canned fruit
- Pasta
- Baking Mixes (Jiffy, Bisquick, etc.)

### Cleaning Closet

- Women's deodorant
- Laundry detergent
- Razors
- Men's deodorant
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- All-purpose cleaners
- Lotion
- Kleenex

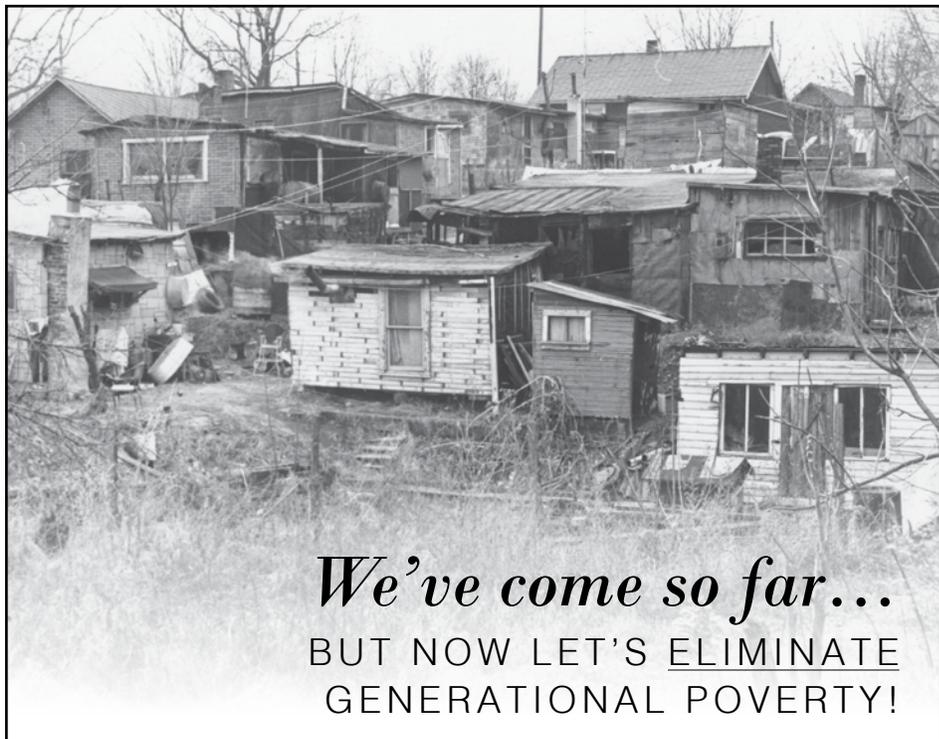
### Child Care

Please consider helping our Compass Center stock up the following supplies:

- Popsicle sticks
- Velcro dots
- Shaped paper hole punches
- Clear glue
- Plain white glass plates (Dollar Tree \$.88/ea.)

## MCUM's end-of-year campaign

### Can we count on your support?



*We've come so far...*  
BUT NOW LET'S ELIMINATE  
GENERATIONAL POVERTY!

*1939 photo of Pigeon Hill, MCUM's current location*

### Help us start 2019 strong and ready to tackle our 30-year vision!

So far, we've raised over \$73,000 toward our goal of \$105,960.

Can we count on your support to help us reach our goal?

You may donate in the following ways:

- We've included a **convenient return envelope** in this newsletter. Simply enclose your check and drop in the mail!
- **Mail cash or a check to us at:**  
827 West 14th Court, Bloomington, IN 47404
- **Donate online** by credit card: [www.mcum.org/donate](http://www.mcum.org/donate)
- **Call to pay over the phone:** (812) 339-3429 ext. 18

Thank you for the difference you make. Together, we can eliminate generational poverty in Monroe County!

### Looking for a creative way to donate?

Consider creating a **reverse Advent calendar** for MCUM! Each day in December, instead of opening up a gift or chocolate, you do the giving and the gifts will support the individuals & families MCUM serves. All you have to do is 1) Get a box, 2) Fill it up, and 3) Drop it off. Learn more and find gift ideas here: [MCUM.org/holiday](http://MCUM.org/holiday).



## A special thank you to our departing board members

We would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to our board members who are departing at the end of 2018. We appreciate your dedication and service!



**Byron Bangert** has served for six years on the MCUM Board, primarily as a member of the Program and Personnel Committee. He also served this past year as Board Secretary. According to Byron, “the most meaningful service I had was in serving as a member of two Executive Director search committees. I’ve also been very pleased that we were able to raise wages for all MCUM staff.”



**Gail Seegert** has been our representative from Church Women United, our founding organization. Each year, CWU sends the president-elect to MCUM to fulfill a 1-year term on MCUM’s board in honor of our organizations’ relationships. In January 2019, Gail will begin her term as CWU’s president and MCUM will welcome CWU’s next president-elect to our board.



**Diana Smith** has been the Opportunity House representative to MCUM and has been on the board for a total of 4 years. She is also a member of Church Women United and has been an active volunteer at Opportunity House for 12 years – so we’re sure we will continue to see her around! A favorite memory of Diana’s is when board members helped prepare and serve a Thanksgiving meal to our preschool families.



**Amy Young** has served on the board for 6-1/2 years, both as Treasurer and on the Finance Committee. One of her favorite parts was volunteering for the Each One Feed One Food Drive: “It was amazing to see the outpouring of donations in 2 days from the community.” Amy plans to continue volunteering for this event.

### And we’d like to express our gratitude to our departing Board Chair!



While **Sarah Lagrange** will be stepping out of her role as Board Chair at the end of the year, she will continue serving on the board as a member-at-large (hooray for us!) Sarah is most proud to “work with our passionate staff who work closely to address the needs of MCUM clients with careful attention to individual circumstances. The dedication that MCUM has to meeting clients where they are is the most important commitment that we have made.”

## Thank you!

This month, we’d also like to express our appreciation for...

- **St. Charles School** – for sponsoring a HUGE food drive to help restock our food pantry
- **First United Church** – for also sponsoring a BIG food drive to help restock our pantry shelves
- **The Tarzian Foundation** – for becoming new sponsors of our Compass Early Learning Center
- **Valerie Merriam** – for spending a BUNCH of extra hours here during the IU students’ break
- **Our AMAZING Christmas sponsors** – we have successfully matched 44 Compass families with generous donors for the holidays who will purchase that family’s Christmas gifts!
- **The Unitarian Universalist Church** – for their continued commitment to MCUM’s holiday food basket program: we have already received 37 food baskets from the UU’s with 2 hams and 22 turkeys!

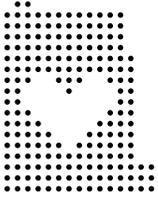
**Thank you ALL.  
We couldn’t do it without you!**



## Ho-Ho-Holiday Giving - FINAL week to donate!

Still searching for a way to give back to your community this holiday season? Look no further! MCUM is still recruiting for our many holiday giving opportunities! Visit [MCUM.org/holiday](http://MCUM.org/holiday) or call us at **(812) 339-3429 x 18** for more details on how to:

- Fill a Reverse Advent box for MCUM
- Give the gift of a full holiday meal to a family who otherwise would go without
- Host a food drive that will help feed the 250 families we expect will visit MCUM’s pantry between Thanksgiving and Christmas
- **ALL ARE INVITED** to Compass Early Learning Center’s annual holiday program on Thursday, December 6 at 6:30 PM at Tri North Middle School. Hope to see you there!



## Monroe County United Ministries

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

827 West 14th Court  
Bloomington, IN  
47404

812.339.3429 phone  
812.339.2912 fax

[mcum@mcum.org](mailto:mcum@mcum.org)  
[www.mcum.org](http://www.mcum.org)



### Inside This Issue

- p1 Your Path Program launching soon
- p2 End-of-Year Campaign approaches its goal
- p3 A thank you to departing board members

### Save a tree!

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

### 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

#### **Compass Early Learning Center**

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

#### *Leadership Staff:*

Interim Executive Director: Katie Broadfoot

Self-Sufficiency Center Program Director:

Steve Thomas

Development Director: Katie Broadfoot

Office Manager: Shannon Hampton

Site Director - North: Jamie Buck

Site Director - Downtown: Charity Aton

## Opportunity House

Opportunity House, located at 907 W. 11th 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.

#### A Message from the Store Manager:

Thank you all who came out to our sale on Giving Tuesday! Be sure to continue shopping at Opportunity for your holiday gifts and support MCUM.

Christmas items are available, including ornaments, wrapping paper, greeting cards, wreaths, decorations and trees. We also have a great selection of warm sweaters and coats to keep you toasty this winter!

As always, we need towels, silverware and volunteers!



Please recycle this newsletter or share it with a friend.