



The Many Ways You Can Support Monroe County United Ministries

Be Informed & Help Others Be Informed

1. Request and read MCUM's monthly newsletter, *Working Together*.
2. Designate a special section of your newsletter or bulletin board for MCUM material. The MCUM staff can provide information and help you keep it up-to-date.
3. Write your elected officials about issues that concern you and MCUM, including funding for childcare vouchers and welfare benefits.
4. Add a link to MCUM's website (www.mcum.org) on your website.
5. Arrange for your group to tour MCUM.
6. Request a MCUM speaker for your faith community, school or civic group.
7. Volunteer as part of your tour and learn even more.
8. Attend MCUM's annual Spring Luncheon, and bring a friend.
9. Contact the MCUM staff about writing a letter to the editor about an issue that concerns you and MCUM.
9. Volunteer to pick up food at various collection sites in the community.
10. Do you speak a language other than English? Volunteer to teach some phrases and greetings to MCUM's students in the Childcare Program or serve as a translator as needed.
11. Volunteer to serve on the MCUM Board of Directors.
12. Concerned about nutrition? Volunteer to help develop handouts on basic nutrition for clients receiving food from the pantry.
13. Assemble and distribute holiday food baskets and gifts in December.
14. Come in once a month to help prepare the newsletter for mailing.

Volunteer

1. Sign up to be a regular volunteer in the food pantry. Volunteers can set their own schedule after training is complete.
2. Help with the maintenance and care of our buildings and grounds.
3. Volunteer at Opportunity House and help raise money for MCUM.
4. Looking for volunteer work you can do at home? Make follow-up phone calls during the winter and spring food drives.
5. Sign up to be a regular volunteer in one of the childcare classrooms. Read, lead games, teach art, or just play.
6. Interested in learning more about your community? Volunteer to update our agency and housing contact lists. Make phone calls from the comfort of your home or our office.
7. Volunteer to help in the childcare kitchen.
8. Volunteer in MCUM's administrative office and help with filing, copying and phones.
- Support **MCUM Financially**
 1. Make a regular monetary contribution.
 2. Name MCUM as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy.
 3. Make a tax-deductible gift of stock.
 4. Designate MCUM's Childcare Program as your beneficiary of the Target Shoppers Program. Call 1-800-316-6142 or go to www.target.com for more information. MCUM's agency number is 111307.
 5. Sign up to walk in the Crop Walk along with your friends and family.
 6. Donate to MCUM's endowment fund at the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County.
 7. Give to United Way of Monroe County.
 8. Name MCUM as a beneficiary on your TIAA-CREF, 401K, IRA or other retirement plan
 9. Donate food or funds during the Feinstein Challenge and help MCUM leverage matching dollars.
 10. Sponsor summer swimmers so that all preschool and summer camp kids have the chance to learn to swim.
 11. Participate in the annual Homeward Bound Walk.
 12. Make a bequest through your will or trust.
 13. Set up a regular donation to be electronically transferred from your bank

Donate in other ways

1. Collect and donate Campbell's Labels for Education (UPC with logo).
2. Adopt a family in need of Christmas assistance.
3. Donate the items requested for the food pantry, cleaning closet or Childcare Program in MCUM's monthly newsletter.
4. Encourage your children to clean out their rooms and donate old toys to Opportunity House or the MCUM Childcare Program.
5. As your children outgrow their books, donate them to the childcare library.
6. Collect and donate General Mills box tops to support MCUM's Childcare Program.
7. Donate a turkey and or ham to a family in need of Christmas assistance.
8. Donate your old cell phones, which can be converted to cash to support MCUM's programs.
9. Donate plants and bulbs to brighten up the grounds.
10. Donate gently used bikes and tricycles to the Childcare Program.
11. Knit or crochet hats, mittens, and scarves in children and adult sizes for the Emergency Services program.
12. Donate office supplies or gift certificates for supplies to help reduce administrative costs.
13. Donate your talent – writing, handyman services, gardening, etc.
14. Collect hotel toiletries when you travel and donate them to the Emergency Services Program.
15. After your yard sale, donate remaining items to Opportunity House.
16. Make buying food for the Emergency Food Pantry a regular part of your trips to the grocery store.
17. Share the extra fresh produce from your garden with the Childcare Program.
18. When stocking up on toiletries and paper products for your family, purchase a few extra for MCUM's Emergency Services clients.
19. When grocery shopping, request brown paper sacks instead of plastic and donate the sacks to the food pantry.
20. Create a permanent collection box for MCUM items for your faith community, school or club.

Encourage Others to Support MCUM

1. Organize an art and school supply drive for MCUM's preschool children.
2. Ask your congregation to choose one day each month to collect food for MCUM's food pantry.
3. Organize a cleaning and personal hygiene supply drive as part of your holiday activities at work.
4. Encourage your Congregation to make a regular monetary donation.
5. Organize a food drive at work.
6. Ask your service or civic organization to make a monetary donation to MCUM.
7. Bring your family in for a day of volunteering in the food pantry.
8. Organize a brown paper sack drive or set up a permanent collection site for sacks at your office or church.
9. Organize a mitten tree to collect winter wear for Emergency Services clients.
10. Arrange for a MCUM display be set up for a few weeks in your office or place of worship.
11. Encourage members of your congregation to collect Campbell's labels and reserve a spot for their collection.
12. Recruit a group of friend to meet once a month at the MCUM food pantry for a few hours of volunteering. Enjoy spending time with your friends while helping a good cause.
13. Encourage your congregation to participate in the annual Crop Walk.
14. Suggest that your workplace serve as a cell phone collection site.
15. Arrange for your church's vacation bible school to spend some time touring and volunteering at MCUM.
16. Organize a socks and underwear drive for the Emergency Services clients.
17. Work with a youth group to assemble "care packages" for other children in need, include small books, candy, toiletries, etc.

Need even more ideas about how you can get involved with MCUM? Contact us:

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