



The Newsletter of Monroe County United Ministries

# Working Together

September 2017

## Compass - Downtown Expands MCUM's Childcare

It's official! As of August 9, 2017 - and for the first time in our 78-year history - MCUM now operates *two* childcare locations in Monroe County.

**The Compass Early Learning Center - Downtown** is an expansion of MCUM's licensed, accredited, and acclaimed childcare program. Located within First United Methodist Church (219 E 4th St), Compass - Downtown offers the same high-quality, affordable care as MCUM's original childcare site, now called Compass - North.

On its first day, Compass - Downtown opened 4 classrooms to 25 families, and enrollment has since climbed to 34 families in just a few short weeks. The new site will eventually operate 9 classrooms with a total enrollment of nearly 100 children, allowing MCUM to serve more than twice as many families as before.

Compass - Downtown features the same sliding-scale fee as Compass - North, which allows low-income, working families to afford exceptional childcare in our community.

Like Compass - North, Compass - Downtown is state-licensed and nationally-accredited. It also utilizes "Conscious Discipline" - an award-winning curriculum that develops



One of our new site's first and youngest students isn't exactly camera-shy. Compass Downtown offers care from 6 weeks to 5 years.

social and emotional intelligence in children at a very early age. This curriculum fosters a safe and loving environment our staff and children alike call our "School Family."

Aside from their respective locations, the only difference between the two Compass locations is the age ranges of the children entrusted to MCUM's care: Compass - North hosts children between 18 months and 6 years old, including kindergarteners, while Compass - Downtown also hosts infants from just 6 weeks old.

Tina Burress was named Compass - Downtown's Education Coordinator after working in MCUM's childcare program for more than 12 years. She says the first few weeks of operation have gone incredibly well.

See *Compass*, page 2



## Open Enrollment Continues Downtown

Great news for families: MCUM's new Compass Early Learning Center - Downtown is still enrolling!

If you or someone you know is seeking high-quality, affordable childcare in Monroe County, please contact Compass - Downtown's Education Coordinator Tina Burress at **(812) 727-3737** or **tburress@mcum.org** to schedule a site tour and program overview.

### Eligibility Guidelines

MCUM's licensed and accredited Compass Early Learning Center is designed to serve low-income, working families living in Monroe County.

In order to qualify for enrollment, parents must be working, attending school, or have employment lined up at the time of enrollment. Each family's cost of care is determined by a sliding fee scale based on each household's income.

For more information on the Compass Early Learning Center, please visit:

**[mcum.org/programs/childcare](http://mcum.org/programs/childcare)**

## Current Needs

### Food Pantry

- Canned peas
- Canned carrots
- Crackers
- Soups (condensed or ready-to-eat)
- Canned pasta (Chef Boyardee, SpaghettiO's)
- "Helper" meals (rice or pasta sides)

### Cleaning Closet

- Dish soap (S/M bottles)
- Trash bags
- Razors
- Mouthwash
- Diapers (sizes 4, 5 & 6)
- Mens' and Womens' socks
- Women's underwear (sizes 3, 5 & 7)

### Childcare

- Art paper (drawing, construction, etc.)
- Markers (dry erase or washable)
- Baby dolls
- Art supplies
- Containers with lids (all sizes shoe box or larger)

### Office

- Pens
- Copy paper
- Bar stool w/back
- Projector (for computers)

#### **Paper, Please! :)**

MCUM is always in need of paper grocery bags for our pantry. When shopping, please ask for paper, then donate your bags to MCUM!

## Compass - Downtown Grand Opening (Cont.)

"Things are going really well," Burress said. "Everyone is making connections and building a strong school family."

Kayla Delaplaine, a former childcare volunteer and current administrative assistant at Compass - Downtown, agreed.

"(The opening) has been so amazing.

I personally just light up because the kids are having such a great time."

For more information on Compass - Downtown (including enrollment info and program eligibility guidelines), see the sidebar on page 1 of this newsletter. To make a contribution in honor of Compass - Downtown's Grand Opening, please visit [mcum.org/donate](http://mcum.org/donate).

### *Wild* About Learning: New Classrooms are on Safari!



**Giraffes**

Birth-12 mo.



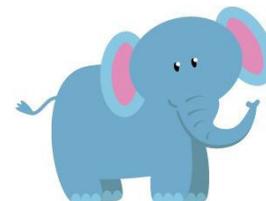
**Hippos**

12 mo. - 24 mo.



**Zebras**

2-year-olds



**Elephants**

3-5-year-olds

## Can't-Miss Event on Sept. 9: *Dancing with the Celebrities*



MCUM needs your support! At **7:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 9**, MCUM's Executive Director Erin Predmore will grace the stage at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater for the 11th-annual "**Dancing with the Celebrities**," a charitable dance competition sponsored by Arthur Murray Dance Center.

Inspired by "Dancing with the Stars," 7 local non-profit leaders (including Erin) each perform three routines on-stage alongside a dance partner. Judges score the routines while audiences "vote" with their voices and wallets for their favorite performances and non-profits (including MCUM).

General admission tickets are \$25 and offered directly through MCUM! Call Steve at (812) 339-3429 x24 or purchase online at [mcum.org/donate](http://mcum.org/donate). Just put "DWTC Tix" in the notes line, and MCUM staff will have your tickets for you at will-call.

# Each One Feed One Success!

## 3-day food drive will once again feed thousands

Thanks to the incredible support of our many donors, congregations, local grocery stores, volunteers, sponsors and countless shoppers, MCUM's annual **Each One, Feed One** food drive was once again a tremendous success.

Between August 9th and 11th, more than 175 of MCUM's dedicated volunteers collected, transported, and sorted through **12,538 pounds** of food and cleaning/hygiene supplies. All of these donations will be distributed through MCUM's Self-Sufficiency Center to local families experiencing financial hardship.

As financial donations continue to trickle in, MCUM is also nearing its financial goal of \$10,000 for the drive.

This year, Each One, Feed One could not have come at a more pressing time for MCUM. In 2017, MCUM's food pantry has been serving an average of 40 percent more families in any given month. This translates to roughly 100 additional families being served each month, relative to 2016 totals.

As the photos below show, our food pantry had been perilously bare. With your help, Each One, Feed One activated the generosity of our entire community, offering a low-barrier opportunity for all of us to care for our neighbors and help meet their basic human needs. Thank you for making this possible and for making our community a better place for everyone.

## Thank You!

This month, we would like to acknowledge all of our Each One, Feed One volunteers. This drive would not be possible without you!

Thank you, volunteers!

- Carolyn Anderson
- Byron & Hayden Bangert
- Barb Bergoertz
- Mary Blizzard
- Mary Ellen Brown
- Lauren Bryant
- Jim & Dana Burton
- Judy Bush
- Elder Butler
- Ruth Chesmore
- Kathleen Chmielewski
- Phil & Ruth Ann Cooper
- Amy Countryman & Family
- Orion Day
- Brian Drummy
- Cherrie Dupree
- Phyllis & Debbie Eads
- Julie Farris
- David Garshaw
- Roger Gildersleeve
- Joan Caulton & Ed Greenbaum
- Diane Gregory
- Jackie Hall
- Jane Harnett
- Marci Hart
- Gene Hoard
- Stella Hooker-Haase
- Stephanie Hulett & Family
- Teresa Jackson
- Elizabeth Johnson & Family
- Sister Jones
- Ann Kamman
- Laura & Andy Kao
- Dan Kirwin
- Laura Kress
- Veronica Leonad
- Jessica McCance
- Mary & Ed McClellan
- Sister McWhorter
- Steve Mehay
- Naomi Orsay
- Norm Overly
- Carol Peterman
- Doug & Dawna Petersen
- Jane Pitt
- Elder Pittard
- Allison Polley
- Amelia Predmore
- Jay Sisson
- Diana Smith
- Elizabeth Tedrow
- Rebecca Thomas
- Ra Ann & Michael Tibbs
- Ryan Timmons & Family
- Steve Ulrey
- Liz Watson
- Jenn Webeck & Family
- Jo Weddle
- Doris Whittenburg
- Amy Young & Family
- Lucy Young

### Before and After





## Monroe County United Ministries

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

827 West 14th Court  
Bloomington, IN 47404

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812.339.2912 *fax*

mcum@mcum.org  
www.mcum.org



Member Agency

### *Inside This Issue*

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### **Save a tree!**

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

### **Self Sufficiency Center**

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

Appointment only: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Food pantry only: 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Walk-ins: 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

#### **Tuesday:**

Appointment only: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Food pantry only: 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Walk-ins: 12:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

**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 Coordinators: Jessica Mackie

(Compass - North) & Tina Burress (Compass -  
Downtown)

## **Opportunity House Wants *Your* Stuff!**

After a brief hold to help clear our inventory, Opportunity House is thrilled to announce that we are once again accepting donations! We are happy to accept housewares, clothing, antiques, collectibles, sporting goods, toys, linens, small furniture, small appliances, books, and magazines every Monday-Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Unfortunately, we cannot accept dirty or stained items, non-functioning or large appliances, large furniture, textbooks, or encyclopedias. After you donate, take a look around and shop the best prices in Bloomington! Visit us at 907 West 11th Street!

### **Volunteer with Opportunity House**

Are you looking for a new volunteer experience? Do you enjoy meeting new people, helping others, or getting lost in a world of organization? Join our volunteer team at the Opportunity House!

You can fill out an application our new website, [OpHouseThrift.org/](http://OpHouseThrift.org/) Volunteer, or call us at (812) 336-2443 for more information.

*The Opportunity House 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. Contact us by calling (812) 336-2443, e-mailing [ophouse68@gmail.com](mailto:ophouse68@gmail.com), or following us on Facebook!*