



The Newsletter of Monroe County United Ministries

Working Together

June 2019

Maternal Health Fair

Bloomington Rotary Clubs donate 583 pounds of items for mom and baby

On Saturday, May 18, the three Bloomington Rotary Clubs hosted a maternal health fair to benefit both expecting families and those with young children in the Monroe County area. MCUM had a table at the fair along with a variety of other local organizations that offer support to families with young children, specifically in periods of financial struggle.



While there, families could visit the tables of the Bloomington organizations, such as MCUM, which provide opportunities for support for families with young children. In doing so, families had the opportunity to learn more about the support options in the community while also having the opportunity to get entered into a raffle to win larger items such as strollers or car seats.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to the Bloomington Rotary Clubs for their donations of 583 pounds of items for mom and baby, including formula, nail clippers, aspirators, feminine hygiene products, and more.



Bloomington Rotary

Spring Luncheon a Success!

Thanks to all who attended and supported our annual Spring Luncheon! We are especially thankful to Michelle Paxton and Stacy Jones for their leadership in facilitating child artwork for both sale and display and to Jenn Sons for her help in planning and coordinating the event.

The Spring Into Action! Luncheon & Auction was held Sunday, April 28, at the Monroe County Convention Center. Our silent auction had yet another record breaking year, raising more than \$3000 from auction items and baskets donated by local businesses, individuals, and groups!

Four MCUM speakers, Kay Goodman, Michelle Paxton, Valerie Merriam, & Jessica Merkel, talked at the luncheon. Kay Goodman discussed a new approach to self-sufficiency which MCUM has taken on known as 'Your Path'. Informed by many years of brain research and study, Kay and the other MCUM self-sufficiency coaches utilize 'Your Path' to assess the five key areas of your life: Family Stability, Well-Being, Financial Management, Education & Training, and Employment & Career Management.

Current Needs

Food Pantry

- 1 pound rice
- 1 pound pasta
- Green beans
- Cereal
- Ramen

Cleaning Closet

- Diapers (sizes 4-6)
- Laundry soap
- All purpose cleaner
- Sunscreen
- Dish soap

Compass Early Learning Center

- Absorbent towels
- Bubbles
- Flannel backed table cloths
- Kites
- All size sponges

Summer Swimmership

If you would like to sponsor six weeks of swimming for a child please send \$16 to MCUM with "swim fees" in the memo line.

We are looking for summer volunteers who can commit to a weekly shift to help in our food pantry. Responsibilities will include assisting clients as they shop, unloading and tracking food donations, sorting donated food, and other duties. Please contact Katie (kbrodfoot@mcum.org) for available times.

Happy Birthday to Us: Celebrate MCUM's 80 Years with a Gift to our Endowment

MCUM is like a tree – as an agency, we bear the fruit of helping families get out of generational poverty, but to do that we require a lasting legacy of community support in order to ensure survival through the toughest of conditions.

Thanks to this community support, MCUM has now provided essential services to Monroe County residents for 80 years. MCUM welcomes support in a variety of forms, but the support that will help our tree's roots stay firmly planted for many more years into the future is that of MCUM's endowment.

"What is an endowment?", you ask. It is a fund we have, held at the Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe County, that grows and grows, distributing a small percentage of funds to the agency each year. It is set up to ensure MCUM can exist for as long as our services are needed. Last year, MCUM received over \$27,000 for our annual endowment distribution – the equivalent of subsidizing a full preschool classroom. By growing our endowment, we grow our annual distribution!

This year, we have been selected to participate in an opportunity through the Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe County and the Lily Foundation to receive proportional matching funds on donations made to our endowment. Our goal is to raise \$15,000 and receive another \$7,500 from the Lily Foundation, adding a total of \$22,500 to our endowment.

Our 30-year vision is to eliminate generational poverty in Monroe County. Will you help us celebrate our birthday and contribute to this vision by making a gift to our endowment - a gift that will be matched, stretched, and will be put toward a legacy beyond today?



This is a cartoon hand-drawn for MCUM by local cartoonist, Joe Lee.

To Participate:

- Make a check payable to "The Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe County" with "MCUM endowment" in the MEMO line
- Mail check to the Community Foundation (100 S College Ave #240, Bloomington, IN 47404) or MCUM (827 W. 14th Ct, Bloomington, IN 47404)
- Tell your friends!

ELIMINATING GENERATIONAL POVERTY

BY THE NUMBERS



Compass Early Learning Center



Self-Sufficiency Center

212

children attended our Compass Early Learning Centers last year.

6,784

have received meals, clothing/household vouchers, financial assistance, and cleaning or hygiene items so far this year.

74%

of graduating preschoolers were deemed "school-ready."

83%

reported feeling less anxious about their ability to meet their basic needs after visiting MCUM.

75%

of daily nutritional needs are provided to children in our care.

\$13,209

invested into personal savings accounts by the 9 individuals enrolled in MCUM's asset-building opportunity.

To learn more, visit:
www.mcum.org/compass

To learn more, visit:
www.mcum.org/ssc

Thank You!

Thanks to your generosity this year, MCUM has provided care for 212 children. Often, times of financial struggle are when families learn about the other important services MCUM offers. With your continued help, we're able to provide comprehensive wrap-around services catered to improving the quality of life for the whole person, while helping to eliminate generational poverty in their family.

Just take a look at Amy*. A single mom struggling to make payments for her two children's care at Compass Early Learning Center, frustrated and exhausted, Amy decided to learn more about MCUM's Self-Sufficiency Center at our recent information session. Thanks to contributions from supporters like you, we enrolled her in our new Your Path program. Since February, Amy has been working with her self-sufficiency coach and has gained a higher-paying job she enjoys, enrolled in part time college courses, and has made her first deposit into her Individual Development Account (IDA), which will be matched in August, enabling her to make a down payment on her Habitat for Humanity Home.

Amy can't say thanks, but we can! Here at MCUM, we are so grateful to have supporters like you making stories like these a possibility for working families.

Today, we embark on our Summer Campaign. Our goal is to subsidize the cost of care for 16 preschoolers and provide their parents with the wrap-around services like Amy received.

We are launching our second-annual Summer Campaign to help us positively-influence the lives of the families we serve. Will you help?

With your support, we can eliminate generational poverty in Monroe County – starting with these 16 families like Amy's.

Participating is easy:

- 1) Send a check/cash to us (827 W. 14th ct, Bloomington, IN 47404)**
- 2) Make your donation online by credit card (www.mcum.org/donate)**



Monroe County United Ministries

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www.mcum.org

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

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Save a tree!

Sign up to receive our new eNewsletter.

Email aveldman@mcum.org to make the switch!

SAVE THE DATE: August 9-11

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:

Sherene Ing

Development Director: Katie Broadfoot

Office Manager: Shannon Hampton

Site Director - North: Charity Aton

Site Director - Downtown: Stacy Jones

Our annual Each One, Feed One, Community Food Drive will take place August 9-11 at local grocery stores.

We will begin recruiting volunteers (more than 200 are needed!) to help us collect donations at the stores, drive food from stores to MCUM, and sort food once it arrives at MCUM later this month. Please "like" us on Facebook to be sure you're among the first to know when our sign-up goes live.

Want to help us surpass previous years? Share our food drive dates with your network, organize your own EOFO drive to culminate the same weekend, and mark your calendar! Each year, the Each One, Feed One Community Food Drive is responsible for keeping MCUM's food pantry and hygiene closet stocked until the holiday season. Help us make this year a success!



Please recycle this newsletter or share it with a friend.