

FREE



South Central Community Action Program

SCCAP

Empowering people to reach their potential

A social service publication about our community — Brought to you by the South Central Community Action Program

Safety~Net

March-May 2020

About WonderLab

By Jeanne Gunning, Volunteer Director,
WonderLab Museum of Science, Health and Technology
308 W. 4th Street, Bloomington, IN 47404 • (812) 337-1337, Ext 21

WonderLab is an award-winning science museum with hands-on exhibits and programs for children and their families. WonderLab's Connecting to the Community Fund (C2C) removes economic barriers for children with low incomes and their families through free admission for group visits by social service agencies, free field trips from qualifying schools serving students with low incomes, free visits for "bigs" and "littles" from Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-Central Indiana, full and partial scholarships for summer science enrichment camp and \$2/person admission to the museum for families qualifying for state assistance through the Access Pass Program.

Volunteering is a natural next step for teens, who are eligible to become a museum volunteer the summer after 6th Grade. Additionally, high school students are eligible to apply for summer internships at WonderCamp, the museum's summer science enrichment camp.



New Resources for Renters in Monroe County

Deborah Myerson, Executive Director, South Central Indiana Housing Opportunities
Website: scihho.org • Website: housing4hoosiers.org
Facebook: @SCIHOHousing • @Housing4Hoosiers
Email: info@scihho.org • Phone: 812-335-2200

Are you a renter with housing questions? We can help!
South Central Indiana Housing Opportunities has some great resources for renters in Monroe County!

Housing & Eviction Resource Table

Renters and landlords in Monroe County now have more ways to reduce evictions and solve housing problems! Stop by for help from the new Housing and Eviction Resource Table in the Monroe County Justice Building. Anyone in the community with rental questions is welcome to come to the Resource Table. Services offered include on-site mediation, legal and social services to address housing challenges.

Location: Charlotte Zietlow Justice Center, 301 N. College, Bloomington, IN

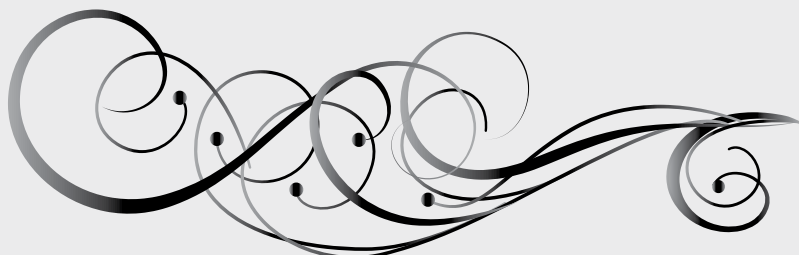
Hours: Thursdays: 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm and Fridays: 8:30 am- 10:30 am

See "NEW RESOURCES FOR RENTERS," page 2

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Editorial Comment

Our Guiding Principle is to reach out to others who are coping with practical and emotional crises, and to say, we are here as one community, interconnected with each other in a positive way. This means, among other things, providing shelter, food, medical care, opportunities to step out of poverty, peace, and mutual respect. This whole world would be a much better place for all people if everyone felt this way about our brothers and sisters. As individuals, we cannot change the world. However, we can all come together and help others in our own community. Let us show others, what we can do right here in Bloomington by reaching out to each other, and climbing that mountain together. To paraphrase Pete Seeger, We WILL Overcome.



Editorial Cartoon by Joe Lee

NEW RESOURCES FOR RENTERS

Continued from page 1

Housing Navigators

South Central Indiana Housing Opportunities' "Housing Navigators" program helps tenants and landlords enjoy safe and stable rental housing at different locations in the community, including Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, Community Kitchen, and the Monroe County Public Library. To find the current schedule, go to <http://scih.org> and look "Housing Navigators" under the "Projects and Programs" tab

Switchyard Apartments – Phase 1

Opening this spring! Eight new affordable apartments at 1901 S Rogers, right next to Switchyard Park. Get on the tenant waiting list – go to <http://scih.org> and look at the "Switchyard Apartments" tab, and click on the "Switchyard Apartments Tenant Interest List." We will get in touch about the application process when it is ready.

Housing4Hoosiers.org

The Housing4Hoosiers.org website has a wealth of information on how to find, rent, and keep a safe and stable rental home. Our Housing4Hoosiers YouTube Channel features a variety of short explainer videos on topics like "Budgeting for an Apartment" and "Before You Sign a Lease."

For renters in Bloomington/ Monroe County, the Housing4Hoosiers.org website features a Google map with 150 local rental properties. Listings contain details on size, rents, and features of units--including if they accept Housing Choice (Section 8) Vouchers.

Spring 2020 Housing4Hoosiers Tenant/Landlord Workshops

The Spring 2020 Housing4Hoosiers Tenant/Landlord Education Series is coming up in March and April! These free workshops are a great way for renters, property owners, and property managers to learn more about their rights and responsibilities for rental homes. Check the Housing4Hoosiers.org website for updated information on the dates, locations, and registration information, or call us at 812/335-2200.

Renting in Indiana: A Handbook for Tenants and Landlords

Renting in Indiana is comprehensive source of rental rights and responsibilities in the state--and a free download on Housing4Hoosiers.org! We can also send print copies on request.

Sign up for H4H News!

Stay in the know on news and events from Housing4Hoosiers. Go to Housing4Hoosiers.org and sign up for our email list.

Housing4Hoosiers is a program from South Central Indiana Housing Opportunities (SCIHO), a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to expanding housing options for low- and moderate-income households in Bloomington, Monroe County, and South Central Indiana--including Brown, Greene, Lawrence, Morgan and Owen Counties.



About *Safety~Net*

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AGENCY REPORTS

Each issue of *Safety~Net* has articles contributed from the many non-profit/ social service agencies in the Bloomington area about programs and services that they provide, as well as volunteer opportunities.

AGENCY GUIDE

There is an extensive Agency Guide pointing out where specific services/programs are available and how to access them.

WE WELCOME COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

Please send these to the editor at white@indiana.edu. Sign your name, and indicate whether you would like for your comments to be published.

Trying to find a place to rent on waitress tips back in 1980 (and how things have improved)

By Joan White

Reading Deborah Myerson's information on resources that are available for renters here in Monroe County reminded me of my own sad tale of looking for housing when I moved to Bloomington, Indiana 40 years ago.

I had a job promised to me waiting tables at the Gold Rush but needed a place to rent. It was May, students were leaving town and I took 3 days off work at my job in Hammond, Indiana to find a place to live as my son was finishing his first year in elementary school. The first thing I did when I reached Bloomington was go to a place that advertised rentals (remember that this was pre-World Wide Web days) and "rented" their book of "places to rent" for a mere \$40. I couldn't afford any of these places! They were all way out of reach of my budget that I had devised! Needless to say, they did NOT give me a refund. Tough luck!

So I began driving around the streets of Bloomington looking for a place. I found one on Clark Street, right off of Third Street that was perfect. Sort of. It was a little house owned not by a rental agency, but by a local electrician, who wasn't ready to sell this family property, but didn't need to rely on it for income either. Rent was \$150 a month not including utilities.

SCHIO has a website called Hoosiers4Housing that helps with finding a rental home. In a town with high rents and relatively low wages, both due to student population, this is a valuable resource.

Four years later, Leo asked me if I would buy the house, otherwise I would have to leave, as he and his wife were moving to Florida and he no longer wanted the responsibility of the property. This coincided with Ronald Reagan's plan for first-time homebuyers to purchase a mortgage for very little down payment. So, the house was sold to me for \$17,000 and luckily, my father was able to give me the \$1,000 for the down payment.

The first thing that happened after buying the place, literally from fall to, of course, winter, was that the furnace quit working. It was pretty cold for a few days until I could get a new furnace with the help of my dad again and it was the beginning of my credit relationship with Sears and Roebuck!

This was only the first of many things that were to go wrong, as things do with houses, and without the help of my father and later, the Department of Redevelopment (as Bloomington's HAND was previously named), I might have experienced foreclosure as the place might have become uninhabitable.

In 2010, the Hardest Hit Fund was established in Indiana (one of 19 states that received federal funds) to help homeowners avoid losing their homes to foreclosure that was occurring as a result of the 2008 recession. Directly from their website is this:

"As of July 1, 2019, Indiana's Hardest Hit Fund expanded its program to include qualifications beyond



employment-related hardships. In addition to employment-related hardships, the program now accepts applications from homeowners who've experienced divorce, death of a spouse or medical hardships." They are called the Indiana Foreclosure Prevention Network and can be reached at 1-877-GET-HOPE or www.877GetHope.org.

In addition, we have Bloomington Restorations, Inc. or BRI. This is copied straight from their website entitled AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM.

"One of the ways BRI steps in to save old houses is through its Affordable Housing Program. Since the completion of the program's first house rehab in 1999, it has saved more than 20 endangered houses and sold them to lower-income homebuyers thrilled to have beautifully restored old houses. These people had been renters, and now they are able to own a house with a mortgage payment that is often less than they paid in rent. The program also builds

new houses on vacant lots in historic districts, to fill gaps in neighborhood fabric, with new houses that blend with the old. More than 30 households have benefited from the program. It is made possible by grants of federal affordable housing dollars to BRI from either the state or the city of Bloomington.

The program is administered by BRI's Affordable Housing Committee. Committee members with backgrounds in construction, real estate, banking and marketing meet twice a month to handle the details of acquiring, building or rehabbing, and selling the homes. To volunteer, contact Steve Wyatt at 812-336-0909 or bri@BloomingtonRestorations.org for more information.

People of all incomes enjoy living in historic homes. The BRI Affordable Housing Program creates opportunities for people with low to moderate incomes to get a house with character, the kind of house they can love and take pride in."

Special Section: South Central Community Action (SCAAP) Programs

Reaching for Big Goals, Celebrating First Steps on our way to THRIVING!

Thriving Connections (TC) is a community-building group which connects people living without enough resources, called Captains, and their families with more financially stable volunteers from the community. Captains choose 3-4 volunteer allies to join them, creating a small group called a ship. Allies walk beside Captains, providing emotional support, cheerleading and brainstorming for the difficult journey out of poverty. Ships meet once a month to check in and work on goals that Captains set. The larger community of Captains and allies meets every Thursday night to share a meal and adult programming on such topics as personal growth, education and employment. Kids participate in exciting youth programming on everything from art and music to how to choose friends or a college.

Thriving Connections Captains work to improve their lives, achieve financial stability, and increase personal and family strengths over months and years. Many choose to remain a part of the community for many years. Over time, it is easy to forget some of the small steps that they took to meet larger goals. For that reason, the group brainstormed how to capture small moments and victories to be remembered later. STAR Charts were born! A Star Chart highlights a goal that has been met and, when compared over time, helps show progress. Sometimes it takes a long time to reach a goal and people can get discouraged. Being able to look back at little victories is encouraging for Captains, their allies and the whole community.

Thriving Connections Captains and allies came together to celebrate Star Chart accomplishments at our January 30th weekly meeting. We heard first about the experiences of long-time Captains, who have made countless small steps towards achieving truly significant goals. A Captain who joined Thriving Connections in 2013 started out with no job and no bank account. She struggled with poor health and had a hard time controlling her anger. She had not lived in Bloomington for very long and had few supports locally. As of 2020, this Captain has worked for the same company for six years, where she's been promoted to a salaried, supervisory position. She tracks her physical activity on her phone and walks an average of 6,000 steps daily. She has taken huge strides in coping with her anger, and is currently working on setting up a woman cave in her apartment where she can relax and de-stress. She no longer depends on government benefits, and persevered through the "cliff effect" to not only open a checking account, but to work on a savings plan to pursue her ultimate goal of purchasing her own home before she turns forty-five.

This Captain's allies have been at her side since 2013, and because one of her allies kept detailed notes throughout their time together, she has a record of her entire Thriving

Connections journey. Notes from her earliest period with TC highlight the many instances in which seemingly tiny first steps proved vital in achieving now-great results. She admits that reviewing these notes opened her eyes to just how far she's come. Captains may not "feel" accomplished when they are at the beginning or even middle of a journey towards a big achievement. And once they achieve it, it can be hard to remember the many steps, big and small, that it took to get there.

Another Captain has been part of Thriving Connections for more than ten years. When she started, she was a single mother focused on raising a child with numerous mental and behavioral health challenges on very limited resources. Thriving Connections offered care and support through large and small crises so that she was able to move from surviving to thriving. During her tenure in the community, she has pursued three associates degrees and a technical certificate at Ivy Tech and is now working a good job as a medical secretary. She no longer receives government benefits, built a Habitat House and is a homeowner. Her child is no longer a child, but has learned added skills to overcome his challenges to become an intelligent young adult pursuing his own goals and independence.

Captains who joined Thriving Connections more recently discussed how much they are inspired by these success stories. The most recent cohort of Captains and allies were introduced to Star Charts just over a year ago. They have tracked many small goals that seem insignificant today, but that may turn out to be key first steps towards major goals they hope to achieve two, five, or ten years from now.

Some of the goals that Captains and ships chart are driven by Captains' personal goals, such as pursuing an education to expand economic opportunities. Some are driven by circumstances, such as averting the crisis of a looming eviction. And some are shaped by Captains' relationships with allies, who can remind their Captains to set doctor appointments, seek counseling, or otherwise take care of themselves so that they can steer their ship successfully. Star Charts are a place not only to record goals, but to break them

down into workable pieces and commit to meeting them.

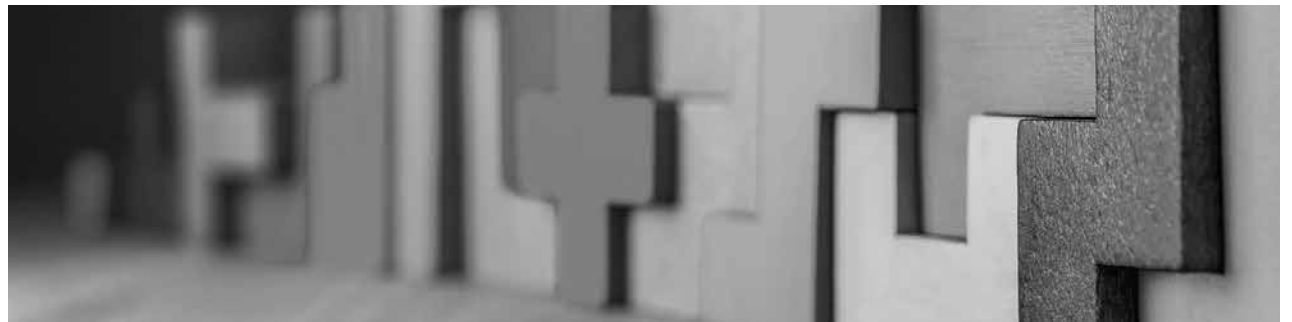
It is crucial for Captains and ships to devise SMART goals--goals that are Specific so that Captains are pursuing a clear-cut, well-defined task; Measurable, so that Captain and ship can know with certainty when a goal is reached; Attainable or manageable given the Captain's skills and resources; Relevant to a Captain's values, worldview, and what is important to them; and Timely, so that each goal has a timeline for projected deadline to work toward.

The above could be a break-out Box alongside the text? or next to a photo? It is a lot of text to include in the story but might be interesting to have in another format. IF possible :) Otherwise just cut it :)

Over the course of 2019, Captains and ships learned to use Star Charts to record a total of thirty-six goals. 100% of housing-related goals were achieved. Captains achieved several goals in employment and education. Captains pursued health-related goals, including how to deal with stress and take care of yourself. It was encouraging to see several Captains tackle money management, budgeting and savings, as well as goals for the growth of the whole family. One goal focused very simply on researching local resources to see what is available in our community. And another goal documented two Captains' commitment to "giving back" to the community by volunteering for a local organization with their allies.

We are so proud of our Captains' and ships' accomplishments and inspired by their continued willingness to set goals and put in the hard work toward meeting them! Congratulations!

If you can see yourself working towards new goals and benefiting from our community of support, join us! Thriving Connections is NOW interviewing new participants for a Captain 101 class that will begin in late spring. If you're interested in learning more about Thriving Connections, please contact Rebecca Mueller, Thriving Connections Coach, at 812-339-3447 ext 521, rmueller@insccap.org or Linda Patton, Thriving Connections Coordinator, at 812-339-3447 ext. 520, lindap@insccap.org.



Special Section: South Central Community Action (SCAAP) Programs

South Central Community Action Program Celebrates 55 Years of Service!

On May 6, 1965, South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) began its fight against poverty and adopted its mission to provide opportunities for low-income citizens to move toward personal and economic independence. 2020 officially marks the 55th year that SCCAP has been in action in your community. Please join us in celebrating this momentous occasion by learning more about our programs below, and sharing our services with anyone who might benefit from them.

South Central Community Action Program is a not for profit organization serving Monroe, Morgan, Owen, and Brown counties. To fulfill the purpose of reducing the extent and impact of poverty in our service area, we assist low-income populations obtain services that help them in becoming self-sufficient. SCCAP offers programs such as Covering Kids & Families, Energy Assistance, Growing Opportunities, Head Start and Early Head Start, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher, Thriving Connections, and Weatherization programs.

Covering Kids & Families educates consumers about the health insurance options, how to use their benefits and how to find a plan that best fits their needs. They can also assist with Medicaid, Hoosier Healthwise, HIP 2.0, or Marketplace application process start to finish. Our health insurance navigators will troubleshoot problems that may arise while signing up for health insurance.

Energy Assistance is a heating benefit program that provides a one-time benefit to help pay your winter fuel bills. The average benefit our clients received in 2018-2019 was \$610. The purpose of the Energy Assistance Program is to help keep members of low-income families safe and healthy, and assist them in achieving energy self-sufficiency and avoiding utility disruptions.

Growing Opportunities provides healthy greens to our communities from a hydroponic greenhouse, while also providing job training opportunities for low income people with barriers to employment, especially people with disabilities.

Head Start is a family centered child development program whose mission is to promote school readiness for 3-5 year olds, by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families. Early Head Start is a program that provides and promotes comprehensive early childhood development, supports families, and encourages growth in all members of the family and community for expectant mothers and children up to age 3.

Housing Choice Voucher, also known as Section 8 Voucher, is a way to assist low-income households with safe and sanitary housing. It allows families and individuals to



find their own rental units within U.S. Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) guidelines. The household's rent is subsidized based on their income.

Thriving Connections' most basic goal is bringing people together across race and class lines to get rid of poverty. We start out educating and establishing relationships between people called Captains, who live without enough resources, and people called Allies, who have enough resources. The TC community meets every week for dinner and programming for both adults and children. In addition, each

Captain meets with their allies at others times to work on their education, financial and personal goals.

Weatherization reduces energy consumption in low-income households and insures that each client has a safe, operating heat source. Clients receive a furnace inspection and an energy audit. SCCAP uses private contractors to repair or replace heat sources, install insulation and seal the homes.

For more information please visit <http://www.insccap.org>.

Special Section: Personal Writings

2020 - Perfect Vision

By Wade Web

The New Year is here - and so with it brings
Everyone a new chance - to do bigger things
For this I'm excited - and I know you'll agree
If you spent this past year - serving time in county
Your day of sweet freedom - may be drawing near
And yet sadly for some - that day is unclear
To hold no control - over what lies ahead
Well that makes it hard - just to get out of bed
So I lay there awake - my anxious mind racing
Locked down in my cell - a caged lion pacing
My small hopes and prayers - some people find odd
So what do they do - just smile and nod
They've trained themselves well - pretending they care
Is it so much to ask - for a breath of fresh air
Now don't get me wrong - while I'm standing here bitching
I know in my past - I've made poor decisions
And that's why my future - hangs in suspension
Now last year is done - and with it in hindsight
I'll use my mistakes - to strengthen my eyesight
I put 2019 - deep in my rear view
I'm looking ahead - and I've got a clear view
Coming up quick - I see my new mission
Cuz this is my year
Its 2020 - Perfect vision

Microwave Minutes

By David Barber

I'm in the toaster waiting to brown
God when will this agony stop?
I've been waiting so long
I just keep slowly roasting
I never seem to be any closer to the exit.
I'm watching commercials.
Why do they have so many?
The movie went by so quickly.
How can the commercials seem so much longer?
I know they're shorter but God dammit it seems so much longer.
I'm in the microwave being burned inside and out.
I can feel my insides cooking.
Their molecules being rearranged.
I will never be the same when the door finally opens.
Maybe I'll be burned and unusable when they
Finally decide to come back and open the door.
Maybe no one will ever want to eat me again.
I'm in the drunk tank.
God it smells.
I just want to go to jail.
Please take me upstairs.
Please just let me go to jail.
I just want a cell.
Today's the day I go home.
Why won't they ever come to let me go home.
Is time standing still?



Everyone Counts!

Beverly Calender-Anderson, City of Bloomington, Co-chair, Bloomington Monroe County 2020 Census Complete Count Committee

Every 10 years, everyone living in the United States gets counted in the census—once, only once and in the right place. Responses help make sure that billions of dollars in federal funding is directed each year to the right places to support things like: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicare, housing assistance, libraries, hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads and other resources. A complete and accurate count is also critical for determining how many representatives each state will have in Congress.

In general, you should count yourself where you live and sleep most of the time. When responding count any children, including newborns, who usually live and sleep at your home—even if they are not your own.

College students that do not live in a dorm, should be counted at their off-campus address—even if you go to your parents' home for school breaks. This includes international students. If you've recently moved, count yourself at your new address if you moved in by April 1, 2020.

For people living in college dorms, group homes,

correctional facilities, shelters, and nursing homes, Census Bureau employees will work with a representative from the facility to ensure they are counted. They may or may not be asked to complete a census questionnaire.

In 2020, for the first time ever, the U.S. Census Bureau will accept responses online, but you can still respond by

phone or mail if you like. In mid-March every household will receive an invitation to complete the 2020 Census. To help everyone answer the census, online and phone responses can be completed in 13 languages. The Monroe County Public Library has public computers available for you to respond online. They will also have staff that can help anyone who needs it to complete the Census questionnaire.

All information collected by the Census Bureau is completely confidential. The Census Bureau is bound by law to protect all answers and keep them strictly confidential. In fact, every employee takes an oath to protect your personal information for life. Your personal information can only be used to produce statistics. This mean information will not be shared with landlords, law

enforcement agencies, service providers or employers—NO ONE! The Census Bureau will NEVER ask for your Social Security number, bank or credit card account numbers, money or donations, or anything on behalf of a political party.

How It Works:

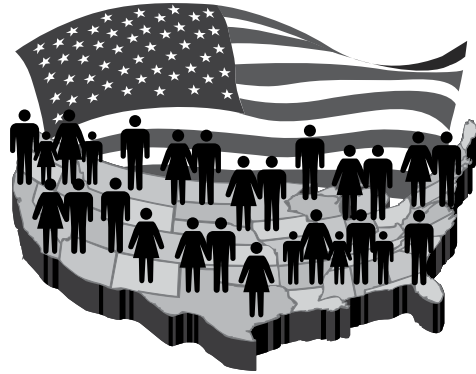
In mid-March households will begin receiving official Census Bureau mail with detailed information on how to respond. Once the invitation arrives, you should respond for everyone living in your home—online, by phone or by mail.

April 1: Census Day is observed nationwide. There will be information coming later about activities happening on this day.

May-July: If you have not responded, census takers will begin visiting homes to make sure that everyone is counted in the 2020 Census. All Census Bureau employees will have a valid ID badge with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark and an expiration date. The best way to avoid a visit from a census taker is to fill out the 2020 Census questionnaire online, by phone or by mail.

If you have questions about the 2020 Census, please visit bloomingtonmonroecensus.org or 2020census.gov.

Remember—Everyone Counts!



Celebrating Two Decades

by Forrest Gilmore, Executive Director of Shalom Community Center • shalomcommunitycenter.org

I remember walking into Shalom my very first day over ten years ago. Recently hired as the Assistant Director, it was Martin Luther King Day. Felt auspicious.

But, I was nervous. I didn't know what to do. I worried I wouldn't fit in. I worried I wouldn't know how to handle whatever came up.

I remember meeting Abraham, one of our guests and volunteers, sitting at the front desk. Warm, friendly. He greeted me and took me under his wing.

It was not long before I found my way. Joel Rekas, the Executive Director at the time, told me they usually knew how new staff were going to do very quickly. They either struggled with it or took to it quickly. I still remember that as we bring new staff on board at Shalom.

On January 18, I celebrated my tenth anniversary with Shalom, with almost nine as your Executive Director, following Joel's retirement.

When I walk into Shalom, I don't feel nervous anymore.

But, I do feel many other emotions.

Sometimes, it's hurt... the hurt of our far too many guests struggling with hunger, homelessness, and assaults on their dignity.

Sometimes, it's joy... the celebration of a key to a new home... or a group laugh.

Sometimes, it's anger... the anger of a person who has been pushed to the edge.

Sometimes, it's compassion... the generosity of a person struggling with so much who offers to sweep up a mess or hold the head of someone having a seizure... the kindness of a volunteer preparing a meal, offering a gentle word, or handing someone a toothbrush.

So often, it's gratitude... the gratitude of this sacred ground and the lineage of supporters who have made it holy, accompanying so many people through the greatest struggles of their lives.

Always, it's pride. I'm proud to be a part of this amazing organization, which every day stands on the frontlines of poverty, offering compassion, dignity, support, and solutions to people who need us most.

On January 24, less than a week after my tenth year, Shalom celebrated its twentieth anniversary. I am reminded of that little room in the First United Methodist Church where Shalom started, serving coffee and donuts and providing phones and the newspaper.

Shalom began with a spark... a concern of compassion. Recognizing many people without homes had no place to go where they could be safe and shielded from indignity, so many people came together, including the our first President, the ever so tenacious Shirley St. John, to create this great service.

Having grown from that small room and one part-time employee to three centers of operation, thirty employees, and 1600 volunteers a year, providing 80,000 meals, 14,000 shelter nights, and housing for hundreds could only be accomplished from the work of those brave souls who opened our doors that very first time.

We stand today on the foundation of giants.

And that same spark of compassion runs through us.

I am filled with gratitude.

I am in awe of what we have yet to accomplish together.

Rev. Forrest Gilmore is the Executive Director of Shalom Community Center.

To support our hungry and homeless neighbors through the work of Shalom, please visit our website at shalomcommunitycenter.org.

Directory of agencies and services

This directory outlines several agencies and services available to residents of Monroe County. Additionally, many listings provide contact information for prospective volunteers. For more extensive articles about many of these agencies and services, see earlier issues of Safety-Net at <http://safety-net-newspaper.com/>. Several of the agencies and services described provide multiple forms of aid. Unless otherwise noted all services and agencies are located in Bloomington.

Addiction Counseling

Amethyst House

Address: 645 N. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 336-3570

Web: www.amethysthouse.org

Volunteer Contact: Gina Lovell ([812]336-3570 x10; amethyst@bloomington.in.us)

About: Provides structured living environments, treatment, and recovery services for individuals with addictions. Amethyst House operates three transitional living facilities: (1) a men's 1/2 way house, (2) a women's 1/2 way house that serves women and their dependent children up to 6 years old, and (3) a men's 3/4 way house. Amethyst house also operates an outpatient treatment facility in Bloomington as well as Evansville.

Centerstone of Indiana, Inc.

Address: 645 S. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 339-1691

About: Provides services for people with behavioral and mental health challenges, such as depression, stress, panic disorders, alcohol and chemical dependencies, phobias, child behavioral disorders, grief and loss, marital and family problems, and severe and persistent emotional disorders. Services provided include psychiatry, 24-hour emergency services, and vocational and residential services. Centerstone hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Appointments must be made for services in the evening and weekend.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Address: Hours and locations vary.

Phone: (812) 334-8191

Web: www.alcoholics-anonymous.org

About: Provides support for those wanting to stop alcohol consumption.

Adult Education

MCCSC Adult Education

Address: Broadview Learning Center, 705 W. Coolidge Drive

Phone: (812) 330-7731

Web: www.adult.mccsc.edu

Volunteer Contact: Melanie Hunter (330-7731 x 52137; mhunter@mccsc.edu)

About: The Monroe County Community School Corporation's Adult Education program at Broadview Learning Center offers free, individualized instruction and guidance to teen and adult learners. We offer support for successful preparation for the High School Equivalency and other work placement tests as well as Adult Basic Education. Are you looking to improve your basic job and literacy skills or learn new ones, we can help. English as a Second Language course and supportive tutoring for students to create better opportunities of themselves and their families. Call 812-330-7731 to register for orientation and also visit our website www.mccsc.edu/adulted. Located on Coolidge between Rogers and Rockport Road, on the #2 South Bloomington Transit Route.

AIDS/HIV Services

Bloomington Hospital Positive Link

Address: 333 E. Miller Dr.

Phone: (812) 353-9150

Web: www.bloomingtonhospital.org

About: HIV testing and extensive care coordination for those living with HIV/AIDS. Serve as a community resource regarding HIV/AIDS education and awareness. Also offer Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Syphilis testing.

Clothing, furniture, housewares

Monroe County United Ministries

Address: 827 W. 14 Ct.

Phone: (812) 339-3429

Volunteer Contact: Rebecca Gordan ([812] 353-9150; mcumhelp@bloomington.in.us)

About: Provides a subsidized Child-Care Program for low-income families in Monroe County, which includes a year-round program for children two to six years old, and a summer camp subsidized child-care for children ages six to ten, when school is out of session. All care-givers in the families either work full time or attend school part-time and work part-time. There is also an Emergency Services Program that assists families who are experiencing a short-term crisis. The Emergency Services

Program includes a food pantry, a clothing program, and financial assistance for rent or utility payments.

My Sister's Closet of Monroe County, Inc.

See Employment resources and job counseling.

Salvation Army

Address: 111 N. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 336-4310

Volunteer Contact: Monica Clemons ([812] 336-4310 x100; monica_clemons@usc.salvationarmy.org)

About: Provides a variety of services, including: food pantry, food vouchers, seasonal assistance, clothing and clothing vouchers, appliances, household items, hygiene items, rent/mortgage assistance, utility assistance, medical assistance, disaster relief, after school programs, summer residential camps, adult programs, nursing home visitation, bus tickets, a place of worship, and a thrift store.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Address: 4607 West State Road 46

Phone: (812) 961-1510

Web: www.bloomingtonsvdp.org

Volunteer Contact: Scott Alber, ([812]335-1280 volunteer@bloomingtonsvdp.org)

About: A Catholic led ecumenical society of volunteers dedicated to helping those in need. Assistance is offered in the form of community resource information, vouchers for furniture, and in some cases limited financial help with a utility bill, rent, rent deposit or other essential need. Almost all funding comes through donations and assistance is given without regard to religion, race or creed. Volunteer opportunities abound.

Disabilities assistance programs

LifeDesigns, Inc.

Address: 200 East Winslow Rd.

Phone: (812) 332-9615

Web: www.lifedesignsinc.org

Volunteer Contact: Cindy Fleetwood

About: LifeDesigns, Inc. offers comprehensive services for people with disabilities in south central Indiana including education, housing and employment assistance. We offer services

for every stage of life from childhood through adulthood. Our mission to partner with people with disabilities and the community to bring about self-directed and enriched lives through education, information and support. LifeDesigns is a grassroots organization formed by the merger of two well-known agencies, Christole and Options, who have provided leading-edge programs for over three decades.

People & Animal Learning Services (PALS)

Facility Address: 7644 W Elwren Rd, Bloomington,

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1033, Bloomington, IN 47402

Phone: 812-336-2798

Web: www.palstherapy.org

Volunteer Contact: Jennylynn Vidas, (812-336-2798 ext. 15, jennylynn@palstherapy.org)

About: PALS provides therapeutic Equine Assisted Activities (EAA) to individuals with disabilities, veterans and at-risk youth in South Central Indiana. PALS programs are designed by professionals and aim to develop and restore functional skills, enhance well-being and improve quality of life. Services are available to individuals ages three and up. PALS is a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl) Premier-Accredited Center and United Way of Monroe County Member Agency.

Stone Belt

Address: 2815 E. 10 St.

Phone: (812) 332-2168

Web: www.stonebelt.org

Volunteer Contact: Amy Jackson (332-2168 x314; ajackson@stonebelt.org)

About: A community-based organization with over 48 years of experience in serving persons with developmental disabilities. Supports include residential, employment, life skills training and psychological services. With locations in Monroe, Lawrence, Owen, Bartholomew and surrounding counties, Stone Belt's mission is to prepare, empower, and support persons with developmental disabilities

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DIRECTORY

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and their families to participate fully in the life of the community.

Employment resources and job counseling

My Sister's Closet of Monroe County, Inc.

Address: 414 S. College Ave.

Web: www.SistersCloset.org

Volunteer Contact: Julie Tobin, (812) 333-7710; Info@SistersCloset.org

About: Provides women facing issues of poverty, homelessness and domestic violence—who are looking for employment, with free interview and/or workforce attire, interview skills training & coaching through job mentors, image consulting, and life skills training through workshops with the Success Institute. All services assist women to overcome the hurdles they face on the road to independence & family self-sufficiency. All new and gently-used Clothing & Accessories, Undergarments, New Make-up, and Personal Hygiene items are provided free to those with vouchers from referral agencies, and for sale to the general public.

WorkOne

Address: 450 Landmark Ave.

Phone: (812) 331-6000

About: Assists individuals and businesses in meeting their employment and training needs. WorkOne provides employment services, job counseling and assessment services, training services through WIA, older worker services through Experience Works, vocational rehabilitation services through Indiana Vocational Rehabilitation, veteran services and unemployment insurance benefits.

Stone Belt

See disabilities assistance programs.

Family Services

El Centro Comunal Latino

Address: 303 E Kirkwood Avenue, Room 11

Phone: (812) 355-7513

Web: www.elcentrocomunal.org

About: CCL is a grassroots, community-based organization that seeks to provide an accessible and safe space for all Latinos, with a focus on Spanish-speaking people, to find information, access to resources and a place to hold community events. CCL's work includes tutoring services for all ages, the medical interpretation network, direct service, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, the Legal Advice Project, Informate—series of educational presentations,

health programming, and the Bienvenidos program; a support group that helps immigrants acculturate to life in the United States.

Head Start Program

Address: 1520 W. 15th St.

Phone: (812) 334-8350

Web: www.headstart.bloomington.in.us/

About: Guides children aged 3 to kindergarten towards gaining cognitive skills, patience, sharing, problem solving, hygiene, safety, and practice in good decision making. Free to income eligible.

IN Dept. of Child Services

Address: 1717 W. 3rd St.

Phone: (812) 336-6351

About: Services are designed to protect children from abuse and neglect by partnering with families and communities to provide safe, nurturing, and stable homes. To make a report of child abuse or neglect the public can call 1-800-800-5556.

Division of Family Resources

Address: 1711 N. College Ave.

Phone: 1-(800)-403-0864

About: Provides aid to families with dependent children (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF), food stamps, Medicaid.

Programas de Alcance a Latinos

Latino Programs and Outreach Division

Address: 401 N. Morton St. Suite 260,

Bloomington, IN 47402

Phone: (812) 349-3430

Web: <https://bloomington.in.gov/>

Contact: Araceli Gómez-Aldana, latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov

Acerca: El Departamento de Recursos Comunitarios y Familiares de la Ciudad de Bloomington ha enfocado sus esfuerzos para alcanzar a la comunidad Hispana ofreciendo una gran variedad de programas. Eventos culturales, educación cívica, servicios directos y traducciones, El programa de radio Hola Bloomington en WFHB y la publicación Del Boletín Comunitario.

About: The City of Bloomington's Community and Family Resources Department has focused its outreach efforts on the Hispanic and Latino community by offering a variety of programs. Cultural events, civic education, direct service and translations, The Hola Bloomington Radio Show on WFHB and The Boletín Comunitario.

Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM)

Address: 827 W. 14th Court

Phone: (812) 339-3429

Web: www.mcum.org

Hours: 6:30am-5:30pm

About: Full-time care for children ages 2-6 on

a sliding fee scale, parents must be employed or attending school, NAEYC-accredited center

WIC Program

Address: 333 East Miller Drive

Phone: (812) 353-3221

About: Provides nutritional support for underprivileged mothers, babies and children up to five years of age in Monroe and Greene Counties. Applicants must meet income guidelines, live in Indiana, and have a nutritional need. All services are provided free of charge.

Food stamps

Division of Family Resources

See family services.

Health care

Futures Family Health Clinic

Address: 119 W. 7th St.

Phone: (812) 349-7343

About: provides family planning health services for adolescents, men, and women. Services are provided on a sliding fee schedule based on income. Services offered include annual exam and Pap smear, pregnancy testing, STD and HIV testing, birth control counseling, emergency contraception, health education, birth control pills, birth control shots, IUD (intrauterine device), and condoms.

Bloomington Hospital Home Health & Hospice

Address: 619 W 1st St.

Phone: (812) 353-9818

Web: www.bloomingtonhospital.org

Volunteer Contact: Melanie Miller (812-353-9818; mmiller@bloomhealth.org)

About: Provides care and support for people who are terminally ill and their families. Training classes for new volunteers are offered twice a year.

Monroe County Public Health Clinic

Address: 333 East Miller Drive

Phone: (812) 353-3244

About: Services provided include screenings for hypertension, hyperlipidemia, elevated blood sugar, anemia, elevated lead, tuberculosis, head lice and pregnancy; health and wellness assessments; communicable disease education. Call for appointment.

Planned Parenthood

Address: 421 S. College Ave.

Phone: (812) 336-0219

Web: www.ppin.org

About: Services provided include pelvic exams, breast exams, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections, HIV testing and counseling, pregnancy tests, various types

of birth control, emergency contraception (the "morning after pill"), as well as abortion services.

Vistacare Hospice

Address: 1801 Liberty Dr., Ste. 103

Phone: (812) 330-9640

Web: www.vistacare.com

Volunteer Contact: Cathi Counterman ([812] 340-3467; cathi.counterman@vistacare.com)

About: Provides caregiver relief and companionship for terminally ill patients and bereavement support for family members.

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Local Health Care Enrollment Assistance

All U.S. residents are required by law to have health insurance. If you are uninsured, there are coverage options that meet your needs and fit your budget:

- Affordable Care Act "Health Insurance Marketplace"
- Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP 2.0)
- Medicaid
- Children's Health Insurance Program (Hoosier Healthwise)

There are several free local resources that can guide you through the process, explain coverage options, answer questions, and help you enroll. Indiana Navigators provide free unbiased assistance and can work with you one-on-one to enroll in health care plans.

ASPIN Health Navigators:

Call (877) 313-7215 for Navigator assistance.

City of Bloomington:

Call (812) 349-3851 for enrollment assistance. Para Español, (812) 349-3860 o latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov

Individual Solutions-IU Health:

Call 1-888-531-3004 to make an appointment to see a certified Navigator, or visit iuhealth.org/individual-solutions

Monroe County Health Department:

Call Scott Stowers at (812) 349-2075 or e-mail ssowers@co.monroe.in.us

SCCAP Health Coverage Assistance Program:

Call (812) 339-3447 for Navigator assistance.

Visit www.in.gov/healthcarereform to find a certified Navigator.

Call 211 (available 24/7 free of charge) or visit www.in211.org/healthcare-project to learn how to apply, try a health insurance cost calculator, and get more local information.

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Volunteers in Medicine Clinic

Address: 811 West 2nd Street

Phone: (812) 333-4001

Web: www.vimmonroecounty.org

Volunteer Contact: Shelley Sallee ([812]333-4001 x109; info@vimmonroecounty.org)

About: Provides free medical care, including dental care at the offices of participating dentists, for people living in Monroe or Owen County who lack health insurance and have an income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. This means that the income must not exceed \$20,420 for a 1-person household. For each additional person, add \$6,960. To qualify for medical care individuals must fill out an eligibility form about their economic situation and set up an eligibility interview. Children or adults who qualify for health care at the clinic will receive free care at Southern Indiana Pediatrics.

Housing (abused women)

Middle Way House

Address: 338 S. Washington St.

Phone: (812) 333-7404 (admin phone), (812) 336-0846 (crisis line)

Web: www.middlewayhouse.org

About: Middle Way House is an emergency shelter that provides services to protect and help women who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and women who feel they are in danger. Services include a safe place to stay, case management, in-house children's programs, legal advocacy. There is also a transitional housing program called The Rise which has self-contained apartments for families leaving abusive relationships. Women and their children can stay at The Rise for up to two years.

Housing (emergency, for adults)

Agape House, Shelter For Women And Their Children (part of Backstreet Missions)

Web: www.backstreet.org

Phone: (812) 333-1905.

Address: 300 Opportunity Lane, off W. 3rd Street.

Friend's Place

Address: 919 S. Rogers (Shelter)

Phone: (812) 332-1444

About: An emergency shelter with 40 beds (18 for men and 12 for women). Services provided include case management, food, and clothing. Opens at 6:15 p.m.

Wheeler Mission

Phone: (812) 332-2452

Center for Men

Address: 215 S Westplex Ave

Programs and services:

Emergency Low Barrier Shelter
Orientation to addictions recovery program
Long term supportive housing
Working guest program
Public meals

Center for Women and Children

Address: 100 S Opportunity Lane

Programs and services:

Emergency Low Barrier Shelter
Referral Service to other agencies (connect to care) Long term supportive housing

Housing (Family Shelter)

New Hope Family Shelter

Phone: (812) 334-9840

E-mail: newhope@nhfsinc.org

About: The mission of the New Hope Family Shelter (NHFS) is to provide temporary shelter for homeless families in Bloomington and Monroe County and, in collaboration with other agencies, to help those families regain housing by addressing the problems that led to homelessness.

Housing (Intact Families/Adults)

Bloomington Catholic Worker

Address: 821 North Blair Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana 47404

Phone: (812) 339-4456

About: We offer short-term, home-based hospitality to people facing homelessness.

Housing (Pregnant women)

Hannah House Maternity Home

Address: 808 N. College Ave.

Phone: (812) 334-2662

Web: www.cpcbloomington.org

About: A comprehensive residential program for pregnant women and teenagers. Offers access to prenatal and pediatric care. Also offers life skills training and assistance in achieving longer-term educational and career goals.

Housing (Rental)

Bloomington Housing Authority

Address: 1007 N. Summit St.

Phone: (812) 339-3491

About: Subsidized housing, Section 8, Public Housing. Cost varies to income eligible.

Housing and Neighborhood Development

Address: 401 N. Morton Street, Ste. 130

Phone: (812) 349-3420

Web: www.bloomington.in.gov/hand

About: Creates affordable housing opportunities in the City of Bloomington by working through its partnerships with local non-profit and for-profit developers and through its in-house housing programs. HAND provides housing counseling to individuals with housing needs or difficulties and provides a variety of learning opportunities for the community on housing related issues. In addition, HAND enforces the Property Maintenance Code and the City's weed and trash ordinances.

Housing4Hoosiers

Website: Housing4Hoosiers.org

Email: info@housing4hoosiers.org

Phone: 812-335-2200

About: Housing4Hoosiers.org is a one-stop website for renters and landlords in Indiana seeking resources on finding, renting, and keeping a stable and affordable rental home. Housing4Hoosiers offers guidance on where to find an affordable place to live, understanding your lease, and rights and responsibilities of tenants and landlords. The site also includes a Google map of 150 rental properties in Bloomington/Monroe County with details on rental costs, unit sizes, and those accepting Section 8 vouchers.

Housing (homeless youth)

Stepping Stones

Address: PO Box 1366

Phone: (812) 339-9771

Web: www.stepsstones-inc.org

About: Transitional housing program and supportive service for homeless young people aged 16-20.

Youth Services Bureau

Address: 615 S. Adams St.

Phone: (812) 349-2506

Web: www.youthservicesbureau.net

About: Provides short-term residential care and crisis intervention for youth ages 8-17. Provides other services as well.

Legal and court-related services

Community Justice & Mediation Center

Address: 205 S. Walnut Suite 16

Phone: (812) 336-8677

Web: www.cjamcenter.org

Web: www.cjamcenter.org

Volunteer Contact: Amanda Nickey ([812] 336-8677; vorpcm@bloomington.in.us)

About: Programs include the Victim-Offender Reconciliation Program, Shoplifter's Alternative Program, Workshops, Trainings, and Community

Mediation Services for neighborhood, school, family or business conflicts.

District 10 Pro Bono Project

Address: P.O. Box 8382

Bloomington, IN 47407

Phone: (812)-339-3610

About: Purpose is to match income eligible clients with an attorney who will take their case for free. Potential clients must apply by phone on Monday from 10 AM to 12 PM, and Thursday from 2 PM to 5 PM. Please, no walk-ins, by phone only.

Legal Services Organization of Indiana, Inc. Bloomington

Address: 214 S. College Ave.

Phone: (812) 339-7668

About: Cannot help people in criminal cases. Helps people in civil cases, including: Housing (eviction, foreclosure, landlord/tenant); Public Benefits (food stamps, SSI, unemployment, poor relief, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); Health (Medicaid, Medicare); Divorce or child custody where there is child abuse or spouse abuse; Child In Need of Services (CHINS); Consumer (collections and repossessions); Education (including expulsion and access to special education services and Vocational Rehabilitation); Access to Justice (e.g. denial of a court-appointed attorney in certain civil cases).

Monroe County Court Appointed Special Advocates

Address: 201 N. Morton Street

Phone: (812) 333-2272

Web: www.monroecountycasa.org

Volunteer Contact: Kelli Shannon ([812] 333-2272, ext. 11; kelli.shannon@monroecountycasa.org)

About: Provides direct advocacy for child victims of physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect. Volunteer advocates represent children in the court process to protect the child's best interests.

Monroe County Prosecutor—Victim Assistance Program

Address: 301 N. College Ave., Rm. 211

Phone: (812) 349-2670

Web: www.co.monroe.in.us

Volunteer Contact: Sarah Lanman ([812]349-2670; slanman@co.monroe.in.us)

About: Helps to ease the trauma victim's burden by explaining the criminal justice process, accompanying victims to court, updating them on current cases and obtaining restitution.

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Meals and pantries (no cost)

Meals

Area 10 Agency on Aging

Address: 631 West Edgewood Drive, Ellettsville, IN 47429

Phone: (812) 876-3383

Web: www.area10agency.org

About: Area 10 Agency on Aging offers 5 main nutrition and food services for senior citizens.

Congregate Meals—We offer congregated meals at the following times and locations: Maple Shades Apts., Ellettsville, 10:30 am; Cambridge Square Apts., Bloomington, 11 am; Spencer Senior Center, 11:30 am; Unionville Senior Center, 11:30 am. Seniors must be 60+ and can complete a brief application at the meal site of their choosing. A \$2 donation is requested.

Mobile Meals—We deliver meals to homebound seniors who are 60+ and who are unable to prepare meals for themselves due to illness or disability. An application to determine eligibility is required and a \$2 donation is requested. Contact Area 10 at (812) 876-3383 for more information.

Food Pantry—We provide homebound seniors with two bags of groceries and frozen food each month. Seniors must be 60+ and meet eligibility requirements. Call Area 10 at (812) 876-3383 to request an application.

Restaurant Vouchers—We provide restaurant vouchers to seniors 60+ to be used at the Village Inn in Ellettsville or the Stinesville Mercantile in Stinesville. A \$2 donation is requested. A brief application is required and vouchers can be picked up at Area 10 or the Stinesville Mercantile.

Farmers Market Vouchers—We distribute farmers market vouchers to seniors 60+ for use at the Bloomington Farmers Market or Spencer Farmers Market. Seniors must complete an application and meet income guidelines. Contact Area 10 at (812) 876-3383

Backstreet Missions (Gino's Cafeteria)

Monday–Friday: Lunch: 11–12 p.m.; Dinner: 4–5 p.m.

Saturday: Breakfast 8-9:30 a.m.; Lunch 11-12 p.m.

Bloomington Meals on Wheels, Inc.

Address: 727 W. 1st Street

Phone: (812) 323-4982

Web: www.bloomingtonmealsonwheels.org

About: Provides meals to homebound people who are unable to cook for themselves. No age or economic restrictions. To enroll, call number listed. A volunteer will arrange for meal delivery

and special dietary needs, explain the costs and how payments can be made.

Bloomington Catholic Worker

Address: 821 North Blair Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana 47404

Phone: (812) 339-4456

About: We share a home-based dinner every night of the week at 6:00 on the southside to which all are welcome. Thursday nights have the largest feast. Please call so we can direct you to the correct house.

City Church Food Outreach

Address: 1200 N Russell Rd. Bloomington IN 47404

Phone: 812-336-5958

Web: citychurchfamily.org

Email: info@citychurchfamily.org

About: City's Food Outreach brings the mission of LOVE people, BUILD family, LEAD to destiny to life. Currently the Food Outreach gives groceries to families every month following the 3rd Saturday of the month service. Saturday service starts at 5:30 and tickets are distributed discreetly during service. December 20th, January 17th, February 21st, March 21st

Community Kitchen

Address: 1515 S. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 332-0999

Web: www.monroecommunitykitchen.com

Volunteer Contact: Annie Brookshire ([812] 332-0999; volunteer@monroecommunitykitchen.com)

Monday-Saturday: Dinner: 4-6 p.m.

About: Provides hot meals in a sit-down area as well as cold carry-out boxed meals. Also provides meals for afterschool programs at Boys and Girls Club, The Rise, Girls, Inc., Monroe County Community Corrections JAMS Program, Teen Learning Center, and Rhino's Youth Center.

Community Kitchen Express

Address: 1100 W. 11th St.

Monday-Saturday: Dinner: 4-6 p.m.

About: Provides hot and cold meals as carry-out only. See Community Kitchen listing (above) for phone and volunteer information.

First Christian Church

Address: Corner of Kirkwood Ave. and Washington St.

Sunday: Breakfast: 8-9:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Address: Corner of Lincoln and 7th Streets

Saturday: Breakfast: 7:30-9:00 a.m.

Harvest House Soup Kitchen

Address: 1107 S. Fairview Dr.

Phone: (812) 339-4462

Sunday: Lunch: 2-4 p.m.

Shalom Community Center

Address: 620 South Walnut Street

Phone: (812) 334-5728

Web: www.shalomcommunitycenter.org

Monday-Friday: Breakfast: 8-9:30 a.m.; Lunch: 12-1:30 p.m (except Wednesday lunch, 12-1 p.m.)

About: A daytime resource center for those experiencing homelessness and poverty. The facility is open all day and functions as a Day Shelter for guests, where they can use restroom facilities, make phone calls, and do their laundry. Guests can go there to see case workers, employment counselors, connect with visiting agencies, seek assistance through the Family Homelessness Prevention Project, store belongings, receive mail, use restroom facilities, and take a hot shower.

Pantries/Groceries

Area 10 Agency on Aging

See meals and pantries —meals

Hoosier Hills Food Bank

Address: 2333 W. Industrial Park Drive

Phone: (812) 334-8374

Web: www.hhfoodbank.org

Volunteer Contact: Kai Westerfield (334-8374; volunteer@hhfoodbank.org)

About: Collects, stores and distributes donated food to 84 nonprofit organizations with feeding programs that directly serve needy and hungry people. Distributes about 2 million pounds of food to hungry people each year.

MCUM Emergency Food Pantry

Address: 827 W. 14th Ct.

Phone: (812) 339-3429

Web: www.mcum.org

Hours: Monday-Friday 8-11:30 a.m.; 1-3:15 p.m.

About: Distributes non-perishable food, three days' supply provided. Must be Monroe County resident and complete a brief intake form.

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Address: 1100 Allen Street

Phone: (812) 355-6843

Web: www.mhcfoodpantry.org

Hours: Monday-Friday 12-6 p.m.

About: Provides nutritious food to people in need. Most of the food is received from the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. Also operates a Nutrition Education Program and an organic Community Gardening Program.

Salvation Army

Address: 111 N. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 336-4310

Hours: Tues, Thurs 1-3:30 and Wed, Fri 9-11:30

About: Need ID. Depending upon income and resources, can offer one week's supply of

groceries. Will not provide again for at least 30 days.

SLO FoodS garden pantry

About: The program emphasizes locally grown produce and dispenses food to those in need on a weekly basis.

When: Wednesdays from 1:00–3:00 pm

Where: 615 N. Fairview Street (Trained Eye Arts Center) (on the B-Line Trail just south of 11th St. underpass)

Volunteer Contact: Mylo Roze, Director–Eco Media Center Coordinator–SLO FoodS garden pantry

Web: http://ecomediacenter.org
greenthcity@yahoo.com

First United Methodist Church

Address: 219 E. 4th Street

Hours: Wednesdays, 3:00-5:30 p.m.

About: Provides brown bag lunch, groceries.

Township Trustees Food Pantries—Bloomington

Address: 2111 W. Vernal Pike

Phone: (812) 336-4976

Hours: Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

About: Provides canned goods. Must be a resident of Bloomington Township.

Township Trustees Food Pantries—Perry

Address: 1010 S. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 336-3713

Hours: Monday–Friday 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

About: Provides canned goods. Must be a resident of Perry Township.

Medicaid

Division of Family Resources

About: Medicaid is a federal and state funded medical assistance program that pays for approved and needed medical care for persons who meet eligibility requirements. For more information on the Division of Family Resources see the family services listing.

Older citizen programs

Area 10 Agency on Aging

Address: 631 W. Edgewood Drive, Ellettsville, Indiana 47429

Phone: (812) 876-3383

Web: www.area10agency.org

About: Offers programs and services, as well as being a resource of information about services for older and disabled citizens living in Monroe and Owen counties. Services that can be accessed include the Aging and Disability Resource Center, 2-1-1 Infolink, in-home health-related services and referrals, home-delivered meals, food pantry, congregated meal sites,

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support groups, education for family caregivers, affordable housing, assistance for the homebound, handyman services, a long-term-care ombudsman program for residents of area nursing homes, RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program, recreational and arts programs at Area 10's Endwright Center in Ellettsville, and Rural Transit bus service.

Pregnancy testing, counseling, education

Planned Parenthood

See health care.

WIC Program

See family services.

Rent, utility, bill assistance

First call the Township Trustee in the Monroe County Township in which you live: Bean Blossom (876-5109), Benton (339-6593), Bloomington (336-4976), Clear Creek (824-7225), Indian Creek (824-4981), Perry (336-3713) Polk (837-9446), Richland (876-2509), Salt Creek (332-9777), Van Buren (825-4490), Washington (331-0809).

Youth programs

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Address: 807 N. College Avenue

Phone: (812) 334-2828

Web: www.bigsindiana.org

Volunteer Contact: Mark Voland, mvoland@bigsindiana.org, 812-334-2828, ext. 227.

About: Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana helps children in Monroe and Owen counties reach their potential through professionally supported, one to one relationships with measurable impact.

Bloomington Boys and Girls Club

Address: 311 S. Lincoln St.

Phone: (812) 332-5311

Web: www.bgcbloomington.org

About: A guidance organization which fosters the physical, intellectual and social growth of boys and girls ages 6-18 with a special concern for those most in need of service.

Girls Inc.

Address: 1108 W. 8th St.

Phone: (812) 336-7313

Web: www.girlsinc-monroe.org

Volunteer Contact: Lucy Berger, Director of Operations ([812] 336-7313; lberger@monroe.girls-inc.org)

About: Girls Inc. of Monroe County, is an

affiliate of a national youth organization dedicated to inspiring girls to be strong, smart, and bold through after school programming, organized sports, and summer/winter camps. Provides programming for girls ages 6 to 18. Services include transportation, organized sports, a teen room, technology, self-defense and homework help.

Harmony School

Address: 909 E. 2nd St.

Phone: (812) 334-8349

Web: www.harmonyschool.org

About: An independent pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade school providing education to youth ages 3 to 18 from a wide range of economic and educational backgrounds.

WonderLab Museum of Science, Health and Technology

Address: 308 W. 4th St.

Phone: (812) 337-1337

Web: www.wonderlab.org

Volunteer Program: (812) 337-1337 ext. 20 or volunteer@wonderlab.org

About: WonderLab is an award-winning science museum with hands-on exhibits and programs for children and their families. WonderLab offers a free Teen Night monthly during the school year. WonderLab also participates in the Access Pass Program, which provides reduced admission of \$1 per family member per visit for eligible families. The museum also offers many half-price admission events. Volunteering is a natural next step for teens. Those entering grade 7 are eligible to become volunteers at the museum. Additionally, high school students are eligible to apply for summer internships at WonderCamp, the museum's summer science day camp.

Youth Services Bureau

Address: 615 S. Adams St.

Phone: (812) 349-2506

Web: www.youthservicesbureau.net

About: Alongside youth shelter (see housing [youth]), provides counseling, education, supervised recreation, and transportation to and from school, as well as referrals to a variety of agencies for other needed services.

Additional services

Catholic Charities-Bloomington

Address: 631 North College Avenue

Phone: (812) 332-1262

Web: www.CatholicCharitiesBtown.org

About: Provides education, social service delivery, and advocacy. Takes special interest in poor, disabled, and otherwise disadvantaged persons. Serves residences of Brown, Lawrence, Morgan, Monroe, Orange and Owen counties, especially through mental health services. Provides individual, family, couples and group

counseling to the English- and Spanish-speaking clients.

City of Bloomington Volunteer Network

Address: 401 N. Morton St. Suite 260

Phone: 812-349-3433

Web: www.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer

About: The Volunteer Network, which has over 200 local partner nonprofit and governmental organizations, is your one-stop source for volunteer information in Bloomington and Monroe County. Member organizations post their volunteer needs on the Network's online database so potential volunteers can see what community needs they can meet. The Volunteer Network also offers training in volunteer management to new volunteer coordinators and training in nonprofit board service to new and continuing board members. The Network partners with the Martin Luther King Birthday Celebration Commission in the organization of the 'A Day On, Not a Day Off' day of service, in which thousands of Bloomingtonians participate. In addition, the Network matches the material needs of local nonprofit organizations with community members and businesses who can meet those needs through our partnership with the Herald-Times on the Community Wish List.

Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County

Address: 213 E. Kirkwood Avenue

Phone: (812) 331-4069

Web: www.monroecountyhabitat.org

About: Habitat for Humanity helps families and volunteers to build homes for those living in inadequate housing. The homes are for families who have an income but do not have the funds to secure a bank loan. The money to build the homes comes from contributions from local churches, citizens, businesses, and other sponsors. Families pay back a zero interest mortgage over 15-25 years. That money goes into a fund which helps to pay for more houses.

Monroe County Safe Kids Chapter

Phone: (812) 353-5437

About: Certified Child Passenger Safety technicians will help you install your child's car seat and answer questions regarding general vehicle safety. If you need financial help with the purchase of a seat, let us know. All services are by appointment only.

Midwest Pages to Prisoners Project

Address: 310A S. Washington St.

Phone: (812) 339-8710

Web: www.pagestoprisoners.org

Volunteer Contact: Tess Hannah (339-8710;

midwestpagestoprisoners@yahoo.com)

About: Provides free reading material to inmates upon request. Encourages self-education among prisoners in the United States.

Monroe County Public Library

Address: 303 E. Kirkwood Ave.

Phone: (812) 349-3050

Web: www.mcpl.info

About: Offers free books, magazines, music CDs, and movies to check out; public Internet computers; downloadable audiobooks and ebooks; and free programs for all ages. It serves the county through facilities in Bloomington and Ellettsville, the Bookmobile, the Outreach Van, and Homebound service. Library cards are available at no charge to all county residents. The VITAL literacy program offers one-on-one confidential tutoring to adult learners and ESL conversation groups. During the school year, the library offers homework help to elementary students and math and reading/writing homework help to teens. During income tax season, volunteers offer free tax help. The library also has public meeting rooms for use by nonprofit groups. Anyone in the community can produce a program through Community Access TV (CATS) for the Public Access Channel.

New Leaf–New Life, Inc.

Address: 1010 S. Walnut St., Suite F

Phone: (812) 355-6842

Email: newleaf1010@gmail.com

Web: www.newleaf-newlife.org

About: New Leaf–New Life runs therapeutic programs in the Monroe County jail, and provides products and services to ex-offenders at our office at 1010 South Walnut, Suite F. Services offered include: assistance in obtaining a birth certificate or social security card, employment help, support groups, family support, community referrals, clothing, bus tickets, hygiene products, and funding for GED testing. Volunteer opportunities can include: mentoring, transition services, office work, family outreach, and programming in the Jail. Check our Facebook page for news and updates.

Reach High Consulting & Therapy LLC.

Autism ABA and Diagnostic Clinic

Address: 2101 W Tapp Rd. Bloomington IN 47403

Website: reachhighconsulting.org

Phone: 812-330-4460

Fax: 812-330-4461

Email: aba@reachhighconsulting.org

About RHC: Reach High is Bloomington's first ABA clinic. Reach High was birthed out of a growing need in the City of Bloomington. Providing Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) has meant families and clients are equipped with the tools to reach their maximum potential. Reach High strives to have clients in multiple environments within the community, this allows for skill sets to be strengthened and become more natural overtime.