

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

September-
December 2018

Vital Program At The Monroe County Public Library: What It Provides For Our Community

By Bethany Turrentine • Community Engagement and Learning Services VITAL Assistant Manager

Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners (VITAL) provides a safe, respectful learning environment for adults who want to improve their literacy, language, or basic computer skills. As a service of the Monroe County Public Library since 1977, VITAL has helped over 6,500 learners achieve their personal learning goals. Adults of all ages, nationalities, and economic and social backgrounds are welcome at VITAL.

With the support of VITAL trained volunteers and community partners, VITAL provides the following services and resources:

VITAL's Step One - achieve computer literacy goals in an informal, teacher and technology assisted environment. Receive assistance with completing forms, online job searches, resume and cover letter writing, and learning basic computer skills. No

appointments or registration necessary – and it's free. Drop in Mondays 6-8pm and Wednesdays 10am-noon.

English Conversation Groups - Practice everyday conversation skills in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. Intermediate to advanced English speakers learn about US culture and opportunities to connect with the local community. Drop in at the VITAL office during regular library hours; first-time visitors register at the VITAL desk before attending class.

One to One Tutoring – for adults who want to improve their reading, writing, math, or English as a new language skills. Includes preparation for the Driver's License, TASC, and Citizenship tests. To make a new learner appointment call (812) 349-

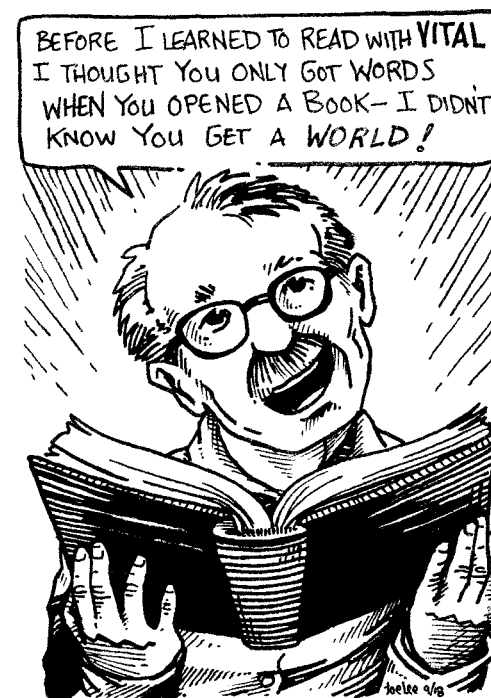
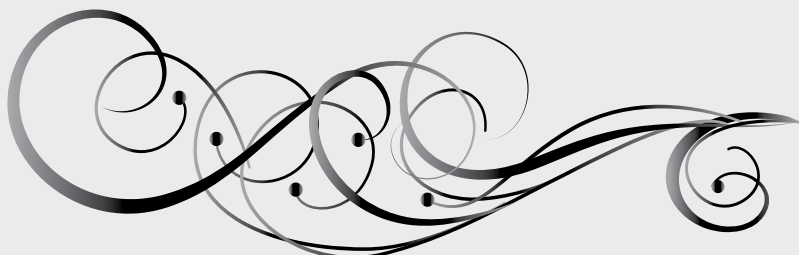
3173 or email vital@mcpl.info. Appointments last about 45 minutes and include a skills assessment, learning preferences and goal setting. Learners will be matched with a tutor based on mutual availability and learning preferences.

The VITAL Resource Room is a public collection of high quality reading and instructional materials for adult learners. Materials are available to help improve reading and life skills, learn English as a new language, study for the high school equivalency test, or prepare for the citizenship test. Anyone looking for a quick read, an overview of a classic, or reluctant ten readers may also enjoy VITAL materials. The computers in this room offer interactive, self-paced learning opportunities in Reading and Math, English as a New Language, Computer Skills, and Test Preparation.

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

THE ALZHEIMER'S RESOURCE SERVICE (ARS)

By Dayna A Thompson M.S., LMHC, PAC Trainer • Alzheimer's Educator •
Alzheimer's Resource Service – Community Health • Indiana University Health Bloomington
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The Alzheimer's Resource Service (ARS) – a program of IU Health Community Health – is based in Bloomington and supports 11 counties in the South Central Region. Their mission is to support people living with dementia and their personal and professional care partners. “So often we have a negative picture of life with dementia, and to be sure, it has its challenges,” says Dayna Thompson, one of the service's two Alzheimer's Educators, “but with the right information, resources, and support, people living with dementia can live full, productive, meaningful lives, even after a diagnosis.”

The ARS does not charge for the services that it provides and feels that this is a necessary part of being able to remove barriers to important supports. They provide individual/family consultations, memory screening, support groups (for both people living with dementia and their care partners), community education,

training at the high school, college, and professional level, and Dementia Friendly Certification for local area businesses and organizations.

“Our goal is to foster a community in which people living with dementia are included, supported, and allowed to flourish. Social engagement and purpose are huge factors in well-being and maintaining cognitive health. It takes everyone to create a community that works for everyone,” says Thompson. In addition to their work with families and small groups, Thompson and her counterpart, Amanda Mosier have helped to coordinate community – based efforts to make Bloomington more “dementia friendly.” You can learn more about what “Dementia Friendly Bloomington” and its relevant subcommittees are doing at www.dfbloomington.org.

“My wife, Jan and I began our journey with Alzheimer's Disease about five years ago when she was first diagnosed with

MCI or mild cognitive impairment. Jan's behavior began to change as she became forgetful, paranoid and delusional,” recalls ARS client Dave Gerkenmeyer. “I was stunned and in a state of shock about these changes taking place with Jan. She was becoming a person I did not know or understand. For two years I tried to deal with these unusual behaviors but to no avail. A combination of some amazing circumstances lead us back home to Indiana where we found some amazing resources for both Jan and myself. Jan is in a much better place now and I have been given a chance to heal and recover. ARS has been a wonderful source for growth and healing and for that we are truly grateful.”

To inquire about speaking with an educator or becoming more involved in local dementia friendly efforts, please contact the Alzheimer's Resource Service at 812.353.9299. You may also learn more about dementia, the ARS, and their events at www.alzresourceindiana.org.

THE SYSTEMIC RACISM OF HOMELESSNESS

By Rev. Forrest Gilmore

Rev. Forrest Gilmore is the Executive Director of Shalom Community Center. To learn more about Shalom, volunteer, or donate, please visit shalomcommunitycenter.org.

If you're a person of color in the United States, you are more likely to be homeless, especially if you're African American, American Indian or Hispanic/Latinx.

Although African Americans comprise 12% of the US population, they account for more than 38% of the overall homeless population. American Indians and Native Alaskans account for 1% of the population and 3% of the homeless population. And Hispanics/Latinxs represent 18% of the US population and 22% of the homeless population.

The numbers are similar in Bloomington. African Americans are 4.3% of the population and 10.2% of the homeless population. American Indians/

Alaska Natives are less than 0.5% of the population but 1% of the homeless population, and Hispanics/Latinxs are 3.9% of the population and 4.1% of the homeless population.

Poverty accounts for some, not all of the overrepresentation. African Americans represent 22% of those in poverty, substantially less than the 38% of African Americans experiencing homelessness. And Hispanics/Latinxs represent 19% of people in poverty, below the 22% in homelessness.

Wealth accumulation could be another factor. In the US, white people have nearly 10x the median net worth of African Americans and 8x that of Hispanics/Latinxs.

Racially biased incarceration rates are another huge factor as any kind of record can greatly hurt your chances at finding employment or a home. One in three black men will go to prison in their lifetimes and people of color account for 60% of

those imprisoned.

According to HUD, people of color are more often denied leases based on their credit history compared to white renters and shown fewer apartments to rent.

We also know African Americans are twice as likely as whites to be unemployed and job applicants with identical resumes but stereotypically “black-sounding” names receive fewer callbacks for job interviews than candidates with “white-sounding” names.

All of this and more creates a systemic bias against people of color in their efforts to find a home. And as long as there is racial bias in who has a home, people of color will be disproportionately harmed by the horrors of homelessness.

To end the systemic racism within homelessness, we must make homelessness a thing of the past, ensuring a safe and secure home for everyone.

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.

South Central Indiana Housing Opportunities: Building Sustainable, Inclusive Communities

South Central Indiana Housing Opportunities (SCIHO) is an independent 501 (c) 3 nonprofit dedicated to expanding housing options for low- and moderate-income households in Bloomington, Monroe County, and surrounding counties in South Central Indiana. Our vision is to build sustainable and inclusive communities that offer diverse housing options for people of all income levels, ages, and abilities.

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

We have several programs to implement our housing mission. These include:

Switchyard Apartments: Construction of our Switchyard Apartments project is scheduled to start this fall, at 1901 S Rogers. When fully built, this will provide 16 one- and two-bedroom apartments at rents affordable for low-income households. The property next to the new Switchyard Park, on land donated by the City of Bloomington under a 99-year lease.

Housing4Hoosiers.org is a new one-stop website with resources on affordable rental housing in Indiana. Renters and landlords can download a free copy of “Renting in Indiana: A Handbook for Tenants and

Landlords.” They will also find a wealth of information on finding and keeping rental housing, tips on leases and security deposits, tenant-landlord rights and responsibilities, fair housing. Plus: a Google map with detailed information over 150 local rental properties in Monroe County.

2018-19 Tenant/Landlord Education Series: Our new education series is to help area tenants, landlords, and property managers to learn more about their rental rights and responsibilities. Participants will receive a certificate of completion. The series is free and open to the public but advance registration is required. Space is limited.

Sign up today! Go to sciho.org or housing4hoosiers.org to register.

• *The Tenant Education Series* will be Thursday, Oct. 18 and Oct. 25 from 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm at the Bloomington Transit Center Meeting Room. Topics covered will include “Life of a Lease,” “Where Does Your Money Go?,” “Fair Housing,” and “What You Need to Know About Eviction.”

• *The Landlord Education Series* will be Thursday, Nov. 8 and Nov. 15 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Council Chambers in the Bloomington City Hall. Topics covered will include “Applications & Tenant Screening,” “Leases and Security Deposits,” “Ending a Tenancy,” and “Maintenance & Energy Efficiency.” There will also be a special training on “Fair Housing Rental Basics.”



Special Section: South Central Community Action (SCAAP) Programs

Amatu's Story

In 2006, Amatu lost her husband, the father of her two young daughters, unexpectedly. He was 33. Her world was shaken. She decided to take the advice of her father who was living in Bloomington, Indiana at the time, and move her family from Chicago to Bloomington. He told her there were trees and flowers and grass for the girls to play. She shared a small apartment for about a month with a friend who was also living here, while trying to save money so that she could afford a place for her and her daughters.

Amatu's primary focus was being able to send her daughters to the best schools in the area. In order to do that, she knew she would need to live in an area that had higher taxes and a higher mortgage. She also knew that the cost of that was well worth being able to give her daughters the best future she could imagine by way of a good education.

In 2008, she was able to buy her first home, and quickly realized she needed to do her research and find out if there



Amatu Karim.

was any help out there. For the first time, she was a single parent and needed to support two kids.

"I was searching everything I could think of online. I found out about CAP programs, and noticed the weatherization program. I decided, what's the hurt? I'll print the form out and try. I came in and the lady at the front desk showed me all the brochures and explained all the programs SCCAP offers. I went ahead and applied for Weatherization and Energy Assistance."

She heard back quickly from Energy Assistance, and she was approved! Thanks to this program, her winter heating and summer cooling bills would be supplemented and that would help her financial situation tremendously.

She soon got a phone call from SCCAP's weatherization program asking if she could come in for an interview. She met with Cherly Ann and discussed her situation, her family, and her job. By the end of the interview, she was informed that she was approved! The next step was setting up a time for the weatherization auditors to come out and perform their many tests to assess the home,

The tests included using a big red blower door to help determine where unsealed leaks and cracks might be that were allowing heat to escape. Once it was decided what needed done, contractors came and added insulation to an attic that didn't have any, made sure the furnace was up to code, and did several other things to ensure the home was as energy efficient as possible.

"I was very grateful for that. Here I was one minute, I had a spouse with two kids, and then the next minute, I didn't, and I was alone. I was trying to move between jobs to accommodate my schedule with the kids being in school, and all that wasn't easy."

I know I'm still benefiting from it, because I still live in the same house. We've lived there for 10 years, and it's 10 years of savings that I can't pay back. At the time I couldn't afford it.

It was unexpected kindness, and it made my life easier, not just for me, but for my kids too. I feel blessed that I'm in the situation where we're able to get help along the way."

These days, Amatu Karim works at Bloomington Housing Authority as a Family

Self-Sufficiency Specialist so that she can help other families find the resources they may need in order to get a hand up.

SCCAP'S Energy Assistance Program is GEARING UP for the 2018-19 season!

The South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) has begun accepting applications for the 2018-2019 Energy Assistance Program (EAP). The program provides assistance with winter heating and the purchase of bulk fuel for clients in Monroe, Brown, Morgan, and Owen counties. The purpose of the 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. Last year, SCCAP assisted over 3,400 households in our four-county region.

Each household applying for EAP will need to submit a fully completed application that includes everyone currently living in the household. Documentation required with each application includes:

- The last 3 months' worth of income for each adult household member,
- Current heating and electricity bills,
- Social Security number verification for each household member,

- A photo ID for the person signing the application.
- If you own your home, we will need proof of ownership, such as a copy of your current property taxes, a current mortgage statement, or a title or deed if you own a mobile home.
- If you rent and your utilities are included in your rent, we will need your landlord to fill out a Landlord Affidavit.

Specific questions about documentation requirements can be answered by staff at any SCCAP office. All necessary forms as well as the application can be obtained from SCCAP in person, by mail or fax, or on the Energy Assistance page of our website at <http://www.insccap.org/pages/energy>.

In addition to application processing, EAP offers energy conservation education and counseling. Participants will receive information on staying warm while reducing utility costs. This education can be administered in a one-on-one session at any of our SCCAP offices, or at our four EAP 2019 kickoff events. These events are being planned for mid-October; interested parties should contact SCCAP for further information.



Kay and Mary will be at the SCCAP office to welcome you!



Thomas is the Energy Assistance Program manager.

First Books at SCCAP

Since 1992, First Book has been providing equal access to quality education for children in need by making sure they are able to have their own books. SCCAP Head Start and Thriving Connections have been the recipient of grants from First Book for several years.

In the last year alone at Thriving Connections, our kids ages 6 months to 17 years old were able to select age appropriate books to take home once a month. Many times, books bought through the First Book grant were the basis for our youth programming at weekly meetings. It is during these times that our youth are delighted to complete adjoining programming with their books. For instance, they are paired with activities to do while at the meeting and also suggested activities are sent home for parents and children to enjoy together. Our students are thrilled to take their books home to share with their families! Parents tell us their kids are always excited to come to a First Book night at Thriving Connections!

First Book online bookstore, the Marketplace, offers hundreds of high quality books on topics that our families are interested in. Thriving Connections has used First books to help teach lessons about friendships, relationships, emotions, and bullying. We have also used our books during science lessons, focusing on animal facts and the periodic table. Children and adults both benefit from books about the history of money, smart ways to use our money, and planning for the future.

These books have enhanced our lessons, making them more memorable and meaningful. First Books has allowed our kids to have an at home library that they are proud to call their own.

Thriving Connections encourages giving back and our kids were proud to make placemats for First Book to be used at the 2017 Breakfast for Books fund raising event!

The partnership of First Book and SCCAP Thriving Connections is very important to all the adults and children involved!

First Books also provides books to the SCCAP Head Start program. Head Start serves children ages 0-5 years old, as well as,

pregnant mothers. Head Start has 22 classrooms around Monroe County and serves a total of 324 children and families.

First Books are given out to children in the Head Start program through a variety of ways. Books are given at parent/family programming throughout the year, at individual Parent Meetings at sites, and individually to classrooms multiple times per year.

Head Start utilizes the books to tie into the program's education curriculum, Creative Curriculum. The program purchases books focused on social and emotional development, building relationships with peers, and early literacy with a focus on STEM. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The program also purchases books focused on specific themes. For example, children who will transition to kindergarten all receive a book about kindergarten. Books related to motherhood and fatherhood are also purchased to help promote and encourage positive parent/child relationships.

Literacy and language are primary areas for development for the Head Start program. Through the use of the books purchased with the First Books grant, the program has seen an increase in children meeting or exceeding expectations in these domains. As the books are sent home with the children, it has increased the family's time spent reading together. Head Start attributes this growth directly to being able to get books into the children's homes.

Head Start children and families are excited to receive books, but primarily excited to get to keep them! Through offering books at various parent and family events, the program has seen an increase in parent participation. Families have often been heard commenting things such as: "Thank you so much for these books, my child love getting to take these home!"

SCCAP Head Start is beyond grateful to Team First Book, the Monroe County chapter of the First Books program; along with all of the donors who make the grants possible. The money and time spent ensuring these children receive new books has been immeasurable and immensely valuable to the children and families in Monroe County!



What is Weatherization?

Lots of people have not heard about weatherization. Unfortunately, they don't know that there is a program that is able to help people save energy, provide them (free of charge) with important home improvements that are worth thousands of dollars, and generally help them feel more comfortable in their living space.

Those who have heard about weatherization but are not sure it is something that makes sense for them should probably forget everything and start over. There are many reasons for this recommendation.

First, the many different things that have been described in the past as weatherization are probably all out of date (same goes for anything that people knew as 'Winterization'). The program that is in place in 2018 is the result of many changes and improvements. All of those changes are designed to better serve the needs of clients and deal with issues in their homes.

Second, Weatherization is worth another look because recent changes in the rules at the federal and state level mean that the program is now open to more people than ever before.

What Weatherization means in 2018

As defined by the Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), Weatherization includes a wide variety of energy efficiency measures and serves families who meet the income guidelines free of charge (homeowners or tenants alike).

The Benefits of a Weatherized Home



ENERGY COSTS SAVINGS



WATER COST SAVINGS



LESS OUT-OF-POCKET HEALTH COSTS



LESS UTILITY BILLS LATE PAYMENTS & FEES

Eligibility is determined by household income. In 2018, income limits by family size are as follows:

1 Person	\$ 24,120
2 Persons	\$ 32,480
3 Persons	\$ 40,840
4 Persons	\$ 49,200
5 Persons	\$ 57,560

Weatherization work is composed of two equally important parts. First, the program is designed to improve the health and safety conditions for the occupants of a home. Second, weatherization aims to increase the energy efficiency of a home (whether it is a mobile home or a site-built house).

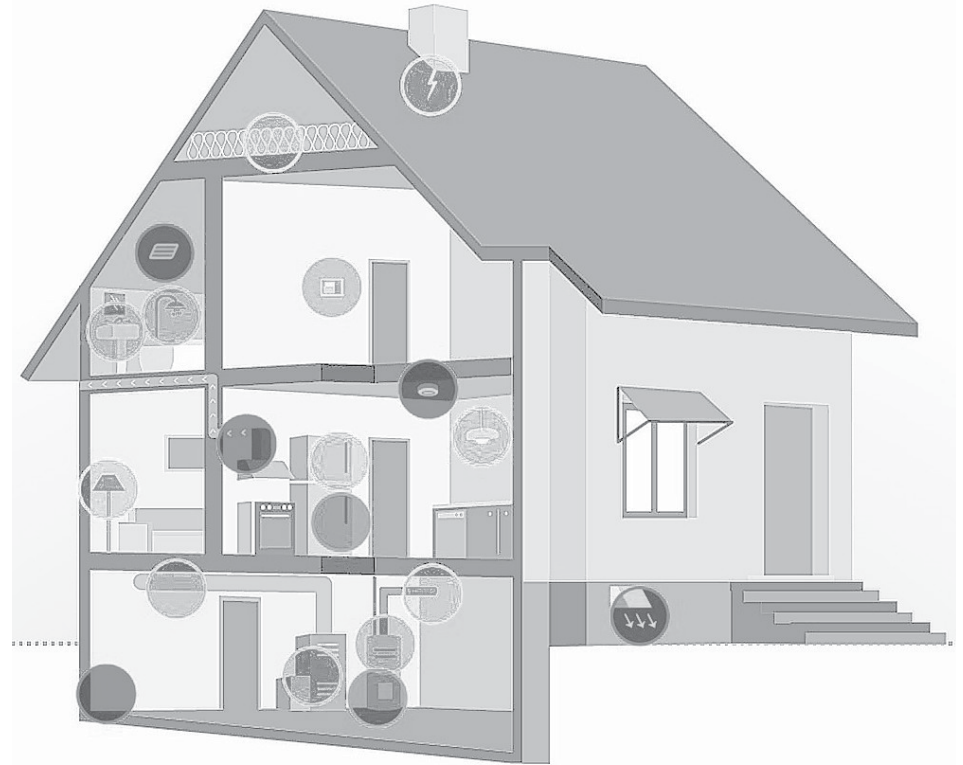
Some examples of health and safety measures are:

- Perform heating system and combustion appliance safety testing.
- Repair/replace vent systems to ensure combustion gases draft outside safely.
- Install mechanical ventilation to ensure adequate indoor air quality.
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Evaluate mold/moisture hazards.
- Lead based paint testing (when applicable).

Examples of energy efficiency measures include:

- Clean, tune, repair, or replace heating systems.
- Install duct and heating pipe insulation.
- Repair leaks in heating/cooling ducts.
- Install programmable thermostats.
- Repair/replace water heaters.
- Insulate water heating pipes.
- Install insulation where needed.
- Perform air sealing.
- Install efficient light sources.
- Install low-flow showerheads.

Because the program is based on a whole house approach, recipients are not able to pick and choose from the measures listed above. Instead, highly trained SCCAP Energy Auditors assess each home and order the work based on the needs of each home. A detailed work order is then given to certified contractors who complete



the project. All work is inspected to ensure quality control.

Why and How to Apply

Although savings will vary by home, and will depend on factors such as the size, type, and age of a home, the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority reports that weatherization program recipients save an average of 20-30% on annual home heating costs across the state (that translates into an

approximate yearly savings of \$450 per home).

Weatherization work will do more than save you money: it will also improve conditions in your home and increase your comfort level.

For applications and more details, call 812-339-3447 or contact your SCCAP county office for further information. You can also visit us on the web (www.sccap.org).



Special Section: The Shalom Writers Circle

The Shalom Writers' Circle meets at the Shalom Center to share stories, and writing. Questions about the group can be directed to Shannon Gayk at sgayk@indiana.edu.

Untitled

~ a poem by Kay Bull

It's been unseasonably warm for some time now
it's cold
tonight it will be
ripe for a poem
unless the rare quiet begins again
to become clattered with chatter
against the hum of grey noise
we must except as ambient
and otherwise call white...

noise:
the impinging affliction of the twentieth century
that hellish glutton, time has brought us
a PCB muck on air waves
to pulverize our natural senses
'cause if'n it don't make dollars
it don't make cents sense
and what the dollar demands
the brilliant but weak-willed obey

humans have some strange idea that they are
imaginative and can think
beyond base instinct
without ever once considering
they might be wrong.
time was when this was more forgivable
grace has run out
we shout but doubt
anyone will hear above the noise

a whisper,
it was once said, could be heard a mile
whales in the ocean beach and die
their natural navigation instincts scrambled
by human noise. Noise
a phenomenon they
man by man
grant each other
the right to abuse.



Soul Breezes

~ a song by Billy Young

Nothing could I do to ever praise our time,
No poem or praise to be ample in the rhyme
Nowhere could we go in the universe of art
To compare to all the beauty you leave here in my heart

Chorus:

But its in the soul breezes, in no vision, only feel
In the soul breezes where the dream becomes the real
Where my soul eases, to the silence of the true
Where nothing else remains, only you.

Nothing could I sing that could ever mean a thing
Nothing may I bring to convey all the idling
No picture could I paint of starry, starry night
To shine into your heart and be half in its forthright.

But its in the soul breezes, in no vision only feel
In the soul breezes, where our dream becomes the real
Where my soul eases, to no end from me to you
As the night sky turns from dark into blue.
In the soul breezes, in the soul, soul breezes
Hope you feel them



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

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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.

Volunteers in Medicine Clinic

Address: 811 West 2nd Street

Phone: (812) 333-4001

Web: www.vimmonroecounty.org

Volunteer Contact: Shelley Sallee

See "DIRECTORY", page 10

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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([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 or 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.steppingstones-inc.org

About: Transitional housing program and supportive service for homeless young people aged 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

cjam@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.

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 congregare meals at the following times and locations: Maple Shades Apts., Ellettsville, 10:30 am; Cambridge Square Apts., Bloomington, 11 am; Spencer

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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://ecomediacenters.org>
greenhthcity@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, congregate meal sites, 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.

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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.bgcblloomington.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

Volunteer Contact: Libby Gwynn ([812]

334-8349; libby@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.

Rhino's Youth Center

Address: 331 S. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 333-3430

Web: www.rhinosyouthcenter.org

Volunteer Contact: Brad Wilhelm ([812] 333-3430; rhinosdirector@ameritech.net)

About: Provides entertainment as well as other programs for the youth of our community in an alcohol, tobacco, and drug free environment. In addition to music and shows, provides programs in partnership with the City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department through the week after school. Several creative and practical classes and workshops, as well as mentoring, tutoring, counseling, and more, are available.

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.