

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

June–August 2014

New Transition Support Center

Transition Support Center

Many people are released from jail with nothing but the clothes they were wearing when they were arrested. They often have lost their homes and jobs, and struggle to access food, medical care and other basic resources. New Leaf–New Life works together with clients to develop and reach their goals and make a successful transition.

Released inmates are welcomed at our Transition Support Center (TSC) located at 1010 S. Walnut St. We are just getting started but we are in the process of establishing the following initial services:

- emotional support
- help in accessing social services

New Leaf–New Life is a non-profit organization whose mission is to reduce recidivism in the Monroe County Jail by offering services to inmates during incarceration and after release. We have worked with inmates in the jail for many years providing programs and services intended to help them prepare to make the changes in their lives needed to live a normal life in the community after release.

We have long known that they also need assistance in transitioning from the jail back into the community, but we have never had the resources to do much in this area. Recently, thanks to the support of the Perry Township Trustee, we have received space at 1010 S. Walnut in which to establish a New Leaf–New Life Transition Support Center to provide support services to those released from incarceration in this area.

- resume building
- job searches
- clothing
- hygiene products
- bus tickets

- computer skills training
- As we gain experience and resources we plan to add additional services. Released inmates are invited to visit us at 1010 S. Walnut St., Suite H, or call Sam at 812-355-6842, or email her at newleaf1010@gmail.com.



Transition Support Center

Who We Are

New Leaf–New Life, Inc. was founded by members of Citizens for Effective Justice in early 2005 to address unmet needs of people caught up in our criminal justice system.

Shortly thereafter, New Leaf–New Life received a grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute to start a residential substance abuse program in the Monroe County Correctional Center.

Today, New Leaf–New Life is a local, volunteer-driven non-profit,

See “NEW LEAF–NEW LIFE”, page 2

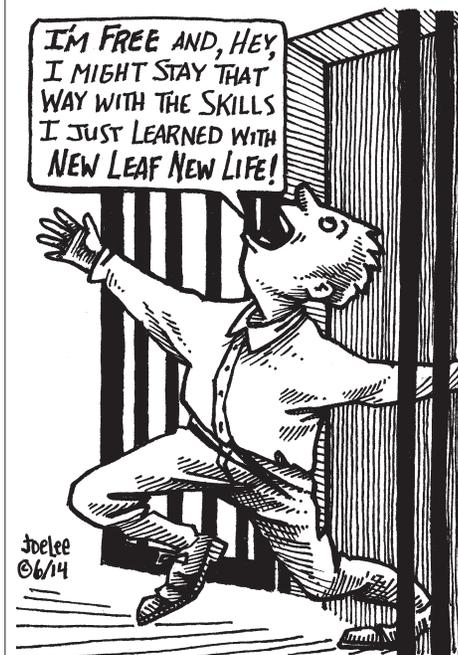
Domestic Violence Never Takes a Vacation

By Emma Selm,
Public Health Intern
Middle Way House

It’s getting on to summer and we are preparing at Middle Way House. Although children may be out of school for the summer and adults may be able to take a break from the workplace, domestic violence does not take a vacation.

In fact, it actually may peak in the months of July and August. Studies show that there is a seasonal pattern to violence with incidence spiking along with the heat. It is not clear what exactly causes this correlation but many researchers claim to have found a link between

See “NO VACATION”, page 2



Joe Lee
06/14

Editorial Cartoon by Joe Lee

Bridges To Somewhere: People Helping People Building Bridges, Not Moats

Safety-Net is a free volunteer-driven community publication that is published once every three months and is sponsored by the South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP). Its mission is two-fold. Part of the mission is to educate community members about programs available that help individuals and families to enrich their lives. And a second part of the mission is to make positive connections between those in our community who have resources, and those who do not. The ultimate goal is to encourage everyone to participate in making Bloomington a special community that links everyone together. A big “thank you” to all of you who encourage the publication of Safety-

Net by contributing articles that make Safety-Net possible. Each issue features the many agencies, as well as City and County programs, that reach out to people and offer much needed community services. At the end of the publication there is an extensive Agency Guide that enables individuals to locate appropriate resources. Comments from readers are most welcome. Please address them to the editor, white@indiana.edu, as well as to the assistant editor, doug@insccap.org. Place Safety-Net on the subject line, and state whether you would like your comments printed in the next issue. Past issues of Safety-Net are available at the Safety-Net website, <http://safety-net-newspaper.com/>.

Three Emergencies... Three Solutions... One Week

By Rev. Forrest Gilmore, Executive Director • Shalom Community Center
620 S. Walnut Street, Bloomington, IN 47401 • (812) 334-5734, ext. 33 • forrest@shalomcommunitycenter.org

In early May, within the course of a week, three of Shalom's homeless clients were faced with significant challenges, which through our support, were overcome.

On Saturday, a guest had a heart attack and emergency triple aortic bypass surgery. Uninsured, the hospital decided he was "healthy" enough to leave just 3 days later. Through enormous efforts by several of our staff and tremendous good fortune, we were able to get him a motel room on his first night of release and then through a severely rushed process into a home at Crawford Apartments.

Late on Wednesday afternoon, a guest received notice that he had a home available to him 2 hours away in another town. If he were able to pull together a security deposit and get to town by 2 pm the next day, he would be able to move in. That morning, we rallied together to find funding for his security deposit, drive him to his new home, and connect him with local resources so he could succeed.

On Thursday, a guest fell and broke his hip. Following surgery, the hospital warned us of his impending release. We rallied together to find a temporary home for him

through the Catholic Worker and arranged for home health care.

And these three events represent just some of the impact we've had on people's lives that week and every week.

Shalom... for all who seek home.

Rev. Forrest Gilmore is the Executive Director of the Shalom Community Center. To donate or volunteer, please visit our website: shalomcommunitycenter.org or contact us at (812) 334-5728, shalom@shalomcommunitycenter.org.

NEW LEAF-NEW LIFE

Continued from page 1

whose mission is to address the overall problem of recidivism by developing a continuum of care with programming covering needs of offenders while in the jail and upon their release.

In-Jail Programs

With the support of the jail administration, New Leaf-New Life operates many enriching programs inside the Monroe County Correctional Center. Volunteers and staff provide:

- NLNL/MCCC Education Classes
- Afternoon classes in Recovery and Problem Solving
- Women's support group facilitated by Middle Way House
- Creative writing
- Women Writing for a Change
- Addicts in Recovery (AIR) dorm
- Transition help including birth certificates, reading glasses, Amethyst applications, FAFSA applications, and more

Contact Us
812-355-6842
newleaf1010@gmail.com
newleafnewlife.org
1010 S. Walnut Suite H
Bloomington, Indiana 47401

- Safe storage for property of people being transferred to the DOC

All together, we interact with approximately three-fourths of the inmates in the jail.

Addicts in Recovery (AIR) Dorm

"Volunteers brought insight and hope, often broadening our knowledge of resources available to us upon release."

The AIR program is a full-time intensive addictions recovery program in a dedicated 12-man jail block. It is based on the Community Model in which the participants live together and work to overcome addictions and develop positive relationships. With oversight by the Program Director, the group is self-governing, setting its schedule, electing senior leaders, and sharing their life experiences, problems, hopes and fears with each other.

Volunteers provide enrichment programs including groups on philosophy, literature, meditation and vocational skills. Participants in the AIR community are also given the opportunity to complete art projects and audio recordings that can be sent to family members.

For more information on jail programs, contact:
Tania Karnofsky
Jail Program Director

(812) 219-1349
newleaf1010@gmail.com

Inside-Out Classes

New Leaf-New Life facilitates IU "Inside-Out" classes held in the Monroe County Correctional Center. With the support of jail administration and staff, in partnership with Indiana University, New Leaf-New Life offers classes that meet in the jail whose students are a combination of IU students and men living in the AIR block. Participants acquire academic skills and gain life-changing experiences. New Leaf-New Life also offers two Think Tanks, one inside the jail and one at the Transition Support Center, which study issues surrounding incarceration and re-entry.

How to Donate

Help make New Leaf-New Life programming possible and reduce recidivism in our community! We accept monetary and in-kind donations.

Please make checks payable to: New Leaf-New Life, Inc.

Mail to:
1010 S. Walnut St. Suite H
Bloomington, Indiana 47401

NO VACATION

Continued from page 1

temperature, related hormonal changes, and aggression. Whether this connection holds true for intimate violence or not, the shelter population certainly swells in the summer, when women who have been making plans to leave an abusive relationship feel freer to do so because their children are out of school.

Although Middle Way House is working to end violence against women year-round, it wants to draw special attention to the summer months. During this time off, please remember those who are unable to escape to a summer vacation due to the hold domestic violence has over them.

About *Safety~Net*

David White
Editor-in-Chief

Doug Wilson
Assistant Editor

Joe Lee
Editorial Cartoonist

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.

Bloomington Community Orchard and Habitat for Humanity Team Up For A “Fruitful” Project

By Meagan Niese, Development Director • Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County
213 E. Kirkwood Avenue, Bloomington, IN 47408 • 812.331.4069 • niese@monroecountyhabitat.org • <http://www.monroecountyhabitat.org>
Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/monroecountyhabitat

Three local families are preparing to move into their newly completed Habitat for Humanity homes this month. For them, it's a last step out of poverty housing and into a more stable life. But they also have something extra to enjoy. Each family has fruiting trees and shrubs on their property too, provided through a pilot project with Bloomington Community Orchard.

On April 19, educators with the Bloomington Community Orchard worked alongside Habitat for Humanity build volunteers and the future Habitat homeowners to plant fruiting trees, shrubs, and berries at the home sites. Bloomington Community Orchard donated the plants and Habitat recruited the work day volunteers. The plantings served as educational demonstrations for the volunteers to replicate at each lot.

The Bloomington Community Orchard educators worked with the Habitat homeowners to pick fruits that they could share and that pollinate across their lawns. The homeowners worked to install the plants and learned how to care for them as they grow.

“Habitat works with families to give them a hand-up so they can be self-sustaining. Affordable housing is critical to that process,” said Meagan Niese, Development Director for Habitat. “This pilot project gives them another hand-up towards self-sufficiency by training them to provide for themselves and their neighbors with fruit they grown.”

“It feels like such a natural connection between new home ownership and planting fruit trees;



Amy Roche, Outreach Leader for Bloomington Community Orchard (in hat) shows a group of Habitat volunteers and Habitat homeowner Craig Shields (right) how to plant a fruit tree in his yard.

both are investments in community security and our children's future. The Outreach Team at the Bloomington Community Orchard is pleased to be able to merge our efforts with Habitat around these shared values,” said Amy Roche, Outreach Chair for BCO.

The project also peaked interest in the Broadview Neighborhood Association for future partnership with Bloomington Community Orchard. “We are in the initial planning stages of working with Broadview's Neighborhood Association on a neighborhood orchard effort. This is a very exciting endeavor that we hope will be followed by other neighborhoods to continue to build our orchard community,” said Sarah Mincey, BCO volunteer.

The organizations hope to find additional ways to partner together so more families can have access to decent, affordable housing and locally grown produce.



About Backstreet Missions, Inc.

By Linda Kelley

Backstreet Missions, Inc. is a not-for-profit 501c3 organization dedicated to helping the homeless and hurting with practical helps and sharing with them the love of Jesus Christ. The Mission is non-denominational and receives no government funding.

The main office, "Upper Room" men's shelter and Geno's Cafeteria "soup kitchen" is located at 215 S. Westplex Ave. off W. 3rd St. The Food Pantry and "Agape House" women's shelter is at 400 Opportunity Lane off W. 3rd St.

In 2013:

- 293 men found shelter and hope at the "Upper Room" (increased from 198 in 2012)
- 30 women and 16 children found safety and peace at "Agape House" (double that of last year)
- 42,236 meals were served (43,568 in 2012) This includes those eating at the "soup kitchen" Geno's Cafeteria, guests at "Upper Room", guests at "Agape House" and weekend meals to a local

low-income apartment complex

- 1,394 individuals received canned food assistance at the Food Pantry (489 households) as compared to 1,194 in 2012 (405 households)
- 400 families received Thanksgiving food baskets
- 200 children received Christmas gifts
- 600 volunteers served at the Mission

There are around 250 homeless individuals on the streets of our city with another 4,000–5,000 in the county that are living with family and friends on a short-term basis.

Many reasons exist for this situation. Some may have been laid off from a job or lack the education to get a job that can sustain them, others for medical reasons, break-up of the family leading to a decrease in the household income, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence or just poor choices they've made. Whatever the reason, they can be experiencing a loss of hope and may feel that no one really cares.

I know our city recognizes the need that exists and many individuals, organizations and churches are striving to help. We can all do our part to let them know that we really do care.

A recent guest at "Agape House" shared her thoughts with us. "The Agape House has been a very important experience in my life.

There are times when people need help and that has recently been my situation. I came across a rough time in my life and needed a place to stay until I got back on my feet. The place is very nice and I had my own private bedroom and bath. I would highly recommend Agape House because the people there really do God's work.

They genuinely care about everyone who comes in for help."

Jessica has now secured housing and is going forward with her goals.

Willy came to us just out of prison where he had been incarcerated from age 16 until 34. He grew up in the slums of one of the larger cities in Florida. The influence of that environment had a negative effect on his thinking. He began getting in trouble at the age of 8 and things began a downward spiral from there. He states that during all this God has reached into his heart and filled him with new hopes, desires and dreams. He just got a good job last week and is thankful that God is answering his prayers.

Ways you can help the Mission:

Collect non-perishable food items.

They may be dropped off at the main office at 215 S. Westplex Ave.

Volunteer at Geno's Cafeteria. Call 812-333-1905

Donate monetarily through our website-backstreet.org or mail to:
Backstreet Missions, Inc.
P.O. Box 3297
Bloomington, IN 47402

Upcoming events:

Silent Auction for "theme baskets" at the Monroe County 4-H Fair July 26-Aug 2 located in the west building

"A Slice of Heaven" pie sale Sat. Sept. 20 on the SE side of the courthouse lawn from 12-3pm

New initiative this year to pay off the Mission mortgages. So far \$26,000 has been raised with a recent Matching Challenge pledge of \$14,000. If you would be interested in helping match this challenge please mark your check "Debtless for the Homeless" and send to our P.O. Box above.



A patron at Geno's Cafeteria

Matthew 25:35, 40 "For I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you took me in, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you cared for me, I was in prison and you visited me". And the King will tell them "I assure you when you did it to the least of these my brothers and sisters you were doing it unto me."

Free Job Search Help at the Library

By Bethany Terry, VITAL Coordinator, Monroe County Public Library

Monroe County Public Library offers free, professional advice on getting a job, through the monthly program “*Job Search @your library*.” People of all ages, skill levels, and educational backgrounds receive assistance through one-on-one consultations with employment professionals. Assistance is available for those who are:

- Looking for a job
- Changing fields
- Have limited work history
- New to the job market
- Nervous about an upcoming interview
- Updating a resume

• And more . . .

Job Search @your library gives job seekers the chance to talk to professionals who have a background in hiring and employment. They are prepared to review resumes, help with interview preparation, and discuss job search techniques. No appointment is necessary, simply drop in.

Job Search @your library began in 2008 in response to the economic crisis. Over the past six years people have received assistance reviewing their resumes, preparing for interviews, learning new computer skills, finding print and online job resources, and identifying new community connections. Here is

what people are saying about *Job Search*: “The program is informative, and the useful tips and friendly environment are also inspiring.” Another patron remarked, “I liked meeting with people who are knowledgeable about preparing a resume, and the places to search for a job, as well as offering me encouragement. I think it is a very important opportunity for people starting to look for a job.”

Karen Franks, Job Search Consultant, shares her thoughts on *Job Search @your library*:

“I have been a *Job Search @your library* coaching volunteer for over two years and it is the most powerful two

hours I spend during any given month. For the most part we see one person one time and then never again and I believe that one contact is all they need. We are a friendly face, offer kind words of encouragement, and a pat on the back. *Job Search* is two hours of time in a safe place that armors them to face the next step in the employment dance. As I wrap up each conference, I remind the participant that we are here every month and they should come back if they need more assistance. We meet people of all ages, all levels of education, and with a variety of work experiences and skills.

“There was one young lady who had a master’s degree from Columbia University. She had excellent, appropriate work experience in public health and was launching a national search for a first job. Her education, work experience, and skill set made her a strong candidate for a number of positions. She was getting short-listed for positions all over the country. She was invited to interviews in person and phone interviews but not able to seal the deal. Month to month we worked on tightening her resume, and advising her how to interview in person, on Skype, or over the phone. Each month she would report that she had another interview. She flew to Seattle, or drove to Chicago. She made the short list quite often, yet received no offer. But with each interview, each cover letter, each position, she circled closer to her goal. Her last visit was to report that she had an offer and was leaving the area and that her *Job Search* experience was what made the difference.”

There are many people who want to work. *Job Search* can help. Join us at Monroe County Public Library on the third Thursday of every month for all our upcoming Job Search events.



People of all ages, skill levels, and educational backgrounds receive assistance through one-on-one consultations with employment professionals at the Library’s Job Search program.

6–8 p.m.

Thursdays:

June 19, July 17, August 21

Monroe County Public Library

Program Room 2B, second floor

The Y: Preventing Disease through Community Building

By Abby Henkel, Digital Media Coordinator, Monroe County YMCA, 2125 S. Highland Ave. Bloomington, IN



*Elena Frederick,
YMCA member,
before starting her fitness
journey several years ago*

When the Monroe County YMCA was founded in 1989, founder Bill Cook made a commitment to addressing cardiovascular health in our community, because he knew what a difference improved health had made in his own life. The Y has remained unwavering in fulfilling this responsibility, serving nearly 1,500 adults last year through our health and wellness classes, and more than 10,000 members.

The Monroe County YMCA is part of a national movement of YMCAs committed to youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. We believe in helping every person reach their full potential and overcome barriers such as chronic disease and obesity.

Diabetes is a leading cause of heart disease, kidney disease, blindness, and stroke, and is responsible for more than 200,000 deaths each year in America. The YMCA's Diabetes Prevention Program helps those at risk for developing Type 2 Diabetes take steps to prevent this disease's development. Through classes on nutrition, physical exercise, motivation, stress management, and more, we help people address the lifestyle factors that lead to Diabetes, and give them the power to change their future.

One of our community's biggest health threats is obesity. This epidemic causes systemic problems, from high healthcare costs and high rates of obesity-related chronic disease to social problems like low self-esteem and isolation. The Y's mission to take care of the whole person, inside and out, compels us to address weight loss from every angle. We have created a supportive community throughout the Y, so participants in our Weight Loss and exercise programs make friends, build a caring network of accountability, and find more reasons to reach for their goals.

Elena Frederick, a Y member

and manager at Kroger, shared this with our staff: "I love the Y because everyone here is family, and for the first time, I have friends since I moved to Bloomington. The Y has been my stress reliever. All the instructors have been very supportive in my weight loss journey. And the most important of all is my Ironman hero Margie Kobow, who has helped tremendously with running, swimming, and biking."

Although adult obesity is a well-documented problem, childhood obesity has become increasingly prevalent. In Indiana, 31 per cent of adults are obese, and nearly 15% of youth are obese. But while adult obesity is still rising, the rate of childhood obesity has largely remained steady. The YMCA's Energize program helps address childhood obesity by bringing nutrition and physical education to classrooms across the county, as well as Fit Trips to the YMCA, where students learn about healthy lifestyles through active play lessons. Each year, approximately 310 local elementary-age students participate in the weekly Energize program. This model has been taught to YMCAs throughout the region, and is being implemented in other Indiana communities.

Programs and classes are open to the whole community, with discounts for YMCA members. For more information, please visit www.MonroeCountyYMCA.org

Upcoming programs and events include:
Summer Camp – through August 1
Summer program session – begins June 9



Elena Frederick completing the 2013 Chicago Marathon

Special Section: Voices Seldom Heard

The following poems are from the
Shalom Writer's Circle (Shalom
Community Center) facilitated
by Prof. Shannon Gayk, Indiana
University

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FRIENDSHIP
David Field

A friend of mine received this and shared it with me, and now I am sharing with you:
"God is an invisible intelligence."

.....

.....

HAPPY AM I
by Reva Duke

Happy am I
Going away
For a long journey
Happy am I

Happy am I
Starting a new
Life happy
Am I.

Starting over
In a new town
Wondering what
It's going to be.

Happy am I,
All I need is Happiness
And peace in
In my life.

So I say goodbye.
Happy am I.

.....

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NEXT TIME
Billy Young

Next time, I will fill my heart
Not my hands,
Next time, I'll already be there
And not have to arrive.
Next time, I will not see myself
But the ones who surround me.
Next time, I won't know the cliff
I'll gaze from the top of the mountain.
Next time, when I dream, I'll fall asleep
In that dream to find a dream for all people.
Next time, I'll shelter and feed my sisters and
brothers
And not myself.
Next time I'll not say words,
I'll sing the songs of ages.
Next time, I'll be love,
Not a substitute.
Next time, I won't strive to be equal,
I'll be the balance.
Next time I'll not be one note,
But will reach for harmony,
Next time we will all count,
And count into infinity.
Next time I won't be last in the order,
I'll be the first to go.
Next time I won't let myself or others
Be slaves to a system we don't condone.
Next time, I won't stop one war,
I'll make sure none of them begin.

Next time, I'll tell Judas what to do
With his kiss.
Next time, I'll know we are picking the same
apple,
Only from another tree.
Next time, I will end all discrimination,
Next time I stop the building of a new golden calf.
Next time I won't stand in the way of myself or
others.
Next time I won't be the cadence of the words
I'll be the crescendo of the pulse and heart of
them.
Next time, I won't look to the outward you,
I'll feel the depths of the inward you.
Next time, I'll not be a stream,
But rather an ocean in motion to drown out all
hate.
Next time, love, hope and peace won't just be
lipped from a platform,
They will live and breathe and soar in every
soul across the world.
Next time, when I speak the words, "It's about
need, not greed,"
I'll have them heard in triple hearing.
Next time I'll say the right words in the right order
In the right time to give love and thanks
to all of my loved ones.
And next time, I won't have to ask you for a next
time.

.....

Community Back to School Backpack Distribution set for July 30, 2014

From:
The Salvation Army of Monroe County
P.O. Box 2117
Bloomington, IN 47404
Office: (812)336-4310 ext. 102
Email: Peter_Iversen@usc.salvationarmy.org

- The Community Back to School backpack distribution day, a partnership of Monroe County Churches and local businesses, will take place on Wednesday July 30, 2014
- This annual event provides new backpacks and school-related items to Monroe County families in need, in an effort to start the school year off right.
- Monroe County families with students grades K-8 in need of school supplies should call to pre-register their children. ***This is a new requirement for the program.*** Call The Salvation Army at 812-336-2771 between 8:00 am and 2:00 pm July 21–July 25, 2014 you will be given a time and registration number needed for pickup.
- Children must be present to receive backpacks and supplies.
- Last year, 546 Monroe County school children received backpacks filled with school supplies and this year's goal is 575.
- New backpacks and school supplies are needed, and all donations can be dropped off at participating churches by Sunday, July 27. *Please see The Salvation Army's website for a list of locations.
- Additionally, volunteers are needed to help collect, sort and distribute supplies from July 27–July 30. Shifts vary and groups are welcome! For more information, please contact The Salvation Army at 812-336-4310.

To learn more about Back to School 2014 and to view a list of needed supplies please visit www.bloomingtonsa.org or call The Salvation Army at 812-336-4310.

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The Salvation Army is a not-for-profit operating in all 50 states,
and in 120 countries worldwide.

Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs
in His name without discrimination.

Take the Time to Make a Difference

Submitted by Bet Savich, Director, City of Bloomington Volunteer Network
www.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer

The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network is the primary source for information about volunteering locally. To search for more opportunities, visit www.BloomingtonVolunteerNetwork.org, call 812-349-3433 or email volunteer@bloomington.in.gov. The inclusion of an organization in this list does not imply City endorsement or support of the organization's activities or policies.

New Hope Family Shelter

Would you like to volunteer for a great cause and gain experience in a human services/social work related field? Join the New Hope Family Shelter team as they work to address the crisis of family homelessness. Dedicated volunteer staff cover a four hour shift each week as a site supervisor, and attend a bi-weekly staff meeting. Because of the level of commitment required, New Hope is selective in choosing volunteers, requiring an interview, training, and a background check. Current volunteer shifts are available on Sat. and Sun. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Heather Perry at (812) 292-0910 or heather@nhfsinc.org. (www.newhopefamilyshelter.org)

*"You have two hands—one for helping yourself,
the other for helping others."*

~Audrey Hepburn

Bike Project

The Bloomington Community Bike Project is a local cooperative that empowers people to live more sustainable lives by emphasizing bicycle maintenance and repair education. The project provides space, tools, and free used parts to those with bicycles in need of repair. They also have bicycle maintenance books for your perusal and a Shop Monitor who can help you diagnose and fix your own bike. Volunteers clean and

organize, assist in identifying needed bike repairs, and repair Bike Project bicycles. Minimum age is 15; 13 if with an adult. Please contact Nick Kojetin at (317) 450-0942 or nkojetin@gmail.com. (www.bloomingtonbikeproject.com)

Community Orchard Work & Learn Days—Saturdays

The Bloomington Community Orchard depends upon the generosity of volunteers! The Orchard will hold workdays from 1–4 p.m. every Saturday from now until September. Each workday will focus on tasks such as weeding, mulching, pruning, and general maintenance of the nearly 100 fruit trees and plants. Workdays are open house style; pre-registration is not necessary. Food and drinks for the day's hard workers are also appreciated. This is a great opportunity to meet new friends and contribute to the growth of your Orchard. Minimum age is 16; no minimum if with an adult. Please contact Lauren Haney at getinvolved@bloomingtoncommunityorchard.org. (www.bloomingtoncommunityorchard.org)

Mobile Meal Drivers

Area 10 Agency on Aging's nutrition program and home delivered meal service is designed to relieve hunger and food insecurity, promote socialization, and address proper nutrition education for more than 350 clients annually. There are several ways to volunteer, but the current need is for substitute drivers to take on a delivery route in a regular driver's absence. Shifts are scheduled Mon.-Fri. during the lunch hour. Volunteers college age or older (high school students are welcome during school breaks) with reliable transportation and a valid driver's license are encouraged to contact Laura Kray at (812) 876-3383 or lkray@area10agency.org. (www.area10agency.org)

Homeless Shelter Volunteers

Volunteers can assist with providing shelter at local churches for people experiencing homelessness during hazardous weather. Volunteer shifts are: 8:15 p.m.–midnight, midnight-3:30 a.m., 3:30–6 a.m., and 6–7 a.m. Responsibilities include setting up the shelter, greeting

See "VOLUNTEER", page 11



*High Schoolers celebrating Global Youth Service Day 2014
by Volunteering in the Middle Way House Rooftop Garden*

Prism Youth Community

By Laura Ingram

prismyouthcommunity@gmail.com • [facebook.com/prismyouthcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/prismyouthcommunity)

Last year, local therapists, Laura Ingram and Jeremy Voyles, were being asked by teenage clients about possible community-based groups for LGBTQ youth. After several inquiries around town, they discovered that no such group existed in the Bloomington area. Surprised and concerned about the lack of these services in our community, they set out to create a supportive and inclusive group for LGBTQ youth. This group, eventually named Prism Youth Community, began meeting on February 11th, 2014. Within 2 months, Prism regularly welcomed students from 9 different area schools and hosted a community-wide event in conjunction with the Day of Silence that was attended by more than 70 people.

Prism Youth Community now holds weekly discussion meetings every Tuesday from 6:30–8:00pm for youth ages 12–20. They recently moved these weekly meetings to the Unitarian Universalist Church (2120 N. Fee Ln.) in order to have more space to accommodate their growing group, which now stands at around 15 youth each week. This summer, they are also adding Thursday night meetings, generally taking place at Rachael's Café (300 E. 3rd St.). These meetings have more of a social feel so the youth can simply "hang out" with their peers in a safe, supportive, and affirming place for LGBTQ and all youth.

Prism is filling a much-needed gap in services for youth in our community. While there are some valuable Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) in area high schools, many teens still feel left without

access to services. Perhaps the most essential need that Prism has been able to fill is the desire of all youth to feel a sense of belonging. When asked about what Prism means to them, one youth stated that "(Prism) has helped me feel like part of a group." Another youth stated that "(Prism) has helped me accept myself and realize that I shouldn't have to hide." Being able to provide a safe place for these youth to feel like they belong is absolutely essential in reducing their risk for depression, self-injury, and suicidal ideation.

In addition to weekly meetings, Prism also throws special events such as their Breaking the Silence Party. This summer, they will be involved in planning events for Bloomington PRIDE's Summerfest (September 5–6) and will host another event in October around National Coming Out Day. Through these activities, Prism aims to pull together community support around LGBTQ youth and, most importantly, help them to see that they are not alone.

Want more information on Prism Youth Community? Email Laura at prismyouthcommunity@gmail.com and follow what they're doing on Facebook at [facebook.com/prismyouthcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/prismyouthcommunity).



Prism youth and leaders enjoying the festivities at Spencer Pride on June 7th.

Some of the youth and leaders from Prism Youth Community taken as part of their 'Selfies for Silence' project in conjunction with the Day of Silence. The Day of Silence is a world wide effort to bring awareness of the bullying that LGBTQ youth face on a daily basis.



VOLUNTEER

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and checking in guests, checking bags, cleaning, and more! Minimum age is 18. Please contact Samantha Harrell at (812) 207-3987 or ubuntushelter@gmail.com. (<http://ubuntushelter.org>)

Start A Child's Day Right this Summer

The Community Kitchen's summer breakfast program for children would love your assistance with preparing and delivering free sack breakfasts to children in low-income neighborhoods in Bloomington. This program runs from May 28 to Aug. 1. No previous experience is needed just a willingness to help. Four volunteers work the prep. shift from 7:30 to 9 a.m., then two volunteers work the delivery shift from 9 a.m. to noon. Delivery volunteers help the driver load the van and hand out breakfasts at each stop on the route. Regular kitchen shifts for the dinner meal, from either 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. or from 3:30–6:30 p.m., are also needed throughout the summer. Minimum age is 11; 10 if accompanied by an adult. Please contact Debbie Hopson at (812) 332-0999 or volunteer@monroecommunitykitchen.com. (www.monroecommunitykitchen.com)

Community Garden at Crawford Apts.

The Crawford Apartments, which provide safe and affordable housing to individuals who have faced challenges such as chronic homelessness, addiction, and disability, is starting a garden! The residents are excited to have the opportunity to work together to have fresh, healthy foods while learning about sustainable living. Volunteer activities include planting, weeding, fertilizing, and watering. Gardening experience is encouraged, but not necessary. Minimum age is 18. Interested? Contact Ayman Ashwaiheen at (317) 459-6410 or aashwaiheen@gmail.com.

Community Members for College Mentors Council

Are you looking for a leadership position? Do you hope to one day be a part of a nonprofit or a board of directors? Then consider joining the Bloomington Community Council benefiting IU College Mentors for Kids. The Council is made up of adult community volunteers who care about kids and believe in the power of mentoring to change lives! Council members advocate for and spread awareness of the College Mentors program in the community; participate in one or two mentoring activities with the college students each year; and help raise funds on behalf of the chapter. This council is not for college students; it's a way for community members to help the children served by the program at Fairview

and Arlington Heights elementary schools, while mentoring their mentors. Minimum age is 21. Please contact Stephanie Kohls at (317) 921-1798 or skohls@collegementors.org. (www.collegementors.org)

The Rooftop at Middle Way House

The Rooftop at Middle Way House is seeking garden and education interns. You can be a part of this highly rewarding urban agriculture project that focuses on container gardening, water collection, vermicomposting, and youth education. They are seeking passionate, forward-thinking people interested in both learning how to garden in non-traditional spaces and inspiring the community to engage with their local food system. Garden experience is not required, but the desire to learn is necessary. These unpaid positions are 5–10 hours per week. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Andrea Jobe at (812) 337-4510 or garden@middlewayhouse.org. (www.middlewayhouse.org)

Circles Initiative Childcare

Able to volunteer a bit this summer? Volunteers are needed from 6-8 p.m. on Thurs. nights to provide childcare for the families involved in the Circles Initiative of the South Central Community Action Program, held at St. Marks United Methodist Church. Your volunteer experience will contain lots of friendly interaction, a free home-cooked dinner, and a free Bridges Out of Poverty training. The Circles Initiative is a strategy to build relationships across race and class lines and aid vulnerable families in achieving self-sufficiency - and to ultimately end poverty in Monroe County. Limited criminal history checks are required. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Linda Patton at (812) 339-3447 ext. 206 or lindap@insccap.org. (www.insccap.org)

Open Garden Hours for Food Bank at Will Detmer Park

The Hoosier Hills Food Bank garden program increases the quantity and quality of food provided to food pantries and soup kitchens. The Food Bank is recruiting gardening volunteers for the Will Detmer Park garden on Vernal Pike. Both novices and experienced organic gardeners are welcome. Volunteer hours are 9-11 a.m. on Mon. and Thurs. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Wed. Individuals or groups are encouraged to participate. Groups can set up special hours. Minimum age is 14; 12 if with an adult. Email Katie at volunteer@hhfoodbank.org to sign up or contact Emily at garden@hhfoodbank.org or 812-334-8374 for details. (www.hhfoodbank.org)

Hoosier to Hoosier Initiative (now through Aug. 24)

All hands are needed to sort, move and organize donated items for the August H2H sale! Hoosier to

Hoosier is looking for volunteers to sort donations as well as help with donation pick-ups all summer. Strong backs are welcome for the latter position! Upcoming volunteer days are: June 12, 27, 28; July 14, 21, 25; Aug. 23, 24. Minimum age is 16. Sign up for a shift at <http://bit.ly/H2HVolunteer2014> or contact Jacqueline Bauer at (812) 349-3837 or h2h@indiana.edu with questions or if there is another way you would like to be involved. (www.indiana.edu/~sustain)

Share Your Cooking Skills

Stepping Stones hosts a once-weekly required group meeting with all of their residents and staff and start the meeting off with a meal for the whole group prepared by a resident paired with a volunteer. The volunteer coordinates the meal with the resident in advance, purchasing food on the Stepping Stones account. These meetings are held every Tues. evening, with the meal ready by 6 p.m. Minimum age is 21. Please contact Alysia Fornal at (812) 339-9771 or afornal@steppingstones-inc.org. (www.steppingstones-inc.org)

Head Start Classrooms and Office

Head Start, a program of South Central Community Action Program, is seeking both classroom and office volunteers this summer. The office is open from 7 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Mon. through Fri. You can volunteer for only an hour, or for as many hours as you would like! There are 11 classrooms this summer, including five Early Head Start classrooms with infants and toddlers. In the classroom, volunteers typically read to children, play with them, do art projects, help the teachers hang displays, and clean up. Minimum age is 17. Please contact Anna Donley at (812) 339-3447 ext. 216 or annad@insccap.org. (www.insccap.org)

Middle Way House Volunteer Training—June 21

Middle Way House trains new volunteers to maintain the level of service they provide to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Both women and men are strongly encouraged to attend the next training, held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 21 in Monroe County Public Library Room 1B. Volunteer opportunities exist in many program areas including crisis line, child care, tutoring, legal advocacy, community reception, and youth mentoring. Training is a prerequisite to volunteer, but is also appropriate for those interested in learning more about the dynamics of gender and domestic violence. Minimum age is 16; 14 if with an adult. Pre-registration is not necessary, but you can complete the volunteer application on their website and bring it with you. Please contact Debra Morrow at (812) 337-4510 or volunteer@middlewayhouse.org. (www.middlewayhouse.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 offers free, individualized instruction and guidance to teen and adult learners who need to get their GED diploma, want to improve basic job and literacy skills or learn new ones, are trying to learn English as a Second Language, or who aspire to create better opportunities for themselves and their families. There are also low-cost beginning computer classes for people age 55 and over. Classes start again August 16. Orientation for new students is Monday August 22; check for times. Located on Coolidge between Rogers St. & Rockport Rd., on the #2 South BT 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.

Address: 404 W. 2nd St.

Web: www.sisterscloset.org

Volunteer Contact: Laura Robinson, (812) 333-7710; info@sisterscloset.org

About: Provides low-income women with free interview and workplace apparel, helping them overcome hurdles they face to independence and family self-sufficiency. Also sells used, affordable clothes to the public.

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, furniture, appliances, household items, hygiene items, rent/mortgage assistance, utility assistance, medical assistance, disaster relief, summer child care, after school programs, summer residential camps, adult programs, child care connection, nursing home visitation, bus tickets, a place of worship, and a thrift store. All services are without charge with the exception of Child Care Connection and 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

Abilities Unlimited

Address: 2620 N. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 332-1620

Web: <http://auids.org/>

Volunteer Contact: Lynne Argent ([812]332-1620; au@auids.org)

About: Supplies free services to citizens with disabilities, including the elderly. Services include the temporary loan of durable medical equipment after an accident or illness, such as a wheelchair, walker, bath seat. Individuals who do not have insurance can borrow equipment for as long as they need it. Other services include the supply of Home Modifications for Accessible Living to low income City of Bloomington residents. This includes installation of wheelchair ramps, safety railings, and bathroom renovations. Also offers camp scholarships to young people with disabilities.

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

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agencies, Cristole and Options, who have provided leading-edge programs for over three decades.

People & Animal Learning Services (PALS)

Address: 680 W. That Rd.

Phone: (812) 336-2798

Web: www.palstherapy.org

Volunteer Contact: Jan Gavin ([812]325-7863; jbgavin@indiana.edu)

About: Provides Equine Assisted Activities (EAA) such as therapeutic riding and hippotherapy to children and adults with disabilities and to at-risk youth from South Central Indiana. PALS is a NARHA Premier Accredited Center (www.narha.org) and a 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.

Employment resources and job counseling

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.

Job Links

About: An Area 10 Agency on Aging RSVP program that helps people evaluate job needs, inventory skills, review available jobs, develop a resume, prepare for an interview, and link with potential employers. Services are free, confidential, and non-discriminatory for job-seekers of all ages. Job Links counselors are available at Shalom Center (334-5728), and Area 10 Agency on Aging (876-3383).

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.

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: 338 S. Walnut 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.

Hoosier Healthwise for Children

Address: 401 Morton St., Suite 260 (City Hall)

Phone: (812) 349-3851

Web: www.hoosierhealthwise.net

About: A state sponsored health insurance program for children, pregnant women, and low-income families. Applicants must meet eligibility criteria. Free or low cost, depending upon income.

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 ([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

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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.

Backstreet Missions

Address: 215 Westplex Ave.

Phone: (812) 333-1905

Web: www.backstreet.org

About: A men's shelter with services including a crisis and 12 month housing program, meals, the provision of clothing, ministry to spiritual needs, job and life skill training, GED classes, and employment and volunteer opportunities.

Martha's House

Address: 1010 S. Walnut St. (office) 919 S. Rogers (Shelter)

Phone: (812) 335-6841 (812) 332-1444 (office)

About: An emergency shelter with 28 beds for homeless men and women. Services provided include case management, food, and clothing. Opens at 4:30 p.m.

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.

South Central Community Action Program, Inc.

Address: 1500 W. 15th St.

Phone: (812) 339-3447

Web: http://www.sccap.monroe.in.us/

Volunteer Contact: Beth Pankoski ([812]339-3447 x233; beth@sccap.monroe.in.us)

About: State and federal anti-poverty programs for low income individuals and families. Weatherization Assistance, Energy Assistance, Owner Occupied Rehabilitation, Section 8 rent subsidy program.

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 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: 120 W. 7th St., Ste. 310

Phone: (812) 339-1551

Web: www.bloomington.in.us/~mediate

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 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

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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.

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.

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.mhcfodpantry.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: Mon, Wed, Fri 9-11:30 and Tues, Thurs 1-3:30 pm.

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, 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.

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.bigbrothersbig.org

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DIRECTORY

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Volunteer Contact: Alexandra Hall, Alex@bigcindiana.org, 812-334-2828, ext. 226.
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

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.

Monroe County Wrap-Around

Address: 645 S. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 337-2225

About: Monroe County Wrap-Around is a multi-agency committee that provides needed services to families with children. For example, a case is brought to a particular agency, then a representative from that agency can present the case to Wrap-Around and all participating Wrap-Around agencies can play a role in coordinating help to the family in the most effective way. The planning process is done with the families "in the driver's seat". Each family identifies a "team" that works with them, and the team develops a plan based upon the strengths and needs of the specific family. Representatives from families also serve on committees that examine the policies and goals of Wrap-Around. This summer, the Lost Child Fund, which operates within Wrap-Around, is accepting funds to send children of working single parents to camp.

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.