

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–
November 2014

The Latino Programs and Outreach Division gets ready for National Hispanic Heritage Month

By Araceli Gómez-Aldana • Latino Outreach Coordinator, City of Bloomington • 401 N. Morton St. • (812) 349-3860 • gomez@bloomington.in.gov

The City of Bloomington is a growing community with a great mix of individuals. Whether you are new to town or a life long resident, everyone should feel welcome here. Growth brings diversity, and I am happy to say the City of Bloomington, especially the Community and Family Resources Department, strives for the inclusion of all members of our community and dedicates time to improving the quality of life in Bloomington.

Recently there have been a few changes in our Community and Family Resources Department. Araceli Gómez-Aldana is now the coordinator of the Latino Programs and Outreach Division. Araceli is originally from Whiting, Indiana, and is a graduate of Indiana University. She graduated in 2013 with a Bachelor of

See "HERITAGE MONTH", page 2

La División de Programas y Alcance Latino se prepara para el Mes de la Hispanidad

Por Araceli Gómez-Aldana • Latino Outreach Coordinator, City of Bloomington • 401 N. Morton St. • (812) 349-3860 • gomez@bloomington.in.gov

La ciudad de Bloomington es una comunidad de crecimiento y con una gran mezcla de personas. Si usted es nuevo la ciudad o un residente permanente, todo el mundo debe sentirse bienvenido aquí. El crecimiento crea la diversidad, y estoy feliz de decir que la ciudad de Bloomington, en especial de la Comunidad y el Departamento de Recursos Familiares, se esfuerza por lograr la inclusión de todos los miembros de nuestra comunidad y dedica su tiempo a mejorar la calidad de vida en Bloomington.

Recientemente ha habido algunos cambios en nuestra El Departamento de la Comunidad y Recursos Familiares. Araceli Gómez-Aldana es ahora el coordinador de la División de Programas y Alcance Latino. Araceli es de

Ver "MES DE LA HISPANIDAD", página 2

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Middle Way House, Inc.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month so, as a community, let us raise our voices against domestic violence. By creating awareness we can help stop the abuse and we can help adults and children who are victims of domestic violence secure the services they need to flee the violence.

When we are silent, domestic violence thrives; but together as a community we can work to end domestic violence. Domestic violence is a pervasive and life-threatening crime that affects millions of individuals across the nation regardless of age, economic status, race, religion or education. Therefore it is important to recognize domestic violence as a problem in our own community.

Throughout the month of October, help Middle Way House to raise awareness about domestic violence and join in our efforts to end violence. Here is what you can do:

Wear purple—the color of Domestic Violence Awareness Month—throughout the month and use this as a way to tell others why ending domestic violence is important to you. Educate yourself about the pervasiveness of domestic violence by visiting www.middlewayhouse.org. Talk about it. Contact Middle Way House about inviting one of our representatives to speak about domestic violence at your school, religious organization,

See "AWARENESS", page 2

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/>.

The Bloomington Catholic Worker: The Basics

By Laura Lasuertmer,
Community Member

In a nutshell, the Bloomington Catholic Worker (BCW) is an intentional Christian community whose shared, voluntary work is to provide shelter to people experiencing homelessness. The community, made up of three families and two single adults, owns and lives in three houses on Blair Avenue. We share these houses with up to eight single adults who would otherwise be homeless.

The BCW follows the model of Christian hospitality demonstrated by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin, who started the first Catholic Worker House of Hospitality in New York City in 1933. We are an ecumenical Christian community committed to taking personal responsibility for the wellbeing of people around us who are marginalized and impoverished. While our intentional

See "BCW", page 2



Editorial Cartoon by Joe Lee

HERITAGE MONTH

Continued from page 1

Arts in Journalism and has a background in broadcast journalism and public relations. She joined the Community and Family Resources Department in late June and has been working hard to get to know the community.

All through July, Araceli organized a weekly news workshop for the Spanish radio talk show HOLA Bloomington.

HOLA Bloomington is a project of the City of Bloomington and WFHB Community Radio designed to bring access to news, entertainment and public opinion to the Spanish speaking members of our community. During the news workshop, Araceli worked with volunteers to create a new format for the show. The first live show premiered on August 8th and received great reviews. HOLA Bloomington airs every Friday at 6 p.m. on 91.3 FM WFHB.

Currently, the Latino Programs and

Outreach Division is working on the 9th Annual Fiesta del Otoño. This year the Latino Programs and Outreach Division is collaborating with Indiana University's Latino Enhancement Cooperative to sponsor Fiesta del Otoño and celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month. Fiesta del Otoño will take place at Showers Plaza during the Bloomington Community Farmer's Market on September 20. The celebration will include entertainment, dance lessons and food demonstrations.

On September 15, I will present a

proclamation during the National Hispanic Heritage Month Ceremony at The Mathers Museum of World Cultures. During the ceremony, which will begin at 4:30 p.m., awards will be presented by the City's Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs. This is always a fun, festive event, and everyone is welcome to attend. During National Hispanic Heritage Month I encourage everyone to attend the many scheduled local events and explore the diverse and exciting cultures Bloomington has to offer.

MES DE LA HISPANIDAD

Viene de la página 1

Whiting, Indiana, y se graduó de la Universidad de Indiana. Se graduó en 2013 con una Licenciatura en Periodismo, su formación es en el periodismo de radio y televisión y las relaciones públicas. Ella se unió al Departamento de la Comunidad y Recursos Familiares a fines de junio y ha estado trabajando duro para llegar a conocer a la comunidad.

A lo largo de julio, Araceli organizó un taller de noticias semanal para el programa de radio en español HOLA Bloomington. HOLA Bloomington es un proyecto de la Ciudad de Bloomington y WFHB Radio Comunitario diseñado para llevar el acceso de las noticias, el entretenimiento y la opinión pública a los miembros de habla hispana de nuestra comunidad. Durante el taller de prensa, Araceli trabajó con los voluntarios para crear un nuevo formato para el programa. El primer programa en vivo se estrenó el 8 de agosto y recibió muy buenas críticas. HOLA Bloomington se transmite todos los viernes a las 6 p.m. en 91.3 FM WFHB.

Actualmente, la División de Programas y Alcance Latino está trabajando en la novena anual Fiesta del Otoño. Este año la División de Programas y Alcance Latino está colaborando con Latino Enhancement Cooperative de la Universidad de Indiana para patrocinar Fiesta del Otoño y celebrar el Mes de la Hispanidad. Fiesta del Otoño se llevará a cabo en Showers Plaza durante el Mercado del Agricultor de Bloomington el 20 de septiembre. La celebración incluirá entretenimiento, clases de baile y demostraciones de alimentos.

El 15 de septiembre, voy a presentar una proclamación durante la ceremonia del Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana en el Museo Mathers de las Culturas del Mundo. Durante la ceremonia, que comenzará a las 4:30 p.m., los premios serán presentados por la Comisión de Asuntos Hispanos y Latinos de la Ciudad. Este es siempre un evento divertido y festivo, y todo el mundo es bienvenido a asistir. Durante el Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana animo a todos a asistir a los numerosos eventos locales y explorar las culturas diversas y emocionantes que Bloomington tiene para ofrecer.

AWARENESS

Continued from page 1

club, etc. And if you hear it, call the police!

Become a volunteer at Middle Way House! We are currently looking to grow our volunteer base and have openings in two exciting advocacy programs for caring volunteers who want to make a direct impact in peoples' lives:

Our crisis line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Crisis line volunteers offer resources and

a supportive ear, help callers create safety plans, and conduct intake interviews with new emergency shelter residents. To work the crisis line you must be a woman and at least 18. Your time commitment can be as little as three hours a week.

Our On-Scene-Advocate (OSA) program offers support, information, and resources to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault 24 hours a day, 7 days a week face-to-face at the hospital and over the phone so that survivors can make informed decisions. OSA volunteers take on-call shifts during the night or on weekends. OSAs must be 18 years or older and

have worked on MWH's crisis line for two months (or have previous direct experience working with crisis/trauma survivors), and have transportation or live within walking distance of IU Bloomington Hospital.

Upcoming volunteer trainings are scheduled for the 6th and 20th of September and the 6th of December. Training sessions will be held at Woodburn Hall, room 100 on the IU campus from 9:00 am-5:00 pm. For additional information, please call 812-337-4510, and ask for Debra.

Let's work together to end violence in our community!

BCW

Continued from page 1

community has a shared religious life, we do not proselytize nor expect our guests to participate in our religious activities. We welcome people of all religious and non-religious beliefs, and we do not discriminate based on gender, race or sexual orientation.

We hold interviews with potential guests on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30-5:30 pm. Anyone in need of shelter can call us to find out if we have beds available. If we have an open bed, we will happily schedule an interview.

Our main goal in an interview is to assess whether someone is honest and able to communicate well. We ask each potential guest to tell us about the following: their mental health, physical health, criminal record, history of drug and alcohol use, and ability to live with children. Because children live in each house, we cannot take anyone who has an untreated, ongoing addiction or an untreated, active mental illness. Our primary concern is that our houses are safe, sober environments for guests and community members alike.

A guest may stay at the BCW for up to a year. We

See "BCW", page 7

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.

Families Behind Bars at New Leaf–New Life

By Samantha Harrel, Office Manager, New Leaf–New Life
(812) 355-6842 • newleaf1010@gmail.com • 1010 S. Walnut St. Suite H

New Leaf–New Life is excited to begin hosting a support group for families who have loved ones who are incarcerated. This peer-led group will be a safe space for individuals to discuss issues concerning incarceration and the experience of being separated from loved ones. New Leaf–New Life will provide

dinner and childcare during the meetings, as well as bus ticket reimbursements (two tickets to compensate for travel to and from the meeting). A social worker will be on-hand in case anyone has questions about community resources. All community members living with a loved one behind bars are encouraged

to attend. To find out when the next meeting will be held, call (812) 355-6842 or email newleaf1010@gmail.com.

All meetings are held at our 1010 S. Walnut St. Suite H location, next to the Perry Township Trustee, in the old Mother Hubbard's Cupboard space.

Below are some helpful tips for talking to children about a caretaker's incarceration, taken from Sesame Street's Little Kids: Big Challenges resource kit.

You will always be a parent. Even though you are incarcerated, you can still play an important role in your child's life. Try these actions to assure your child that you still care about her and will always be her parent.

Answering difficult questions

Your child may have trouble understanding why you're gone. There are ways you can answer his questions truthfully and in ways that he can understand.

- **Where are you?**

"I'm in a place called prison [jail]. Grown-ups go to prison [jail] when they break a rule called a law. I'm not here because of anything you did. This is not your fault."

- **When will you be home?**

"I won't be home for a while. I'm waiting for more information and will let you know when I find out. I'd rather be home with you but know that wherever I am, I'm thinking about you."

- **Will I get to see you?**

If your child can visit: "You can visit me in prison once in a while. Your caregiver will let you know when. Between visits we can write letters and talk on the phone."

If your child cannot visit: "We may not be able to see each other often, but I want you to know that I'm always thinking of you."

Connecting through visits

Seeing you can assure your child that you are okay. Here are some things you can do:

- **Help your child feel comfortable**

Your child may feel nervous at first. Let her know you are happy to see her. Continue any rituals or customs you have together such as singing a song. Ask her questions about herself, such as: "What do you do with friends? What have you learned in school?"

- **Make the most of your time together**

Take turns describing something you see and asking her to guess it; making funny faces; or discussing favorite colors, music, or sports teams.

- **Make good-bye easier**

Saying good-bye is hard. Come up with a special phrase you both can say at bedtime or something you will both do at the same time each day even though you are apart.

- **Good communication is one way to help support your child**

Build a positive relationship with her caregiver so she experiences support and love from you both.

Talk to your child's caregiver about visits, letters, and phone calls.

NEW LEAF– NEW LIFE YARD SALE

8:00 am–
5:00 pm

Saturday,
September
27th

1010 S. Walnut
Street Parking
Lot

Children's
toys,
cookware,
household
goods,
tanning bed,
antiques,
clothes,
books, etc.

25% percent of
proceeds go to
New Leaf–New Life.

Community Think Tanks: Practicing Citizenship with Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Community Members

By Lindsey Badger, Board Member for New Leaf- New Life

Over the last year and a half I have facilitated three Indiana University courses in the jail, bringing together students from the university and the jail to learn together as peers. Classes emphasize practices of citizenship-training students in public speaking and deliberative practices for public meetings. Students, inside and out, develop useful skills for engaging as citizens, and have also developed ongoing investment in many of the issues they have taken on in the class. These university courses have served as a bridge into community participation. Two group-initiated think tanks have emerged from these classes, and are now sustained in partnership with the non-profit New Leaf–New Life.

Before the inside and outside students organized together, IU students and incarcerated individuals admitted that they both understood themselves as outside of local politics and distanced from decision makers—even when critical decisions directly affected them. Work in the think tanks has been a practice of building shared entry into the community for individuals who have felt outside of it. In addition to this, IU students and incarcerated individuals suggested that there was not only an identifiable distance between themselves and what they identified as “the community,” but also profound barriers between IU students and individuals who are incarcerated locally. Because of this, a primary goal of the classes and think tanks has been to address barriers in

perceptions as well as practical barriers faced by individuals in our community such as a lack of housing or job. Below I will detail some of the core features and current projects of the two Bloomington Think Tanks.

The Monroe County Jail Speech and Advocacy Think Tank has been running for over a year. It meets twice a month, on the second and

fourth Thursday at 7:30 pm. Participants from outside the jail must be placed on the jail approved volunteer list before entry. The current project has been to research models and prepare a proposal for a Community Transition House that will provide addictions support that is rehabilitative, while encouraging participant self-sufficiency and community participation. Participants are working to build a model that will be cost effective and provide holistic support, addressing concerns that are interwoven with identified criminal behaviors.

Currently, subcommittees are working to build a proposal for the following:

Requirements: Eligibility, pre-requisites, self-management structure

Infrastructure: House, Van, Bikes, Utilities, Food, Employment partners

Support: Addiction, mental health, rehabilitative treatment, medical access, education, mentorship.

The Re-entry Collective, a second think tank hosted outside the jail, absorbs individuals from the “inside” Think Tank as they are released. It meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 730 pm in the New Leaf–New Life office (1010 S. Walnut). The Re-entry Collective provides consistency of programming and community at re-

entry and sustains practices of citizenship and advocacy for re-entry solutions in Bloomington. The current project for the Think Tank has been a Multi-tiered Employment Campaign

Currently, subcommittees are working on the following projects:

1) Community Outreach to temp agencies and large companies: providing information about federal bonding and other benefits of hiring individuals with records

2) A Day-Labor Clearing House to establish infrastructure to link current New Leaf–New Life clients with interested work partners.

3) Building Better Businesses proposal for a housing restoration and rental business that could build capital for programming while also meeting multiple needs of our clients (employment, housing). Participants are building a preliminary proposal, and are arranging to work with advanced Kelley School of Business students in the Spring.

“When I discussed homelessness with another participant I thought I knew where to place the blame—in my mind, the evil stemmed solely from government corruption. My peer, though, who had first-hand experience with the issue, explained to me that the causes of homelessness are highly specific to an individual person, and thus are not as simply mended as I would have liked them to be. This and many other conversations have built in me a clearer understanding of what it means to be an effective citizen: a person unwilling to simplify a societal illness for the sake of convenience. The public we have formed in the Monroe County Jail, I believe we have demonstrated, is made up of individuals who strive toward realizing a better definition of effective citizen.”

—Korinne, IU Student and Think Tank member.

“The importance of community is underplayed. It’s interesting, and a bit ironic, that I had to be confined and consequently excluded from the community when I became an inmate in the Monroe County Jail before I realized and appreciated the value of community. It’s certainly not something that is inherent in our societal psyche. I became acquainted with the value of community during an Inside-Out Public Speaking class and the connected New Leaf–New Life program.

This class took college students from IU and placed them in a classroom setting with a dozen inmates of assorted offenses. In what I expected to be a socially tense “bubble,” I saw a shift as these two diverse groups grew into a community. We developed credibility and rapport as we learned with and from each other. I, as an inmate, see passion and empathy from students when they speak of critical issues affecting all incarcerated individuals. I see my fellow inmates expressing themselves intellectually to brainstorm solutions to the issues we discuss as a community. I feel the Inside-Out class has developed within me a feeling of goodwill toward my community. I finally feel like I’m a part of something bigger.”

—Michael Luper, Incarcerated Think Tank member

See Results! Take the Time to Make a Difference in Someone's Life

Submitted by Bet Savich, Director, City of Bloomington Volunteer Network
www.BloomingtonVolunteerNetwork.org

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.

Bloomington Meals on Wheels Driver

If you enjoy driving and like helping those in need, consider becoming a *Meals on Wheels* volunteer driver. Drivers deliver meals to homebound people who are recovering from an accident or illness, have a temporary or permanent disability, or are unable to prepare food independently. Volunteers are asked for a year-long, once-a-month commitment and use their own vehicles. Each volunteer delivers to about 12 clients, at lunch time, with routes taking 60-75 minutes. Minimum age is 21; no minimum if with an adult. Please contact Kathy Romy at mow@bloomingtonhospital.org or (812) 353-2248. (www.bloomingtonmealsonwheels.org)

Bloomington Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

If you enjoy making an older person's day brighter, consider volunteering once in a while at the *Bloomington Nursing and Rehabilitation Center* on Miller Drive. They are seeking volunteers to assist the Activity Department with one-on-one

"A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination."

~Nelson Mandela

activity sessions, as well as fun group activities. They would also appreciate volunteer assistance with the garden and grounds, experienced painters, and general volunteers. Contact them to find out the best fit for you! Minimum age is 16; 13 if with an adult. Please contact Tessa Tipton at (812) 336-1055 or bloomington.socserv@imgcares.com. (www.bloomingtonnursingandrehab.com)

Literacy Tutoring

Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners (VITAL) is offering a three-session class called Basic Literacy Tutor Training in September. This training provides tutors with the skills and resources needed to help struggling adult readers. Literacy Tutors provide adults with instruction in basic to intermediate reading, writing, and math, along with other related skills. Volunteers are expected to attend all sessions. After this free training, volunteers are matched with adult learners and asked to commit 2-3 hours per week. The VITAL office is located on the second floor of the Monroe County Public Library. Minimum age is 18. Please register prior to the first session by contacting Jackie Lovings at (812) 349-3173 or jlodings@mcpl.info. (www.mcpl.info)

School Bigs Program

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana has kids waiting but not enough Bigs! A School Big is a volunteer who spends time mentoring a middle or elementary school student. School matches enjoy card games, reading, shooting baskets, journal writing or just

sharing a laugh. These simple activities and the friendships that develop make coming to school fun and rewarding for both the Little and the Big. School matches meet during the school day on school grounds only. Minimum commitment is one year. An interview and training are required; a car is strongly recommended. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Deborah Meader at (812) 334-2828 ext. 231 or schoolbigs@bigsindiana.org. (www.bigsindiana.org)

Repack Assistants

As part of the Meal Share Program of the *Hoosier Hills Food Bank*, small groups and individuals repackage prepared foods that were donated by local restaurants, catering companies and cafeterias. This food was held at the proper temperature prior to donation and was never served on a plate. 'Repack' occurs Mon., Wed., and Fri. from 5:30-7 p.m. Sign up your group for a once-a-month commitment or go just once! Minimal training will occur at arrival. Due to health and safety issues, volunteers over 12 years of age are welcomed. Please contact Katie Haddad at (812) 334-8374 or volunteer@hhfoodbank.org. (www.hhfoodbank.org)

Girls Inc. After-School Program

After-school is awesome at *Girls Inc!* Located on West 8th Street, Girls Inc. is looking for fun, energetic volunteers to assist after school between 3-6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Volunteers will be placed in specific structured programs, so sign up early if you would like to work with a specific program. Programs vary each semester and also include homework help with opportunities to tutor and read with girls and help with general supervision. All volunteers must attend an orientation that typically lasts about an hour and a half. Volunteers must submit to a criminal history background check before starting service. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Daisy Chew at (812) 336-7313 or dchew@monroe.girls-inc.org. (www.girlsinc-monroe.org)

New Leaf-New Life Job Coaches

New Leaf-New Life, which is now located at 1010 S. Walnut Street, is a nonprofit organization that offers services to inmates in the Monroe County Jail during incarceration and



VITAL Volunteers in Action

See "VOLUNTEER", page 6

VOLUNTEER

Continued from page 5

after release. Applying the philosophy of therapeutic justice, they encourage personal growth and self-advocacy, helping inmates make a successful transition back into the community and family life. They are currently seeking job coaches to help men and women leaving jail and prison with developing interview skills and resumes, searching for jobs and applying for jobs online. Minimum age is 18; 16 if with an adult. Please contact Sam Harrell at (812) 355-6842 or newleaf1010@gmail.com. (www.newleafnewlife.org)

Receptionist, Child Care, and Material Support

Crisis Pregnancy Center is seeking volunteers to greet clients and answer phones, care for children while their parents participate in on-site programming, and help parents who are shopping in their 'Baby Bucks store'. Crisis Pregnancy Center is a Christian social service agency which supports the belief that parenting or adoption are the only positive outcomes for any pregnancy. Minimum age is 16; 12 if with an adult. Please contact Erin Moore at (812) 334-0104 or erin@cpcbloomington.org. (www.cpcbloomington.org)



Volunteers for New Hope Family Shelter

Hospitality Volunteers

Hospitality volunteers make the everyday operations of the **Shalom Community Center** run smoothly, as they greet visitors, answer the phone and take messages. Volunteers also distribute mail, assist with storing personal possessions, and register guests to do laundry, take a shower, or see a caseworker or agency representative. Minimum age is 18. Please

contact the volunteer coordinator at volunteer@shalomcommunitycenter.org or (812) 334-5734 ext. 23. (www.shalomcommunitycenter.org)



Volunteer Lia Bobay prepares sandwiches at the Community Kitchen of Monroe County.

Banneker at the View After-School Program

Whether you simply enjoy working with youth or have professional aspirations to do so, the "Banneker at the View" after-school program will give you the hands-on experience you enjoy. Held from 3:30 to 5

p.m., Mon. through Thurs. at **Fairview Elementary School**, this program helps youth experience new things and includes tutoring time and structured clubs. Volunteers commit one or two days a week for the semester. Minimum age is 18. Sign up at bit.ly/BannekerattheView or contact Kim Ecenbarger, Bloomington Parks and Recreation Dept., at (812) 349-3739 or ecenbark@bloomington.in.gov. (www.bloomington.in.gov/parks)

See "VOLUNTEER", page 8

Cover Monroe: Medical Coverage for the Uninsured

By David Meyer

Are you without health insurance coverage? Do you file an annual income tax return? And how are these things related?

Because if you are a tax-filer that makes more than the Federal Poverty Level (which is \$11,470 for a single person) then you will owe a tax **PENALTY** of up to 2% of your income if you don't get covered by medical insurance by February 15, 2015. That is **EXPENSIVE** and if you owe that penalty then you still won't have medical coverage.

Now the good news, last year nearly 10 million Americans got health insurance coverage that didn't have it during the first Open Enrollment Period of the new Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare") Marketplace insurance program. 90 percent of the folks that signed up received the good news that they got financial help with coverage through the new program. More than 132,000 Hoosiers signed up last year.

If you don't have medical insurance coverage then you will have your chance to sign up to get covered starting on November 15, 2014 when this year's Open Enrollment Period starts. Signup can be made through the Internet on **Healthcare.gov**, on the telephone at **(800) 318-2596** (24 hours per day in English or Spanish—que hablan español) or with the assistance of licensed Navigators in the Monroe County community. Navigators are free (no fee) enrollment staff that are unbiased and work with you one-on-one or your situation to help you get covered. Enrollment assistance will be available both by appointment and at specific enrollment events ("Health Coverage Fairs"). There

is a big push in the community to train and license more Navigators to be ready to help folks with the Open Enrollment Period begins on November 15th.

There is some bad news for folks with low incomes. Indiana did not accept the money from the Federal Government to expand the Medicaid insurance program for folks with incomes below the Federal Poverty Level like the surrounding states did. Indiana does have a program for folks with low incomes called the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) but it is not taking any more people right now. Let's hope the situation in Indiana changes soon so that everyone can get covered. If your income is below the Federal Poverty Level and you were rejected by Indiana's HIP program then you are exempt from any tax penalty for remaining uncovered.

My organization is a volunteer-based educational company that is licensed by the State and certified by the Federal Government to help folks get covered. Our major effort is the **Cover Monroe Project**. We are working with other organizations in this effort and even have a student organization to lead efforts on the IU campus. During the last Open Enrollment Period we hosted nearly 50 public events to help people. This year we are looking to get a lot more people covered so they can have the peace of mind that medical coverage provides and can avoid financial penalties for remaining uncovered.

David Meyer is President of the ACA Volunteers of Monroe County. They are neighbors that help neighbors get the health coverage they need and their project is Cover Monroe.

start off with a two-week trial period. If all goes well during those first two weeks, we extend the stay by two months. If all continues to go well, we extend the stay by two-month increments until a full year has passed. While we do not offer traditional casework services, we check-in with guests about housing, work, insurance issues, etc. on an as-needed basis. Our goal is to make sure guests move on to stable housing. In most cases, a year is enough time for someone to apply and be accepted for public housing or Section 8. It is also enough time for people to find stable work so that they can afford their own apartment.

While guests live at the BCW, they are asked to be out of the houses from 9 am–5 pm. Dinner is provided to guests on weeknights, but they may eat elsewhere if they'd like. Their attendance is only mandatory on Thursday evenings. On Thursdays we hold a potluck for guests and anyone outside the community who may need a meal or be interested in what we do. Guests may store and cook their own food while living at the BCW. They have access to a washer, dryer and clotheslines. They are provided with a monthly bus pass each month.

The Bloomington Catholic Worker is financed in large part by community members' part-time paid work, though the community does receive some donations as well. Community members contribute between 30–50% of their monthly income to pay for food and housing expenses. Our annual budget to feed and shelter our community and guests (approximately 16 adults and five children) is about \$26,500. This includes \$200/month that we contribute in rent and utility assistance to people outside our community. In 2013, we had 25 guests stay with us. While this is not a large number, it shows that the guests who stay with us tend to stay for a while.

Our hope is that we can offer our guests stability and a caring, healthy home. Our belief is that sharing our lives and resources with people in need is mutually enriching and beneficial.

Phone: (812) 339-4456.

Address: 821, 903 and 909 N. Blair Avenue, Bloomington, IN 47404

Potluck: Thursdays 5:30 pm–7:30 pm. Come if you need a meal. Come if you're curious about what we do. We have a speaker and discussion every second Thursday of the month.

Guest interviews: Wednesdays 3:30–5:30 pm, please call to schedule.

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

.....

The Audition

Billy Young

He was walking slowly with a limp up the hill and towards me. As he came, he was looking at me, but his eyes seemed fixed halfway between a million miles of nowhere and the destiny of emptiness. When he arrived, he shook my hand and asked, "How ya doin'?"

From the firmness of his honest grip, I answered, "Fine, and you?"

He only nodded to my question. He paused for a moment and then asked, "What do you do there, fellow?"

I said, "I am a farmer."

He asked, "What do you harvest?"

I told him that I grow rows and rows of songs, but they never seem done.

He asked, "What do they need for water and light to grow?"

I said, "A pair of ears for water, and a heart to receive then give as sun."

"Are you hoping to get rich off this farm?" he asked.

I said, "No, the songs are their own reward, and since I am a sharecropper, I borrow the chords and notes from the sky, and it lifts me off the ground to love."

As he walked away, I asked, "Could I play you a song?"

He said, "There is no need, and no need for goodbye. Because—I have a band for you to play in, and this will come at an unpredictable time, but when it comes, the gig will last forever and there are no auditions."

.....

.....

David Oliver Field

LIE: THE MORE I HAVE THE
HAPPIER I WILL BE.

TRUTH: I AM OWNED BY MY
POSSESSIONS

LIE: THE MORE OTHERS OBEY
ME THE GREATER I WILL BE.

TRUTH: HE/SHE WHO IS
THE SERVANT OF ALL IS THE
GREATEST OF ALL.

THE MIND OF MAN SAYS: IT
IS MOST DIFFICULT TO KNOW
WHAT IS TRUE.

TRUTH: TRUTH IS THE MIND
OF GOD

THE MIND OF MAN SAYS: IT
IS MOST DIFFICULT TO KNOW
WHAT LOVE IS. TRUTH: LOVE
IS TRUTH MANIFESTED.

THE MIND OF MAN SAYS: IT IS
DIFFICULT TO KNOW WHAT
I OWE OTHERS. TRUTH: THE
ONE THING WE OWE EACH
OTHER IS THE TRUTH.

THE MIND OF MAN SAYS: THE
MORE I AGREE WITH A GROUP
THE BETTER OFF AND SAFER
I WILL BE. TRUTH: THE MORE
I CONFORM TO A GROUP
THE LESS WELLDEFINED
I AM AS AN INDIVIDUAL
AND LESS I KNOW WHO I
AM, WHAT I THINK, WHAT I
LIKE, WHAT MY STANDARDS
ARE, AND THE MORE I AM
CONTROLLED BY FEAR OF
WHAT OTHERS THINK.

.....

VOLUNTEER

Continued from page 6

Crawford Apartments Programs

Crawford Apartments provide safe, affordable housing to individuals facing challenges such as chronic homelessness, addiction, and disability. Evening and weekend programming is being organized for the residents, as they adjust to living alone in apartments. Volunteers will organize movie nights, bingo games, or music or sports nights. If you have basic computer skills, sing or play the guitar, are a Colt's, Pacer's, or IU fan willing to watch games with the residents, or have a hobby to share, you are welcome to join an activity night. Individuals and groups are invited to volunteer. This is a good opportunity for IU students to give back to the community. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Jennifer Deam at (812) 822-3748 or jrdeam@gmail.com.

Middle Way House Volunteer Training—Sept. 6 or Sept. 20

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. (break from noon to 1 p.m.) on Sept. 6 or Sept. 20. (You only need to attend one date.) Training will be held on the IU campus, in Woodburn Hall, Room 101 (1100 E. 7th St.) 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)

Build a Home Without Lifting a Hammer

Habitat ReStore is a donation/retail center that accepts building materials and home furnishings and sells them to the public at deeply discounted prices. All proceeds directly benefit Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County. Volunteer positions include sales, greeters, customer relations, office assistants, donation intake, donation pick-up, donation repair and facility maintenance. The schedule is flexible and they will work with you to find the best fit for your interests and talents. ReStore volunteers keep the store running and raise money to build houses for those in need in our community! Volunteers are asked to commit to a regular schedule. Minimum age is 16. Please contact Sandy Myers at (812) 331-2660 or volunteerrestore@monroecountyhabitat.org.

(www.monroecountyhabitat.org/restore)



Volunteers for New Hope Family Shelter

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

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 8

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, 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

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 agencies, Christole 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.

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: 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

See "DIRECTORY", page 10

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 9

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 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: 919 S. Rogers (Shelter)

Phone: (812) 332-1444

Web: marthashouseofbloomington.org

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.

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.

Housing (homeless youth)

Stepping Stones

Address: PO Box 1366

Phone: (812) 339-9771

Web: www.stepsstones-inc.org

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

Youth Services Bureau

Address: 615 S. Adams St.

Phone: (812) 349-2506

Web: www.youthservicesbureau.net

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

Legal and court-related services

Community Justice & Mediation Center

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

Phone: (812) 339-1551

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

Volunteer Contact: Amanda Nickey ([812] 336-8677; vorpem@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.

See "DIRECTORY", page 11

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 10

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

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

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

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

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

Backstreet Missions (Gino's Cafeteria)

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

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

Bloomington Meals on Wheels, Inc.

Address: 727 W. 1st Street

Phone: (812) 323-4982

Web: www.bloomingtonmealsonwheels.org

About: Provides meals to homebound people who are unable to cook for themselves. No age or economic restrictions. To enroll, call number listed. A volunteer will arrange for meal delivery and special dietary needs, explain the costs and how payments can be made.

Bloomington Catholic Worker

Address: 821 North Blair Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana 47404

Phone: (812) 339-4456

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

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.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: Mon, Wed, Fri 9-11:30 and Tues, Thurs 1-3:30 p.m.

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://ecomediacycenter.org
greenthcity@yahoo.com

First United Methodist Church

Address: 219 E. 4th Street

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

About: Provides brown bag lunch, groceries.

Township Trustees Food Pantries—Bloomington

Address: 2111 W. Vernal Pike

Phone: (812) 336-4976

Hours: Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

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

Township Trustees Food Pantries—Perry

Address: 1010 S. Walnut St.

Phone: (812) 336-3713

Hours: Monday–Friday 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

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

Medicaid

Division of Family Resources

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

Older citizen programs

Area 10 Agency on Aging

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

Phone: (812) 876-3383

Web: www.area10agency.org

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

See "DIRECTORY", page 12

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 11

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.

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.