

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

December 2014 –
January 2015

Enrollment Assistance for Health Insurance Coverage

By Nancy Woolery, Health Projects Coordinator, City of Bloomington, Indiana • woolery@bloomington.in.gov • 812.349.3851

The Affordable Care Act, the health insurance law providing quality, affordable health care for all Americans, puts individuals, families and small business owners in control of their health care. It reduces what families will have to pay for health care by capping out-of-pocket expenses and requiring preventive care to be fully covered without any out-of-pocket expense. It also reduces premium costs for millions of working families and small businesses by providing hundreds of billions of dollars in tax relief – the largest middle class tax cut for health care in history.

Americans without insurance coverage will be able to choose the insurance coverage that works best for them in an open competitive insurance market. The Affordable

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Asistencia de inscripción para la Cobertura de Seguro de Salud

Por Nancy Woolery, Health Projects Coordinator, City of Bloomington, Indiana • woolery@bloomington.in.gov • 812.349.3851

La Ley de Cuidado de Salud Asequible (Affordable Care Act), la ley de seguro de salud que proporciona una buena calidad de seguro y una atención médica asequible para todos los estadounidenses. Expone a los individuos, las familias y propietarios de pequeñas empresas en control del cuidado de su salud. Se reduce lo que las familias tendrán que pagar por el cuidado de la salud al limitar gastos de su propio bolsillo y que requieren la atención preventiva para estar totalmente cubiertos sin ningún gasto de su propio bolsillo. También reduce los costos de los pagos para millones de familias trabajadoras y pequeños negocios, proporcionando

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High School Sponsors 14th House

By Tiffany Chiu, Marketing and Communications SPEA Fellow at Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County

Under the guidance of Pat Wilson, students from Bloomington High School North's Habitat for Humanity Chapter have raised \$30,000 for the past 14 years to co-sponsor half a house for a family in Monroe County. November 1 was special not only because the students began building their 14th house, but it also marked the inaugural Parent-Student build. Together they were able to complete the interior and exterior walls for the Vargas family, who will live in the West Pointe neighborhood. Parents witnessed first hand the

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Parents and their students come together to build during the inaugural Parent-Student build with Bloomington High School North.

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/>.

Open Enrollment for Health Coverage

By David Meyer, President
ACA Volunteers of Monroe County, Inc.

Health Coverage is Required

All U.S. residents are required by law to have health insurance. The Health Insurance Marketplace provides affordable health insurance plans for those who are currently uninsured or underinsured. Failure to obtain health insurance can result in a penalty of 2% of income or \$325 per person (whichever is greater). Because Indiana did not accept federal money to expand Medicaid coverage for low-income Hoosiers, you can qualify for an exemption from the requirement if you income is below the

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Joe Lee
12/14

Editorial Cartoon by Joe Lee

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

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change in the community their students are making and experienced the fun of

building alongside their kids.

Every Saturday for the next 14 weeks, Bloomington High School North students will be working side by side with Javier and Nubia Vargas, the future homeowners of the house. Javier and

Nubia are excited about their new home that will build financial stability and provide shelter from tornados. Their five children Anna (13), Roberto (11), Javier (8), Diego (6), and baby Elizabeth (8 months) are all eager to have more space and to choose wall colors. Having them

all under a roof that is safe and spacious enough is a dream come true for Javier and Nubia. This dream will become a reality during their house dedication on February 7th, 2015 when they will be handed over the keys to their very own home.

HEALTH INSURANCE

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Care Act protects consumers from being denied health insurance due to pre-existing conditions. Young adults can stay on their parent's insurance until they are 26 years old, and every health insurance plan must provide free preventive care and minimum essential health benefits. There is a penalty fee for Americans who do not sign up for health care coverage. **The fee for not having insurance** in 2015 is \$325 per adult and \$162.50 per child (up to \$975 for a family) or 2% of your taxable income, whichever is greater. That is why it is important to sign up for a health care program such as Medicaid, Hoosier Healthwise, the Healthy Indiana Plan, or the Indiana Health Insurance Marketplace. Currently the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) is not accepting applications until further notice. If you are currently on the Healthy Indiana Plan, you must re-enroll in order to stay on the plan. You will receive a letter from the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) when it is time for you to re-enroll in HIP.

There are certified Navigators (persons trained for ACA enrollment) in our community who can help enroll individuals and families in a health care plan. Community events are being planned to educate the public on health care coverage. The following is a list of community resources:

Assistance from Navigators at these organizations is provided free of charge:

- **Individual Solutions—IU Health:**
1-800-313-1328 to make an appointment to see a certified Navigator.
- **Cover Monroe:**
812-269-2991 or visit www.covermonroe.org to learn more about community education and enrollment events.
- **City of Bloomington:**
Call 812-349-3851 for enrollment assistance. Para Español 812-349-3860 or latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov.
- **Premier Healthcare, LLC:**
Danacia Wiechers, Certified Indiana Navigator at 812-355-2762 or dwiechers@premierhealthcare.org.

You can also dial 2-1-1 or visit www.in211.org/healthcare-project to learn how to apply, try a health insurance cost calculator, and get more local information.

Visit www.in.gov/healthcarereform/2468.htm to find a certified Indiana Navigator near you. (Please note that not all certified Navigators on this list provide free

services. Confirm that services are free before making an appointment.)

Other Healthcare Options

Some individuals are eligible for other types of government coverage. A Navigator can help you learn about these programs:

- **Indiana Medicaid:**

The Indiana Medicaid program offers several ways to get coverage, including "Traditional Medicaid". There are programs for people who are low income, have a disability, are pregnant, or have special medical needs. To see if you are eligible for any Indiana Medicaid program, visit <http://member.indianamedicaid.com/programs--benefits/medicaid-programs.aspx>.

- **Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP):**

HIP is for uninsured low-income Hoosiers between the ages of 19-64 who do not qualify for Medicaid or Medicare. To see if you may qualify or to learn more about HIP, visit <http://member.indianamedicaid.com/programs--benefits/medicaid-programs/healthy-indiana-plan.aspx>. There may be a new version of HIP in 2015. Watch the newspaper for information about 'HIP 2.0'.

- **Hoosier Healthwise:**

Hoosier Healthwise is a health care program for low-income parents/caretakers, pregnant women, and children. To see if you may qualify or to learn more about Hoosier Healthwise visit <http://member.indianamedicaid.com/programs--benefits/medicaid-programs/hoosier-healthwise.aspx>.

- **Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP):**

The Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) is for youth 19 and younger. To see if your child may qualify or to learn more about CHIP visit <http://www.in.gov/fssa/ompp/2545.htm>.

- **Medicare:**

Medicare is a federal health insurance program for people 65 and older, and for eligible people who are under 65 and disabled. To see if you may qualify or to learn more about Medicare visit <http://www.in.gov/idoi/2497.htm>.

- **Volunteers in Medicine (VIM)**

VIM, located in Bloomington, provides free primary care, dental, and mental health services; treatment for acute and chronic conditions; and preventive health education for uninsured adults in Monroe and Owen counties meeting eligibility criteria. To see if you may qualify or to learn more about VIM visit <http://vimmonroecounty.org/services.php>.

For more information or questions about health care coverage contact Nancy Woolery at 812.349.3851 or wooleryn@bloomington.in.gov.

SEGURO DE SALUD

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cientos de miles de millones de dólares en recortes tributarios—el mayor recorte de impuestos de la clase media para el cuidado de la salud en la historia.

Estadounidenses sin cobertura de seguro podrán escoger la cobertura de seguro que funciona mejor para ellos en un mercado de seguros competitivo y abierto. La Ley de Cuidado de Salud Asequible protege a los consumidores de ser negado el seguro médico debido a condiciones preexistentes. Los adultos jóvenes pueden permanecer en el seguro de sus padres hasta que tengan 26 años de edad, y todos los planes de seguro de salud deben proporcionar atención preventiva gratuita. **Hay una multa para los estadounidenses que no se inscriben para la cobertura de atención de la salud.** La cuota por no tener seguro en el 2015 es de \$325 por adulto y \$162.50 por niño (hasta \$975 para una familia) o el 2% de su ingreso tributable, lo que sea mayor. Es por eso que es importante inscribirse en un programa de atención de salud como Medicaid, Hoosier Healthwise, el Plan Healthy

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About *Safety~Net*

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AGENCY REPORTS

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

AGENCY GUIDE

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

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

SEGURO DE SALUD

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Indiana, o un seguro de salud del mercado de Indiana. Actualmente el Plan Healthy Indiana (HIP) no está aceptando solicitudes hasta nuevo aviso. Si actualmente se encuentra en el Plan Healthy Indiana, deberá volver a inscribirse con el fin de permanecer en el plan. Usted recibirá una carta de la Administración de Familias y Servicios Sociales (FSSA) cuando es el momento para que usted pueda volver a inscribirse en el HIP.

Hay navegantes certificados (personas capacitadas para la inscripción de ACA) en nuestra comunidad que pueden ayudar a inscribir a las personas y familias en un plan de atención de la salud. Eventos de la comunidad se están planeando para educar al público sobre la cobertura de atención de la salud. La siguiente es una lista de recursos de la comunidad:

Navegantes de Asistencia en estas organizaciones se proporciona de forma gratuita:

- **Individual Solutions—IU Health:**
1-800-313-1328 para hacer una cita y para ver un navegante certificado.
- **Cubierta de Monroe:**
812-269-2991 o visite www.govermonroe.org para información y eventos de inscripción.
- **Ciudad de Bloomington:**
Llame 812-349-3851 para asistencia de inscripción. Para español llame al 812-349-3860 o latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov.
- **Premier Healthcare, LLC:**
Danacia Wiechers, Navegador de Indiana Certificada, al 812-355-2762 o dwiechers@premierhealthcare.org.

También puede llamar al 2-1-1 o visite www.in211.org/healthcare-project para aprender cómo aplicar, pruebe una calculadora de costos de seguro de salud, y obtenga la información más local.

Visita www.in.gov/healthcarereform/2468.htm para encontrar un navegador de Indiana Certificado cerca de usted. (Tenga en cuenta que no todos los navegadores certificados de esta lista proporcionan servicios gratuitos. Confirme que los servicios son gratuitos antes de hacer una cita.)

Otras opciones de atención médica

Algunas personas son elegibles para otros tipos de cobertura del gobierno. Un navegador puede ayudarle aprender acerca de estos programas:

- **Medicaid de Indiana:**

El programa Medicaid de Indiana ofrece varias maneras de obtener cobertura, incluyendo "Medicaid Tradicional." Hay programas para las personas que tienen bajos ingresos, las personas con discapacidad, están embarazadas, o tienen necesidades médicas especiales. Para ver si usted es elegible para cualquier programa de Medicaid de Indiana, visite <http://member.indianamedicaid.com/programs--benefits/medicaid-programs.aspx>.

- **Plan de Healthy Indiana (HIP):**

HIP es para Hoosiers de bajos ingresos sin seguro de salud entre las edades de 19 a 64 que no califican para Medicaid o Medicare. Para ver si usted puede calificar o para aprender más sobre HIP, visite <http://member.indianamedicaid.com/programs--benefits/medicaid-programs/healthy-indiana-plan.aspx>. Es posible que haya una nueva versión de HIP en 2015. Mira el periódico para obtener información sobre 'HIP 2.0'.

- **Hoosier Healthwise:**

Hoosier Healthwise es un programa de atención médica para los padres de bajos ingresos /cuidadores, mujeres embarazadas y niños. Para ver si usted puede calificar o para aprender más acerca de Hoosier Healthwise visita <http://member.indianamedicaid.com/programs--benefits/medicaid-programs/hoosier-healthwise.aspx>.

- **Programa Seguro de Salud Infantil (CHIP):**

Plan de Seguro de Salud para Niños (CHIP) es para jóvenes de 19 y más joven. Para ver si su hijo puede calificar o para aprender más sobre CHIP visita <http://www.in.gov/fssa/ompp/2545.htm>.

- **Medicare:**

Medicare es un programa federal de seguro médico para personas de 65 años o más, y para las personas elegibles que son menores de 65 años y discapacitados. Para ver si usted puede calificar o para obtener más información sobre Medicare vaya a <http://www.in.gov/idoi/2497.htm>.

- **Voluntarios en Medicina (VIM)**

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Free Community Tax Service: Fast, Just as Accurate & 100% Free

By Tina McAninch, Community Initiatives Associate at United Way of Monroe County

Free Community Tax Service

The Free Community Tax Service offers free tax preparation at several community locations, including the WorkOne self-service site. FCTS services are offered to those with an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) under \$53,000. IRS-certified volunteers will be available at numerous preparation sites in Monroe and Owen counties and ready to file your return as soon as the IRS begins processing 2014 returns (anticipated to be the end of January). Residents will again have the option to file their taxes from the comfort of home by logging on to MyFreeTaxes.com. This service is also free of charge for those with a combined AGI of \$60,000 or less.

In 2014, the FCTS sites helped file 3,138 returns at no cost, saving residents as much as \$900,000 in tax preparation fees and resulting in refunds on many of these returns. Residents receiving refunds last year indicated plans to use the funds on food, clothing, savings, and paying off debt.

Are You Claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit?

If you have worked in 2014, you may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC can provide a significant financial boost for qualifying individuals, up to \$6,143. You must file a tax return to qualify for this and other income-boosting credits. The Free Community Tax Service is available to provide tax preparation services to low and moderate-income individuals at no cost and to help more individuals claim the credits they've earned.

If your total gross income for 2014 (earned income plus unearned income such as social security benefits or retirement benefits) falls within the following guidelines, you may qualify for the EITC:

- Less than \$46,997 (\$52,427 for married filing jointly) and you have three qualifying children

- Less than \$43,756 (\$49,186 for married filing jointly) and you have two qualifying children

- Less than \$38,511 (\$43,941 for married filing jointly) and you have one qualifying child, or

- Less than \$14,590 (\$20,020 for married filing jointly) and you do not have a qualifying child

Even if you think you may not qualify, if you meet the above income guidelines and any of the following applies to you, you may qualify:

- Your employment situation changed during 2014 and you earned income where you had not in prior years
- You don't normally file taxes because you don't earn enough to owe taxes
- You are a foster parent
- You are a grandparent raising one or more grandchildren

For More Information

Be sure to check the Financial Stability Alliance website at www.financialstabilityalliance.org/freetaxes.html for updates on our 2015 site schedule. You can also call 211 for more information.

Preparadores de habla hispana estarán disponibles en selectas localizaciones. Comenzando en enero, por favor llame al 812-349-3860 para más información.

Along with the United Way of Monroe County and the Financial Stability Alliance for South Central Indiana, partners of the Free Community Tax Service include 2-1-1, AARP, ASCEND, Bloomington Housing Authority, Broadview Learning Center, City of Bloomington, Ellettsville Branch Library, Indiana Legal Services, Indiana University Maurer School of Law, Internal Revenue Service, Ivy Tech Community College-Bloomington, LifeDesigns, Monroe County Public Library, New Leaf-New Life, Owen County Public Library, Positive Link, Recovery Engagement Center, South Central Community Action Program, Stone Belt, Twin Lakes Recreation Center, Walmart, WorkOne Bloomington, and community volunteers.

My Journey From Prison to Freedom

By Dwight "Barney" Fry

Transition, what does it mean? Who's asking? You? Me? To a student graduating from school it means a job, moving out of home, maybe going off to join the service. To you, it means something totally different. Transition, in the context of this audience, means moving from one shelter to another, one food pantry to the next. Oh yes, from warm summer months to the freezing winter.

All of us experience transition every day. We make choices that affect our lives, and the lives of people we do not know. How do we deal with transition?

Thinking about transition, I think about my journey from prison to freedom. It has been six months now since the IDOC concluded that my term of incarceration had come to an end. Without the help of my family: Vicky, Bill, Crystal, Dad, the community and others, I would have been homeless—I would be transitioning from one inter-faith shelter to another—from one food bank to another. I was blessed and fortunate. Not everyone, in fact, most people getting out, are not so blessed or fortunate.

Those that are homeless are in transition. They are homeless for various reasons, some forced, and some by choice. All of them will come to a point where they will have to transition to being members of society. Either by getting a job, or by going to prison. Time does not stop for any of us. The time will come when our age will have us seeking permanent shelter and a steady income. This is a transition from youth to old age.

Transition is change. Most people hate change. I have come to like it. To me change means growth. It means I am growing and adapting to what is happening around me. It means I can help others because I am helping myself. Yes, to me change and transition are one and the same and a part of life. It is a necessary part of growing old. It is a fact of life.

I cannot get the book "Who moved my Cheese" by Spencer Johnson, M.D. out of my head. It is exactly to the point on what I am trying to convey here. The following description of the book was taken directly from the website to order the book, it is only 76 pages long and had a major impact in changing how I look at life. I recommend it to everyone.

"Who Moved My Cheese? is a simple parable that reveals profound truths. It is an amusing and enlightening story of four characters who live in a "Maze" and look for "Cheese" to nourish them and make them happy.

Two are mice named Sniff and Scurry. And two are "Littlepeople"—beings the size of mice who look and act a lot like people. Their names are Hem and Haw.

"Cheese" is a metaphor for what you want to have in life—whether it is a good job, a loving relationship, money, a possession, health, or spiritual peace of mind. And the "Maze" is where you look for what you want—the organization you work in, or the family or community you live in. In the story, the characters are faced with unexpected change. Eventually, one of them deals with it successfully, and writes what he has learned from his experience on the Maze walls.

When you come to see "The Handwriting on the Wall," you can discover for yourself how to deal with change, so that you can enjoy less stress and more success (however you define it) in your work and in your life.

We are all in the "maze", the community we live in. We all have "Cheese" in our lives as well. What is your cheese? Money? Recognition? A High? A drink? To bless someone each day? When you get to the point in your life that you happen to see the handwriting on the wall I pray that the transition will be for the better.

Energy Assistance Program For Low-income Households Underway

By Doug Wilson

SCCAP Director of Communications and Development

The South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) began accepting applications on Nov. 3 for assistance with winter heating and the purchase of bulk fuel. This year's program will end on May 5.

Each household applying for the Energy Assistance Program will need to provide income documentation for the past 12 months for all household members ages 18 and older, current heat and electric bills, social security cards and a landlord affidavit form for those who rent. Applications and other program materials are available on the Energy Assistance page at insccap.org.

"We are making every effort to make this year's program as efficient and customer friendly as possible," SCCAP Energy Assistance & Family Development Program Manager Thomas Hartnett said. "We expect to serve over 4,000 households this winter, which means our offices will be extremely busy at times. We encourage applicants to bring the required documents with them to the office in their county and we will do our best to help them apply for assistance as quickly and easily as we can."

Last year, SCCAP served more than 3,900 households.

Eligibility for the Energy Assistance program is based on gross household income—household size- maximum annual income: 1—\$17,505; 2—\$23,595; 3—\$29,685; 4—\$35,775; 5—\$41,865.

The purpose of the Energy Assistance Program is to help keep members of low-income families safe and healthy, and assist them in achieving energy self-sufficiency and avoiding utility disruptions.

Customers are encouraged to control energy costs and identify strategies which allow them to pay their future energy bills. SCCAP will offer its energy education workshop for those who want to participate. Participants will receive information on staying warm while reducing utility costs.

For additional information about energy assistance, the public should call one of the following offices: Monroe County, 812-339-3447; Brown County, 812-988-6636; Morgan County, 812-342-1518; Owen County, 812-829-2279. Offices are located at 1500 W. 15th Street in Bloomington, 746 Memorial Drive in Nashville, 133 W. Washington Street in Martinsville and 145 N. Harrison Street in Spencer.

SCCAP is also seeking applicants for its Weatherization Program. The Weatherization Program reduces energy consumption in low-income households and insures that each client has a safe, operating heat source. Each client receives a furnace inspection and an energy audit. SCCAP uses private contractors to repair or replace heat sources, install insulation and seal the homes. The program is federally funded and is

free to participants in Brown, Monroe, Morgan and Owen counties.

To be eligible to have your home weatherized, your household income must not exceed federal poverty guidelines. To apply, call 812-339-3447, ext. 224.

SCCAP is a nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for low-income citizens to move toward personal and economic independence. Its programs include Affordable Rental Housing, Circles Initiative, Energy Assistance, Family Development, Growing Opportunities job training, Head Start, Individual Development Accounts, Section 8 Housing and Weatherization.



SCCAP Energy Assistance Program Specialist Mary Zimmerman helps a client in submitting her application.

Bloomington Woman Forges New Path Through Circle of Friends and Community

By Doug Wilson, Director of Communications and Development, South Central Community Action Program

Bloomington Woman Forges New Path Through Circle of Friends and Community

By Doug Wilson, Director of Communications and Development, South Central Community Action Program

Kay Goodman says she used to have quite a chip on her shoulder.

“I felt people were putting me down,” she recalls. “When you’re poor, a lot of people you deal with don’t know you and don’t like you. I was angry that I was poor and couldn’t get out of it. I felt that was the legacy I was giving my children.”

Goodman is a participant in the Monroe County Circles Initiative, an anti-poverty initiative, at the South Central Community Action Program in Bloomington. Through Circles, she has achieved some of the most important goals, including getting her start in working to help others who are poor.

Throughout her life, Goodman has sought to escape generational poverty. She grew up in the small town of Bloomfield, Ind. Her mother divorced her father at a young age because of his addiction problems, and this left the family in more difficult economic circumstances.

Kay’s mother strove to improve the family’s situation. While working as a nursing aide, she went to night classes to become an electronic technician. For 31 years, she commuted from Bloomfield to Bloomington daily to work at the Sarkes Tarzian TV tuner and parts plant to support her family.

“I believe my mother instilled in me at a very young age that this isn’t all there is,” Kay Goodman said.

Kay eventually had two daughters of her own, Heather and Haley. To support them, she worked many jobs over the years—cooking at restaurants, cleaning hotel rooms, working at a greeting card company and telemarketing, among others.

“I ended up a single mother after divorce,” she said. “I always worked two jobs—a regular job to pay for the house and a second job for shoes and clothes and other things they needed.”

Goodman said she hasn’t always made the best decisions in her life, especially early on, but she has for many years tried hard to find opportunities to escape poverty and propel her daughters in the same direction.

She went through a particularly difficult time eight years ago, when her younger daughter Haley turned 19 and moved out. At the time, Kay, at age 49, struggled with working long hours and coming home to an empty apartment.

“The thing about poverty is you are isolated,” Kay

said. “I was working 12, 13, 14 hours a day, and was still poor and felt so isolated. I didn’t know what I was going to do.”

Goodman heard about the Circles Initiative through a friend, and after a while decided to apply to become a Circle Leader. A Circle Leader is a participant who strives to become financially self-sufficient through a series of steps, including attending a 16-week training to increase educational, financial and social resources and being



Kay Goodman (center) poses with Circle Allies David and Roberta Mank at the 2014 Bloomington Be More Awards that recognize dedicated volunteer service. The Monroe County Circles Initiative Allies received the Be More Collaborative Award for donating more than 8,000 hours of volunteer service.

matched with Circle Allies who offer continuing support.

Goodman was accepted and matched with David and Roberta Mank. David is director of the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community at Indiana University. Roberta is a pharmacy tech at IU Health Center.

As part of the Circles process, Goodman became friends with the Manks, meeting with them at least monthly and together attending weekly Circles community meetings. She shared with them her goals, plans, challenges and successes. The process of support and encouragement hasn’t always been easy, she said, but it has changed her life in many crucial ways, especially in how she interacts with others as she works to make a better life for herself and her family.

“The camaraderie, networking and talking without feeling judged—the Manks) volunteering to be in my life, not because they had to, but because they wanted to—it has made all the difference in the world,” Goodman said.

One of Goodman’s greatest challenges was going back to get a college degree. She had been out of school since graduating from Bloomfield High School in 1975. Initially, she struggled with subjects like algebra, which she hadn’t used in many years, and chemistry, which she had never before studied.

“After the first semester of algebra, I told David and Roberta, I didn’t think I was going to make it,” Goodman said. “I was scared I would fail.”

Goodman found a great tutor, Penny Buhr, and started meeting with her every day. One of the oldest students in many of her classes, she enjoyed getting to know other students at Ivy Tech. Kay persevered and soon excelled. She even became an officer of Phi Theta Kappa, which requires a grade point average of at least 3.5. She graduated with honors with an associate’s degree in Human Services.

Kay’s daughters and friends, including the Manks, joined her to celebrate at the college’s commencement ceremony in May 2014.

“I was very emotional and ecstatic,” she said. “When I saw all my friends and family, I just kind of lost it.”

Kay is considering continuing her own education through pursuing a bachelor’s degree at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and has received a \$12,000 scholarship toward that cause.

“I’m the first generation in college in my family,” she said. “That’s the legacy I hope I’m leaving.”

Kay’s daughters have both joined the Circles Initiative. Haley has recently been accepted into the Hair Arts Academy. Heather’s daughter, Asiah, a high school senior, has been accepted to Ball State University, which she will attend through the 21st Century Scholars Program.

Kay recently was hired by the South Central Community Action Program as a Family Advocate in its Head Start program. In that job, she seeks to treat others better than she was sometimes treated when she sought assistance.

“My goal is to help others,” she said. “That’s what I want to spend the rest of my life doing. If you can make people feel good about themselves and touch them in a positive way, you can help them start working on changing their situation. I want to live a life of meaning and purpose.”

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.

Big Brothers Big Sisters—First Friends

First Friends is an activity program for children who are waiting for a Big Brother or Big Sister. Two group activities are offered each month. First Friend volunteers provide transportation and supervision for one to three children per activity. Volunteers must have access to reliable insured transportation. An interview and training are required. The minimum time commitment is eight months, participating in at least one activity per month. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Mark Volland at (812) 334-2828 ext. 227 or mvolland@bigsindiana.org. (www.bigsindiana.org)

Bloomington Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

The Bloomington Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, a nonprofit facility, has many volunteer opportunities available! These include assisting the Activity Department with either one-on-one or group activities, outside garden and grounds helpers, experienced painters, and general volunteers. Talk to them to find 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)

Broadview Learning Center—Adult Basic Education Tutors

Volunteer tutors are needed to assist adult students with math, reading, or writing at the Broadview Learning Center. The schedule is very flexible. At this time, volunteers are needed for evening classes any time between 5-8 p.m. People usually volunteer two to four hours per week with an individual student, under the supervision of the classroom teacher, until the student is ready to test or advance to another class level. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Diana Hoffman at (812) 330-7731 ext. 53187 or dhoffman@mccsc.edu. (www.mccsc.edu/adulted)

Caring Companions

Older people, and those with disabilities who are living independently, are challenged to do seemingly easy tasks as they age.



Hoosier Hills Food Bank Volunteers on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, 2014

"No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another."

~ Anonymous

Volunteers are needed to stop in to check on them weekly or bi-weekly for about 30 minutes, help with miscellaneous small tasks from housekeeping to conversation, and be a friend. The RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program strives to match volunteers with clients who live close by. Each volunteer determines what types of activities he or she wishes to do for the homebound senior. On-going support and training are provided to Caring Companion volunteers. Scheduling is flexible; each volunteer is asked to give a minimum of 30 minutes twice per month. Minimum age is 16; no minimum if with an adult. Please contact Rebecca Nunley at (812) 876-3383 ext. 523 or rsvp@area10agency.org. (www.area10agency.org/rsvp)

Community Justice and Mediation Center—Administrative Assistant

The Community Justice and Mediation Center is seeking a volunteer to serve as the Administrative Assistant. This volunteer should have excellent communication, organizational and filing skills, be able to coordinate multiple projects, be proficient in Word and Excel, and able to maintain databases and perform mail merges. A time commitment of 15-20 hours a week is requested. The Administrative Assistant reports to the Executive Director and works directly with case managers. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Susan Burton at (812) 336-8677 or cjam@cjamcenter.org. (www.cjamcenter.org)

Community Kitchen—Serve Meals

The serving shift at the Community Kitchen of Monroe County is from 3:30-6:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Seven volunteers serve the evening meal cafeteria-style and do some clean-up as well, such as sweeping, mopping and taking out the trash. When inquiring about this opportunity - by email or phone - please provide a phone number where you can be contacted. Minimum age is 14; 10 if with an adult. Please contact Debbie Hopson at debbie@

See "VOLUNTEER", page 7

Three Ways to Guide your Holiday Giving!

Submitted by Bet Savich, Director, City of Bloomington Volunteer Network (volunteer@bloomington.in.gov); www.BloomingtonVolunteerNetwork.org

1) Holiday Guide to Giving and Volunteering

Give back this holiday season! Use the Holiday Guide to Giving and Volunteering to connect to opportunities for service and giving. Please keep in mind that many "day-of" holiday volunteer opportunities fill up fast. Keeping your dates flexible and understanding that your help will be needed most on the days before and after the formal holidays will give you more options to connect to service during the holiday season. Many opportunities are great for families and people of all ages! The Guide is full of information about adopt-a-child programs, holiday collection drives and special holiday volunteer opportunities. View the guide at: www.BloomingtonVolunteerNetwork.org/Holidays

2) Holiday Wish List

The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network invites you to join with your family, friends and co-workers in gift-giving that will benefit the greater Bloomington area. Browse the wish lists of these organizations to discover exactly what is needed by our local social service, cultural, environmental and animal welfare organizations. Take the time to purchase a few items or organize a collection drive or house party for the organizations you care about! View the Wish List at www.BloomingtonVolunteerNetwork.org/CommunityWishList.

3) A Day On, Not a Day Off!

Learn how you can make a difference in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.! The organizations participating and requesting volunteers from the general public are: Girls Inc., Middle Way House, Hoosier Hills Food Bank, Monroe County Public Library, Recovery Engagement Center, Windfall Dancers, Bloomington Community Orchard, Volunteers for Change, and Within Our Lifetime Campaign to End Racism. Details and signups can be found at www.bloomington.in.gov/mlk.

VOLUNTEER

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monroecommunitykitchen.com or (812) 332-0999. (www.monroecommunitykitchen.com)

Crisis Pregnancy Center—Receptionists, Children's Place, Client Services

Crisis Pregnancy Center is seeking volunteers to greet clients and answer phones, care for children, or assist with client services. If you are great with people and would love to serve the women and families in our community, consider volunteering with Crisis Pregnancy Center. Any amount of time on Mon., Tues. or Wed. - large or small - would be welcome. 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)

Free Community Tax Service

If you enjoy both helping others and working with numbers, the Free Community Tax Service is a great volunteer opportunity for you!

They are now recruiting volunteers to serve as tax preparers for the 2015 tax season to complete simple 1040 or 1040-EZ tax returns for taxpayers and answer their questions, all while maintaining confidentiality. Bilingual individuals are also needed to volunteer as tax preparers. This service gives low and moderate-income taxpayers access to free tax information and assistance in the electronic filing of their federal and state tax returns. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Ashley Schoolman, United Way of Monroe County, at aschoolman@monroecommunitykitchen.com or (812) 334-8370. (www.financialstabilityalliance.org/freetaxes.html)

Hoosier Hills Food Bank—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 (i.e. first Friday of the month) or go just once! Minimal training will occur at arrival. Due to health and safety issues, only volunteers over 12 years of age are welcomed. Please contact Ryan Jochim at (812) 334-8374 or volunteer@hhfoodbank.org. (www.hhfoodbank.org)

Interfaith Winter Shelter

Imagine being on the streets during the winter without a safe place to sleep. As an Interfaith Winter Shelter volunteer, you can make it possible for some man or woman to come in out of the cold. This is a "low barrier" shelter at rotating locations; you can volunteer at one or multiple sites during evening, overnight, or early morning shifts. All volunteers must attend a new volunteer training. Please see the website for specific training dates and locations. Minimum age is 18. Those under 18 can volunteer with an adult during the setup shift only and do not require training.

Seventeen year-olds who will turn 18 this winter can receive training now and volunteer when they are of age. Please contact Connie Pepler at (812) 272-8492 or dcncpep@att.net. (www.interfaithwintershelter.org)

LIFEDesigns Inc.—Quality Assurance Intern or Volunteer

Do you have an interest in administration, supervising, fact-finding, or human services? LIFEDesigns Inc. is seeking an intern/volunteer to assist the Quality Assurance Director with maintaining records and assessing reports. The intern will gain exposure and develop skills that easily translate to all sectors. A minimum commitment of five hours per week for the remainder of the semester is necessary, excluding Thanksgiving and final exam week. Successful applicants will be able to learn quickly, work independently, and have strong attention to detail. Schedule is flexible. Minimum age is 18. Please send resume to Stephanie Shelton at support@lifedesignsinc.org. (www.lifedesignsinc.org)

Middle Way House Training—Jan. 19 (MLK Day), Jan. 24, April 18

Both women and men are strongly encouraged to attend the next Middle Way House training, which will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Jan. 19 (MLK Day), Jan. 24 and April 18. Please see the website for locations.

No registration is necessary. Training is a requirement to volunteer and is also appropriate for anyone interested in learning more about the dynamics of gender and domestic violence. There are volunteer opportunities in many different programs including: crisis line, legal advocacy, community reception, and youth mentoring. Minimum age is 18; 16 if with an adult. Please contact Debra Morrow at (812) 337-4510 or volunteer@middlewayhouse.org. (www.middlewayhouse.org)



Volunteers at Girls Inc. on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, 2014

New Hope Family Shelter—Site Supervisor

Are you looking to volunteer for a great cause, gain experience and make a difference in your community? Join the New Hope Family Shelter team as they work together to address a great crisis in this area—family homelessness. New Hope is currently looking for what they call "dedicated volunteer staff" who would cover a four-hour shift each week as a site supervisor, and attend a bi-weekly staff meeting. Site supervisors maintain the shelter's cleanliness and order, spend time with the families, assist with mailings, do room inspections, and do bedbug inspections upon arrival of new residents. As you will work directly with residents, an interview, background check, six month commitment and training are required. Shifts are currently available on Saturdays and Sundays. Please contact Heather Perry at (812) 292-0910 or heather@nhfsinc.org. (www.newhopefamilyshelter.org)

New Leaf—New Life—Computer Literacy Teacher

New Leaf—New Life is focused on volunteer-driven programs to help jail inmates and those recently released find support for successfully re-entry into the life and work of the community. Computer literacy volunteers will teach men and women leaving jail the basics in computer use to assist them with

COVERAGE REQUIRED

Continued from page 1

federal tax-filing threshold (\$10,000).

The Health Insurance Marketplace will help you get coverage that meets your needs and fits your budget. Last year 85% of enrollees received financial help to get health insurance. The sign-up period begins on November 15, 2014 and ends on February 15, 2015 so do not delay.

Go to www.healthcare.gov to apply for coverage, see side-by-side comparisons of plans, and review prices. Then choose a plan that meets your medical needs and enroll. If you enrolled last year, go back in and re-check your options because you could save money.

Community Assistance is Available

Indiana Navigators are certified to provide unbiased help to enroll residents in healthcare plans. There are several local resources that can guide you through the process, explain coverage options, answer questions, and help you enroll. This assistance is provided free of charge.

Individual Solutions—IU Health: Call 1-800-313-1328 to make an appointment to see a certified Navigator.

Cover Monroe: Call 812-269-2991 or visit www.covermonroe.org to learn more about community education and enrollment events.

City of Bloomington: Call 812-349-3851 for enrollment assistance. Para Español 812-349-3860 o latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov.

Premier Healthcare, LLC: Danacia Wiechers, Certified Indiana Navigator at 812-355-2762 or dwiechers@premierhealthcare.org.

www.in.gov/healthcarereform/2468.htm to find a certified Indiana Navigator.

Call 211 or visit www.in211.org/healthcare-project to learn how to apply, try a health insurance cost calculator, and get more local information.

Federal Healthcare.gov signup and phone line: 1-800-318-2596,

TTY: 1-855-889-4325

Federal 24/7 Online Assistance:

www.healthcare.gov/contact-us/ coverage required

SEGURO DE SALUD

Viene de la página 3

VIM, ubicado en Bloomington, ofrece atención médica gratuita, dental y de salud mental; el tratamiento de condiciones agudas y crónicas; y educación de salud preventiva para adultos no asegurados que viven en los condados de Monroe y Owen, y que cumplen los criterios de elegibilidad. Para ver si usted puede calificar o para aprender más sobre VIM visite <http://vimmonroecounty.org/services.php>.

Para obtener más información o preguntas acerca de cobertura de salud póngase en contacto con Nancy Woolery al 812.349.3851 o wooleryn@bloomington.in.gov. Póngase en contacto con Araceli Gómez-Aldana para ayuda en español al 812.349.3860 o latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov.

See "VOLUNTEER", page 8

Job Prospects To Grow At New Bloomington Greenhouse

By Doug Wilson, SCCAP Director of Communications and Development

A new program to help people with disabilities and other employment barriers celebrated a major step forward on Oct. 30 with the start of construction of its first greenhouse.

The program, called Growing Opportunities, will provide job training useful for seeking employment in the growing local foods movement. Just as important, it will emphasize much-needed soft skills that are crucial to success in any job.

The 2,880 square foot greenhouse is being constructed by a local builder, Jim Wright-Kaiser, at Stone Belt on land owned by Indiana University. The greenhouse will be a hands-on learning environment for participants to practice their skills in a fully functioning greenhouse business—an urban farm growing produce year-round using hydroponics, which involves growing plants in water without soil.

In addition to training in the greenhouse, participants will receive classroom training and therapeutic benefits of gardening in a 200-hour course lasting 20 weeks. Growing Opportunities plans to offer two classes per year with 10 participants each at its first greenhouse.

“When good people get together, share ideas and come up with a plan that will benefit the community, the results can

be pretty amazing. The Growing Opportunities Greenhouse is a fine example of just that,” Bloomington Deputy Mayor John Whikehart said. “When completed, this greenhouse will provide fresh produce to local schools, hospitals, restaurants and supermarkets. More importantly, it will offer job training for men and women in our community who often have trouble finding employment.

“It seems fitting that a greenhouse, the perfect place to grow and nurture plants, will also be a place where the confidence of these individuals will grow, where their skills will be tended to and strengthened and where their dreams will be encouraged to blossom.”

Produce from the greenhouse will be sold to local restaurants, grocers and the public. Revenue from the produce sales will be reinvested into the program. Based on financial projections, Growing Opportunities anticipates becoming financially self-supporting once it is operating three greenhouses.

The City of Bloomington, Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, Indiana State

Department of Agriculture, Old National Bank Foundation and Perry Township have awarded grants to launch Growing Opportunities and its greenhouses.

“Growing Opportunities is a great example of the potential for social enterprises to bridge the gap between the business and the nonprofit worlds to address a community’s social concerns,” said Tina Peterson, President and CEO of the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County.

“At the Community Foundation, we strive to support innovative and transformative solutions that benefit those who call our community home. We are pleased to have invested in Growing Opportunities and applaud SCCAP for bringing this successful model to Bloomington. You’ll find us in line to purchase their locally grown produce knowing that this produce will be truly productive for our community.”

South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) is still seeking additional funding for Growing Opportunities second and third greenhouses to be located on the former Thomson manufacturing site in Bloomington, which is owned by the

Monroe County Commissioners.

SCCAP started development of Growing Opportunities more than two years ago based on a successful project called Arthur & Friends at a community action agency in northern New Jersey.

Bloomington City Council member Tim Mayer, Jack Hopkins Social Services Committee chair, said the Jack Hopkins Fund was established to address critical community needs.

“The project before us today illustrates a successful grant application because it meets many of the criteria used to make our decision,” Mayer said, “That includes collaboration between SCCAP, Stone Belt and Indiana University, an interest in producing food using sustainable energy and growing methods, an opportunity for employment for those with special needs, and so many learning opportunities—such as producing food, starting a business, developing good employment habits for both management and employees, and supplying local consumers with health local food.

“This project has been in the making for a number of years. It is great to see it get off the ground today and open the door to opportunity for so many in Bloomington.”



Officials and supporters lift their shovels to break ground on the new greenhouse, from left to right: Jacqui Bauer and John Whikehart, City of Bloomington; Todd Lare, South Central Community Action Program; Jacob Sipe, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority; Leslie Green and Wesley Mull, Stone Belt.

VOLUNTEER

Continued from page 7

creating an email account, typing a resume and applying for jobs online. Minimum age is 18, 16 if with an adult. Interested? Please contact Sam Harrell at (812) 355-6842 or newleaf1010@gmail.com. (www.newleafnewlife.org)

Protective Order Assistant Partnership

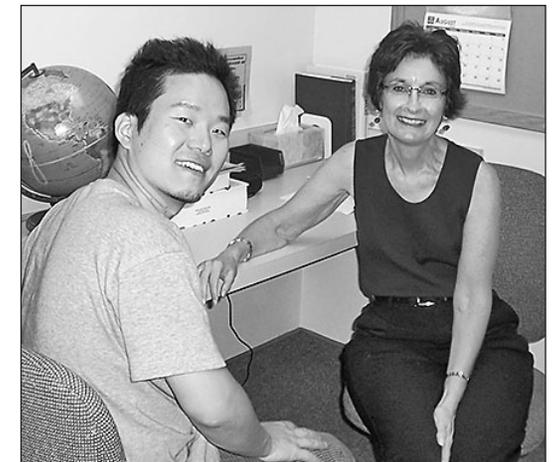
The Protective Order Assistance Partnership is seeking committed volunteers to serve as Protective Order Assistants (POA) for victims of sexual violence, domestic violence and stalking. POAs work one-on-one with patrons to complete Protective Order applications, create safety plans, and provide referrals for emergency needs. Volunteers will have a unique opportunity to assist survivors of violence and to interact with a multidisciplinary team. A minimum six month commitment is preferred. Volunteers must attend the Middle Way House volunteer training and legal advocacy training. Minimum age is 21. Please contact Sarah Hunt at (812) 349-5006 or shunt@co.monroe.in.us.

Shalom Center Hospitality and Kitchen Assistance

Hospitality volunteers help with everyday operations of the Shalom Community Center, distributing guests’ mail and messages, answering the phone, and assisting with long-term and day storage. Volunteers also register guests to do laundry, take a shower, see a caseworker and meet with service agency representatives. The kitchen team cooks breakfast and lunch meals from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mon. through Fri. Put your skills to good use by helping with meal preparation, serving or clean up during part of that time. Join the team—you’ll always find friends in the kitchen! Minimum age is 18. Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@shalomcommunitycenter.org or (812) 334-5734 ext. 23. (www.shalomcommunitycenter.org)

VITAL Tutor Orientation—Monthly

Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners (VITAL) basic literacy tutors provide adults with instruction in basic to intermediate reading, writing, and math. Prospective tutors first attend a mandatory orientation for new VITAL volunteers, which provides an overview of adult literacy issues and the expectations of volunteers, learners, and staff. Please see the website for the orientation schedule. Registration is required. Volunteers are then provided with free training, are matched with adult learners, and can expect to spend 2-3 hours a week on tutoring and record keeping. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Bethany Terry at (812) 349-3173 or vital@mcpl.info. (www.mcpl.info)



VITAL Tutor Anne Schelle with a Learner

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

People & Animal Learning Services (PALS)

Facility Address: 7644 W Elwren Rd, Bloomington,
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1033, Bloomington, IN 47402

Phone: 812-336-2798

Web: www.palstherapy.org

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

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

Stone Belt

Address: 2815 E. 10 St.

Phone: (812) 332-2168

Web: www.stonebelt.org

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

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

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.

See "DIRECTORY", page 10

DIRECTORY

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Job Links

Address: 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 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.vimmonroeconomy.org
Volunteer Contact: Shelley Sallee [(812)333-4001 x109; info@vimmonroeconomy.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 for pregnant women and teenagers. Offers access to prenatal and pediatric care. Also offers life skills training and assistance in achieving longer-term educational and career goals.

Housing (Rental)

Bloomington Housing Authority

Address: 1007 N. Summit St.
Phone: (812) 339-3491
About: Subsidized housing, Section 8, Public Housing. Cost varies to income eligible.

Housing and Neighborhood Development

Address: 401 N. Morton Street, Ste. 130
Phone: (812) 349-3420
Web: www.bloomington.in.gov/hand
About: Creates affordable housing opportunities in the City of Bloomington by working through its partnerships with local non-profit and for-profit developers and through its in-house housing programs. HAND provides housing counseling to individuals with housing needs or difficulties and provides a variety of learning opportunities for the community on housing related issues. In addition, HAND enforces the Property Maintenance Code and the City's weed and trash ordinances.

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.

See "DIRECTORY", page 11

DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

Backstreet Missions (Gino's Cafeteria)

Monday–Friday: Lunch: 11–12 p.m.; Dinner: 4–5 p.m.
Saturday: Breakfast 8-9:30 a.m.; Lunch 11-12 p.m.

Bloomington Meals on Wheels, Inc.

Address: 727 W. 1st Street

Phone: (812) 323-4982

Web: www.bloomingtonmealsonwheels.org

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

Bloomington Catholic Worker

Address: 821 North Blair Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana 47404

Phone: (812) 339-4456

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

City Church Food Outreach

Address: 1200 N Russell Rd. Bloomington IN 47404

Phone: 812-336-5958

Web: citychurchfamily.org

Email: info@citychurchfamily.org

About: City's Food Outreach brings the mission of

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

Community Kitchen

Address: 1515 S. Rogers St.

Phone: (812) 332-0999

Web: www.monroecommunitykitchen.com

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

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

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

Community Kitchen Express

Address: 1100 W. 11th St.

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

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

First Christian Church

Address: Corner of Kirkwood Ave. and Washington St.

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

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.mhcfpantry.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://ecomediacentr.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.

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DIRECTORY

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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.bigsindiana.org

Volunteer Contact: Mark Volland, mvolland@bigsindiana.org, 812-334-2828, ext. 227.

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

Bloomington Boys and Girls Club

Address: 311 S. Lincoln St.

Phone: (812) 332-5311

Web: www.bgcbloomington.org

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

Girls Inc.

Address: 1108 W. 8th St.

Phone: (812) 336-7313

Web: www.girlsinc-monroe.org

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

org)

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

Harmony School

Address: 909 E. 2nd St.

Phone: (812) 334-8349

Web: www.harmonyschool.org

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.

Reach High Consulting & Therapy LLC.

Autism ABA and Diagnostic Clinic

Address: 2101 W Tapp Rd. Bloomington IN 47403

Website: reachhighconsulting.org

Phone: 812-330-4460

Fax: 812-330-4461

Email: aba@reachhighconsulting.org

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