

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

November 2015–
January 2016

2015 Whirlpool and Kelley School Blitz Build

By Rachel Hentz, 2015 Summer Intern.
Habitat for Humanity, Monroe County

A better life and greater opportunities for her children—this is what brought Nereyda “Nettie” Garza to Bloomington. Originally from Coahuila, Mexico, Nettie moved to Texas, then to Bloomington while fearlessly overcoming numerous obstacles in order to create a brighter future for her kids.

Currently, Nettie lives in a crowded

house with her parents, brother, sister, and her three children—Jonathan, Axsel, and Julianna. Although she clearly loves all of her family members, sharing a single bedroom with her kids is not ideal for a family of four. In their new home, Nettie and Julianna will have their own room

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The Garza family and their new home. Photo Provided by Ben Wiggins

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/>.

Learning to Read and Reading to Learn at VITAL

By Bethany Terry, Community Engagement and Learning Services Assistant Manager, Monroe County Public Library



Dawn and Sandy practice computer keyboard and mouse skills

Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners (VITAL) is a local community resource for adults looking to improve their reading, writing, math, or English language skills. Our learner-centered approach helps adults gain new life skills such as using a computer, reading the classified ads or getting a driver’s license, and much more. Since 1977, VITAL’s small staff, (currently two full-time and one part-time employee) has had the unwavering support of the Bloomington community, an integral element of VITAL’s success. Living with low literacy skills can be

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Editorial Cartoon by Joe Lee

Indiana Code allows victims of domestic violence and other applicable offenses to terminate rental agreement

By Anu Kumar, Communications Intern at Middle Way House

There are circumstances when women are trapped with the perpetrator due to the restrictions of a lease. But an Indiana statute protects women and can help them get of their lease. This statute applies to women who have undergone domestic and/or family assault, stalking, or sexual assault.

This provision continues to be important for the safety of victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, and often necessary due to financial restraints.

According to Sharon Grover, a legal advocate at Middle Way House, in order to have this statute apply, you need to have either a protective order or criminal no-contact order against the perpetrator, or the perpetrators needs to be convicted.

Protected individuals is an applicant under this statute if they are a victim, alleged victim of an applicable offense, has received a civil order for protection or criminal no contact order. This can dependent on how the judge rules in a specific case.

"Sometimes a judge can be fairly creative in order to get the woman the protection she needs," Grover said.

In order to get out of a lease, the applicant needs to give their landlord 30-day written notice as well as a copy of the protective order or criminal no-contact order. Additionally, a letter from an accredited sexual assault or domestic violence program must certify that the applicant needs to relocate as part of the safety plan designed for them.

"It can be a real problem," Grover said. The proposed safety plan is meant to show the landlord that the applicant needs to terminate their lease as part of a necessary course of action to

attain protection.

The individual is still responsible for rent and other expenses due under the rental agreement during the 30-day period.

Landlords have the obligation to uphold this agreement. Additionally, landlords are required to change the locks of the home or apartment if the perpetrator is restrained from contact with the tenant. The locks should be changed within 48 hours of the written request of the tenant, if the locks are not changed within this time frame, the woman can change the locks and have the landlord reimburse her.

"Sometimes landlords might be resistant," Grover said. But, they are obligated to help the applicant under the statute and are immune from civil liability for excluding the perpetrator from the unit under a court order. Additional the landlord is not responsible for the "loss of use of or damage to personal property while the personal property is present in the dwelling unit."

Additionally, even when the applicant terminates the lease, the perpetrator is still obligated to pay the full amount of rent.

The legal advocacy team at Middle Way said that initially landlords were resistant to comply, but Indiana Legal Services has been very diligent about getting applicants the assistance they need. Grover said that in the past year, larger apartment complexes have been disputing the statute.

If you feel you are eligible for protection under this Indiana statute and need help in getting out of your lease, please contact the legal advocacy team by calling 812-333-7404 and ask for either Sharon Grover or Virginia White.

VITAL

Continued from page 1

isolating, frustrating, and even dangerous. We encourage our tutors, learners, and community partners to share VITAL success stories to give hope and encouragement to others hoping to improve their reading and writing skills.

Last fall, Stonebelt contacted the VITAL office on behalf of Sandy, a client who wanted to get her high school equivalency diploma. She first approached Broadview Learning Center, MCCSC's adult education center, but her reading skills were too low for her to begin

classes. They recommended she contact VITAL for a one-to-one tutor to help her get started.

Sandy arrived at VITAL office ready to learn. She left her first meeting with specialized materials: a book for reading practice and a money skills workbook to use until we matched her with a tutor. Despite her busy schedule working at the Justice Department and other activities, Sandy was determined to learn. Sandy's tutor, Dawn, immediately noted her commitment level. She started off with beginning level readers and quickly gained both reading skills and confidence. Dawn says that "Sandy is a wonderful

learner and is always eager to jump into her lessons. Even on days when she is ill, her first thoughts are her lessons and she apologizes to me if she didn't get to them."

Literacy education opened a whole new world for Sandy, including the opportunity to learn about her topics of interest. As an adult with cerebral palsy, she has learned more about how the human body works, Indiana history and geography, the Braille language, and much more. Sandy uses a wheelchair, but even at the age of 73 it does not slow her down. She recently chose a new challenge: how to use a computer. Sandy

says that coming to VITAL is "something she thought she needed to do."

New learners are always welcome, and tutors are always needed. The VITAL office is located on the second floor of the Monroe County Public Library, and includes a collection of literacy resources open to the public. Staff are available to assist with navigating the resource collection, inform the public about VITAL services, arrange tutoring, and help with contacting other community partners. Visit our website at www.mcpl.info/vital or call 812 349-3173 to learn more.

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.

Home fire safety for the winter months

Scott Smith

Fire Prevention Officer, Bloomington Fire Department

With cooler weather starting in Indiana now is the time to think about how to protect your family and your home from fires. Statistics show that winter fires are a real danger:

- 905 people die in winter home fires each year.
- \$2,091,000,000 in property loss occurs from winter home fires.
- 67 percent of winter fires occur in one- and two-family homes.
- Cooking is the leading cause of all winter home fires.
- 5 to 8 p.m. is the most common time for winter home fires.

When thinking about home fire safety we should always take time to develop and practice a home fire escape plan, complete with a meeting place. Working smoke alarms are critical to surviving a fire, doubling your chances of escaping. Smoke alarms should have the batteries changed at least one time a year, and should be tested monthly. Any smoke alarm that is older than 10 years needs to be replaced. Dual sensor smoke alarms provide the most protection against fire since they are able to detect a slow smoldering fire and a rapidly spreading fire.

Any home that has gas appliances, or parks a vehicle in an attached garage should have at least one Carbon Monoxide detector. The detector should be placed near the sleeping areas in the home. Carbon Monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that

is extremely deadly.

Servicing and cleaning of fireplaces, wood stoves and furnaces should be scheduled prior to using them when cold weather strikes. Having these items inspected by a professional will help to ensure their safe operation.

If you must use a space heater of any type it must be kept away from combustible materials such as bedding, curtains, etc to prevent the radiant heat from starting a fire. The space heater should always be plugged directly to a wall outlet and never used on an extension cord. Use caution when placing a space heater to prevent the device from being knocked over by a child or pet.

During a power outage generators should only be used outside the residence and should be kept away from all openings so carbon monoxide doesn't get into the residence. Gas fired cooking appliances such as grills and ovens should never be used as a heat source since they also put off a significant amount of carbon monoxide.

Planning is very important for every family. Put together a first aid kit and stockpile enough food, water and medication to supply each family member for one week. Don't forget to plan ahead for your pets as well.

If you have questions or need assistance with home fire safety issues feel free to contact the Bloomington Fire Department at 812-332-9763 and ask to speak with the Fire Prevention Officer.

HABITAT

Continued from page 1

while Jonathan and Axsel will share a room. "Everything has changed for the good. I have my car, my job, and now I will have my house," said Nettie with a smile, referring to the new Habitat home that she will move into in early December, sponsored by the Whirlpool Corporation and built by Kelley School of Business students.

Nettie's home was completed in just 10 days in a blitz build sponsored by

Whirlpool. The home was built just across from the Indiana University football stadium, then moved to its permanent location in Bloomington, a lot provided with the support of the City of Bloomington.

Even as determined and hard-working as Nettie is, moving away from almost all of her family in Mexico was not easy. When she first moved to Bloomington, Nettie worked three different jobs to provide for her family, often working from 4 in the morning until 10 at night. As a single mother of three children (ages 10, 8, and

It is Time to Invest in Taking Care of the Older You

Dear friends and colleagues,

July marked the 50th Anniversary of Medicare, Medicaid, the Older Americans Act, and the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. These historical federal initiatives were a bold step in making sure that our most underserved and most at risk population are cared for.

Today, as the demographic landscape grows more diverse and even older, it is time again for a bold step. A step into a higher state of consciousness that requires a shift in the way we think and talk about aging. Rather than focusing on the limitations of aging, older adults across the nation need to focus instead on the opportunities of aging.

So how do we make the shift?

First, we must embrace the fact that aging is a normal and natural process that everyone must undergo at his or her own time and pace.

Secondly, we need to acknowledge the research that has shown that older adults, who adopt healthy behaviors, use preventive health services, and are involved with their family, friends, and communities, are healthier and more independent. Thus, it is imperative that you, as an individual, must take responsibility for making choices that are going to keep you healthy for as long as possible.

Finally, we need to recognize that our role as civic servants is to be responsible for creating an environment that supports the aging process, by providing the information and resources that are needed, and by cultivating as many healthy choices as possible. This is why the City of Bloomington Commission on Aging holds an annual Creative Aging Festival the entire month of May to celebrate Older Americans Month.

Our goal in sponsoring the festival is to identify and promote best practice efforts that create opportunities for older persons to explore, discover, and tap into their potential; increase older adults' participation in creative and civic activities; and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of our community.

Planning for the 2016 Creative Aging Festival is already underway. Our theme, The Art of Aging: Bringing it Home will encompass a range of topics from creative placemaking, & community building to personal development & self-care. If you would like to take part in the 2016 festival and are looking for event ideas please check out our 2015 program guide at www.bloomington.in.gov/coa or contact Julie Hill at jhill@cardon.us. The deadline for submitting an event online to be included in the printed program guide is February 20, 2016.

Happy planning!

Julie Hill, Creative Festival Chair City of Bloomington Commission on Aging

6), this schedule was not conducive to free time to spend with her family. However, her strong work ethic shone through, and Nettie was promoted to the head of the floral/garden department at Kroger, which finally allowed her to focus on just one career. When speaking about her new home, Nettie is thrilled to have a place to call her own. "It's my house—I can say that. It's something I can leave for my kids." She plans to plant lots of flowers and maybe a garden, and of course to make good use of the new kitchen with her daughter Julianna,

who loves to cook. The family's first home-cooked meal in their new home will be enchiladas.

Jonathan, Axsel, and Julianna, are also ecstatic to have more space to play and explore! Nettie's happiness is contagious when she talks about her three kids and their various involvements. All of them are in sports, from gymnastics to basketball to baseball, and Nettie loves watching and supporting each of them. "I'm blessed" says Nettie in reference to the home she will soon own with the help of Habitat for Humanity.

Special Section: Therapeutic Jail And Re-entry Programs

Women writing for (a) change Bloomington and the **Writing for a Change Foundation-Bloomington** started their work at the Monroe County Corrections Center in August of 2006. This summer marks nine years of this writing program coming together with New Leaf; New Life to try to help incarcerated women make new lives for themselves.

Our project involves inviting women into a safe community that encourages writing as a tool for self-expression, story telling and community building. We ask each participant to reflect on and write about her experience in poetry and prose, to share her words with the rest of the writers in the circle and to listen deeply to her fellow writers and community members.

We are proud of the work we do encouraging strength, voice and self-expression through writing. We see these women become more insightful and reflective about their own lives. We are excited to continue to offer writing services to women at the MCCC every Saturday throughout the year. For more information on our adult circles, young women's programs and other outreach programs, please see our website: www.womenwritingbloomington.org

by Zephia, Danielle, Cassie, Melissasue, Stacey, Tiffany, Sierra, Ariel, Charlotte, Lauren

Brick walls surround us
Time seems to stand still
Will this EVER END?
A reason to start over,
I search my mind and heart,
and worry about what I'll discover.
When I find what I'm looking for,
searching for a new way of life,
trying to stay strong
as we all carry on day by day.

by Zephia, Danielle, Cassie, Melissasue, Stacey, Tiffany, Sierra, Ariel, Charlotte, Lauren

It's all in the way we see it
Our broken selves hide, then rise and burn.
Now comes a new understanding of old ways.
You can't teach an old dog new tricks
but we can teach young boys and girls right from wrong!
As we all get older we learn from all around us.
Everyday we change in one way or another,
broken dreams and shattered innocence are all that's left.
What will ever become of this?
A new start, a brighter tomorrow.

New Leaf-New Life is a 501 c3 nonprofit organization that offers services to inmates in the Monroe County Jail during incarceration and after release. Applying the philosophy of therapeutic justice, we encourage personal growth and self-advocacy, supporting incarcerated individuals in their efforts to make a successful transition back into the community.

That's Not Me

By David Field

Where do I end and where do you begin?
What I want, do I want that because you want that?
What I think, do I think that because you think that?
What I believe, do I believe that because you believe that?
What I love, do I love that because you love that?
What I hate, do I hate that because you hate that?

If I keep my money, is that o.k.?

Is it possible for one word of truth to overcome the whole world?
If I say yes and God says no, who wins?
Do I win? What if what I want will kill me? Can saying no be an act of love, of compassion?

What if what I want is to earn a million dollars with my guitar? What if it turns out in my case that wealth and fame will be fatal? Sometimes it is, you know? Do I want to be known even if it kills me?

If I am denied, maybe that is an act of love.
What if the whole point is not to save you, but me?

Thanksgiving

By Cassie Blatz

Family and Friends
Gathering for good times
Creating warm, happy memories
Turkey, potatoes, green beans, stuffing and pie
Being, seeing, living
Magic

MCCC jail circle

By Tiffany, Jamie, Zephia, Cassie, Jessica, Kim, Jamie, Penny, Amy, Meghan, and Kayla

Love is very interesting and full of emotions
Each day, we're getting stronger
And the love we have is everlasting
This day is good
New beginnings
Old ways turn into new ways
And with each new day is a new life
Good things come to them who wait
Good things come to them who create and believe
So don't just give up and leave
Stay around, talk it out, despite your urge to scream and shout
Take it all in and just be.

By Tiffany, Jamie, Zephia, Cassie, Jessica, Kim, Jamie, Penny, Amy, Meghan, and Kayla

A hidden love
Love is strong and true
Even when the world seems blue
I can be happy too
It's inside of me
Lost and trying to find me again
Tired of running—let me find myself
Want to change, but where do I start?
Breaking down my walls and letting go of my insecurities
I am a soldier; I will survive
I'll get through anything, no matter how big or small
I'll follow my spirit, no matter what.

By Cassie Blatz
dedicated to my grandma, Becky Wiles who passed away
9-17-2014

I love you, grandma. Love, Cassie.
I miss you.
Loved ones come and go.
Our future is unknown, we have to reap what we've sown.
Forward is the place to go, it's the place where we can grow.
I've hurt you, I know.
But together, we can grow.
We hav no button that says rewind.
Lets take a new view.
Lets keep it true, and I love you too.
I'm glad you're still holding my hand.
10-14-15

Tis the Season for Giving

By Araceli Gomez, Latino Programs Coordinator, City of Bloomington

By Mehgan McComb

I have embraced these prison walls as if they were my own.
My name is wrote in cursive and etched into the stone.
I never see the sun and the clouds are far away
This is my place called home; it is where I have to stay.
Shackles on my feet and cuffs around my hands
Every day I am getting closer to the freedom land
My heart is bound with fear, my body wrapped in pain
I'm trying to bury the guilt and take away the shame
My body is so broken from the life I used to live
Please wipe away my tears for the hurtful things I did
My family never visits and the mail it never comes
My kids are somewhere playing and having lots of fun
Days are getting shorter, nights are getting cold
The bars that I'm behind are getting very old
God please let me go and let my soul be free
Take away my sins and throw them in the sea

Korinnes' Song—
Were You Just A Dream?
By Billy Young

Were you just, just a Dream?
Above any ever seen
Were you just a drifting gifting Dream?
Echoed light turned Gold Moonbeam
You step into a room then it shines so bright
Transcending all the darkness
Into a rainbow light
But were you just, just a Dream?
Above any ever seen

Were you just, a Make Believe?
A speed of light beyond conceive
Were you too bright a star?
The one you feel both near and far
A gifting wish, a Hope To come true

Down where the ocean becomes a sky of blue

But were you a Brighter Star?
In a sky both near and far

Were you my Trustful Friend?
A true friend of no end

Would you let me be your True Friend?
Without a doubt in my dream of heart

I know that rainbows, they don't, they won't last long
'Till all that's left Is a singing of your song

But were you, just a dream, above any ever seen?
You are the Seraphim of Stars
Inside of a Dream both near and far

Shalom Writer's Circle: The Shalom Community Center is a daytime resource center in Monroe County for people who are living in poverty and experiencing its ultimate expressions: hunger, homelessness, and a lack of access to basic life necessities.

The City of Bloomington Latino Outreach Program, a program of the Community and Family Resources Department (CFRD), coordinates an annual gift matching program for local Latino families in need during the months of November and December. Families register with the CFRD office and sign up to receive gifts for their children ages newborn to sixteen years old. Some popular requests are winter jackets, sweaters and shoes. If you are interested in becoming a donor please send an email to latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov or call (812)349-3430. Latino Outreach Program staff also coordinate with Salvation Army to help as many families as possible during the holidays. In 2015, twenty-two families received assistance with the support of fifteen community members.

For the past thirteen years the Community and Family Resources Department staff has raised money through their Holiday Assistance Program to help Bloomington families during the holiday season. This year is no exception. The CFRD staff is organizing their annual "Soup and Sweets" fundraising event. Like previous years, the staff will dig out their recipes to create homemade soups and desserts. The fundraiser takes place the week after Thanksgiving and all City Hall employees and commissioners are encouraged to donate while they grab a bowl of homemade soup and a tasty dessert.

Community and Family Resources Director Beverly Calender-Anderson says this is one of the department's most enjoyable event. "Every day we are able to see the needs in the community and we work very hard to empower community members and engage them in service to address these needs. As a team we also wanted to contribute in a way that would make a difference in someone's life. Soup and Sweets allows us to show off our culinary skills, work together as a team, bring the entire City staff, along with commission members together for a lunch of hearty soups and scrumptious sweets and at the same time, provide a contribution that would make someone else's smile a little brighter during the holidays," said Calender-Anderson.

In addition to local Latino families, the Soup and Sweets fundraiser has assisted families identified through IU Health Positive Link Gifts of Grace Program for persons living with HIV/AIDS, the Indiana National Guard Family Readiness Group and the Veteran's Administration , Shalom Community Center and the Bloomington Housing Authority Adopt a Child Program.

CFRD's Holiday Assistance Program cannot succeed without the help of the community. To help bring joy to a Bloomington family, call CFRD at latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov or call (812)349-3430. Happy Holidays!

New Leaf/New Life

By Marilyn Dallas A.A.S. HS-BCP, Transition Program Manager, Transition Support Center, New Leaf New Life, Inc. • 812-355-6842

This was the first 5 K run/walk hosted by New Leaf New Life, Inc. New Leaf New Life, Inc. is a 501 c3 nonprofit organization that offers services to inmates in the Monroe County Jail during incarceration and after release. This event was to help support the transitional center located at 1010 S. Walnut St., Bloomington, IN. Each entry fee of \$20.00 included a t shirt with our Motto "GET OUT, STAY OUT, and the names of our local sponsors, B Town Diners, Grimes Aquatec Pools and Spas, High Speed Tire and Automotive, Southside Rental Inc., and Oliver Winery. We would like to send out a big Thank you for their kind support.

There was a moderate turn out for the event and those that participated were excited to be a part of such a worthy cause. The 5 k walk/run participants made their way down the B line from Allen St. to Country Club Dr. and back again. The competition had its earliest time recorded at 19:50 seconds. The winner, Chris Chandler was presented a gift certificate donated by the Malibu Grill. The second place position went to Samantha Plantz and Abigail Hamilton with a recorded time of 25:45 seconds. Each second place winner received a \$10.00 gift certificate. All of the participants were considered winners and the event was a success.

We are excited about the next fundraiser for New Leaf New Life, Inc., which will be a Christmas Benefit. Watch for it on Facebook at New Leaf New Life, Inc. If you missed this walk/run watch for the next event in the spring when we will host another 5K run/walk. The weather will be a little bit warmer.

A little more about us; At New Leaf New, Inc., our mission is to apply the philosophy of therapeutic justice, we encourage personal growth and self-advocacy and support incarcerated individuals in their efforts to make a successful transition back into the community. We do this by Creating & strengthening programs that implement therapeutic justice with a goal to reduce recidivism; promoting better conditions of incarceration; enabling successful re-entry into society and joining with groups with similar missions to bring about policies that favor rehabilitation.

volunteer

There Are SO MANY Ways to Work Relieve Poverty, to Prevent Poverty and to Work towards Social Justice!

*Submitted by Bet Savich, Director, City of Bloomington Volunteer Network
volunteer@bloomington.in.gov • (812) 349-3472 • 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.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer, call 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.

Banneker Community Center—After-School Program at Fairview School

Whether you simply enjoy working with youth or have professional aspirations to do so, the Banneker after-school program at Fairview School will give you valuable hands-on experience. The program is held from 3:30 to 5 p.m., Mon. through Thurs. until May 20. Eight volunteers per day tutor one-on-one or in small groups, helping students excel in math and reading. Volunteers also facilitate art and science activities, as well as active games that stimulate creativity and critical thinking. Volunteers must attend an orientation and are asked to commit to two or more days per week. Minimum age is 18. Sign up at <http://bit.ly/BannekerattheView> or contact Kim Ecenbarger, Bloomington Parks and Recreation, at (812) 349-3739 or ecenbark@bloomington.in.gov. (www.bloomington.in.gov/parks)

Bloomington Meals on Wheels Driver

If you enjoy driving and like helping people, consider becoming a Meals on Wheels driver. Drivers deliver meals to homebound people who are recovering from an accident or illness, have a temporary or permanent disability, or are unable to prepare food independently. Volunteers give a year-long, once-a-month commitment and use their own vehicles. Each volunteer delivers to about 12 clients, at lunch time. Minimum age is 21; no minimum if with an adult. Please contact Kathy Romy

at mow@bloomingtonhospital.org or (812) 353-2248. (www.bloomingtonmealsonwheels.org)



Interfaith volunteers set up.

City of Bloomington Council for Community Accessibility—Screeners for AccessAbility Decal Project

The City of Bloomington Council for Community Accessibility (CCA) is recruiting volunteers to survey a variety of locations to determine their accessibility for people with disabilities. Screeners use established criteria for parking, paths, entrance, elevators, stairs, railings, common areas, restrooms, and customer service. Qualifying businesses are then presented with a decal to display on their storefronts. Screeners perform each survey when they wish and, if desired, with a partner. Screeners are asked to complete at least one survey per month. Training and mentoring provided; minimum age is 18. Please go to: <http://bit.ly/CCASurveyors> or contact Michael Shermis at (812) 349-3471 or cca@bloomington.in.gov. (www.bloomington.in.gov/cca)

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

When home is no longer safe, children are placed in foster care. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is seeking a two year commitment from community members aged 21+ who care about these children and are interested in learning about family dynamics, the juvenile court system and how to write reports for the judiciary. In CASA, everyday citizens are appointed by judges

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VOLUNTEER

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to speak up for a child's safety and well-being. CASAs are well-supported after completing 33 hours of training. There are dozens of children on the wait-list. Ideal candidates will have a fairly flexible schedule, reliable transportation and 12–15 hours available a month. Please contact Amber Shride at amber.shride@monroecountycasa.org or (812) 333-2272 to learn when the next series of trainings will be. (www.monroecountycasa.org)



CASA Advocates.

Girl Scouts of Central Indiana—Troop Leaders

Girl Scouts of Central Indiana is seeking troop leaders for University and Arlington Elementary schools, and they make it easy, meaningful, and fun for both girls and volunteers to grow as leaders. Troop leaders are offered free, convenient training, and will plan and facilitate troop meetings, community service activities, and fun outings. They also will work with the girls on projects to earn badges. The time commitment is 5–10 hours per month. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Crystal Ritter at (317) 924-6854 or critter@girlscoutsindiana.org. (www.girlscoutsindiana.org)

Girls Inc. After-School Program

Girls Inc. is seeking fun, energetic volunteers to assist with after-school activities from 3–6 p.m., Mon.–Fri. Volunteers help with structured programs and general supervision of school-aged girls. The programs vary each semester and also include homework help with opportunities to tutor and read with girls. All volunteers attend an orientation session and undergo a criminal background check. Minimum age is 18. Please contact June Taylor at (812) 336-7313 or

jtaylor@monroe.girls-inc.org, (www.girlsinc-monroe.org)

Interfaith Winter Shelter Training

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 men or women to come in out of the cold. This shelter operates at rotating locations; you can volunteer at one or multiple sites during evening, overnight, or early morning shifts. All volunteers must attend a training. Please note the training times and locations and sign up online here: <http://interfaithwintershelter.org/volunteers-sign-up-online>. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Daniel Watts at (812) 333-6168 or wattbush@gmail.com. (www.interfaithwintershelter.org)

Opportunity House Store

Opportunity House, which is dependent on individuals sharing their time and talents, is a non-profit, volunteer-run resale shop serving the community since 1968. Making a donation of time or goods raises funds for Monroe County United

Ministries (MCUM), which provides affordable, high-quality childcare as well as basic needs assistance for those facing a financial crisis. In addition, MCUM's emergency services clients can shop for clothes and household items at no cost. Volunteers sort donations, stock shelves, make minor sewing repairs, and serve as cashiers. Shifts are 8:30–11:30 a.m. or 11:30

a.m.–2:30 p.m. Mon.–Sat. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Jill Argenbright at (812) 360-7049 or argenbri@gmail.com. (www.mcum.org/opportunityhouse)

RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program—Job Search Support

Job coaches improve the lives of those experiencing homelessness and poverty by assisting with resume and interview preparation, job leads, and completing online applications. Coaches volunteer at the Shalom Center from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. once weekly (M-F). Training and support provided. This is a small but dedicated group that works very independently. Basic computer and internet skills and an email account are required. Please contact Mela Hatchett, RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program, at mhatchett@area10agency.org or (812) 876-3383. (www.area10agency.org/rsvp)

Salvation Army—Reuse and Recycle for Charity

Every day, the Salvation Army receives hundreds of pounds of donated goods: clothing, furniture, electronics, art, jewelry and more. They save these materials from ending up in the landfill by selling what is good to the public at low prices. Those funds are used to support their Child Development Center, food pantry and financial assistance programs. Items not suitable to sell are recycled, old clothes become rags and broken electronics are disposed of safely. Volunteers assist with receiving, sorting, and hanging donated items and in making the store an attractive destination for customers. Minimum age is 16; no minimum if with an adult. Please contact Peter Iversen at (812) 336-4310 ext. 102 or peter_iversen@usc.salvationarmy.org. (www.bloomingtonsalvationarmyindiana.org)



Be More Award Recipient Helen Freeman Delivers Meals on Wheels.

Salvation Army—Holiday Bells—Red Kettle Bell Ringers—now through Dec. 24

Sign up for your preferred location and shift now! The Salvation Army places volunteer bell ringers at 21 red kettles in Monroe County. Salvation Army bells ring for 11 hours at each site for six weeks; that's thousands of ringing hours! Many churches, service clubs and families ring already, taking two hour shifts which are very rewarding. No minimum age. Visit www.RegisterToRing.com or contact Peter Iversen at (812) 336-4310 ext. 102 or peteriversen@usc.salvationarmy.org. (www.bloomingtonsalvationarmyindiana.org)



Girls Inc Susan Israelsen leads the 5–8 year olds girls in their Let Us Tell You a Story! program

Shalom Community Center—Provide Hospitality

Volunteers are the backbone for the everyday operations of the Shalom Community Center, a day center for people experiencing homelessness or poverty. Hospitality volunteers work at the busy front desk, 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 or visit with agency representatives. Minimum age is 18. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/ShalomCenterVolunteering> or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@shalomcommunitycenter.org or (812) 334-5734 ext. 23. (www.shalomcommunitycenter.org)

See "VOLUNTEER", page 8



Meals on Wheels Delivery.

South Central Community Action Program—Greenhouse Education

Keep your green thumb happy by volunteering with ‘Growing Opportunities’, a program of the South Central Community Action Program which teaches participants greenhouse-related job skills. Clients may include people with traumatic brain injury, mental illness, memory impairment, and/or physical disabilities. Volunteers must be able to interact positively with individuals of all ages and varying abilities; a background in social work, nursing, teaching, or working with people with disabilities would be helpful, but is not required. Volunteers work with staff and must be able to tolerate heat and occasional heavy lifting. Minimum age is 18; 15 if with an adult. Please contact Nikki Wooten at (812) 339-3447 ext. 233 or nicole@inccap.org. (www.inccap.org)



Salvation Army Volunteer.

Stepping Stones—Handy Person

Stepping Stones is seeking an experienced volunteer to assist with general household maintenance, who could assist them on an as-needed basis for 4-5 hours a month. Stepping Stones operates from five apartments, which require a certain amount of regular maintenance that is not covered by the apartment complex. Volunteer should expect requests such as fixing doors and blinds, making light cosmetic repairs, maintaining dishwashers, spackling, and replacing and installing window screens. Volunteers are requested to commit to six months. Minimum age is 21. Please contact Stepping Stones at (812) 339-9771 or afornal@steppingstones-inc.org. (www.steppingstones-inc.org)

United Way of Monroe County—Free Community Tax Service

Become someone’s tax hero! If you enjoy both helping others and working with numbers, the Free Community Tax Service could be a perfect volunteer opportunity for you! United Way

of Monroe County is now recruiting volunteers to serve as tax preparers for the 2016 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 encouraged 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.

Continuing education credits are available to qualifying professionals. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Ashley Schoolman at aschoolman@monroeunitedway.org or (812) 334-8370. (www.financialstabilityalliance.org/freetaxes.html)



Meals on Wheels Volunteer.

United Way of Monroe County—Real Men Read MENTor—Edgewood or Stinesville

If you love reading and kids, consider becoming a Real Men Read MENTor at Edgewood Primary or Stinesville Elementary School! MENTors read to a designated Kindergarten class for half an hour once a month during the school year, while being meaningful role models for educational success in local kids’ lives. Children receive encouragement by reading along with an adult male role model, build positive association with the pleasure of

books, and develop important literacy skills that will shape their future learning. Minimum age is 18. Please contact Ashley Schoolman, United Way of Monroe County, at (812) 334-8370 or aschoolman@monroeunitedway.org. (www.monroeunitedway.org)



Volunteer delivering Meals on Wheels.

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.

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Adult Education

MCCSC Adult Education

Address: Broadview Learning Center, 705 W. Coolidge Drive
Phone: (812) 330-7731
Web: www.adult.mccsc.edu
Volunteer Contact: Melanie Hunter (330-7731 x 52137; mhunter@mccsc.edu)
About: The Monroe County Community School Corporation's Adult Education program offers free, individualized instruction and guidance to teen and adult learners who need to get their GED diploma, want to improve basic job and literacy skills or learn new ones, are trying to learn English as a Second Language, or who aspire to create better opportunities for themselves and their families. There are also low-cost beginning computer classes for people age 55 and over. Classes start again August 16. Orientation for new students is Monday August 22; check for times. Located on Coolidge between Rogers St. & Rockport Rd., on the #2 South BT route.

AIDS/HIV Services

Bloomington Hospital Positive Link

Address: 333 E. Miller Dr.
Phone: (812) 353-9150
Web: www.bloomingtonhospital.org
About: HIV testing and extensive care coordination for those living with HIV/AIDS. Serve as a community resource regarding HIV/AIDS education and awareness. Also offer Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Syphilis testing.

Clothing, furniture, housewares

Monroe County United Ministries

Address: 827 W. 14 Ct.
Phone: (812) 339-3429
Volunteer Contact: Rebecca Gordan ([812] 353-9150; mcumhelp@bloomington.in.us)
About: Provides a subsidized Child-Care Program for low-income families in Monroe County, which includes a year-round program for children two to six years old, and a summer camp subsidized child-care for children ages six to ten, when school is out of session. All care-givers in the families either work full time or attend school part-time and work part-time. There is also an Emergency Services Program that assists families who are experiencing a short-term crisis. The Emergency Services Program includes a food pantry, a clothing program, and financial assistance for rent or utility payments.

My Sister's Closet of Monroe County, Inc.

Address: 404 W. 2nd St.
Web: www.sisterscloset.org
Volunteer Contact: Laura Robinson, (812) 333-7710; info@sisterscloset.org
About: Provides low-income women with free interview and workplace apparel, helping them overcome hurdles they face to independence and

family self-sufficiency. Also sells used, affordable clothes to the public.

Salvation Army

Address: 111 N. Rogers St.
Phone: (812) 336-4310
Volunteer Contact: Monica Clemons ([812] 336-4310 x100; monica_clemons@usc.salvationarmy.org)

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

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Address: 4607 West State Road 46
Phone: (812) 961-1510
Web: www.bloomingtonsvdp.org

Volunteer Contact: Scott Alber, ([812] 335-1280 volunteer@bloomingtonsvdp.org)
About: A Catholic led ecumenical society of volunteers dedicated to helping those in need. Assistance is offered in the form of community resource information, vouchers for furniture, and in some cases limited financial help with a utility bill, rent, rent deposit or other essential need. Almost all funding comes through donations and assistance is given without regard to religion, race or creed. Volunteer opportunities abound.

Disabilities assistance programs

LifeDesigns, Inc.

Address: 200 East Winslow Rd.
Phone: (812) 332-9615
Web: www.lifedesignsinc.org
Volunteer Contact: Cindy Fleetwood
About: LifeDesigns, Inc. offers comprehensive services for people with disabilities in south central Indiana including education, housing and employment assistance. We offer services for every stage of life from childhood through adulthood. Our mission to partner with people with disabilities and the community to bring about self-directed and enriched lives through education, information and support. LifeDesigns is a grassroots organization formed by the merger of two well-known agencies, Christole and Options, who have provided leading-edge programs for over three decades.

People & Animal Learning Services (PALS)

Facility Address: 7644 W Elwren Rd, Bloomington,
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1033, Bloomington, IN 47402
Phone: 812-336-2798
Web: www.palstherapy.org
Volunteer Contact: Jennylynn Vidas, (812) 336-2798 ext. 15, jennylynn@palstherapy.org
About: PALS provides therapeutic Equine Assisted Activities (EAA) to individuals with disabilities, veterans and at-risk youth in South Central Indiana. PALS programs are designed by professionals and aim to develop and restore functional skills, enhance well-being and improve quality of life. Services

are available to individuals ages three and up. PALS is a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl) Premier-Accredited Center and United Way of Monroe County Member Agency.

Stone Belt

Address: 2815 E. 10 St.
Phone: (812) 332-2168
Web: www.stonebelt.org
Volunteer Contact: Amy Jackson (332-2168 x314; ajackson@stonebelt.org)

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

Employment resources and job counseling

WorkOne

Address: 450 Landmark Ave.
Phone: (812) 331-6000

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

Stone Belt

See disabilities assistance programs.

Job Links

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

Family Services

El Centro Comunal Latino

Address: 303 E Kirkwood Avenue, Room 11
Phone: (812) 355-7513
Web: www.elcentrocomunal.org

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

the Legal Advice Project, Informate—series of educational presentations, health programming, and the Bienvenidos program; a support group that helps immigrants acculturate to life in the United States.

Head Start Program

Address: 1520 W. 15th St.
Phone: (812) 334-8350
Web: www.headstart.bloomington.in.us/
About: Guides children aged 3 to kindergarten towards gaining cognitive skills, patience, sharing, problem solving, hygiene, safety, and practice in good decision making. Free to income eligible.

IN Dept. of Child Services

Address: 1717 W. 3rd St.
Phone: (812) 336-6351
About: Services are designed to protect children from abuse and neglect by partnering with families and communities to provide safe, nurturing, and stable homes. To make a report of child abuse or neglect the public can call 1-800-800-5556.

Division of Family Resources

Address: 1711 N. College Ave.
Phone: 1-(800)-403-0864
About: Provides aid to families with dependent children (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF), food stamps, Medicaid.

Programas de Alcance a Latinos

Latino Programs and Outreach Division
Address: 401 N. Morton St. Suite 260, Bloomington, IN 47402
Phone: (812) 349-3430
Web: <https://bloomington.in.gov/>
Contact: Araceli Gómez-Aldana, latinoprograms@bloomington.in.gov
Acerca: El Departamento de Recursos Comunitarios y Familiares de la Ciudad de Bloomington ha enfocado sus esfuerzos para alcanzar a la comunidad Hispana ofreciendo una gran variedad de programas. Eventos culturales, educación cívica, servicios directos y traducciones, El programa de radio Hola Bloomington en WFHB y la publicación Del Boletín Comunitario.

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

Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM)

Address: 827 W. 14th Court
Phone: (812) 339-3429
Web: www.mcum.org
Hours: 6:30am-5:30pm
About: Full-time care for children ages 2-6 on a sliding fee scale, parents must be employed or attending school, NAEYC-accredited center

WIC Program

Address: 333 East Miller Drive
Phone: (812) 353-3221
About: Provides nutritional support for underprivileged mothers, babies and children up to

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five years of age in Monroe and Greene Counties. Applicants must meet income guidelines, live in Indiana, and have a nutritional need. All services are provided free of charge.

Food stamps

Division of Family Resources

See family services.

Health care

Futures Family Health Clinic

Address: 119 W. 7th St.
Phone: (812) 349-7343

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

Bloomington Hospital Home Health & Hospice

Address: 619 W 1st St.
Phone: (812) 353-9818

Web: www.bloomingtonhospital.org
Volunteer Contact: Melanie Miller ([812]353-9818; mmiller@bloomhealth.org)
About: Provides care and support for people who are terminally ill and their families. Training classes for new volunteers are offered twice a year.

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.pppin.org

About: Services provided include pelvic exams, breast exams, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections, HIV testing and counseling, pregnancy tests, various types of birth control, emergency contraception (the "morning after pill"), as well as abortion services.

Vistacare Hospice

Address: 1801 Liberty Dr., Ste. 103
Phone: (812) 330-9640
Web: www.vistacare.com
Volunteer Contact: Cathi Counterman ([812] 340-3467; cathi.counterman@vistacare.com)
About: Provides caregiver relief and companionship for terminally ill patients and bereavement support for family members.

Volunteers in Medicine Clinic

Address: 811 West 2nd Street
Phone: (812) 333-4001
Web: www.vimmonroecounty.org
Volunteer Contact: Shelley Sallee ([812]333-4001 x109; info@vimmonroecounty.org)
About: Provides free medical care, including dental care at the offices of participating dentists, for people living in Monroe or Owen County who lack health insurance and have an income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. This means that the income must not exceed \$20,420 for a 1-person household. For each additional person, add \$6,960. To qualify for medical care individuals must fill out an eligibility form about their economic situation and set up an eligibility interview. Children or adults who qualify for health care at the clinic will receive free care at Southern Indiana Pediatrics.

Housing (abused women)

Middle Way House

Address: 338 S. Washington St.
Phone: (812) 333-7404 (admin phone), (812) 336-0846 (crisis line)
Web: www.middlewayhouse.org
About: Middle Way House is an emergency shelter that provides services to protect and help women who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and women who feel they are in danger. Services include a safe place to stay, case management, in-house children's programs, legal advocacy. There is also a transitional housing program called The Rise which has self-contained apartments for families leaving abusive relationships. Women and their children can stay at The Rise for up to two years.

Housing (emergency, for adults)

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

Web: www.backstreet.org
Phone: (812) 333-1905.
Address: 300 Opportunity Lane, off W. 3rd Street.

Backstreet Missions

Address: 215 Westplex Ave.
Phone: (812) 333-1905
Web: www.backstreet.org
About: A men's shelter with services including a crisis and 12 month housing program, meals, the provision of clothing, ministry to spiritual needs, job and life skill training, GED classes, and employment and volunteer opportunities.

Martha's House

Address: 919 S. Rogers (Shelter)
Phone: (812) 332-1444
Web: marthashouseofbloomington.org
About: An emergency shelter with 40 beds (18 for men and 12 for women). Services provided include case management, food, and clothing. Opens at 6:15 p.m.

Housing (Family Shelter)

New Hope Family Shelter

Phone: (812) 334-9840
E-mail: newhope@nhsinc.org
About: The mission of the New Hope Family Shelter (NHFS) is to provide temporary shelter for homeless families in Bloomington and Monroe County and, in collaboration with other agencies, to help those families regain housing by addressing the problems that led to homelessness.

Housing (Intact Families/Adults)

Bloomington Catholic Worker

Address: 821 North Blair Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana 47404
Phone: (812) 339-4456
About: We offer short-term, home-based hospitality to people facing homelessness.

Housing (Pregnant women)

Hannah House Maternity Home

Address: 808 N. College Ave.
Phone: (812) 334-2662
Web: www.cpcbloomington.org
About: A comprehensive residential program or pregnant women and teenagers. Offers access to prenatal and pediatric care. Also offers life skills training and assistance in achieving longer-term educational and career goals.

Housing (Rental)

Bloomington Housing Authority

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

Housing and Neighborhood Development

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

Housing (homeless youth)

Stepping Stones

Address: PO Box 1366
Phone: (812) 339-9771
Web: www.steppingstones-inc.org
About: Transitional housing program and supportive service for homeless young people aged 16-20.

Youth Services Bureau

Address: 615 S. Adams St.
Phone: (812) 349-2506
Web: www.youthservicesbureau.net
About: Provides short-term residential care and crisis intervention for youth ages 8-17. Provides other services as well.

Legal and court-related services

Community Justice & Mediation Center

Address: 120 W. 7th St., Ste. 310
Phone: (812) 339-1551
Web: www.bloomington.in.us/~mediate
Volunteer Contact: Amanda Nickey ([812] 336-8677; 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

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

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

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

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

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

Backstreet Missions (Gino's Cafeteria)

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

Bloomington Meals on Wheels, Inc.

Address: 727 W. 1st Street
Phone: (812) 323-4982
Web: www.bloomingtonmealsonwheels.org
About: Provides meals to homebound people who are unable to cook for themselves. No age or economic restrictions. To enroll, call number listed. A volunteer will arrange for meal delivery and special dietary needs, explain the costs and how payments can be made.

Bloomington Catholic Worker

Address: 821 North Blair Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana 47404
Phone: (812) 339-4456
About: We share a home-based dinner every night of the week at 6:00 on the southside to which all are welcome. Thursday nights have the largest feast. Please call so we can direct you to the correct house.

City Church Food Outreach

Address: 1200 N Russell Rd. Bloomington IN 47404
Phone: 812-336-5958
Web: citychurchfamily.org
Email: info@citychurchfamily.org
About: City's Food Outreach brings the mission of LOVE people, BUILD family, LEAD to destiny to life. Currently the Food Outreach gives groceries to families every month following the 3rd Saturday of the month service. Saturday service starts at 5:30 and tickets are distributed discreetly during service. December 20th, January 17th, February 21st, March 21st

Community Kitchen

Address: 1515 S. Rogers St.
Phone: (812) 332-0999
Web: www.monroecommunitykitchen.com
Volunteer Contact: Annie Brookshire ([812] 332-0999; volunteer@monroecommunitykitchen.com)
Monday–Saturday: Dinner: 4-6 p.m.
About: Provides hot meals in a sit-down area as well as cold carry-out boxed meals. Also provides meals for afterschool programs at Boys and Girls Club, The Rise, Girls, Inc., Monroe County Community Corrections JAMS Program, Teen Learning Center, and Rhino's Youth Center.

Community Kitchen Express

Address: 1100 W. 11th St.
Monday–Saturday: Dinner: 4-6 p.m.
About: Provides hot and cold meals as carry-out only. See Community Kitchen listing (above) for phone and volunteer information.

First Christian Church

Address: Corner of Kirkwood Ave. and Washington St.
Sunday: Breakfast: 8-9:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Address: Corner of Lincoln and 7th Streets
Saturday: Breakfast: 7:30-9:00 a.m.

Harvest House Soup Kitchen

Address: 1107 S. Fairview Dr.
Phone: (812) 339-4462
Sunday: Lunch: 2-4 p.m.

Shalom Community Center

Address: 620 South Walnut Street
Phone: (812) 334-5728
Web: www.shalomcommunitycenter.org
Monday–Friday: Breakfast: 8-9:30 a.m.; Lunch: 12-1:30 p.m. (except Wednesday lunch, 12-1 p.m.)
About: A daytime resource center for those experiencing homelessness and poverty. The facility is open all day and functions as a Day Shelter for guests, where they can use restroom facilities, make phone calls, and do their laundry. Guests can go there to see case workers, employment counselors, connect with visiting agencies, seek assistance through the Family Homelessness Prevention Project, store belongings, receive mail, use restroom facilities, and take a hot shower.

Pantries/Groceries

Area 10 Agency on Aging

See meals and pantries —meals

Hoosier Hills Food Bank

Address: 2333 W. Industrial Park Drive
Phone: (812) 334-8374
Web: www.hhfoodbank.org
Volunteer Contact: Kai Westerfield (334-8374; volunteer@hhfoodbank.org)
About: Collects, stores and distributes donated food to 84 nonprofit organizations with feeding programs that directly serve needy and hungry people. Distributes about 2 million pounds of food to hungry people each year.

MCUM Emergency Food Pantry

Address: 827 W. 14th Ct.
Phone: (812) 339-3429
Web: www.mcum.org
Hours: Monday–Friday 8-11:30 a.m.; 1-3:15 p.m.
About: Distributes non-perishable food, three days' supply provided. Must be Monroe County resident and complete a brief intake form.

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Address: 1100 Allen Street
Phone: (812) 355-6843
Web: www.mhcfoodpantry.org
Hours: Monday–Friday 12-6 p.m.
About: Provides nutritious food to people in need. Most of the food is received from the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. Also operates a Nutrition Education Program and an organic Community Gardening Program.

Salvation Army

Address: 111 N. Rogers St.
Phone: (812) 336-4310
Hours: Tues, Thurs 1-3:30 and Wed, Fri 9-11:30
About: Need ID. Depending upon income and resources, can offer one week's supply of groceries. Will not provide again for at least 30 days.

SLO FoodS garden pantry

About: The program emphasizes locally grown produce and dispenses food to those in need on a weekly basis.
When: Wednesdays from 1:00–3:00 pm
Where: 615 N. Fairview Street (Trained Eye Arts

Center) (on the B-Line Trail just south of 11th St. underpass)

Volunteer Contact: Mylo Roze, Director–Eco Media Center Coordinator–SLO FoodS garden pantry
Web: <http://ecomediacenter.org>
greenthecity@yahoo.com

First United Methodist Church

Address: 219 E. 4th Street
Hours: Wednesdays, 3:00-5:30 p.m.
About: Provides brown bag lunch, groceries.

Township Trustees Food Pantries—Bloomington

Address: 2111 W. Vernal Pike
Phone: (812) 336-4976
Hours: Monday–Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
About: Provides canned goods. Must be a resident of Bloomington Township.

Township Trustees Food Pantries—Perry

Address: 1010 S. Walnut St.
Phone: (812) 336-3713
Hours: Monday–Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
About: Provides canned goods. Must be a resident of Perry Township.

Medicaid

Division of Family Resources

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

Older citizen programs

Area 10 Agency on Aging

Address: 631 W. Edgewood Drive, Ellettsville, Indiana 47429
Phone: (812) 876-3383
Web: www.area10agency.org
About: Offers programs and services, as well as being a resource of information about services for older and disabled citizens living in Monroe and Owen counties. Services that can be accessed include the Aging and Disability Resource Center, 2-1-1 Infolink, in-home health-related services and referrals, home-delivered meals, food pantry, congregate meal sites, support groups, education for family caregivers, affordable housing, assistance for the homebound, handyman services, a long-term-care ombudsman program for residents of area nursing homes, RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program, recreational and arts programs at Area 10's Endwright Center in Ellettsville, and Rural Transit bus service.

Pregnancy testing, counseling, education

Planned Parenthood
See health care.

See "DIRECTORY", page 12

DIRECTORY

Continued from page 11

WIC Program

See family services.

Rent, utility, bill assistance

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

Youth programs

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Address: 807 N. College Avenue
Phone: (812) 334-2828

Web: www.bigsindiana.org

Volunteer Contact: Mark Voland, mvoland@bigsindiana.org, 812-334-2828, ext. 227.
About: Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana helps children in Monroe and Owen counties reach their potential through professionally supported, one to one relationships with measurable impact.

Bloomington Boys and Girls Club

Address: 311 S. Lincoln St.

Phone: (812) 332-5311

Web: www.bgbloomington.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.harmonyhschool.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 born 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.