

Board member serves 17 years

It is with regret that we announce the retirement of G.E. Pierce from our agency's board. With 17 years of service to the agency, we cannot thank G.E. enough for all his hours of dedication. It has been a pleasure to work with him and he has been a valuable asset to our agency as well as other organizations.

G.E. joined the board in 1999. He served in many capacities, including being on the committee that built the agency's current offices, at 1203 N 6th St, and for 17 years he faithfully worked to support the agency and its many endeavors.



(ABOVE: Board Chair George Clinton, right, presents G.E. Pierce with a card on his last day as an agency board member.)

Coke caps earn shoes for Soles for Christ program

The agency is collecting plastic bottle caps from a variety of Coca Cola products as a fundraiser for the Soles for Christ shoe program.

The caps can be used to redeem points for items through the company's "MyRewards" program, including coupons for new tennis shoes.

Coke products that have codes include all of the company's soda products and Minute Maid, Powerade, Seagram's, FUZE, and Dasani lines.

Caps can be brought to the office Mon. - Fri., 8 to 5 or to any fundraising events.



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AFL-CIO Community Services
1203 N. Sixth St.
Saint Joseph, MO 64501

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Help Me Headlines



AFL-CIO Community Services

Spring 2016

1203 N. 6th St., St. Joseph, MO 64501

816.364.1131

www.helpmenow.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 1 – August 1: Toy Drive & Raffle – For every toy of a \$10 value or more, or equivalent cash donation, donors are given a ticket. At the end of the month, three winners will be drawn for \$50 and \$100 gift cards or \$500 cash! Toys will be accepted the entire month at all events and daily at the office, 1203 N. 6th St.

July 7: Christmas in July Sale – We've held back the good stuff for one night of can't-be-beat bargains in the Community Clothes Closet. For every \$25 you spend, you'll earn \$5 in Closet Cash for your next visit. 4:30 to 7 pm, 1203 N. 6th St.

July 16: Trivia Night – Come test your knowledge at our holiday trivia contest. 7 pm, Green Acres Ballroom, 3500 N. Village Dr. (by Hollywood Theaters). Each player is \$20, with a 10 person team maximum. Early bird sign-up \$15; deadline June 19.

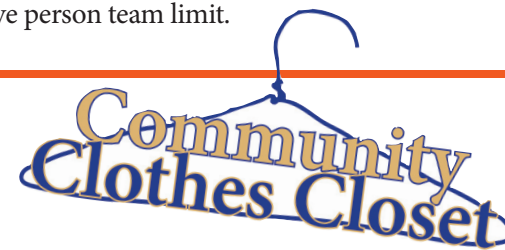


July 23: Mustangs night – Come out and cheer the Mustangs on at their last home game of the season. Game time is 7 pm. Agency receives portion of \$6 ticket when you buy by calling 364.1131 or buy at 1203 N. 6th St. Tickets can be purchased by phone and mailed as well.

July 30: Scavenger Hunt – You may think you know your way around St. Joseph, but this scavenger hunt list may even stump you! Bring a digital camera and four of your friends and join in the fun! Registration starts at 5 pm, and the hunt begins at 6 pm at the Letter Carrier's Hall, 2301 St. Joseph Ave. \$15 per person, five person team limit.

Fall Fling Sale

October 13, 2016



It's a chance to grab up the best we have to offer in fall decor, clothing and holiday items. 4:30 to 7 pm, 1203 N. 6th St.



AFL-CIO Community Services

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SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

GIVE MONEY

The success of all AFL-CIO Community Services programs is due to the generosity of community members and businesses that provide financial support to agency programs. By making an unrestricted monetary donation, you are allowing us to respond to the program with the most current needs. Because many of the programs are seasonal, by making a monetary donation you are ensuring the success of the programs rather than restricting the funds to a limited period of use. To make a donation, visit the agency website at helpmenow.org, complete and return the included donation envelope or call 816.364.1131.

GIVE YOUR TIME

Volunteers are the backbone of many of the agency programs. In 2015, volunteers distributed shoes to school-age children, helped sort and distribute clothing and household essentials in the Community Clothes Closet, distributed and repaired formal wear for young ladies in our community through Cinderella's Closet, and adopted, shopped for and distributed Christmas gifts to almost 1,000 families living in the St. Joseph area. The options for volunteers are endless and we can always find a match for your talents. To give time, please visit the agency website at helpmenow.org or call 816.364.1131.

GIVE GIFTS

The opportunities and the options for giving are numerous for donors interested in giving items, and every item received goes to good use. New and gently used clothing and household items are always welcome in the Community Clothes Closet. We are always happy to pick up yard sale leftovers, or take items you can no longer use when you do your Spring cleaning. Formal wear and accessories are always needed in Cinderella's Closet; used eyeglasses can be donated to the Lion's Club eyeglass program; new shoes can be given to the Soles for Christ shoe program; and diapers are always appreciated for distribution through the Diaper Depot program. Donate by calling 816.364.1131.

Soles for Christ distribution set

AFL-CIO Community Services is once again organizing the Soles for Christ Shoe program. The program offers shoes to school-age children living in Andrew and Buchanan counties in MO, as well as Doniphan County, KS. For the first time, shoes will be available for three and four year olds who are enrolled in a pre-school program.

We would like to invite you to join in this program by donating new shoes to our agency. Shoes can be dropped off at the agency, 1203 N. 6th St., no later than Wednesday, August 3rd. Hours for drop off are 8 am - 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Monetary donations are welcome, and all donations are tax deductible.

Volunteers are also needed to help set up for the program and to size and fit the children with their shoes. If interested in volunteering, please contact our office at 816.364.1131.

2016 Program Dates

Shoes will be given out on Monday, August 8, from 8 am - 4 pm and again on Tuesday, August 9, from 8 am - 6 pm.

Program Mission

The program goal is to provide every school-age child in need with a new pair of shoes for their first day of school. It has been found the shoes boost the child's self esteem and enthusiasm for the upcoming school year. It also aids the many parents who struggle to afford new shoes along with the other costs associated with the start of the school year. In some families the shoes provided through this program are the only new shoes the child ever receives.



Donation suggestions

- ▶ New athletic (tennis) shoes are best, as schools do not allow flip-flop, dress or slip-on style shoes to be used in gym classes.
- ▶ Because it is for children three and up, donations of infant shoes cannot be used.
- ▶ Monetary donations are used to buy shoes when we run out of a size and for special needs.
- ▶ Socks are also accepted and will be offered while supplies last.

Soles for Christ began as an outreach project by Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. The first collection of shoes took place in August 2003, with our agency becoming a partner to distribute the footwear. More than 200 pairs of shoes were given away that inaugural year. Last year, 1,179 students received new shoes. As the popularity of this program has grown, so has the need for donations.

Christmas in July events set

The agency will host five events for the 2016 Christmas in July annual FUNdrive. Events will include:

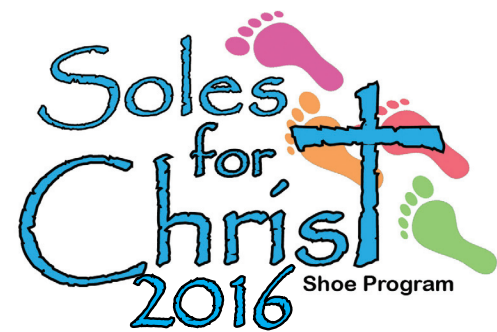
- ▶ Raffle & Toy Drive
- ▶ Community Clothes Closet sale
- ▶ Trivia Night
- ▶ Mustangs' Baseball Christmas Extravaganza
- ▶ Scavenger Hunt & Pub Crawl

The agency intends for these events to serve as a main source of revenue for agency programs and hopes to build on the success of the past two years. We offer a variety of events to appeal to all ages to give our donors something back for the dollars they donate. Therefore, the highlight of our FUNdrive is the FUN part.

The funds raised during these events all filter directly back into agency programs. None of the donations leave the St. Joseph area and many of the funds will be used to help your neighbors who are in need.

The Raffle & Toy Drive is a month-long event. For every \$10 toy or equivalent cash donation, the donor gets a raffle ticket for one of three prizes: \$50 or \$100 gift cards or \$500 CASH.

For a full list of events and dates, please see the calendar of events inside.



August 8 & 9, 2016

Donations of new tennis shoes would be greatly appreciated. To donate or volunteer, please call 816.364.1131 or come to 1203 N. 6th St.

2015 Annual Outcomes

13,405
telephone calls

11,310
referrals
made

Emergency funds provided a variety of needs, including birth certificates, IDs, diapers, bus passes, utility bills, gasoline, rent, transportation services, and prescription medications.



\$16,906 258 households

1,025 adults
1,351 children
131 seniors



2,548 individuals helped

28,996 individuals

Help Me Hotline

123
456
789
0
816.364.1131
800.365.7724

8,439 walk-ins



In 2015, 153 applicants qualified for eyewear.

\$13,350



1,179 pairs of shoes

\$29,475



527 children served

\$2,800

This government-partnered program provides cellphone service for eligible low-income subscribers to help ensure they can connect to the nation's communications network, find jobs, access healthcare services, connect with family and their children's schools and call for help in an emergency.

\$16,050



321 applicants



\$46,279

18,768 free clothing & housewares items



In 2015, Cinderella's Closet provided 250 young women with a dress for their special day.

\$12,500



Many thanks to 2015 volunteers

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Individuals | Kendal Evans | Brian Maxwell | Ronda Soper |
| Adrianna Aarons | Lisa Foster | Kitty McCartney | Kitty Spafford |
| Sarah Albers | Anne Frank | Bill McDaniel | Ronda Speer |
| George Albert | Lisa Gabriel | Angela McKinnon | Michelle & Larry Stagner |
| Ray Allen | Lisa Gabriel | Pat McLarney | Darren Steele |
| Vicki Ausmus | Ann Garrison | Bob & Ursula McMillian | Dominic Sterzinger |
| Barb Bahr | Mary George | Lacy McNett | Mark Struthers |
| Scott Baker | Shirley Golden | Autum McNulty | Jan Stufflebean |
| Lucy Barble | Connie Gorman-Jackson | J McVey | Michael Tabor |
| Billie Bartley | Shaunon Grable | Doug Mersmann | Branislav Tadic |
| Mike & Becky Barton | Debbie Grechus | Karen Milbourn | Lelonia Taylor |
| Dawn Benner | Luke Green | Jennifer & Tiffany Miller | Chelsea Teater |
| Karen Bettis | Candace Greever | Jill Miller | Nancy Thom |
| Barbara Bigelow | Terra Greiner | Valerie Miller | Melinda Thomas |
| Makayla Bigham | Eddie & Marilyn Griggs | Paulette Million | Marty & Kim Thomas |
| Olga Bisig | Brianna Haberyan | Marsha & Stormie Milne | Hollie Thompson |
| Olga Bisig | Myrlo Hall | Patricia Millort | Ruth Thornton |
| Lanette Bocquin | Connie & Rick Harris | Megan Molloy | Any & Marilyn Tomlinson |
| Nick Boyd | Norma Harris | Lindsey Minton | Mark Troutman |
| Jasmine Briedwell | Bobbie Harrison | Deonica Moore | Becky Turner |
| Kathy Brinton | Patsy Hawk | Kathy Morris | Clinton Turner |
| Margie Brown | Gayla Hayes | Cheri Morton | Gail Tyler |
| Jessica Buckley | Jeff & Kaleigh Hayes | Ken & Connie Newton | Mike & Cynde Veale |
| Carol Bunge | Jessica Helfery | Mike Northup | Nathan Wallace |
| Ruth Ann Bunker | Brady Hensley | Alexandria Null | Keith Waller |
| Debra Burnett | Donna Hickok | Brenda OMeara | Michael Wambold |
| Linda Burns | Krissy Hirter | Phyne Pettis | John & Joyce Warden |
| Rachael Burnis | Vanessa Hoffman | Melladee Perry | Craig Westbrook |
| Joanie Burton | Jeremiah Hollers | Kevin Peterson | Carrie Weyer |
| Malisa Calloway | Joyce Hook | Kara Powelson | Marcus Whitney |
| Ronald Campbell | Scott Howell | Jolie Pritchett | Linda Wilkerson |
| Jon, Sidnee, Spencer Carr | Debbie Hueser | Mary Prothero | Sue Winchester |
| Cameron Carson | Renia Huff | Caress Puenz | Brenda Williams |
| Crystal Cary | Becky & Bailey Hughes | Teri Ramsey | Staci Wright |
| Denise Caywood | Alexandria Hyde | Diane Redden | Thelma Wyrick |
| Teresa & Carley Chase | Darrick Inscho | Ernie & Jeanie Reed | Donna Ziegler |
| Sandee Chesser | Gabrielle Isom | Kathy Reinhold | Lori Zillner |
| Joni Christgen | Connie Jackson | Ellen Remick | Lacy Zoubeck |
| Tracy Christie | Andrea Jacobs | Lisa Reynolds | |
| Jodi & Johnnie | Pam Jamison | Joyce Roberts | Groups & Organizations |
| Chriswiser | Sheryl Janeski | Debbie Roebkes | Apple Market |
| George Clinton | Marcia Johnson | Amanda Ross | Cabana Grill |
| Jon & Joy Colestock | Sue Johnson | Rita Rouse | Domino's Pizza |
| Janet Collins | Pat Jones | Jeanne Sample | Eagle Radio |
| Julie Coon | Hazel Jones | Linda Sawyer | Edward Jones |
| Shirley Cooper | Mary Jones | Shelby Schultz | Fox 26 KNP |
| Kalynn Copenharve | Ray Kellogg | Sharon Schultz | International Paper |
| Lori Cordonnier | Denise & Dean Kemis | Barbara Scott | Kmart |
| Skip & Savannah Crisp | Helen King | Candy & Mark Sheehan | KQTV 2 |
| Vanessa Culver | Patti Knorr | Linda & Bernard Sheffer | Mr. Goodcents |
| Patt Davenport | Sharon & Bob Koranda | Brianna Sidwell | Reece Nichols Ide |
| Ben Dean | Leslie Lane | Natalie Simpson | Capital Realty |
| Diane Delaney | Kelsea Leidy | Ella Lembke | Roger's Green Hills |
| Kim Delaney | Cheryl Leverette | Dick Sipe | Schweizer Orchards |
| Jennifer Donahoo | Kay Lingle | Rick & Deb Smith | St. Joseph Bicycle Club |
| Shyan Dredge | William Littlewood | Skylar Smith | St. Joseph NewsPress |
| Stacy & Emily Dreier | Quinn Mace | Gail & Kaitlin Smith | St. Joseph Woodworkers |
| Hannah Dudley | Beth Evans | Cindy & Marty Soper | |

Online Access

AFL-CIO Community Services is online at helpmenow.org. In addition, many of the agency programs have their own Facebook pages. Information on the programs are updated regularly through the website and Facebook pages. Please "like" us to keep up on the latest news and to show your support for the agency programs. In addition to the AFL-CIO Community Services Facebook page, there are also pages for the Adopt-A-Family Christmas program, Soles for Christ Shoe program, Cinderella's Closet, Christmas in July, and the AFL-CIO Community Clothes Closet.