

Working Together

The Newsletter of Monroe County United Ministries

June 2009

Matchstick Initiative Can Light a Fire Under Your Donation

This is the fourth year of the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County's Matchstick Endowment Matching Initiative and the fourth year that MCUM has been chosen to participate. Matchstick adds a dollar to every three dollars donated to MCUM's endowment, a fund held by the foundation that will generate interest to support our programs for as long as they are needed. The first three years of the Matchstick Initiative added more than \$73,000 to MCUM's endowment. This year our goal is to raise an additional \$10,000 to be matched by the foundation. If you would like to help us reach this goal, donations should be sent directly to:

Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County
101 W. Kirkwood Ave. Suite 321
Bloomington, IN 47404

Don't forget to write "MCUM" on the memo line of your check.

Then and Now: Janet Richardson

In celebration of MCUM's 70th Anniversary, this monthly feature highlights those touched by MCUM's Childcare Program over the years.

This month's alum, Janet Richardson, can claim 68 years of involvement with MCUM. Janet and her twin sister, Joyce, were two of the first children to attend MCUM's Childcare Program in 1940. Their mother also worked as the cook in the early days of the program, then known as the Bloomington Day Nursery. Janet remembers Mary Lou Miller as her favorite teacher. She also recalls eating breakfast and lunch at the Day Nursery, playing in the backyard and napping on homemade rugs.



Then and Now continued on page 3

Join us for a Birthday Party in the Park!

On Sunday, June 7, the City of Bloomington will help MCUM and Stone Belt celebrate important birthdays. This year MCUM turns 70, and Stone Belt is 50 years old!



We invite you to pack a picnic lunch and join us at Bryan Park for cake and all kinds of fun at the park shelter off South Henderson. The party starts at 1:00 and will wrap up around 3:00.

Bring your friends and neighbors! We hope to see lots of new faces, as well as familiar ones, at the event.

Food Pantry Needs

Our pantry welcomes donations of all non-perishable foods. At this time, we have a special need for:

- canned veggies including carrots, potatoes, beets, yams and mixed vegetables
- cream and vegetable soups
- canned broth and soups
- brown rice

Cleaning Closet Needs

Cleaning supplies and hygiene items cannot be purchased with food stamps. At this time, our “Cleaning Closet” is in need of:

- dish soap
- womens briefs, sizes 2-6, 10-12, 16-20
- pull up diapers, sizes 2-T-3T

Special Request: We need one pound coffee cans for our August Each One, Feed One Food Drive. One pound plastic coffee containers are also welcome.

Childcare Needs

The children in our program are always playing, exploring and learning which means we need lots of supplies for them to use. Items currently needed include:

- Crayola washable markers
- unscented shaving cream
- seedlings
- shoe-box sized plastic storage containers with lids

Volunteer Opportunities

These are just a few of the ways you can get involved with MCUM’s programs. Call our office at (812)339-3429 or visit www.bloomington.in.us/~mcum.

Featured Volunteer Position

Birthday Party Volunteers: Volunteers are needed to help set up, clean up and make our birthday party even more fun. If you are available on June 7th to lend a hand or if you can bring music, art, or other kinds of fun to the party, contact Rebecca at (812)339-3429 or mcumfund@bloomington.in.us. See page 1 for more information.

Food Drive Volunteers: On August 29 and 30, MCUM will need hundreds of volunteers to make our two-day *Each One, Feed One* food drive a success. Can you work at an area grocery store collecting donations from shoppers? Shifts are 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm. Store Coordinators are needed to work 9am-6pm either day. Contact Meri at mcum@bloomington.in.us or 339-3429.

Opportunity House Volunteers: Opp House is a resale shop at 907 W. 11th Street and is an important partner organization for MCUM. Volunteers raise funds for MCUM’s programs while finding new homes for used items. Contact Janet at 336-2443.

File Assistant: The Emergency Services Program is adopting a new filing system. To get it set up, we need the help of volunteers to help convert an estimated 3,600 files to the new system. Set your own schedule during our office hours of 8am-4pm on weekdays.

Then and Now: Janet Richardson

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As a teenager, Janet participated in the sewing club, crafts, music and dancing at the Christian Center and also remembers going to the girl's dorms at IU for Christmas parties.

Janet went on to work as a cook at the Christian Center (later MCUM) for 20 years. Her children, grand-children and great-grand-children also attended the program. Janet says that she and her sister "went to MCUM our whole lives. The lessons I learned there have guided me my whole life and have made me what I am today: strong, loving, and caring. I have so many happy memories of the Christian Center. It was the backbone of the neighborhood."

In 1999, the MCUM Board of Directors honored Janet and Joyce for their many years of service by naming the dining room in the new childcare building in their honor.

If you or your child attended the MCUM Childcare Program, we would love to feature your story in one of our newsletters. Contact Rebecca Stanze at mcumfund@bloomington.in.us or 812-339-2912 for more information.



The Bloomington Day Nursery, MCUM's earliest incarnation, was started in a house on West 11th Street that has since been torn down. This photo dates from the early 1940's.

IRA Charitable Gift Opportunity Extended

The IRA Charitable Rollover tax incentive has been extended through the end of 2009. This incentive allows individuals aged 70½ and older to donate up to \$100,000 from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) and Roth IRAs to charities without the contributions counting as taxable income. Donations must come directly to MCUM and must be received by December 31, 2009. Please contact your financial planner for more information or to request that a donation be sent.

Thank you!

We would like to thank...

- everyone who helped to make the Feinstein Challenge a success. In March and April, we raised \$31,046 and collected 11,347 pounds of food.
- Bob Taylor for donating dolls, cribs, and other toys to the childcare.
- the PeyBack Foundation for a grant in support of our Summer Camp.
- Chad Walden for helping to make our recent graduation a success.
- Tri-North Middle School administrators, teachers and custodians for supporting MCUM's work. What great neighbors we have!
- the numerous staff and volunteers who made our recent Peden Farm field trip a huge success.
- the members of University Baptist Church for collecting food for MCUM's pantry each month this year, collecting a total of 686 pounds so far.

Each One, Feed One Food Drive

On Saturday, August 29 and Sunday, August 30, MCUM volunteers will be collecting food donations from generous shoppers at area grocery stores. Volunteer opportunities include 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm shifts at the stores and 9am-6pm Store Coordinator shifts on each day. Contact Meri Reinhold at mcum@bloomington.in.us or 339-3429 for more information. Families, clubs and youth groups are all welcome to volunteer together!

Clip Labels and Box Tops

Looking for an easy way to help? Collect Labels for Education from Campbell's products and Box Tops for Education from General Mills products. Just clip this:



or this:



from products you already buy. These logos may be in unexpected places! Then simply send them our way!

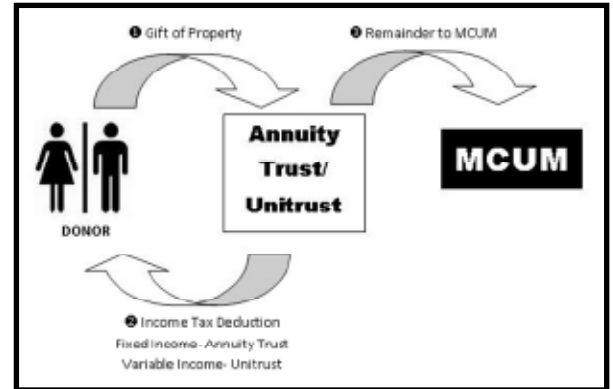
Planned Giving: CRATs & CRUTs

by Katie Oreskovich, SPEA Service Corps Fellow

Planned gifts can help to ensure that MCUM's services are provided for as long as they are needed. Although there are many easy ways to incorporate MCUM into your estate plan, two more sophisticated mechanisms you might consider are a Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust (CRAT) or a Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT).

CRATs and CRUTs are unique because they allow the donor to make a gift to MCUM while drawing an income from the trust. Here's how:

1. You transfer cash, securities, or other appreciated property into a trust.
2. The trust makes annual payments either at a fixed rate or for a percentage of the market value to you or your beneficiary.
3. When the trust ends, after a maximum of 20 years or upon death, the principal passes to MCUM.



These arrangements can result in an immediate income tax deduction, reduced capital gains tax, reduced estate taxes, and predictable income for life or a term of years for you or a beneficiary. With a CRAT, no funds may be added after initial arrangements are made, but the stream of payouts to the beneficiaries remains constant for the life of the trust. Funds may be added to a CRUT at any time and the trust grows tax-free.

Charitable trusts are complicated to arrange, but the reward to you, your beneficiary and to MCUM may make it the right arrangement for you. Please consult your financial advisor for more information. If you have any questions about how such a gift could benefit MCUM, please contact Rebecca Stanze or Meri Reinhold today at (812) 339-3429.

You Can Sponsor a Swimmer

MCUM is located across the street from Mills Pool and each summer our enrolled children enjoy regular visits to the pool. However, the additional fee associated with accessing the pool sometimes presents a challenge for parents. Sponsorships from donors can make it easier for kids to swim and splash all summer. \$20 sponsors a preschooler to visit the pool a few times a week and \$42 sponsors a summer camper for daily visits, weather permitting. If you would like to sponsor a swimmer, donations of any amount are welcome. Just make sure to note "swim program" on your donation.

Book-It Reading Program

During March and April, the Penguins, Otters and Dolphins participated in the Book-It Reading Program, which encourages the development of literacy skills and reading as a family. This year, the children, along with their parents and teachers, read more than 3,000 books!

Service Learning Students Study Pantry

Last semester, four members of IU's N322: Foodservice Management class tackled a service learning project to benefit MCUM's Emergency Food Pantry. Alyson Stahl, Rachel Ramsey, Katie O'Neal, and Jennifer Halcomb analyzed the food items distributed through the pantry using current government nutrition standards. They used the information



available at www.mypyramid.gov to analyze the food lists that volunteers use to pack groceries for clients.

They found that, for the most part, our current distribution food lists are nutritionally sound. They made a few minor recommendations, including a reduction in the amount of carbohydrates given to each household and suggesting that

we provide information to clients about rinsing some canned fruits and vegetables to reduce the amount of sodium and sugar consumed.

Summer Camp Food Drive

MCUM's Summer Camp started on June 1, which means that our kitchen now serves breakfast, lunch and two snacks to 40 school aged children, in addition to the 95 preschoolers already enrolled. If you are interested in supporting this program through donations of food, please deliver items directly to the Childcare Center, Monday-Friday, 6:30am-5:30pm or make sure they are marked "for childcare" if you are donating at a MCUM food collection site. Commercial sizes are most welcome, including size 10 cans and 25 pounds of baking staples. Needed items include:

oatmeal	granola/cereal bars	graham crackers
all-purpose flour	grape jelly or jam	canned veggies
yellow cornmeal	elbow macaroni	canned fruit in light syrup
granulated sugar	wide egg noodles	cold cereal, including:
brown sugar	water packed tuna	Chex, all varieties
powdered sugar	mayonnaise	honey-nut O's
canola oil	salad dressing	corn flakes
honey	ketchup	bran flakes
creamy peanut butter	animal crackers	raisin bran

Lions Club Provides Vision Screening

Members of the Bloomington Central Lions Club, including Tim Miller and Joyce Williams, recently performed vision screenings for 30 of the children enrolled in MCUM's Childcare Program. This high-tech screening can find evidence of near- and far-sightedness, astigmatism and "lazy eye" conditions, allowing these problems to be corrected early before a child falls behind due to vision problems. We appreciate the support we receive from the Lions Club and the work they do on behalf of the community.

Veggies Needed!

Your garden is just getting started, but soon you will have an abundance of produce. Too much zucchini? Too many tomatoes? Are you drowning in green beans? Another fun way to support MCUM's Childcare Program is to donate fresh fruits and vegetables from your garden.

Drop off your extra produce at MCUM's Childcare Building (open 6:30am -5:30pm, Monday-Friday) and your donation could be nourishing young bodies the next day.

Childcare Classroom Calendars

Staff

Childcare Director: Traci Mehay
Educ. Coordinator: Tina Pender
Admin. Assist.: Jeannie Shaffer
Cook: Cynthia Powers
Assistant Cook: Derrick Mackie

Puffins: 2 - 2.6 year olds

Teacher: Heather Friend
Aide: LaDawn Joyner
Aide: Susan Williams

Seahorses: 2.6 - 3 year olds

Teacher: Marycarole Matlock
Aide: Melissa Chambers

Penguins: 3 year olds

Teacher: Seda Jackson
Aide: Jessica Smith

Otters: 4 year olds

Teacher: Mary Ellen Pierce
Aide: Anna Donley

Dolphins: 5 - 6 year olds

Teacher: Kim Clay
Aide: Brock Singleton

Summer Camp:

Josie Franklin Scott Lohmar
Caitlin Witcher

Announcements For Parents

WorkOne Resources

Rose Johnson, a representative from WorkOne, is at MCUM one Thursday afternoon each month, 2:00-4:30, to discuss employment-related issues. Rose will be available on 6/18, 7/9, 8/6, and 9/10 in the Parent Resource Room.

Check out page 1 for more information about MCUM's birthday party!

Puffins

June 1-5 - Water Fun

This week the Puffins will spend a lot of time outdoors having some water fun. We will bring out our water tables, sink and float boats, color water, and even begin our water fun in the sun with the sprinklers. Don't forget your swim suit and sunscreen this week!

June 8-12 - Summer

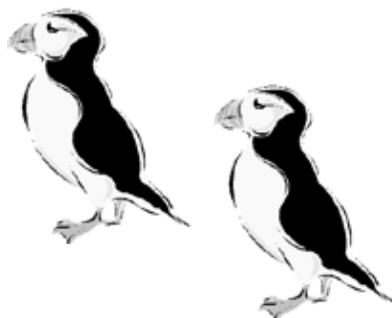
This week the Puffins will talk about what they like about summer and some of the special things we do during this system. We will also talk about swimming safety and other important things that go along with the summer. Be sure to drop in and join us for some summer fun this week!

June 15-19 - Dora the Explorer

Be sure to wear your walking shoes this week as we go exploring like Dora. We will make maps to take outside and to take with us on Friday when we go on an adventure walk to look for things like bugs, leaves, and whatever else we see! Be sure to ask your child what they found as they went exploring!

June 22-26 - Outdoor Fun

This week the Puffins will be doing a lot of activities outdoors. We will blow bubbles, paint, play ball, toss frisbees, and organize many other fun outdoor activities. On Friday, we will be playing lots of games like "Ring Around the Rosie" and "Duck, Duck, Goose." Be sure to check it out and feel free to join us!



Seahorses

June 1-5 - Mercer Meyer

Join the Seahorses for a week of fun with Little Critter! Little Critter will spend some special time with one of his favorite people in *Just Me and My Mom*. We will talk about special people in our lives and how we spend quality time with them. We will talk about our rules in our room, because we sometimes forget what to do, just like Little Critter in *I Just Forgot*. We will get out our medical drama box as we read *My Trip to the Hospital*.

June 8-12 - Water Play

Careful not to get too wet! We will not only play in the water, but we will learn what water is used for. Do you know what part of your body is made up of water? We will have boat races, wash our dishes and our dolls, and learn the proper way to wash our hands. We will read *A Fish Out of Water*, and learn ways to keep our water clean for its inhabitants. We will talk about pollution and how it makes our water unsafe. The Spanish word for water is agua.

June 15-19 - Summer

Can you believe it is summer already? The Seahorses are so excited. We will talk about what happens during this season and our favorite part of summer. During this week the Seahorses will learn about weather, which we will discuss every day from now on. What kind of weather is your favorite? We will have a beach party on Friday and play some volleyball.

June 22-26 - Senses

How many senses do you have? Which is your favorite? What can you do with your sense of sight, smell, touch, and hearing? The Seahorses will make smelling and listening jars. We will taste different foods and play a game of pin the Kleenex on the nose.

Penguins

June 1-5 - Safety Week

June is National Safety Month, so this week the Penguins will talk about safety. Every day this week we are going to address different safety issues such as fire safety, water safety, our personal safety, and crime prevention, just to name a few. We will learn what to do in emergency situations and act them out as well.

June 8-12 - Healthy Bodies

This week we are going to discuss the importance of being clean and healthy. We are going to learn how to keep our bodies healthy and focus on nutrition as well. We will talk about the foods that keep us healthy while we make our healthy snacks. We are going to dance and exercise our way to healthy bodies and minds.

June 15-19 - Communication

This week the Penguins will be learning different means of communication and the importance of communication. We are going to find out who invented the phone and telegraph and when. We will write letters to our loved ones and maybe call a friend or two on the phone. Everybody is welcome to send letters or telegrams in our Post Office, which we will be setting up in our housekeeping area.



June 22-26 - Camping Fun

Want to come and join us camping in the Penguin classroom? This week we are going to pack our backpacks and go camping in the “woods.” We will have fun cooking our food and tell stories over the pretend camp fire. We are going to make our very own s’mores before setting up our tent. We will listen to sounds of different nocturnal animals that live in woods.

Otters

June 1-5 - Summer Safety

Summer is upon us, so it is time to review all the ways we can stay safe while we having lots of outdoor fun. The Otters will talk about the things they enjoy doing in the summer and all of the important rules to follow before engaging in these activities, including water safety rules that must be followed at Mills Pool!

June 8-12 - The Great Outdoors

Now it’s time for the Otters to really get into the groove of summer, as we enjoy the great outdoors. We will discuss the different types of outdoor activities that we like. We will discover what types of creatures live in the woods and how they survive. We will also enjoy walks around the neighborhood and end the week with an indoor campout!

June 15-19 - Dads

This week we are going to honor the male figure in our life as we talk about dads. The Otters will share stories about their dads (or other male role models) and tell what makes them so special. The children will think of ways that we can help our dads and show them just how much they mean to us. The Otters will be busy in the art area, so dads may want to look for a surprise at the end of the week!

June 22-26 - The Sky

On warm summer days it is so much fun to lie on our backs and gaze at the sky. This week we are going to look at the sky a little more closely. We will discuss the different types of clouds and what type of weather each might bring. We will discuss all the things that travel in the sky, from hot air balloons to birds. The children will have homework to do - look at the night sky and then report back on the interesting things they saw!

Dolphins

June 1-5 - Summer Time

Summertime is finally here! This week we will celebrate fun in the sun by making sun catchers, sunshine finger painting, popsicles and much more. We will also experiment with hoses and water making extra long phones, water relays, and splatter fence painting.



June 8-12 - It's a Family Affair

This week the dolphins will bring in pictures of their family and will compose their own family tree. They will learn about personality traits and how we may inherit certain characteristics from our parents.

June 15-19 - The Great Outdoors

Outside is the place to be! This week we will continue to celebrate the return of warm weather with picnics, neighborhood walks and camping. We will build a class “campfire” to tell stories around, set up tents for camping, and sing camp songs. We will also learn about different camping supplies and make our own compasses. If the weather cooperates, we will even enjoy a trip to Rev. Butler Park.

June 22-26 - The Zoo

This week the Dolphins will explore different modes of travel. We will look at how different vehicles move, like airplanes, helicopters, trains and boats. An exciting field trip on a Bloomington Transit bus will thrill the Dolphins. So, fasten your seatbelts and away we go!

Monroe County United Ministries

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Staff:

Executive Director: Meri Reinhold
Development Coordinator: Rebecca Stanze
Emergency Services Coordinator: Cliff Edens
Emerg. Services Caseworker: Justin Smith
Office Manager: Shannon Hampton
Childcare Director: Traci Mehay
Education Coordinator: Tina Pender
Administrative Assistant: Jeannie Shaffer

Hours of Operation:

Office and Emergency Services:	Monday - Friday 8:00am - noon 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Childcare:	Monday - Friday 6:30am - 5:30pm

Please recycle this newsletter or share it with a friend.

Opportunity House, located at 907 W. 11th Street, is a resale shop that raises funds to support MCUM's Programs by finding new homes for used items. Store hours are 9:00-2:00, Monday-Saturday, with donations accepted 8:30-3:00. Call 336-2443 for more information.

Opportunity House Update

by Janet Donham, Opportunity House Board President

We thank you for your support through donations. Please understand that when we have to post a sign on the door stating "We are full and can't accept donations at this time," this means that our three donation bins are filled to the ceiling, and we have nowhere to put your wonderful items. Please be patient with us as we hurry to process donations.

Our Senior Expo Style Show went very well. The room was full, and we had a great time modeling. Maybe you donated some of the items we showed off!

The one item we need is men's shirts. If you have summer shirts you don't need anymore, please send them our way.