



## The Many Ways YOU Can Support Monroe County United Ministries

### Be Informed and Help Others Be Informed

1. Request and read MCUM's monthly newsletter, *Working Together*.
2. Designate a special section of your congregation's newsletter or bulletin board for MCUM material. The MCUM staff will be pleased to provide information and help you keep it up-to-date.
3. Write your elected officials about issues that concern you and MCUM, including funding for childcare vouchers and welfare benefits.
4. Add a link to MCUM's website on your website.
5. Arrange for you and your co-workers to tour MCUM.
6. Schedule a tour for your church youth group.
7. Call and ask questions about our programs.
8. Request a MCUM speaker for your faith community, school or civic group.
9. Bring your Girl or Boy Scout Troup to MCUM for a tour. They can also spend an hour volunteering in the food pantry and learn about helping their neighbors in need.
10. Tell your friends about Monroe County United Ministries.
11. Check out MCUM's website at [www.bloomington.in.us/-mcum](http://www.bloomington.in.us/-mcum).
12. Attend MCUM annual Spring Luncheon and Silent Auction, and bring a friend who is not a current supporter.
13. Post the MCUM newsletter on a bulletin board at work.
14. Contact the MCUM staff about writing a letter to the editor about an issue that concerns you and MCUM.

### Volunteer

15. Sign up to be a regular volunteer in the food pantry. Volunteers can set their own schedule and will be trained by MCUM staff and other volunteers.
16. Help with the maintenance and care of our buildings and grounds.
17. Volunteer at Opportunity House and help raise money for MCUM.
18. Looking for volunteer work you can do at home? Help us by making follow-up phone calls during the winter and spring food drives.
19. Sign up to be a regular volunteer in one of the childcare classrooms. Volunteers are needed to read, lead games, teach art, and play.
20. Interested in learning more about your community? Volunteer to update our agency and housing contact lists. Make phone calls from the comfort of your home or our office.
21. Volunteer to help make lunch or snacks in the childcare kitchen.
22. Volunteer in MCUM's administrative office and help with filing, copying and answering the phone.
23. Volunteer to pick up food at various collection sites. You can help feed MCUM clients while you are running your own errands.
24. Do you speak a language other than English? Volunteer to teach some phrases and greetings to MCUM's students in the Childcare Program or serve as a translator as needed.

25. Volunteer to serve on the MCUM Board of Directors.
26. Concerned about nutrition? Volunteer to help develop handouts on basic nutrition for clients receiving food from the pantry.
27. Volunteer to develop and implement a science project in one of the childcare classrooms.
28. Assemble and distribute holiday food baskets and gifts in December.
29. Come in once a month to help prepare the newsletter for mailing.

## Support MCUM Financially

30. Make a regular monetary contribution.
31. Name MCUM as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy.
32. Make a tax-deductible gift of stock.
33. Designate MCUM's Childcare Program as your beneficiary of the Target Shoppers Program. 1% of your Target Visa or Target Card purchases will be donated to the school. Call 1-800-316-6142 or go to [www.target.com](http://www.target.com) for more information. MCUM's agency number is 111307.
34. Sign up to walk in the Crop Walk along with your friends and family.
35. Donate to MCUM's endowment fund at the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County.
36. Give to United Way of Monroe County.
37. Name MCUM as a beneficiary on your TIAA-CREF, 401K, IRA or other qualified retirement plan.
38. Donate food or funds during the spring Feinsein Challenge and help MCUM leverage additional matching dollars.
39. Sponsor summer swimmers so that all preschool and summer camp kids have the chance to learn to swim.
40. Participate in the annual Homeward Bound Walk.
41. Make a donation through the NAP tax credit program and reduce the amount owed on your Indiana state taxes.
42. Make a bequest through your will or trust.
43. Make a donation to support your favorite MCUM program: Emergency Services, Childcare or Summer Camp.
44. Skip ordering pizza or some other treat and donate the money you would have spent to the Rent and Utility Assistance Fund.
45. Arrange for a regular donation to be electronically transferred from your bank account to MCUM's.
46. Choose MCUM as the beneficiary on your Marsh Shopper Card.

## Donate in other ways

47. Collect and donate Campbell's *Labels for Education* (UPC with logo) to support MCUM's Childcare Program.
48. Adopt a family in need of Christmas assistance.
49. Donate the items requested for the food pantry, cleaning closet or Childcare Program in MCUM's monthly newsletter.
50. Donate leftover fabric and other sewing notions to be used in childcare art projects.
51. Encourage your children to clean out their rooms and donate old toys to Opportunity House or the MCUM Childcare Program.
52. As your children outgrow their books, donate them to the childcare library.
53. Collect and donate General Mills box tops to support MCUM's Childcare Program. Visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) for more information.
54. Clean out your bathroom closet and donate the toiletries found in the back of the shelves so they can be distributed to clients in need.
55. Donate a turkey and or ham to a family in need of Christmas assistance.
56. Donate your old cell phones, which can be converted to cash to support MCUM's programs.

57. Donate plants and bulbs to brighten up the grounds.
58. Donate gently used bikes and tricycles to the Childcare Program.
59. Knit or crochet hats, mittens, and scarves in children and adult sizes for the Emergency Services program.
60. Donate office supplies or gift certificates for supplies to help reduce administrative costs.
61. Donate your talent – writing, handyman services, gardening, etc.
62. Collect hotel toiletries when you travel and donate them to the Emergency Services Program.
63. After your yard sale, donate remaining items to Opportunity House.
64. Make buying food for the Emergency Food Pantry a regular part of your trips to the grocery store.
65. Share the extra fresh produce from your garden with the Childcare Program.
66. When stocking up on toiletries and paper products for your family, purchase a few extra for MCUM's Emergency Services clients.
67. When grocery shopping, request brown paper sacks instead of plastic and donate the sacks to the food pantry.
68. As your children outgrow their winter coats, consider donating them to the Emergency Services program.
69. Clean out your closets and donate the clothes and household items you no longer need to Opportunity House.
70. Create a permanent collection box for food, phones and other items needed by MCUM for your faith community, school or club.

## Encourage Others to Support MCUM

71. Organize an art and school supply drive for MCUM's preschool children.
72. Ask your congregation to choose one day each month to collect food for MCUM's food pantry.
73. Suggest that a special collection to benefit MCUM be held on an annual basis at your religious institution.
74. Along with your co-workers or friends, assemble a holiday food basket for a client family.
75. Organize a cleaning and personal hygiene supply drive as part of your holiday activities at work.
76. Encourage your religious organization to make a regular monetary donation.
77. Organize a food drive at work.
78. Ask your service or civic organization to make a monetary donation to MCUM.
79. Bring your family in for a day of volunteering in the food pantry.
80. Organize a brown paper sack drive or set up a permanent collection site for sacks at your office or church.
81. Organize a mitten tree to collect winter wear for Emergency Services clients.
82. Ask that a MCUM display be set up for a few weeks in your office or place of worship.
83. Encourage members of your congregation to collect Campbell's labels and reserve a spot for their collection.
84. Recruit a group of friend to meet once a month at the MCUM food pantry for a few hours of volunteering. Enjoy spending time with your friends while helping a good cause.
85. Encourage your congregation to participate in the annual Crop Walk.
86. Suggest that your workplace serve as a cell phone collection site.
87. Arrange for your church's vacation bible school to spend some time touring and volunteering at MCUM.
88. Organize a socks and underwear drive for the Emergency Services clients.
89. Work with a youth group to assemble "care packages" for other children in need, include small books, candy, toiletries, etc.

Contact the MCUM staff at (812) 339-3429 or [mcum@bloomington.in.us](mailto:mcum@bloomington.in.us) with questions or for more information about how you can help.