Be a Part of History
Help Commemorate MCUM's 75th Anniversary

Monroe County United Ministries will celebrate 75 years of service to the community in 2014! To help honor MCUM’s impact in Monroe County, we are seeking:

**Historical Documents**
Do you have any records from MCUM’s early days? Perhaps a letter or photo about the formation of the Bloomington Day Nursery?

**Personal Stories**
Did you participate in activities at the Christian Center? Maybe your mother was a volunteer, or your children were lions or cubs (former preschool classroom names)?

We invite you to help celebrate the difference MCUM (formerly Bloomington Day Nursery and the Christian Center) has made in the lives of Monroe County families by sharing your memories. You can do so by visiting our website (www.mcum.org; click on the anniversary icon), mailing your story to the address on the back of this newsletter, or emailing development@mcum.org.

**Give Today. Create a Better Tomorrow. United Way.**

Your donation to United Way powers its work with member agencies, including Monroe County United Ministries, to make a difference in people’s lives. Your funds stay local to help create and sustain solutions that ensure people in our community can have a good education, build their earnings, and afford the essentials for their families.

When you give today, you help create a better tomorrow. This year, United Way also has special matching grant opportunities. Thanks to your support of United Way, the people we serve have the opportunity to build a better future. Please give generously today. For more information visit www.monroenitedway.org.
Food Pantry Needs

The pantry welcomes donations of all non-perishable foods, but we currently have a special need for:

- canned fruits (except for pineapple)
- baking mix
- canned potatoes
- dry beans
- drinks
- Hamburger Helper

Cleaning Closet Needs

Cleaning supplies and hygiene products can’t be purchased with food stamps and are in high demand.

Help restock our shelves with:

- adult socks
- men’s underwear - sizes 30-36
- women’s underwear - sizes 2-7, 11, 16-20
- dish soap
- general cleaners
- baby shampoo
- razors and shaving cream
- female hygiene products

Volunteer Opportunities

For more information about these or other volunteer opportunities, visit www.mcum.org, call 339-3429, or email help@mcum.org.

Featured Volunteer Position

Never Grow Up! FUNdraiser Volunteers: Have an eye for design or decorating? Volunteers are needed for this second-annual event, especially to help with day-of tasks on Saturday, October 26th. Are you a photographer? We are also seeking a fun individual to be our photo booth photographer during the event!

Volunteer as much or as little as you’d like! Contact Kate at development@mcum.org, or 339-3429 x15 for more information.

Pantry Assistants: Volunteers are always needed to sort food donations and bag groceries in the Emergency Food Pantry. Set your own schedule during office hours once you are trained. Light lifting required.

Opportunity House Volunteers: Opp House is a resale shop at 907 W. 11th Street and MCUM’s important partner. Volunteers are especially needed to sort and price items and serve as cashiers. Call 336-2443 for more information.

Maintenance Volunteers: Volunteers are needed to perform basic maintenance tasks of any skill level, from changing light bulbs to basic carpentry. Work is usually performed between 8-4, Monday-Friday. Contact Meri at mcum@mcum.org or 339-3429 x11.

Spring Luncheon Planning Committee: Do you have a knack for auction item solicitation, logistics, or setting up displays? We seek a few committed volunteers who are interested or have experience in marketing, public relations, fundraising, or event planning to serve on our Spring Luncheon Committee! Responsibilities include: attending 2-3 planning meetings, soliciting auction items, and helping with day-of operations! Contact Katie at fundraising@mcum.org for more information.

Childcare Needs

With 73 children enrolled, the Childcare Program needs all kinds of supplies, including:

- lots of dry-erase markers
- construction paper
- unpopped popcorn
- various types of dry beans

Opp House Needs

Opportunity House can find new homes for your gently used items, with proceeds benefiting MCUM’s programs. Please consider donating items such as:

- kitchenware
- sheets & blankets
- towels
- large shopping bags with handles

MCUM could really use paper grocery sacks for the Emergency Food Pantry! Paper bags hold more than plastic bags, and they stand up nicely on our shelves. Please ask for paper when you shop and bring them to MCUM to reuse!
With Gratitude

We would like to extend special thanks to...

- Old National Bank for its generous sponsorship of MCUM’s 75th Anniversary festivities to be held in 2014.

- Bicycle Garage for financial sponsorship of Never Grow Up!, a FUNdraiser for MCUM to be held October 26th.

- The many new student volunteers who have signed up to dedicate time to MCUM this academic year.

- Service-learner Kuangda Shan, for donating special items to a client in need.

- Maureen Pickering and all the other caring community members who simply read about MCUM’s “Each One Feed One” food drive in the newspaper and called to find out how they could help.

Student Spotlight

As the school year begins, we welcome a number of students to the MCUM family. In addition to our treasured volunteers (including service-learners), we are pleased to welcome three longer-term fellows and interns:

Sidney Harris, a first-year student at Indiana University, will provide critical connections between MCUM volunteer opportunities and students at IU as our Advocate for Community Engagement (ACE). Sidney says, “I enjoy working at MCUM because they help to solve some of the major issues in the Bloomington community. I am very passionate about issues of social justice and I believe that everyone should have the opportunity to rise above the trappings of poverty. So working at MCUM affords me the chance to interact with members of the Bloomington community and work with them on an individual level hopefully making a positive impact.”

Tessa Skidmore, graduate student at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IU, is a Service Corps Fellow supporting MCUM’s development efforts. Tessa says of her involvement, “I’m so grateful for the opportunity to enhance my classroom education by working with a local non-profit. Being placed with MCUM is exciting because, with its childcare facility and food pantry on site, I am able to see the direct impact on community members in need. I’m eager to help the development team in promoting MCUM’s mission and further develop the resources necessary to achieve it.”

Kiana (Ki) Werner, a senior at IU, has been working closely with MCUM’s Emergency Services caseworkers. Ki says, “I’m interning at MCUM for my social work senior practicum this year, and I couldn’t be more thankful for the opportunity. I’ve already learned so much here that will help me in my future career, and every day brings new experiences.”

We are thrilled to have each of these individuals placed with us, and we look forward to seeing all they accomplish, both at MCUM and at IU!
Your Produce Needed!
If your tomatoes are turning red (and yellow and purple) and your squash keeps growing and growing, we’d love to hear from you! One fun and easy 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 7:00 am - 5:30 pm, Monday-Friday), and your donation could be nourishing young bodies the very next day.

Did you know you can receive MCUM newsletters by email?
Too much mail? Want to reduce the clutter and save some trees? You can “go green” by signing up to receive this newsletter online! To make the switch, email development@mcum.org, or call 339-3429, x15.

Stop By for a Tour!
Did you know that in 2012, MCUM’s Emergency Food Pantry distributed enough food to make more than 37,500 meals? Learn more about MCUM by touring our facilities! Drop in any Thursday at noon, or call to schedule an appointment. Come see the impact your support has on the Childcare and Emergency Services Programs!

MCUM’s Strategic Plan: Innovation, Leadership & Endurance

Our Board of Directors recently approved a five-year strategic plan that outlines our organizational goals and program directions for 2013-2017. With continued support from the community, MCUM has many exciting initiatives underway to improve program quality and meet changing community needs. Here is just one example from our plan:

Initiative #8 is “Double the annual number of agency volunteers to 500.”

Volunteers have always played an important role at MCUM and are essential to the success of our programs. All aspects of our operation – from the childcare kitchen to our monthly newsletter – benefit from the time, expertise, and enthusiasm that volunteers contribute.

Interested in being a volunteer? Contact help@mcum.org or call (812) 339-3429 for more information, or check out page 2 of this newsletter or the MCUM website for specific volunteer opportunities! A complete list of strategic plan initiatives is also available at www.mcum.org.

Thank You, Pantry Donors
We depend on donations to make a difference for local households in crisis. Listed here are some of the groups and households who have recently contributed food, cleaning supplies, and/or hygiene products:

Church Women United
Su Cowling
Jef & Pam Davidson
Fairview United Methodist Church
Fairview United Methodist Church, Royal Neighbors
First Christian Church
First Presbyterian Church
First United Church
Good Neighbors Home Extension Club
Sherry Jeffers
Basilia Jean Rogers
Mary Jo & John Sgro
St. Thomas Lutheran Evangelical Church
Stoneybrook Community Church of God
Trinity Episcopal Church
Unitarian Universalist Church
United Presbyterian Church
University Baptist Church
Heather Winne
Woodhaven Christian Church
Thank You, Volunteers

Volunteers make our programs possible. Thank you to all those who shared their valuable time and talent with us recently, including our “Each One, Feed One” volunteers:

Loretta Alonso  Wayne Henderson  Phyllis Perkins
Carolyn Anderson  Sheila Henry  Bill Perkins
Emily Andrews-Carrico  Benny Holt  Carol Peterman
Velma Apple  Chere Howard  Darwa Petersen
Jo Banks  Steve Ingle  Douglas Petersen
Pat Barber  Cindy Jackson  Alison Pitt
Marti Black  Larry Jacobs  Jane Pitt
Mary Blizzard  Dianna Johnson  Ted Polley
Darrell Bogess  Elizabeth Johnson  Jeff Ramey
Kathleen Bogess  Brandon Jones  Ann Schepper
Mary Ellen Brown  LaDawn Joyner  Betty Schoonmaker
Marci Bryan  Nancy Kalina  Paul Schoonmaker
Doris Burch  Addy Kao  John Sgro
Barbara Bush  Laura Kao  Mary Jo Sgro
John Bush  Reni Kao  Martha Smily
Judy Bush  Emily Kehoe  Diana Smith
Mike Case  Stephanie Kelty  Jude Smith
Margaret Chittum  Dan Kirwan  Liny Smits
Greg Claretto  Margaret Kirwan  Clark Sorensen
Barb Clark  Alexandria Klutzke  Vicky Sorensen
Edna Clark  Christina Lambton  Jean Sorensen
Jean Cook  Evelyn Lentz  Kim Sutton
Su Cowling  Jennifer Lloyd  Bryan Taylor
Mary Lou Craig  Rebecca Mandell  Cara Thompson
John Davenport  Pat Martin  Elizabeth Traugott
Kim Davis  Judy McDougal  Susie Trisler
Posey Doherty  Leon McDougal  Rev. John VanderZee
Hope Drahos  Britney McNeely  Rev. Wendy VanderZee
Rebecca Drahos  Doug McNeely  Emily Walden
Cherri DuPree  Kathleen McNeely  Frances Walden
Debbie Eads  Mike McQueen  Rhonda Warthan
Phyllis Eads  Bryant Mehay  Cassie Webster
Maggie Edens  Steve Mehay  Micaela Webster
Steve Gable  Katie Meier  Zac Webster
Mike Galimore  Suzanne Merriman  Joanne Weddle
Jennifer Halloran  Chris Meyer  Kiana Werner
Hilary Hamilton  Joe Miller  Marlene Wilmes
Sidney Harris  Ruth Miller  Hannah Winne
Kyle Hayes  Kay Molstad  Heather Winne
Holly Hays  Cheryl Munson  Mariah Winne
Rebecca Hays  Pat Munson  Danna Wylie
Linda Heath  Rebecca Nunley  Kathy Zeller
Edie Henderson  Pamela Olivas  John Zilvinskis
Wade Henderson  Mike Paide  

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:

![Label Clip](image)

or this:

![Box Top](image)

from items you already buy and send them our way. These logos may be in unexpected places so keep your eyes open!

Shop Marsh for MCUM

When you shop at Marsh or O’Malia’s and use your Fresh Idea Card, a percentage of your purchase can benefit MCUM’s Childcare Program. The points that MCUM earns when you shop allow us to order art and crafts materials and classroom supplies.

Sign up by e-mailing the 12-digit number on the back of your card to development@mcum.org, calling our office at (812) 339-3429 x15, or visiting Marsh’s website to register your card number under MCUM’s school code 38244. Thank you for your support. Happy shopping!
The Seahorses will learn about fall fest as well as the different aspects of the autumn season. The children will read books, such as *Going on a Leaf Hunt* and *Fall is for Friends*, and will be doing many different activities that relate to fall and October.

*Going on a Leaf Hunt* is a “big” book about searching for and studying leaves from all types of trees. It is a fun and interactive way to engage the children and show them fall leaf colors.

*Fall is for Friends* is about two friends who want to play in piles of leaves, but the leaves won’t fall. They try to think of ways to make them fall, but mom tells them they must fall on their own. It’s neat to watch the children come up with their own versions of how leaves fall.

The Seahorses will also color leaves, make their own fall leaves book, and do leaf rubbings with stencils. The children like to color their own pictures, but they will be challenged to line up the stencil with the paper. The children will also paint with red, orange, yellow, green, and brown to create their own fall scenes.

After we read our books and do various activities, we will learn new fall songs, including *Ten Little Apples* and *5 Little Pumpkins Sitting on a Gate* for Halloween. The children love to sing but may not be familiar with these songs, so it will be fun to watch!

Of course, we will continue learning our shapes, colors, and the alphabet through songs and activities that help develop social, language, and math skills.
October is a month in which many changes occur. The weather begins to get colder and the sun sets at an earlier time.

We will talk about our health and how the cold weather makes it easier for viruses to thrive. We will practice good hygiene by washing our hands to decrease the chances of getting sick.

This month, we will cover various topics related to safety. The Dolphins will learn how to prevent fires, what to do if our home catches on fire, as well as the stop, drop, and roll technique.

As we discuss the changes that occur during the fall, we will take a nature walk around the block to observe the leaves, trees, and any other differences we notice. We will also collect items from our walk to bring back to the classroom and study in the science area. In the art area, we will make leaf rubbings, paint with reds, oranges, and yellows, and do other fall-related projects.

The Otters will talk about how, where and when apples grow. We will learn the names for various apples, discuss the different colors of apples, paint with apples, and even have our very own apple tasting party! During the tasting party, the Otters will have the opportunity to sample different types of apples, as well as both apple juice and cider, and then share which was their favorite. Then we’ll graph our results to find out which was most popular!

Throughout the month, we will continue working on our sight words, learning the letters of the alphabet, recognizing numbers, and writing our names. As October comes to a close, we will have a huge Halloween party!
Opportunity House, located at 907 W. 11th Street, is a volunteer-run resale shop that raises funds to support MCUM’s programs. Store hours are 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Monday-Saturday, with donations accepted 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 336-2443 or follow Opportunity House on Facebook.

Donations of gently used items are always welcome, including: books, clothing, household items, collectibles, toys, pictures, antiques, and linen.

Opportunity House Update
by Jill Argenbright, Opportunity House Co-Chair

Opportunity House has started putting winter clothes in the store, so come in to see what we have for cooler weather! Also, we have some awesome Halloween decorations as well as costumes for adults and children - give us a try!

Thanks to all who generously bring us your items to resell. Without your donations, we wouldn’t be able to support MCUM’S very important programs.