

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

DECEMBER 2019



Overview:

- End of Year Reflection
- NW Ohio Opportunities
- SE Michigan Opportunities
- Youngstown Opportunities
- Donations Needed

Welcome to our monthly update on community engagement opportunities for students, faculty, & staff at Mercy College of Ohio.

Have a service opportunity or a community partner you'd like us to share? Contact Annie Devine, Director of Campus Ministry & Service Learning at 419-251-1866 or annie.devine@mercycollege.edu

Need Knows No Season

by Annie Devine, Director of Campus Ministry & Service Learning

As we enter into the winter holiday season, it is often a time that we turn our attention to sharing our resources with those in need. And winter does often bring an increased need for resources, especially for those living in poverty or experiencing homelessness. However, for many of our community partners, the gift that keeps on giving is really knowing that they count on regular support from donors and others who wish to help them in carrying out their mission.

As you head into the new year, consider the ways in which you can support those in need within your community in an ongoing way. How can you be an advocate for the work that these community partners are doing? How can you speak up for the communities that are suffering due to inequity and lack of sufficient resources? Instead of giving one end-of-year gift, consider committing to a monthly or quarterly gift. This is much more helpful for our community organizations who have to plan not just for the few months of winter but the need that exists all year round.

Blessings to you and your loved ones this holiday season! May it find us all surrounded by love and may our opportunities for gratitude grow into opportunities to work for peace, justice, and human dignity. May they become opportunities for service and lead us to connect with our neighbors and the world around us.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

NORTHWEST OHIO



MERCY COLLEGE FOOD PANTRY

Date & Time: ongoing, various times

Location: Mercy College of Ohio: Toledo Campus, 5th floor of Madison

Info: Assist with organizing donations and updating the pantry inventory.

Contact: Annie Devine, 419-251-1866

annie.devine@mercycollege.edu

Need a Service Site for Service Learning?

Community Organization Guides are now available for Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan.

Contact Annie Devine at 419-251-1866 or annie.devine@mercycollege.edu to get a guide.

Guides for NE and SW Ohio coming soon!



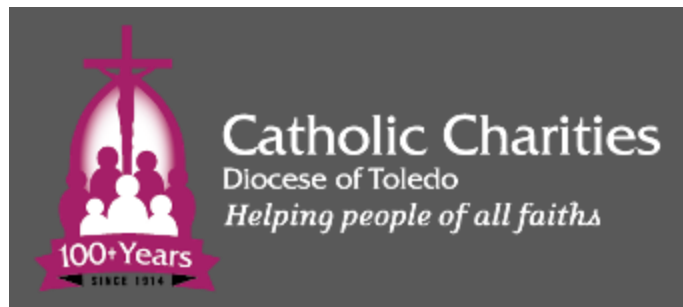
DOING THE MOST GOOD®

THE SALVATION ARMY - BOWLING GREEN

Date & Time: throughout December

Info: The Salvation Army Bowling Green Service Center is looking for volunteers to be bell ringers, assist with sorting toy donations and distributing toys to families, or to assist with general administrative office work. It is preferred that volunteers be familiar with Microsoft Office, have typing skills, be team-oriented and have worked in an office setting

Contact: Email harley.maddox@usa.salvationarmy.org or call 419-352-5918 to sign up.



LA POSADA FAMILY SHELTER

Service Opportunity: Enrichment Volunteer

Date & Time: Ongoing opportunity; once a week, Mon-Fri, 3-4pm

Location: La Posada Family Shelter
435 Eastern Ave. Toledo, OH 43609

Info: Volunteers read, play board games, and help with student homework. Volunteer commitment is one day a week for two months.

Contact: Byron Wynn, 419-276-8334 (text)

bwynn@toledodiocese.org

HELPING HANDS OF SAINT LOUIS

Service Opportunity: Multiple opportunities available with the Clothing Center, the Garden, Opportunity Kitchen, and the Pantry.

Date & Time: Various days/times

Location: Helping Hands of Saint Louis
443 6th St. Toledo, OH 43605

Info: Clothing Closet: help with light lifting, sorting of clothing donations, and helping guests make selections. T, W, TH from 9-noon, some Saturdays; Opportunity Kitchen Assistant: assist instructor in a teaching kitchen environment, provide support and encourage students. Group meal at the end of each class. M and W for 10 weeks, starting 9/10, 1:30-6pm
Pantry Vols: organize & stock food, help guests make grocery selections; must be able to lift 5-20lbs; Tues & Thurs, 9am-noon.

Contact: Byron Wynn, 419-276-8334 (text)

bwynn@toledodiocese.org



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

NORTHWEST OHIO



METROPARKS TOLEDO

HOLIDAYS PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Date & Time: December 7-15, 10am-8pm, shifts vary

Location: Wildwood Preserve Metropark, 5100 W. Central Ave. Toledo, OH

Info: Take part in the Holiday season with Metroparks Toledo at the Manor House, located in Wildwood Preserve. The 32,000 sq. ft. mansion, once home to the Stranahans, will be filled with decorations galore! Help direct guests and answer questions as they travel through the historic home.

Contact: Hannah Calandra, 419-407-9840

Hannah.Calandra@metroparkstoledo.com or apply online at www.metroparkstoledo.com/volunteer

S'MORES WELCOME TENT ASSISTANT

Date & Time: December 7-15, 12pm-8pm, shifts vary

Location: Wildwood Preserve Metropark, 5100 W. Central Ave. Toledo, OH

Info: Give Holidays guests the best treat of the season --a warm and delicious s'more! Help Metroparks Toledo distribute our special s'mores and stay warm in the process near a cozy fire.

Contact: Hannah Calandra, 419-407-9840

Hannah.Calandra@metroparkstoledo.com or apply online at www.metroparkstoledo.com/volunteer



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Service Opportunity: Friday Night Lunch Packing; Saturday Mini-Mobiles

Date & Time: Lunch Packing: Fridays at 6pm; Mini-Mobiles: Saturdays 10:00am & 11:30am

Location: Trinity Episcopal Church, 316 Adams St. Toledo, OH

Info: Volunteers assist us with packing lunches for our Saturday mini-mobiles. We welcome groups and people of all ages and abilities to help with packing lunches. On Saturday mornings, we get to know our neighbors as we share the lunches we've packed with people throughout the downtown Toledo area. Individuals and groups accompany Food for Thought on our normal bus stop routes as we provide food, water or coffee — as well as conversation with the people we meet — sunshine or snowfall.

Contact: Caitlin, caitlin@feedtoledo.org
www.feedtoledo.org





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

NORTHWEST OHIO



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Service Opportunity: Wednesday Night Live Supper Volunteer

Date & Time: every Wednesday night at 5:30pm

Location: 315 S. College Dr. Bowling Green, OH

Info: Wednesday Night Live is a free weekly meal for anyone in the community. Every week, more than 100 meals are served by dozens of volunteers. Education opportunities, devotions, and activities for children are also offered weekly. Volunteers are always welcome to help! There are many different ways to get involved from cooking to serving to helping with the children's activities.

Contact: 419-353-9305 or sign up at <https://stmarksbg.org/2018/09/wednesday-night-live/>



Great Lakes Caring
Part of the Elara Caring Network

GREAT LAKES CARING HOSPICE

Service Opportunity: Companionship Volunteer

Date & Time: This opportunity is ongoing. Any individual who is interested in becoming a volunteer can choose their own schedule based on their own and their patient(s) availability. Most visits take place between 9-11 am; 1-4 pm; and 6-7:30 pm. Visits can take place on weekdays, evenings, or weekends.

Location: Bowling Green, OH

Info: Great Lakes Caring Hospice has patients located throughout the Bowling Green area who are in need of your friendship. They need compassionate and caring individuals to be companions to patients as they near the end of their life. Patients in Bowling Green, Ohio and surrounding areas are yearning for a friend like you to spend time with them to ease their loneliness and bring them joy. Don't miss out on such an amazing opportunity to not only bring joy to another individual, but to learn and grow from them as well. If you have a busy schedule (don't we all), that's okay! Take a leap, you won't regret it!

Contact: Katelyn Kortokrax, (419) 261-8769

kkortokrax@greatlakescaring.com

SUBSCRIBE

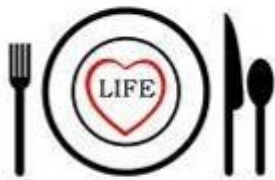
to the **Community Engagement Update**
and get new & upcoming volunteer
opportunities delivered straight
to your email inbox every month.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/2m0Mhh9>



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN



LIVING INDEPENDENCE FOR EVERYONE

Service Opportunity: Meals on Wheels Volunteer

Date & Time: varies

Location: Various locations across Monroe County

Info: LIFE is a nutritional program that helps individuals to remain independent. Lunches are served at the "friendship centers" all over Monroe. Home Delivery is also available for individuals starting at age 60 and their spouse. Our meals are served in the area by dedicated volunteers who give of their time and donate space so the meals can be prepared. We deliver to all persons in the Monroe County Area.

Contact: (734) 242-6800 <http://www.lifeindependence.org/>



FOCUS: HOPE

About: Focus:HOPE was founded as an organization dedicated to "finding intelligent and practical solutions to the problems of hunger, economic disparity, inadequate education and racial divisiveness." Since then they have become a nationally recognized civil and human rights organization providing assistance to Southeast Michiganders through their food program, career training programs and the HOPE Village Initiative.

Service Opportunities: We need volunteers to help with packing and delivering food to senior citizens, tutoring students, assisting in caregiving for children, assisting in the Community Arts program, becoming part of community development projects, and more.

Find out more info about our various volunteer opportunities here: www.focushope.edu/how-to-help/volunteer

We are especially looking for volunteers for our Annual Senior Holiday Delivery on Dec. 14!

Date & Time: Various dates & times; Senior Holiday Delivery takes place 12/14, 8am-Noon

Location: 1400 Oakman Boulevard Detroit, MI 48238

Contact: volunteer@focushope.edu, 313-494-4270





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

YOUNGSTOWN AREA

Meals On Wheels



of Mahoning County

MEALS ON WHEELS OF MAHONING COUNTY

Date & Time: Mondays-Fridays, mornings

Location: Various Locations in Youngstown and Mahoning County

Info: Meals on Wheels is a program that has been serving the Youngstown area since 1979. Our funding comes from a variety of sources such as private donations, grants, etc., but primarily from the fees for the meals served. To receive this service one does not have to meet any standards. We provide service to all ages, handicapped, homebound, anyone in need of a daily meal. Meals are delivered hot, are well-balanced, and nutritious.

Contact: (330) 744-3583

mealsonwheelsmc@outlook.com



BE THE MATCH

Info: Be The Match has volunteer opportunities no matter where you live, what your skills and interests may be, or how much time you can offer.

Work as part of a team or on your own. Help out on a one-time basis or provide longer-term support.

There are various volunteer roles to fit your interests. You may want to:

- Work with people preparing to donate marrow.
- Support patients in the transplant process.
- Spread the word about Be The Match using new media.
- Write letters to legislative leaders.
- Organize a marrow registry drive.
- Raise funds to support the mission.
- Provide professional expertise.

Be The Match is also always looking for donors! Join the largest and most diverse marrow registry in the world to help those diagnosed with blood cancer.

Contact: Visit <https://bethematch.org> for more information about volunteer or donation opportunities.

THE WAY STATION

Service Opportunity: Various Volunteer roles

Date & Time: Varies

Location: 769 Springfield Rd. Columbiana, OH 44408

Info: Volunteers are the lifeblood of our great organization. We are always looking for loving, compassionate individuals to help in various areas:

Clothing Desk Clerk, Childcare Provider, Office Help, Consignment Store Liaison, Display Designer, Cashier/ Receptionist, Retail/Stock Clerk, Household Merchandiser, Food Pantry Assistant. People interested in volunteering are asked to complete an application and return it to The Way Station.

Contact: Vicki Ritterspach, 330-482-5072, www.thewaystationinc.org





DONATIONS NEEDED - NW OH & SE MI

CHERRY STREET MISSION MINISTRIES

About: We are the largest organization serving low-income and homeless men, women, and children in NW Ohio and SE Michigan. We provide basic services (food, clothing, housing) as well as mentoring, education, training, and job placement.

Location: Cherry Street's Life Revitalization Center, 1501 Monroe Street (Donations may be sent to/dropped off here on weekdays from 9am-2pm)

Contact: Sam Guidry, 419-214-3008.

sguidry@cherrystreetmission.org

Items Needed:

- Waterproof winter gloves
- Women's underwear
- Wash cloths & Towels
- New Bed Pillows
- Men & Women's Razors
- Men & Women's Deodorant
- Sanitary products
- Toilet Paper
- Canned Meat
- #10 Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Fresh fruit
- Lunch meat
- Bottled Water

NIGHTINGALE'S HARVEST

About: Nightingale's Harvest provides nutritious food, hygiene products, and resources to aid in improving the health and wellness of families experiencing cancer. More info can be found on our website at

www.nightingales-harvest.org

Location: Lutheran Church of Our Savior (2820 W. Alexis Rd. Toledo, OH)

Contact: Lisa Kronbach-Eisenbach, cell: 419-779-2961, lleisenbach@aol.com

Items Needed: In winter there is a great need for protein and canned vegetables as well as toiletry items. We are especially looking for donations of:

- Beans (Chili, kidney, and Great Northern)
- Peanut Butter
- Jello or pudding
- Dish Soap
- Hand soap
- Body bar soap
- Toilet paper

THE SALVATION ARMY (Bowling Green)

About: The Salvation Army provides a variety of programming throughout the year to people in need. Assistance can vary from a food bag, to help with utility disconnection, or even clothing and furniture. We may help a young child struggling with school, a person trying to overcome challenges associated with substance abuse addiction, or a senior unable to get out of their home. Whatever crisis the family is experiencing, The Salvation Army is there to listen and provide comfort and support.

Items Needed:

- toys for children ages birth-14
- gift card donations (\$10-20 increments) for Christmas food basket meat purchase,
- food donations
- winter wear such as gloves, hats, scarves, and coats

Drop-Off Location: Coats should be dropped off at Long's Cleaners, all other items can be dropped off at the Salvation Army office at 1045 N. Main Street/PO Box 86 in Bowling Green

More Info: www.salvationarmyNWOhio.org



DONATIONS NEEDED - YOUNGSTOWN

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

About: The Food Bank solicits, stores, and distributes food to hunger-relief organizations in Columbiana, Mahoning, and Trumbull counties; and provides education and advocacy. We believe that no one should go hungry, and we are dedicated to building a community that makes food accessible to all people. The Food Bank is a storehouse for large quantities of donated food and USDA commodities that are distributed to 160 hunger-relief organizations and programs located throughout our tri-county service area. These member agencies include church pantries, homeless shelters and soup kitchens, shelters for battered women and after-school programs.

Location: 551 Mahoning Avenue, Youngstown, OH

Items Most Needed Year-round:

- Peanut butter
- Cereal
- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Tuna fish
- Dry pasta
- Canned soup
- Macaroni and cheese

Items Most Needed during Holidays:

- Boxed stuffing
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Gravy mix
- Canned yams
- Canned vegetables

Drop-Off Locations: Non-perishable food items may be dropped off at the Food Bank or at the following locations:

Austintown: Skate Zone (5420 Mahoning Ave)

Boardman: Big Lots (7110 South Ave)

Niles: Big Lots (5796 Youngstown-Warren Rd)

North Lima: Armstrong Cable (9328 Woodworth Rd)

Warren: CVS (3933 Parkman Road, NW)

Warren: CVS (620 E. Market St)

OUR COMMUNITY KITCHEN

About: Our Community Kitchen is a nonprofit charitable organization that provides meals, community programs, and medical services to those in need. All donations, whether services, clothing, food, or monetary, will have a positive impact on Our Community Kitchen and will enrich the daily lives of those who are most in need

www.facebook.com/ourcommunitykitchenohio

Location: 551 Mahoning Avenue, Youngstown, OH

Contact: 330-770-2224, sbarone@ockohio.org

Items Needed:

- Volunteer time and assistance
- Sponsor breakfast / lunch with a donation
- Bring volunteers and food to prepare a meal and serve
- Have a donation drive for canned food, clothing, and/or personal care items (e.g. toilet paper, feminine products, diapers)
- Assist with job training, health care services, counseling

