

St. Columba

Ecumenical Ministries, Inc.

Loaves & Fishes

Summer 2013

“do justice...love mercy...unto the least of these...” *Micah, Matthew*

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Carolyn Lett

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Request for School Supplies

Each year St. Columba has a School Supplies Program that distributes school supplies to local children in need. We depend on the generosity of the community to help us make this program a success. Last year we handed out backpacks and school supply basics to 367 students, giving them a great start to their school year. Now is the time to start thinking about this program, which runs the last week before school starts again in the fall. We will be seeking donations of the following for this distribution:

- Wide rule notebook paper
- College rule notebook paper
- Wide rule spiral notebooks
- College rule spiral notebooks
- Folders with prongs
- Composition notebooks
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Compasses
- Protractors
- Calculators
- 3-ring binders
- Blue, black and red pens
- Scissors
- Glue
- Rulers
- Pencil boxes
- Highlighters
- Tissues
- Index cards
- Erasers
- Dictionaries
- Backpacks

We will start accepting donations immediately during normal business hours at our office. The distribution will take place the week before starts. This year we will start on August 26 and distribute until we run out of supplies. We ask that all donations are delivered no later than Thursday, August 22 so we have time to make last minute purchases of items that are low. Please call Alicia at 627-6748 if you have any questions.





DONATIONS FOR JANUARY – MAY 2013

FINANCIAL

Lafayette, Wycliffe, Bayside, Second, Third, Knox, Squires Presbyterian, PEVA, CCC, CVC, SMOTJ PHI, Trinity Lutheran, Community United Methodist, Alanton School, Tidewater Senior Inv. Golf, N. Bonney, B. & R. Bertholf, B. Prince, M. Gantley, E. & N. Pollock, E. Baise, J. Stokley, J. Lego, P. Huddy, H. Ortiz, M. Bonney, J. Morgan, J. & F.

Bashara, J. Ramsey, S. Fudala, T. Shelkey, J. Dailey, E. Avera, D. Birsch, P. Pennington, D. Birsch, J. Owens, D. Stockburger, G. Neil, M. Bonney, E. Dessi, J. Howard, D. Russell, C. Brown, C. Wright, J. Keifer, U. Carl, E. Fultz, S. Long, D. Hornick, K. Breitwieser, D. & A. Cannell, J. Baker, L Brown, D. Mosher, J. Hammer, J. Beck, M. Daugherty, J. Petty, J. Beil, P. Careatti, R. Walter, C. Zuidema, A. Ray, K. Mizelle, P. Finch, P. Alperin, J. & M. Gray, J. & L. White, C. & L. Champman, B. Busey, T. Smith, A. Klinedinst, M. Gantley, and T. Gantley.

IN-KIND

Bayside, Royster Memorial, Wycliffe, Lafayette, Coleman Place, Calvin, Knox, Grace Covenant, Covenant, First, Second, Third, Norfolk, Squires, Presbyterian; St. Stephens Episcopal; Community United, Norview, Ghent, Fairmount Park United Methodist; Christ the King, St. Pius X, Holy Family Catholic; Catholic Daughters; St. Patrick's Catholic School; Catholic Workers; Enoch, Second Calvary Baptist; University Presbyterian Ministry, Laurel Avenue Church of Christ; Real Life Christian Church, Finding Refuge at Fishes of Men, Trinity, First, Christ Lutheran, Samaritan Outreach Ministry, Christ Apostolic, St. Paul D.C.C., Secular Franciscan Order, Hell Firefighter Ministry, Daughters of American Revolution, Pizza Hut, Crossroad Lions Club, Plaza Bakery, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Hospitality for the Homeless, Hope House Thrift Store, Norview Civic League; Wards Corner Chiropractic, American Heritage Girls, Crossroad School, Dr. Pope, Executec, C. Inman, J. Lego, H. Ortiz, D. Stockburger, J. Stokley, M. Gantley, D. Hornick, R. Hidalgo, B. Bertholf, J. Ramsey, T. Lombardi, G. Dillon, J. Keifer, J. Bashara, B. Prince, J. Gray, J. Dailey, J. Biehl, B. Major, J. Morgan, C. Bennett, N. James, S. Haugh, A. Mathews, S. Mahler, J. Marasco, J. Meyer, L Conner, M. Duke, L. Johnson, S. Dinwiddy, N. Bonney, M. Bonney, B. Cain, the Schuhmacher's, B Koivisto M. Mendez G. Givens, D. Forster, L. Greer, K. Grandy, M. Cleaver, C. Brown, J. Birkel, the Chapman's, M. Kidd, L. Stith, B. Busey, C. West, K. White, J. Bui, J. Douglas, C. Garvin, N. Machamer, and A. Taylor.



If we have inadvertently omitted you, please call Alicia at (757) 627-6748.

Baskets of Love Special Thanks!

There are so many people who made this year's Silent Auction and Benefit Dinner a huge success and we want to extend a special thank you to them! Bayside Presbyterian Church allowed us to hold our event at their church and we are grateful for their continued support. The youth volunteers who served dinner and helped clean up made the night run smoothly. Merlyn Blackwood, President of our Board and Mistress of Ceremony kept everyone bidding on the items. The event would have been possible without the contributions of our Board of directors, from baskets for the auction to their time and energy setting up and cleaning after the event. And Lucie Brown Catering provided another wonderful meal. We are also extremely grateful to Selina Phillips for sharing her story and how St. Columba touched her life. Most importantly, we appreciate the support of the community, churches, businesses and individuals, who attended this event, bid on items and made donations. We couldn't do it without you!

Day Center Volunteer Needed – Wednesdays

We have an opening on Wednesdays for a Day Center volunteer. This is an ongoing opportunity and we need an individual who can commit to most Wednesdays. The appropriate candidate should have his or her own transportation or be able to use public transportation efficiently and be available from 9 AM to at least noon, but can stay as late as 2 PM. This person will help oversee our Day Center where homeless clients take showers, receive services and meet with other professionals to address their needs. Main duties include ensuring all clients sign in using appropriate logs, distributing sandwiches, coffee cups, towels and hygiene items, and referring clients to other services in the agency. Volunteers will be provided with an orientation and all information to perform duties. Interested individuals should call Alicia at 627-6748 to schedule an interview.



Summer Special Requests



Everyone knows that winter brings the threat of cold weather to the homeless. Each winter the agencies that serve the homeless take special precautions to help them stay safe as the temperature drops. But summer and rising temperatures bring their own set of risks that demand special attention as well.

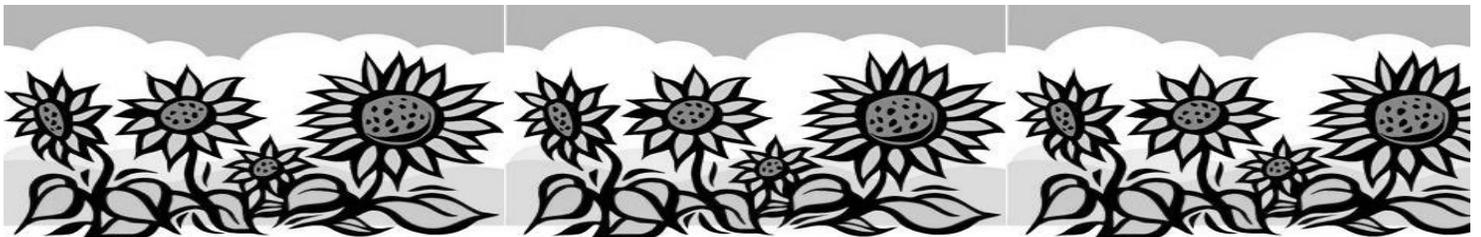
The most obvious risk is the heat itself. This can lead to heat stroke and dehydration, as well as complicate preexisting medical conditions. It is important that homeless persons stay hydrated, wear light color and light material clothing, and stay out of the sun. The heat also brings unpredictable weather, including afternoon rain showers. For homeless clients who often have to travel on foot to get from one agency to another, it is beneficial for them to have ponchos to help them stay dry and avoid getting their clothes wet. The added moisture in their clothing can increase health risks, especially if they do not have immediate access to washing and drying their clothes.

As the days are longer and the sun is much more intense, it is also beneficial to have sunscreen to protect against the intense UV rays that may lead to uncomfortable sunburns or other more dangerous issues. As the temperature begins to rise, we see an increase of insects, including many biting insects such as mosquitoes. Not only do these insects make homeless people uncomfortable, but they carry with them the risk of disease. It is important that they have insect repellent spray or wristband that provides ongoing protection for the individual.

The nicer weather can be deceptively comfortable compared with winter's chill and homeless persons may spend more time out in the heat, so it is important that they have the resources to protect themselves. In addition to posting information about heat related illnesses and ways to stay safe, St. Columba allows clients to remain in our Day Center while we are open, even after they have taken a shower and had their sandwiches. This provides them with a break from the heat and the opportunity to receive some of the other resources we regularly provide in the summer. St. Columba needs your help to provide our clients with these basics to ward off the hazards of summer weather. We are in need of the following donations:

- **Bottled water** – we provide one chilled and one frozen as clients leave
- **Sunscreen** – sample size for individuals or spray to be shared
- **Insect repellent** – spray to be shared or wristbands if you can find them
- **Ponchos** – heavy weight is best, but the dollar store has some for emergencies
- **Light color, lightweight clothes** – t-shirts, shorts, white socks, light jackets
- **Hats** – especially those that provide coverage to the face

With your assistance we can help those who are less fortunate protect themselves from the hidden risks of summer's heat.



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**Donate to our School
Supplies Program!**

SUMMER 2013

St. Columba Special Needs

Summer Special Needs:

The rising temperatures bring unique hazards to our homeless population. This requires we change our services to help protect them from the heat. See inside for information on how you can help!

We continue to need the follow items in our Day Center:

- Brown grocery bags
- Plastic grocery bags
- Liquid or pods laundry detergent
- Travel or sample size toothpaste, lotion, shampoo, soaps, and other small hygiene products
- Washcloths
- Toothbrushes
- Coffee
- Paper towels
- Spray deodorant
- Toilet Paper

Please donate gently used men's clothing!

Our clothing closet has been very low on almost all men's clothing items.

We are in desperate need of gently used men's shirts (especially t-shirts), jeans and pants. Please make sure all donations are in good condition and clean.

We also need new men's socks and boxers.

Open until filled: Wednesday morning volunteer. See inside for details!

Donations are accepted during normal business hours: Monday – Friday 8 AM to 3 PM.
We regret that we are unable to provide pickup services for donations.
