



Neighborhood Ministry NEWS December 2008



**Holiday Assistance Program
Christmas Cards & Photos
Pastoral Care Drive
Family Medicine Residents
Flu Shot Program
December Volunteer Events
Upcoming Volunteer Events**

Holiday Assistance Program

Once again St. John's Mercy coworkers reached out to those in need this holiday season and made Christmas for 116 families a lot merrier!! Of those 116, 65 were applications submitted by agencies that partner with the Neighborhood Ministry.

Christmas Cards and Photos

The Neighborhood Ministry offered free Christmas cards and postage to guests of Pilgrim Church and Centenary CARES meal programs. As a special bonus, digital photos were taken and printed on site so the guests could include them in their cards. Approximately 250 cards and 150 photos were distributed and countless hugs were received!

Pastoral Care Drive Keeps Homeless Alive

Winters items, including coats, hats, scarves, and gloves, were collected by co-workers through St. John's Mercy Pastoral Care. Then they were sent to the Ministry where they were shared with the International Institute and the Winter Mobile Homeless Outreach Group. This group of volunteers search for people sleeping on the streets when the temperature is below 20° and offers them food, drink, a chance to go to a shelter or at least have a warm coat.

Family Medicine Residents at Neighborhood Ministry

As part of their Community Medicine training, St. John's Mercy Family Medicine Residents spend time with the Neighborhood Ministry staff learning more about the low-income and homeless in the St. Louis area. The Residents' experiences may include special projects such as serving a meal to the homeless, but also include blood pressure screenings and "Ask the Doctor" sessions at food pantries and meal programs. They may be asked to assist with breast cancer screenings if the St. John's Mercy Mammography Van is in the area screening uninsured women.

The December resident was Jimmy Ramos, MD. He also helped us with the Holiday Assistance Program.

Flu Shot Program Wraps Up

The Neighborhood Ministry once again assisted Sr. Carrol Coble, a South St. Louis Parish Nurse, administer nearly 1,000 flu shots at 15 area locations. Sr. Carrol offered the flu shots at food pantries, meal programs, church programs and senior centers. The Ministry annually helps find medical and non-medical volunteers to assist her with the injections and paperwork.

DECEMBER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Dec. 1 – St. Vincent's – served dinner

Dec. 1 – Peter & Paul Emergency Men's Shelter – served dinner & socialized

Dec. 29 – St. Vincent's – served dinner

Dec. 29 – Peter & Paul Emergency Men's Shelter– served dinner & socialized

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Serve Dinner to the Homeless

ST. VINCENT'S CHURCH

1410 S. 10th St. (at Park)

St. Louis, MO 63104

www.stvstl.org

4:15 – 6:30 p.m.

10 – 15 co-workers needed to serve dinner

January 29

March 30

April 1

April 22

June 1

More dates to be announced

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Serve Dinner and Spend Time with Homeless Men

PETER & PAUL COMMUNITY SERVICES

Emergency Men's Shelter

711 Allen

St. Louis, MO 63104

www.ppcsinc.org

6:15 – 8:30 p.m.

5-6 co-workers needed to talk and spend 1 on 1 time with the men and serve dinner.

January 27

February 24

March 24

More dates to be announced

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Serve Lunch to the Homeless

CENTENARY CARES OUTREACH

Centenary United Methodist Church

1610 Olive

St. Louis, MO 63103

www.centenarystl.org

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

2 – 3 co-workers needed to help prepare, serve and clean up lunch

2nd Friday of the month (except April)

January 9

July 10

February 13

August 14

March 13

September 11

May 8

October 9

June 12

November 13

December 11

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NEW SITE

Prepare/Package Meals

FOOD OUTREACH, INC.

3117 Olive St.

St. Louis, MO 63103

www.foodoutreach.org

Cook & Pack

Saturday, TBA

8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

10 co-workers needed to assist with food preparation, cooking, and packaging home-cooked meals for persons living with HIV/AIDS or Cancer.

Food Distribution

Saturday, February 28, 2009

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

5 co-workers needed to fill food orders at our on-site "grocery store" for persons living with HIV/AIDS or Cancer.