

# GLEANNINGS

South Louisville Community Ministries

Winter 2017

VOL. 30 ISSUE 2

## *Changing Lives in Crisis*

The dictionary defines crisis as “Critical event or point of decision which, if not handled in an appropriate and timely manner (or if not handled at all), may turn into a disaster or catastrophe.”

The crisis experienced by each family or individual we serve daily is a unique situation. One family may have someone seriously ill and cannot afford to pay their bills. Someone may have lost their job and needs food. A senior may have limited income and must decide between medication, food or paying bills.

South Louisville Community Ministries provides assistance to families to stabilize their crisis situation for 30 days while seeking employment, establishing benefits, or recovering from a major life event. Our program services provide nutritional food from our pantry, prevents eviction/homelessness by providing financial assistance for housing, eliminates families living in unacceptable housing conditions by assisting with utilities to avoid disconnection, helps with purchasing much needed medication and connects individuals/families with additional community services to address their problem(s) in a holistic manner.

The impact of our services changes the lives of families in crisis. Last year, we provided food to over 6,200 families (22,000 plus individuals). The food pantry distributed food orders totaling over 195,000 lbs. of food. Financial assistance with utility bills, housing payments and medication costs total over \$181,000 to over 1500 families.

Baby supplies of diapers, wipes, and baby wash was provided to over 295 families. One hundred (100) families received clothing and furniture vouchers. In addition, we helped over 30 individuals with resume writing, online job search, clothes for their interviews or to start the first week of work. Senior Commodities program picked up and delivered packaged food to 25 seniors monthly. The Meals-on-Wheels program delivered over 19,221 hot meals to 115 seniors this past year.

We all experience crisis situations in our life but when there is someone to care and help during those times, it makes a tremendous difference. The daily, monthly and yearly efforts of South Louisville Community Ministries create an environment where all neighbors can thrive. Your support in volunteering or making a contribution is what helps us change lives in crisis—thank you!

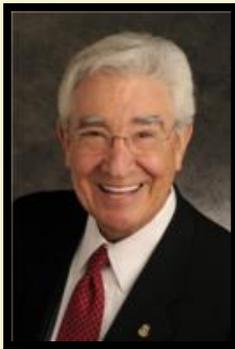


***SLCM Mission: To empower our neighbors in crisis to move toward stability and self-sufficiency. We do this by demonstrating respectful compassion; practicing faithful stewardship; and providing: emergency assistance with food, medicine, housing and utilities; comprehensive referral services and partnerships (individual, family and marriage counseling; daily enrichment services for senior adults***

## *Families Helping Families*

*This upcoming event will be held Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at Kosair Shrine Club, located at 4120 Bardstown Road. Networking will begin at 5:30 with cash bar and nibbles; dinner and program will be from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.*

The theme this year is “Changing Lives in Crisis.” Our featured speaker will be **Wayne Perkey, formerly of WHAS Radio fame and the Crusade for Children!** Wayne comes with an outstanding reputation as a speaker. We look forward to his remarks.



We are happy to announce that our Premier Lead Sponsor is Louisville Gas & Electric.



Special sponsorship rates are available by contacting Joyce Whalin at 361-7763. Individual tickets are \$50 each.

Recipient of this year's Good Neighbor Award goes to longtime supporter of South Louisville Community Ministries, **Dolores Delahanty!** Dolores has devoted her life to improving the lives of others, especially those of Kentucky women and children. We are delighted to honor Dolores this year.



As an added treat, we will auction artwork depicting South Louisville. The paintings/drawings are the work of 2 local high school art students each from DeSales, Doss and Iroquois High Schools. Come prepared to bid!

This event is an opportunity for families, friends, community leaders and business owners to celebrate the uniqueness of South Louisville. For reservations, call Joyce Whalin, 361-7763.

## Food Pantry News

South Louisville Community Ministries has been partnered with Dare to Care and working to fight hunger in the South End since 1976. Thanks to donations from Dare to Care, as well as churches, businesses, and individuals, we provide monthly food orders of canned goods, bread, and limited frozen and refrigerated items. We serve over 500 families (1600 individuals each month). Additionally, we have a "Produce only" distribution every Wednesday. During this time clients may come without an appointment to select their own fresh produce. We are averaging between 50 and 75 families a week.

Working to change lives in crisis, we have incorporated an educational component this year to our weekly produce distribution on Wednesdays. Presenters from partners such as the Family Health Centers, the KY Extension Office, Gateway Health, LG&E, and other presenters have covered topics on reading nutrition labels, diabetes prevention, weatherization, and accessing levels of health care to name a few. Also, the ministry provides nutritional resources and recipes during this time as well. From the on-going learning opportunities, we have increased our clients' knowledge and understanding about healthy eating, budgeting, and managing various health conditions. Susie stated after one workshop, "I did not know that sodium on a label was salt." Another client talked about eating more vegetables has helped her overall health.



Photos by Nisha Kishor  
and Adam Walker

## 2017 Memorial Golf Scramble

We are trying something new this year! Our golf scramble is being moved to Friday afternoon, May 19 at Iroquois Golf Course.

Plans are to have shotgun start at 1:00.  
Registration and light lunch will be at 12:00.

There will be silent auction items and prizes for the winning teams. Mark your calendar and get your team together. The price is \$110 per player, team of 4 is \$440. This price includes golf fees and cart plus lunch and refreshments. This event brings together various business/community leaders to have fun as they support the work of South Louisville Community Ministries. Contact Joyce Whalin at 361-7763.



Photos by Terry Conway

## Give Local Louisville

Thank You to everyone who donated to South Louisville Community Ministries for Give Local Louisville 2016! This was the first time South Louisville Community Ministries participated in this 24-hour online giving event which is hosted by the Community Foundation of Louisville. Over \$4.15 million dollars was raised and distributed among 600 participating nonprofit organizations. We had 38 individual donations totaling \$3,663.41. The date for 2017 is September 14. We look forward to being a part of this worthwhile event again.

## End of the Year Appeal

Our year-end appeal for 2016 was very successful, bringing in \$5,808! For those donors whose donation totaled \$50 or more, a china tea cup and saucer were given. These are available for pickup at our office. If your donation fell in this category, stop by 415 ½ W. Ashland Avenue between the hours of 8-4 Monday thru Friday and pick up your tea cup and saucer.



# Taste of South Louisville

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of South Louisville – an event to remember! August 20, 2016

A special note of appreciation to Churchill Downs' staff who worked with us on this magic evening!

This year was special in that we broke our records for the number of sponsors who supported us (38)! We had a variety of restaurants/vendors (21), several first-timers, who are already on the list for 2017!

The attendance of 700 people expressed their delight in the fun-filled fellowship and food! Our Silent Auction is and continues to be amazing! Several thousand dollars profit!

There are too many people involved in making this event successful to be able to name them all – the staff of South Louisville Community Ministries, the Board of Directors, the Fund Development Committee, the sponsors, the auction donors, the restaurants, the attendees and the volunteers (and there are many!)

Thanks to Mayor Fischer for continuing his longtime record of attending every Taste and for giving this event the name "The Signature Event of South Louisville." 

Being able to be of more help to those neighbors in need and to broaden our programs – that makes the Taste of South Louisville such a meaningful feature of our ministries! We hope to see you at this year's event on August 18<sup>th</sup>.



Photos by Terry Conway

## Volunteer Christmas Party

Our annual volunteer holiday party was held on December 15<sup>th</sup>. It was a festive event filled food and fun! We had over 40 volunteers attend. It was a delight to honor and give our volunteers a great morning with homemade treats, coffee, fellowship, and holiday games! We especially give thanks to CareSource for sponsoring the event. We were delighted that Kim Cordell Fife, CareSource Community Marketplace Representative, could join us for the celebrations.

Volunteers, please make plans to join us for yet another celebration in your honor. Our annual Volunteer and Partner Appreciation Dinner is scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30PM.



Photos by Adam Walker

## *Hellos and Goodbyes*



In January, we said goodbye to Finance Assistant, Najma Ahmed, after she was accepted into an important internship program and she finishes her studies at the University of Louisville. We wish her all the best!



We were delighted that Carrie Bibelhauser has joined our team in this position.

“Hi everyone, my name is Carrie Bibelhauser, a retired University of Louisville employee who was the Program Manager for UofL Campus Health Services for 10 years. A Louisville native, who has lived in Cincinnati, Memphis and Atlanta, I have 2 children, a daughter who teaches in the DeKalb County, Georgia school system and a son who is a Data Communication Sales Rep for Graybar Electric in Louisville. My passions in life are quilting and yoga. I thoroughly enjoy being the Finance Assistant at SLCM and greatly appreciate the services provided by the organization for citizens in my neighborhood.”

## *Why I volunteer—*

*Meals on Wheels Volunteer, Maureen Fitzgerald*



When I retired in 2014 and returned to Louisville from Washington, DC, I knew that I would need to find meaningful activities to fill my days. Being a child of the 60s, I naturally wanted to do something that would help others. Meals on Wheels seemed like a no brainer. I contacted the community ministries agency in my neighborhood but was told that volunteers were not needed at that time. My husband grew up in the south end so I called South Louisville Community Ministries. SLCM was eager to have my help.

Spending time in the Beechmont neighborhood and surrounding area each week has been such a positive experience. I deliver meals to routes 1 and 3 with my husband acting as my chauffeur. We see people who are living in their own homes and in a senior apartment setting. After two-plus years of delivering meals, I've come to know and care about “my people.” I have mourned the death of more than one person and been saddened by others having to leave their homes or apartments for a nursing home. I have also celebrated the return home of those who have had to spend weeks or months in rehab. Routes 1 and 3 are in less affluent areas of our city but they are rich in strength, determination, and resiliency of the people who live there. I have been enriched by my experiences as a MOW volunteer.

## *Sitting across the desk...*

Imagine being forced to flee from your beloved home country due to war and widespread daily violence. Your children and spouse face constant danger and staying in your home is not an option. Now picture yourself coming to a new country where almost nobody speaks your language and you occasionally receive dirty looks for simply speaking your native tongue. The world around you is like nothing you have ever seen. The food, cultural norms, weather, currency and even music is like night and day compared to what you have experienced. These would be extremely hard obstacles for anyone to overcome. You arrive in a new country with the help of a refugee agency who assists you for the first few months. After their assistance expires you are on your own in this new environment. It is nearly impossible to find work immediately when you have a limited ability to speak the language. You are enrolled in English classes, but securing income becomes the next challenge you must overcome. This is the crisis situation facing several of the families that we serve.

Recently, we received a call from Kentucky Refugee Ministries on behalf of a Syrian family looking for assistance with rent. With the aid of an interpreter, we were able to determine their need and schedule an appointment for financial assistance. The family consists of mother, father and five small children. The mother came in for the appointment because she has best ability with English, but she only knew a few key words. We did not have the interpreter for the appointment so we used an online translator as much as possible. It is not as precise as desired when translating from English to Arabic so hand signals and drawings filled in the gaps. We contacted local churches on

behalf of the family and reached out for other assistance to help them. Thanks to the generosity of local churches and funds from Metro government, we were able to collect several hundred dollars toward their rent and advocate with their landlord. In addition, we assisted the family with needed canned goods and fresh produce, as well as baby supplies and information and referrals to other local resources. We were able to stabilize their situation for at least thirty days while they establish themselves, and continued their English classes.

Even after experiencing war, dangerous travel, and many challenges to get to the United States, many families like this one face unforeseen obstacles even after they arrive. What we see across the desk, however, is a determined desire for security, economic stability, and the pursuit of happiness.



*"South Louisville Community Ministries, We thank you so much for all your help in our time of need. We received help with the water bill, medicines, and food. We both are on social security disability. We have multiple health issues but luckily we have been able to stay in our home. The work you do is so important and generous. Thanks for the kindness you give to others. I see it every time I visit your office. You all really care. That means so much to us. God bless you all and we will pray for you."*

*—note from a client*

**Find SLCM updates  
at [www.sbcm.org](http://www.sbcm.org) and  
follow us on:**



**@SLCMCARES**



**slcm\_cares**



**SLCM\_Cares**

## *Donations Needed*

### Personal Items:

Shampoo/conditioner, Soap,  
Toilet Paper, Toothpaste and  
brushes, Laundry Detergent,  
Deodorant, Feminine Hygiene  
Products, Razors/shaving cream,  
Household cleaning supplies

Food: Mac-N-Cheese, Crackers

Baby Items: Soy Formula



**It is time to get your  
2017 calendars out and mark  
these SLCM event dates:**

**Families Helping Families –**  
Tuesday, March 21, 2017 – Dinner  
and Program at Kosair Shrine  
Ballroom. 5:30-8:00PM. Guest  
Speaker: Wayne Perkey.

**Dare to Care Appreciation (for  
SLCM food packers and drivers)—**  
Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. See Kate or  
Laura for details.

**Volunteer and Partner Recognition  
(all volunteers and agency  
partners)—**Thursday, April 20, 2017  
from 6:00-7:30PM. Venue TBA.

**Memorial Golf Scramble –** Friday,  
May 18, 2017. Tee off at 1PM.  
Iroquois Golf Course

**Taste of South Louisville—**  
Saturday, August 18, 2017, Churchill  
Downs Millionaire's Row 4

**Give Local Louisville—**online  
giving day. September 14, 2017

## Giving Thanks

A huge thanks to **Buechal Park Baptist Church** for making over 25 deliveries of fresh produce from their community gardens to supplement our produce distribution (and needed grocery bags!)

We want to thank **Louisville Metro Police 4th Division** and *KY Harvest* for their generous donation of 80 turkeys. Thanks to **Councilwoman Marianne Butler** for connecting them to SLCM.



**Gateway Health** donated 50 new blankets to help our families this winter! Thanks to Gateway representative, **Frank Miller**, for making that happen.



A special thanks to the children of the **YMCA CEP program at Goldsmith Elementary** for making Valentine's cards and flowers for our seniors.



We appreciate the **Candy for Caring Program of Sts. Mary & Elizabeth Hospital Auxiliary**. In addition to making delicious candy, these candy makers submitted South Louisville Community Ministries' letter of purpose and program to their central office in Colorado. As a result, we were awarded \$2,000 from the group's profits (which come as a direct result of their profits from candy sales during the year!) Thanks for your generosity!!

We also offer a sincere thanks to the **Fitzgibbon Family** for their generous donation every holiday season that provides needed funds for our food pantry.

We have been blessed with several groups of volunteers helping out in our Food Pantry. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers from **Meaningful Day Services**, the 6<sup>th</sup> graders at **St Nicholas Academy**, a diverse group of representatives from **KY One Health--Sts. Mary and Elizabeth and Our Lady of Peace Hospitals** and the enthusiastic employees of **Neustar**.

A special welcome to new Meals on Wheels volunteer team—**Tom Ubben, Sarai Vega-Peterson, Sherri Wade, Alysia Harris, and Elaine Evans**. Thank you for taking the time out of your day to help out our seniors and we welcome you to the team!

A welcome to our new Thursday afternoon volunteer receptionist **Jeannine Flynn**, and food pantry volunteer, **Tony Graves**. Thank you and welcome to the team!



# *Volunteer Needs*

*(Contact the office at 361-7763 or mowslcm@hotmail.com to volunteer)*

## **Archives**

Organize photos, articles and all materials about SLCM.

- Maintain historical data monthly or as needed

## **Church Connections Team**

Communicate with churches to exchange information.

- Contact churches by phone to gather information about their church and inform them about the opportunities at SLCM

## **Dare to Care Truck Unloading**

Assist with unloading Dare to Care truck or vans with foods.

- From 9:30 to 11AM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

## **Food Packer**

Prepare the food orders for clients.

- 1:00-4:00 PM, Monday to Friday or 3:30-5:30PM on designated Monday evenings

## **Food Pickup**

Pick-up food from Dare to Care or the local grocery stores.

- Weekly or as scheduled, 2 hours at a time (8:30 AM – 4:00 PM)

## **Gleanings –Quarterly Newsletter**

Work to prepare newsletter for mailing and deliver to local churches.

- Quarterly newsletter, appropriately 2-3 hours

## **Intake Volunteer**

Gather information over the telephone about client needs.

- 3 hours at a time (9AM-noon, or 1-4PM)

## **Marketing and Promotions**

Professional/technical assistance to design and layout SLCM materials.

- Provide expertise to create or enhance printed materials.

## **Meals on Wheels Driver or Senior Commodities Delivery**

Volunteer to deliver hot meal to homebound seniors or a special package of food.

- Volunteers can schedule to deliver weekly, bi-weekly or once a month or can be on a substitute list.

## **Office Work**

Office volunteer to answer phones, data entry, and general office work.

- 4-8 hours at a time (8:30 AM – 4:00 PM)

## **Produce Only Distribution**

Support staff in distributing fresh produce to clients.

- 9:00-10:30AM for set up, and 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM for distribution every Wednesday

## **Special Events/ Projects**

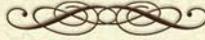
Provide assistance for special events or projects

*Our vision: South Louisville is a community where all neighbors thrive.*

*“God bless this community, without them a lot of people would be hurting. Thank you, and God bless you All”*  
 Quote from an Emergency Assistance client

Winter 2017

Thanks to our partners. . .

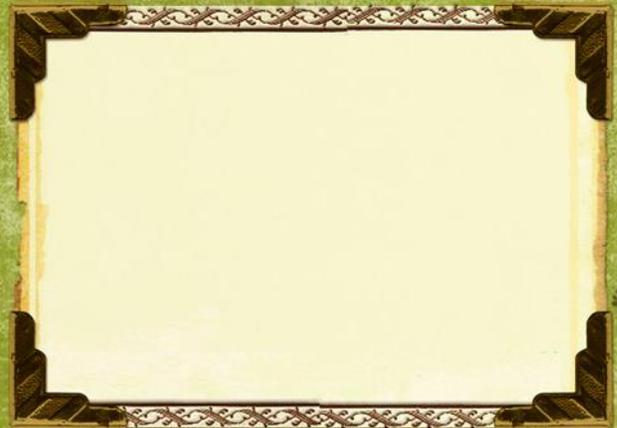


**Dare to Care**  
 Food Bank



A service of Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare

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