



# News Around the Corner

December 2023

**THE 14TH AND CHESTNUT COMMUNITY CENTER'S MISSION IS TO BE A PARTNER WITH AND PROVIDE MINISTRY TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD AROUND THE CENTER IN ORDER TO ASSIST WITH A VARIETY OF SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL, AND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS.**

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## Storytime with Staff Sargent Whitt

To honor Veteran's Day, we had a special visit from Staff Sargent Whitt. She came and talked to the kids about her role in the Army and read a book about Veterans Day and all the different branches. THANK YOU Miss Michele for coming to visit and THANK YOU to all of our veterans for protecting us!

**Verse of the Month:**

Isaiah 9:6

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.





## Staff Spotlight

This month's staff spotlight is Brianna Jackson. Bri attends Indiana State University and is studying math education. She enjoys hanging out with friends and dancing in her free time. Bri started working over the summer with the k-2 girls and has shown so much compassion and love to our kids. She has developed amazing connections with all of her kids and has learned that what we do here is more than just after-school care. She believes being a leader is more than correcting our students when they are not making good choices, but it is about making emotional connections and helping shape them into the best version of themselves with the time we have. Bri loves being able to be active and creative with her girls and her favorite thing to do with her girls was water

balloons over the summer. Bri has been such an excellent example to the kids and truly has a heart for what she is doing here at the center!

## Volunteer Spotlight

Meet Emily! Emily is one of our dedicated pantry workers that comes just about every Tuesday. She has been volunteering at the pantry since 2021 but has always loved to volunteer since high school. She currently works part time at CODA (Council on Domestic Abuse, Inc) and when she's not working or volunteering, she loves to run and hike, read, spend time with her kids and husband and travel! What Emily loves most about the pantry is the connections she's made with her fellow volunteers and patrons. Emily loves helping others, and it really makes her feel like she's a part of this great community. Emily's mother-in-law has been a volunteer at the pantry for many years and one week when we were short-handed she showed up to help and never stopped. Emily always planned to start volunteering once her kids were both in school full time but then they ended up homeschooling in 2020, so that just delayed her plan a bit. What keeps her coming back is that she loves to help people! A lot of times, the people who need our services the most are met with unfriendliness and judgement. She just wants to be a friendly and helpful face to those people who need us the most in their time of need. Emily makes sure that she treats everyone who walks through our doors with respect and without judgement. We appreciate Emily for her welcoming personality and all that she does to help make us operate smoothly!



## Room Spotlight

This month our room spotlight is our donation room. The donation room is utilized to store and sort donations that come in. This room used to be known as the "Green Chapel", which was smaller chapel area that wasn't used very often. We semi-recently separated the chapel from the Jellyfish Room by replacing the curtain with drywall. We also sold the pews that were in there to open up the space for us to be able to put tables in there to help sort the many different donations we get all year round.

# December 2023 NEEDS LIST

## 14<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut Community Center

1403 Chestnut Street. Terre Haute, IN 47807. Phone: 812.232.3126  
Email: 14th.chestnut@gmail.com

Visit our Website! [14thandchestnut.weebly.com](http://14thandchestnut.weebly.com)

Find us on Facebook! Search 14th and Chestnut Community Center.

**Thank You** for your ongoing support of the work we do at the Center! God is using you to make a big difference in the children, their families, and even the staff and volunteers that come through our doors. We couldn't do any of it without you!

**PRAY** for all of the children and families we serve, that God will continue to move and change lives!

### BIGGEST NEEDS

**These are the areas where we could use the most help in the month of December as we move into the colder months and holiday season:**

**Food Pantry**— Numbers of people in need of emergency food assistance continue to grow. Staple needs include cereal, mashed potatoes, and canned vegetables.

**Kitchen**— We are in need of some cookie scoopers and some **new knives**.

**Clothes Closet**—The weather is changing and our clothes closet is looking a bit empty. We need **boy sizes 6-14 sweat pants, jeans, and long sleeve shirts and Pjs 10-14**. We also need **girl sizes small- large leggings, shirts sizes 6-16, underwear for sizes 14-18**. We could also use **adult women sizes 5-7** and all size Pjs.

**Merit Mart**—We are in need of toys such as cars, action figures, **art/craft sets**, dolls, Lego sets, as well as jewelry, **room decorations, perfumes and body products, watches, sports equipment**, etc. to stock our Merit Mart. This is a way we can reward our kids for good behavior, so we could use your help to get it restocked for the school year.

**Building & Grounds**— We could use some bulletin board letters and bulletin board paper.

### GRUMBLING TUMMIES CAFÉ

Serving daily snacks and dinner throughout the school year. Help us keep their bellies full!

**Our biggest need for the kitchen this month is some new cookware. Several of our kitchen items had to be thrown out due to wear and tear over the years.**

We would also appreciate gift cards to purchase items in order to complete meals and to purchase the fresh produce and milk we need each week. We are also accepting any donations of canned or boxed food.

## **MERIT MART REWARDS STORE**

Help us reward our kids for good behavior! The store is where children can spend the play money they earn on hygiene products, toys, books, crafts, school supplies, etc. We accept donations of new or gently used items for the Merit Mart.

**Our biggest need is items for middle and high school children such as room decorations, jewelry (boys or girls), Small Lego sets, lotions, perfumes/ colognes, paints and canvases, squishmellows and keychains. We also accept toys, school supplies, jewelry, and candy for the children.**

## **MOTHER HUBBARD'S PANTRY**

Please help us keep our emergency pantry stocked to help people in our community in an extreme time of need.

**Our biggest needs for the food pantry are potatoes- mashed, scalloped etc., peanut butter, pasta and pasta sauces- spaghetti, alfredo, etc., cereal, canned peaches or fruit, canned carrots, peas and beans, and canned meat- tuna, chicken, salmon.**

We are also accepting donations of canned and boxed goods as well as supplies for babies such as diapers, wipes, and jars of baby food.

## **CLOTHES CLOSETS**

Once a week, any of our registered children can go to the clothes closet and get **NEW OR GENTLY USED** clothing to keep them clean and warm. All donations are appreciated but our k-5 kids utilize our clothes closet the most so our younger sizes go quickly!

We need **boys sizes 6-14 graphic tees, long sleeves, jeans and sweatpants**. We could also use boys PJs sizes 10-14. For the **girls we need sizes 6-16/18 leggings, shirts and PJs**. The girls also need **adult sizes 5-8 clothing and girls underwear sizes 14-18**.

## **MOMS MATTER**

Where mothers can get together and encourage each other through their daily parenting struggles. Each mom in attendance is given a small gift. Help us encourage them! Gift baskets, lotions, bath items, cooking supplies or and any other gift a mom might like. Gift cards for dining out, or local grocery stores.

## **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

Cleaning supplies—Pledge, Spic and Span, Lysol Wipes

Gift wrap— Tissue paper, gift bags, wrapping paper, tape

**Bulletin board paper and letters**

Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

If you would like to give a monetary donation online, scan the QR code. You can give a one-time gift or sign up for a monthly donation.



## Thanksgiving Program

November went by very quickly, but we sure had a lot of fun talking about being grateful to God and all the many blessings He has provided us with. One of those blessings was our annual Thanksgiving Dinner. We had an amazing Thanksgiving program this year with a total of 142 people, 52 kids and 90 family members in attendance! In chapel, the kids have been learning about “Thank-ers” (those that are thankful) and “Grumblers” (those that complain). This time of year, is a time to reflect and just be thankful for all God has done and continues to do for us. God has blessed each of us so much, and it’s times like these where we can be intentional about thanking Him for it all. After eating Thanksgiving dinner, the kids sang a song about being so blessed and recited the verse of the month. We concluded the program by handing out about 40 food baskets with the makings for a Thanksgiving dinner.



## THANK YOU!!!

HUGE THANK YOU to all of our amazing volunteers who spent time cooking, setting up, serving and cleaning up. We’d also like to thank those who donated to help make the evening possible! We couldn’t have done it without you! We truly feel blessed to be able to continue to fulfill God’s ministry to these kids and their families.





14th and Chestnut Community Center  
A collaboration of the Terre Haute Christian Community  
1403 Chestnut Street, Terre Haute IN 47807  
Phone: 812-232-3126

Attached is a list of the food items we are collecting for the food baskets. We ask you to prayerfully consider collecting the items for one basket, or collecting one or two items in bulk. There are also other ways to get involved, including sponsoring a family for Christmas, providing gifts for children, or giving a monetary donation to help with heating the building this winter. Without your help, we won't be able to keep our doors open and provide a warm place for the kids to come after school this winter. Any donations are greatly appreciated.

If you need any further information about how to get involved, please call us at (812)232-3126, and we will be happy to talk to you. Thank you so much for the difference you are making in the lives of our children!

### 14<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut Annual Holiday Food Basket Drive

*Offering Food Baskets to 50 families this Christmas*

#### **Items needed to fill One Holiday Food Basket**

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 cans of corn            | 1 cake mix               |
| 2 cans of green beans     | 1 can of frosting        |
| 2 boxes mac & cheese      | 1 box of Mashed Potatoes |
| 1 box stuffing            | 2 cans of pie filling    |
| 1 can sweet potatoes      | 1 can evaporated milk    |
| 1 can/jar of gravy        | 1 can cranberry sauce    |
| 1 package of dinner rolls | 2 pie crusts             |

**Bring non-meat items to 14th and Chestnut Center by Friday, Dec. 8**

***Collect items to fill one basket OR collect 1-2 items in bulk.***

## **Winter Coats**

Every year we are able to distribute winter coats, hats, gloves and scarves. Many of our kids walk to travel everywhere or have to wait in the early hours of the morning for a bus. As the temperatures drop, this becomes a very cold task, and many families struggling with helping our kids stay warm. This is one of the few things we can do to help make sure our kids stay warm during the cold winter months. This year we have given out 62 coats and still have a handful waiting to be picked up.



## Barrel Locations For Sponsoring a Child

This is the time of year kids start getting excited and looking forward to what presents may be wrapped under the tree waiting for them but many of our kids here at the center have parents who are struggling to make ends meet. So, we try to help each family out by providing gifts to all our kids, but we need your help! We have made barrels with kids' names and information on them and placed them at several locations. We would like you to visit one of the many locations, select a name, buy a present or two and put it back in the barrels by December 15<sup>th</sup> with the child's name or gift list. The presents can be wrapped, in a bag, or unwrapped. Then we will make sure to get them to the proper child just in time for Christmas! You can stop by **four different Starbucks locations, The Y, Saratoga, Sycamore Club, Loose Goose, Terre Haute Church of God, or Harsha.** We appreciate these businesses helping us out during a very busy time of year, and we hope to be able to provide each child here at the center with at least 5 gifts to have to open on Christmas morning. Many of our parents come in during this time of year thanking us for helping them when they are unable to provide for their kids. We hope to continue to keep this tradition going and continue to share God's love to our kids and families here at the center.

## Full of Thanks!

Our staff and students are full of thanks this year! Thanksgiving is a time to celebrate all of our blessings for the past year. It is a time where families reunite, express gratitude for one another, and feel closer to one another than at any other time. This year we asked our staff and students what they were thankful for and many of them had a lot to be thankful for.



14th & Chestnut Community Center  
1403 Chestnut Street  
Terre Haute, IN 47807

December 2023

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 616  
Terre Haute, IN



## Help make a Difference in a Child's Life

Here are some ways you can help out at the Center:

**Wills and Bequests**—Gifts will be invested to insure quality services for youth in the future. Gifts can last a lifetime. Please consider us when making your final requests.

**Memorial/Honor Gifts**—Gifts made in memory of a deceased loved one or in honor of a family member or friend.

**Miranda Harper Scholarship**—Donations can be made to our Scholarship fund to help our students with college expenses.

**In-kind Gifts**—Gifts such as clothing, toiletries and household items can also be donated. For current list of needs, see pages 3 and 4.

**Monetary Donations**—Checks made payable to: 14th and Chestnut Community Center, 1403 Chestnut St., Terre Haute, IN 47807.

**Endowment Fund**—If you would like to contribute to our Endowment Fund through the Wabash Valley Community Foundation, contact the Center at 812-232-3126.

### 14th and Chestnut Community Center

1403 Chestnut St.  
Terre Haute, IN 47807  
812-232-3126

### After School Program Monday—Friday

3:00 pm—6:00 pm  
Snack served at 3:00 pm  
Dinner served at 5:30 pm

### Food Pantry

Tuesdays 9:00 am—12:00 pm

### Executive Director

Connor Scanlon

### Director of Operations

Laresha Johnson

### Director of Programming

Ella Houvenagle