

# News Around the Corner

May 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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<u>Verse of the</u> <u>Month:</u> 1 Corinthians 10:31 "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

#### **Gifts From The Heart**

We had such a wonderful evening celebrating with all of you at our Annual Gifts From the Heart Banquet! It was a great time of honoring all of the incredible people who live out the mission of the Center through their work, volunteering, or donations. It was a time to hear of the life-changing impact that the Center is having on the lives of children in our community. It was also a time where so many stepped up and helped to put a HUGE DENT into our hefty goal to raise funds for a new roof! Thanks to all of you, we raised over \$33,000! While there is still a ways to go, we believe God has a plan and a purpose, and He will make a way!

If you would still like to contribute to the roof fund, you can do that by giving online on our website, mailing in a donation, or stopping by the office.

## **GFTH Annual Award Winners**



It would be hard to find someone more dedicated and faithful to the center than Linda Mills. Whether it was her outgoing personality, or her smile Linda was always a joy to be around. Linda was an extremely hard worker and did whatever she could to put someone first. Linda would do her best to accommodate someone if they had dietary restrictions and made sure someone always had something to eat. Whether it was a kid, staff, or volunteer Linda would go the extra mile to make sure that you knew you were loved and cared about.

Olivia Sowards was a student who attended the program before she got the opportunity to be an intern and a leader for the kids. Olivia worked with multiple groups at the center but mainly with the 3rd-5th grade girls. Olivia made it a point to know the children she worked with, not just listening but actually hearing, seeing and understanding them. She genuinely had a heart for them. She was one of the most dedicated people to the kids here despite whatever was going on in her life. She also brought immense leadership qualities not only for the groups she was serving but



also for the center here. She would step in whenever needed and go above and beyond what was expected of her.



Hannah Sowards was a student who attended the program before she got the opportunity to be an intern and a leader for the kids. She worked with multiple groups at the center including k-2nd girls, k-2nd boys and 3rd-5th grade boys. These can be tough groups to work with sometimes, but Hannah always brought great heart and passion everyday to work with these kids every day. Whether it was leading them through an activity that required more attention than they were wanting to give in that moment or listening to them when they needed to be heard Hannah's heart always put these kids first!

Laresha Johnson was a student who attended the program before she got the opportunity to be an intern herself and a leader for the kids. Laresha mainly worked with the 3rd-5th grade girls always giving 100% into whatever activity they were doing. She was great at coming up with new ideas to do with the girls and they loved having her as a leader. Now Laresha is an assistant director at the center. She uses her talents and abilities to pour into the center here in a variety of ways. She uses her passion for the kids here to still come up with engaging activities for them, she uses her



leadership skills to pour into not only students attending here but staff around her by being genuine and authentic, and she stays flexible in her role to do what is needed and to try something new when called upon.



For many years, Steve Hardin has faithfully come to the Center once a week to volunteer. You can count on finding Steve at the library computer desk sorting, cataloging and labeling our books to keep our library in the best condition. No matter what challenge or issue comes up, from the computer restarting five times in an hour or coming in to find all of the library books switched out, Steve takes it all in stride with a big smile and warm heart. Reading is so essential, and we appreciate all of the time and energy that Steve has dedicated to ensuring we can continue to offer such wonderful books for our children to read!

Phil Welch, Sue Welch, and Larry Singleton make up our "Monday Crew", volunteering to serve in our kitchen every Monday since 2014. They help prepare and serve breakfast and lunch during our summer program, and help with dinner during the after school program. The Monday Crew have been such faithful, reliable volunteers that always show up eager to jump in and help with whatever is needed, and they always do it with big smiles on their faces! Their faithful service not only fills our children and staff's bellies with warm food, but also fills their hearts with the love that is poured out!



# May 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

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

<u>Thank You</u> 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 May and looking toward summer:

**Food Pantry**—We are in need of any staple foods such as mashed potatoes, pasta, boxed meals, etc. to keep our pantry stocked and ready to serve those in need in our community.

**Kitchen**— We are looking for a Kitchen Coordinator to assist with reaching out and scheduling volunteers and helping with planning for our three big family meals each year. Call the office for more information.

**Summer Items–** We are beginning to collect beach towels and swimsuits to prepare for summer field trips. We are also in need of Pirate Themed crafts or games. Please call the office for more information.

**Field Trip Drivers**—We are in need of drivers age 25 or older to assist with driving for Friday field trips this summer. We leave the Center around 10am and return by 2pm. If you're interested in more information or would be willing to help, please call the office.

#### **GRUMBLING TUMMIES CAFÉ**

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

Our biggest need for the kitchen is meat and fresh fruits and vegetables

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 as well as main staples like bread and sugar.

#### 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 hygiene products especially for boys, such as deodorant, body wash, shaving cream, etc.

We also accept toys, school supplies, jewelry, and candy for the children.

#### MOTHER HÚBBARD'S PANTRY

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

#### Our biggest need for the food pantry is meat like hot dogs, spam, tuna to make a complete meal and any staple items such as peanut butter, cereal, pasta, rice, beans.

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!

Our biggest need is new underwear and new boxers for our kids in any sizes.

We are also in need of clothes from size 5 to 12 for both girls and boys.

We accept clothes for kids from size 5 up to adult XL.

### 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, candles, picture frames, and any other gift a mom might like** Gift cards for gas, dining out, or local grocery stores

#### **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

Cleaning supplies—Pledge, liquid pump hand soap, toilet paper, toilet bowl cleaner, Ajax detergent, Spic and Span

Old cell phones or old printer cartridges

Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

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



#### **Celebrating Easter At The Center**



The week before Easter is a fun-filled, busy time at the Center! On Monday, our kiddos each made palm branches to wave while they paraded around the Sanctuary during Chapel time. All week, we talked about the Easter story and all the people who played different roles in the arrest, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.

Our creative leaders planned lots of fun crafts, games and life skills lessons for each group throughout the week as well, making bunny hats, making egg-shaped rice crispy treats, coloring, and doing relay races. On Friday, we enjoyed the beautiful weather by going out to the playground for Easter Egg Hunts! Our children ran all over the playground collecting eggs, some filled with candy and others with golden stickers to trade in for prizes! How neat is is to see our children not only enjoying themselves, but being reminded of the real reason we celebrate, Jesus!



#### **Easter Baskets!**

We'd like to say a great big THANK YOU to the staff at Elite Smiles Dentistry and Dentistry Just for Kids for putting together Easter baskets for all of our children! They collected items and put together baskets with coloring books, toys, candy and treats. The children were all very excited on Thursday before Easter to get to take a basket home. We appreciate these local businesses and all of the others who help to make our holidays so special for our children!

## Spring Carnival at Silver Birch



One of our 6th grade and older girls leaders, Lonyse Miller, completed an internship this semester at Silver Birch Assisted Living Facility. As a project for her class, she planned a Spring Carnival for the residents and their families. She then invited our girls to help! The girls not only helped with planning the games, but then helped set up and lead the games. While some were nervous at first, they served at the carnival with smiles on their faces that turned to laughing and true enjoyment. We are very proud of our older girls and their leaders for their hearts to serve!

#### **Ryves Community Cleanup**

How did you celebrate Earth Day? Some of our team spent the morning giving back to our community by participating in a neighborhood cleanup. Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church planned and put on a Ryves Community Cleanup event, inviting the community to join in and pick up trash throughout the neighborhood. There were churches, organizations, businesses and families who joined in to help. It's so great to see so many who care about the Earth and our neighborhood!



#### Summer Interns Wanted!

We are beginning to plan for our summer program and are looking for high school juniors and seniors and college-age students to join our summer staff! The summer program will run from May 30—August 4, Monday through Friday from 8am-2pm.

The first week is training, and then we have nine weeks of programming where interns work with one of our groups of kids leading games, crafts, life skills, reading, etc.

If you or someone you know is interested in applying to work with us this summer, please call the office at 812-232-3126 or come by and talk with Connor or Amanda! We're excited to see the team God is going to put together and how He is going to use them to change lives this summer!



Save The Date!



Please save the date for our annual 14th and Chestnut Community Center Golf Outing! This year, the outing is scheduled for Friday, August 25th. We hope you will gather some friends/family and join us for a day of fun while also raising funds for 14th and Chestnut!

Watch for more information in future newsletters!

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

May 2023

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# 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.

I4th 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 Directors**

Amanda Otieno Connor Scanlon Assistant Director Laresha Johnson