

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Posted 11/2/09

One Time Opportunities:

A. Habitat for Humanity – Community Auction - at the Athens Community Center

- i. **Date:** November 7, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- ii. **Description:** Five Volunteers are needed for the Habitat's Community Auction. You can also bid on items. Bidding will start at 10:00 am and end at 1:00 p.m. A partial listing of the many items for the "Chinese" and the Silent auctions are on our web site, www.athenshabitat.org. If you can help please call Faye at 592-0032.

B. Winter Break Service Learning Trip to New Orleans – United Campus Ministry.

- i. **Date:** Dec. 4 -13.
- ii. **Description:** The group will work with the New Orleans Rebirth Volunteer Program—a service project of the Greater New Orleans Unitarian Universalists' Center for Ethical Living and Social Justice Renewal. In addition to working to rebuild housing and facilities for community organizations, trip participants will learn about how the politics of race, class, and religion contributed to the severity of the problems and continue to impact the effort to restore this unique American community. Participants will leave by van from Athens on December 4, and return on December 13. Cost of the trip will be \$450 per person, which includes travel, lodging, and meals while in New Orleans; some assistance with fundraising is available. Registration for the trip starts now, and the deadline for forms and \$250 deposit is October 15.

Email Evan at ucmevan@frogn.net for more information!

On-Going Opportunities:

A. Appalachian Behavioral Health. Contact George Eberts at 740-589-4027 or eberts@ohio.edu

This is a psychiatric hospital located in Athens which serves approximately 75-100 in-patient clients. If you have a particular interest in working with persons' with mental health disabilities, contact George Eberts to arrange a volunteer opportunity or internship. Also, they are seeking churches that would like to host chapel for patients Sundays in January and April 2010.

B. Appalachian Community Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice, contact Christie Truly, Volunteer Coordinator, 594-8226, ext. 475 or email to ctruly@acvna.org.

A volunteer is needed for a short-term marketing opportunity. Volunteer Services needs a new brochure for recruitment purposes. They also need a brochure for our new Athens Village program for seniors living in place. These will be basic brochures that they can print at their office.

- C. **Community Action** – <http://www.hapcap.org>. Community action is the umbrella organization over the following programs. Each of these programs has volunteer opportunities and particular coordinators to contact directly.

- **Meals on Wheels programs (at the Southeast Regional Food Center)- Contact Marilyn Sloan at 1-800-385-6813 or msloan@hapcap.org**

They utilize volunteers Monday - Friday from 7am until 1 p.m. They will open on Saturday mornings for a committed Group. Volunteers pack and prepare food for the Backpack Kids program, which provides weekly lunches to over 1000 kids and the Build a Boxes for Senior Program which provides food to over 4000 seniors per month.

- **Weatherization Program – Contact Greg Andrews at 740-753-3062.**

Individual or small groups of volunteers are needed to assist work crews that weatherize homes in a tri-county area. Crews go out during the day Monday – Friday to assist low to moderate income families. The goal is to weatherize 450 homes over the next 20 months including air leakage reduction and insulation. The average saving to home owners is a 30% reduction to energy consumptions.

- D. **Good Works** - www.good-works.net

Are you concerned about people struggling with poverty in Athens County? Would you like to spend a few hours a week helping at-risk children, helping out at a homeless shelter or visiting with widows at their homes? Want to help teach a computer class, support our weekly community meal or help build a building? Started by an OU student during his senior year, Good Works, Inc. has been providing a community of HOPE for the rural homeless and others struggling with poverty since 1981. Please visit the Good Works web page (www.good-works.net) and click on Volunteer Opportunities.

- E. **Habitat for Humanity, general contact Ed Baum, 740-592-0032. See other specifics below.**

There are 2 homes currently being built in the Athens area and volunteers are needed. Volunteers donate their time on Wednesdays and Saturdays. No previous experience is necessary. The people coordinating these projects will teach you what you need to know and provide supplies. As an aside, the persons' volunteering to manage these projects are all retired staff or faculty at OU.

- George Bain at 740-592-3828 or gbain@yahoo.com - He is coordinating the building of a new home in Jackson on Saturdays.

- Carol Kirk at (740)664-6664 or karo6000@yahoo.com- She is coordinating the completion of a home in Albany on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

F. **Kids on Campus** – www.ohio.edu/kids, contact Tina Lenigar, (740) 566-8543 or leniga@ohio.edu

This organization provides volunteer opportunities for individual and groups who are interested in working with elementary age students. Volunteer opportunities are available afterschool from about 2:30 p.m. until 6 p.m. Monday –Friday.

G. **Lottridge Community Center.** See contacts below.

Many different types of programs and events for children, families, and seniors are offered through the Community Center for. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities with the following programs.

- The Friends and Neighbors Program provides hot meals every Weds. at noon. They also operate a Food Pantry Lisa Roberts at 667-0684 or Bill and Dorothy Bell at 740-667-6760.
- Volunteers are need to help sell food and clean up at the Country Music show which occurs two times a month, the 2nd and 4th Friday, from 6-10:30 p.m.
- The first Sunday of every month the community center hosts a smorgasbord – lunch buffet. Help is needed to cook and prepare food & clean up from 7am- 2:30pm. Call Mary Meiggemeyer at 740-667-6726

H. **Service Living** – check out <http://serviceliving.wordpress.com> or contact Heidi Bender at (517)896-1856.

Service Living was launched in the Fall of '09 in a collaborative effort between Good Works, Inc., the Ohio University, and the communities of greater Athens county as a means of connecting first year college students with the people of Southeast Ohio through immersive service opportunities. Students commit on a quarterly basis to weekly projects in the community which range from planting gardens for individuals struggling with food security, to helping low-income families to build their own homes, to spending time with the elderly or disabled, or preparing and eating a meal with residents of a local homeless shelter. You can learn more about Service Living and about our 7 current projects through our website: <http://serviceliving.wordpress.com>.

I. **Three Rivers Housing Corporation-** www.3rivershousing.org; (740)797-7139

On-going volunteer opportunities are available to individuals or groups interested in engaging in new home construction. Three Rivers Housing Corp. is a nonprofit organization which has been providing affordable housing services in southeastern Ohio since 1992. To date Three Rivers has assisted ninety-two individuals and families in becoming new homeowners. Contact Three Rivers Housing Corp. directly to arrange to volunteer.

J. **United Campus Ministries** – 740-593-7301; ucmathens@frogned.net;
www.ucmathens.org

THURSDAY SUPPER: EVERY THURSDAY, 5:30pm, lower level UCM

Registered OU student organization. Weekly free meal open to all. Great opportunity for the OU and Athens communities to meet! Volunteers and donations welcomed! Call 593-7301 or email Lauren at lr395306 for information.

SATURDAY LUNCH: EVERY SATURDAY, 1:00pm, lower level UCM

IT'S BACK! Thanks to our new Saturday Lunch intern, Shannon! Email her ss335907@ohio.edu to volunteer at this weekly free meal open to all. Great opportunity for the OU and Athens communities to meet! Volunteers and donations welcomed!