

QUOTABLES

“Shepherd is here 365 days a year. This isn’t the only time [the holiday time] they have needs”

Indianapolis Star
11/25/2006

“Shepherd Community Center serves high-risk children, youths and families on the city’s east side where more than a dozen killings and other violent crimes occurred this summer.”

Indianapolis Star
11/21/2006

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Angel Food & Shuttles of Hope 2

Thanks! Holiday Help 2

E-Video 2

Empty Shelves 3

Inquiring Minds 3

Jay’s Journal 3

Immediate Needs 4

Continuum Care...

“I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me...”

Matthew 25:35

A child’s basic needs must be met before they can begin to achieve. We must not stop there. If we only provide food and drink then we cannot break the cycle of poverty...

...So how is the cycle of poverty broken, through Education & Love...

Shepherd Community Center is committed to providing a Con-

tinuum of Care which is comprised of many services and programs allowing those we serve to become self sufficient. We provide them with step ladders so they may stand on their own and reach for their goals!



The first step is to meet their basic needs to make them strong again, No one can win the fight against poverty when they are hungry, thirsty or naked.

Once they are strong physically the second step is to strengthen the body, mind and soul. This is accomplished through our health

clinic plus mental and spiritual guidance and counseling.

Once comforted, we are able to educate them. The third step is through supervised tutoring, job skills or college mentoring. The result is adults who can stand on their own. The fourth and final step is Self Sufficiency!

Does it work? YES!

We have watched several families become strong physically, mentally, spiritually, & financially. Our children are higher achievers in school, are graduating from high school and holding steady jobs or attending college.

Adults who come to us have gained financial security and are maintaining jobs. In addition, we provide guidance for several families who are now homeowners!

Opening New Hearts & Doors

Shepherd Community Center currently serves 230 children and 36 parents. Each of our programs have a waiting list and when we invite the neighborhood to holiday events we serve 1000’s.

Our community is in need, new people are calling out to us. We want to open our doors to all of them, but the expense is too great.

In the coming weeks we will begin a new program that will help us provide continuum care to all those that are currently being ministered to and hopefully open the doors to others that are seeking out help, love, and hope.

Shepherd Community Center wants our doors to always be open and to stop the doors from closing on those in need and seeking the Lord’s love.

Keep your eyes, ears, and heart open to learn more about this new way to minister to children and adults in need through our **Doorstop Program**, coming soon!

If you would like more information on this new program to expand and continue our ministries please contact Steve Ellison at 375-0203 or stevee@shepherdmail.org

Angel Food & Shuttles of Hope...



We often take “running to the grocery store” for granted. For many in our community this is not an option.

Most of our Shepherd neighbors do not have transportation. Walking to the grocery store is the only means to get the necessities. When the last grocer in walking distance closed, our families and neighbors felt hopeless.

We responded to their need

with an affordable alternative: Angel Food Boxes and a free shuttle to a nearby grocery store.

Angel Food Ministries provide quality meats and food for an affordable price of \$25. They are available monthly and often include large quantities of meats.

If you would like to purchase an Angel Food box for a family in need, please contact Ed at 375-0203.

We were very fortunate that the Kroger Company offered to help us get our families and neighbors to the Kroger on Linwood & 10th Street by offering a partnership for a shuttle service.

This began on Dec. 15th. The shuttle runs twice a week for several hours and is free to the local residence.

“Dear Children let us not love with words or tongue, but with action and in truth”

1 John 3:18

Thanks! Holiday Help...

Thank you to all that contributed in-kind donations, hours of love, and/or monetary contributions this holiday season.

We appreciate your generosity during a time of need. You provided a season of hope for many.

HOLIDAY RECAP

- 1000 Thanksgiving Baskets were Delivered!
- 500 Children received Christmas Gifts including Socks and Underwear!
- 250 Christmas Break Totes were Given!
- 250 Christmas Food Baskets!
- 1000 Holiday Meals were Served!
- 100 Coats and 40 Shoes were Distributed to Children!
- 80 Families were Sponsored for Christmas!

E-Videos...

An E-Video was sent to Shepherd Supporters this past Holiday Season.

This is a new way to reach people with our message, mission, and goal.

We hope you enjoyed the e-video as much as we did! Thanks to all who for-

warded the e-video link so others may learn about Shepherd Community Center!

If you would like to receive the E-Video please contact Nate at 375-0203 or nateh@shepherdmail.org with a request to be added to our email list.

Look for a new video to hit your inbox in February.

The E-video is another way for us to keep you updated on our progress to break the cycle of poverty on the near eastside.



Empty Shelves...

We were so blessed this past holiday season with the contributions that fed thousands...

Regrettably, our pantry shelves are now sparse and some empty. If you could please help us replenish the shelves so that we can help meet the basic needs of our neighbors, we would be forever grateful.

If you would like to organize a canned food drive with your church, small group, work

place, etc. we will be happy to come and pick up the items.

Things we need:

- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Meat (tuna, spam)
- Soup
- Peanut Butter
- Boxed Pasta
- Canned Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Mac n' Cheese
- Snack Items
- Ready-to-Eat Meals

- Cereal
- Juice
- Diapers
- Razors
- Toilet-paper
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste/toothbrushes
- Feminine Pads
(please no tampons)

To make arrangements, please contact Sharon at 317-375-0203 or at sharonp@shepherdmail.org

“8 out of 10 children only eat two meals a day IF they are in school.”

Inquiring Minds...

We work hard to insure the attention our Shepherd Kids need academically is being met.

The Shepherd Kids success in school will determine their success in life. Without a high school diploma they cannot hold well paying secure jobs. Without college mentoring, they think college is out of their reach.

The kids in our academy, pre-

school thru kindergarten, are scoring higher on the IPS entrance exam when compared to their peers.

Our after-school kids and teens are performing better on ISTEP scores and receiving higher grades on average.

In an area where 30% of adults are illiterate and less than 70% of high-schoolers graduate, educa-

tion is **fundamental** to “breaking the cycle of poverty!”

We can't do it without you!

If you are interested in volunteering as a tutor, please contact Sharon at 375-0203 or at sharonp@shepherdmail.org

Jay's Journal...

Thanks to each and every one of you for a special 2006!

Much work was accomplished helping families break the cycle of poverty. Your support was critical to our being able to help more than ever before.

Know your support is truly making a difference.

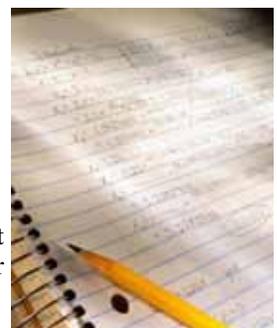
We are introducing many new ways so you will continue to feel connected with all you are doing with us and for us here at Shepherd.

Through my blog, I invite you to join me weekly to share any thoughts, get updates, and communicate openly. Visit www.shepherdcommunity.org

and click on Jay's Journal.

This is where I will post my weekly thoughts as I try to describe poverty and how we are working to end it.

Jay Height
Executive Director





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This newsletter is sponsored by:



Shepherd is a faith-based, non-profit organization established in 1984 with a simple but staggering goal: to break the cycle of poverty on the near east side of Indianapolis. Located centrally within the community it serves, Shepherd offers programs for children, teens, adults, and families, helping to meet their physical, emotional, academic, and spiritual needs.

Immediate Needs...

We like to motivate our kids to achieve things that they thought impossible. We also like to expose them to opportunities they otherwise wouldn't be able participate in, such as fieldtrips and summer overnights that are both educational and fun.

We need your help to award these kids with things that they wish for...

SPECIAL DAYS or TRIPS:

- 100 Disposal Cameras
- Coupons for United Skates Of America

Anyone who can offer a place, an idea, speaker, etc. for an educational activity or fieldtrip please call us we would love to have you share with the kids!

INCENTIVES NEEDED:

Gift Certificates:

- Christian Bookstores
- Pizza Places (Papa Johns)
- Kroger Foods
- McDonald's

Other:

- Candy
- Small Prizes
- Small Toys

We use these items for Pizza & Ice Cream Parties, Bible Study Gifts, and Good Grade Awards.

OTHER NEEDS:

- Soft /Bouncy Balls for the Gym
- Big Rolls of Colored Paper
- Chapstick
- Office/Copier Colored Paper (Valentine Day & Spring Colors)

Aside from the extra things there are needs that these kids have in order to be successful in class.

EDUCATION NEEDS:

- 60 Composition Notebooks
- www.mindware.com & fatbrain.com gift certificates (these are educational games and activities websites)
- 15 3-ring Binders

If you would like to contribute any of these items or any thing else that would be helpful in these areas, please contact Sharon at 375-0203 or sharonp@shepherdmail.org