

QUOTABLES

70% of students in our neighborhood do not graduate high school

50% of adults in our neighborhood are illiterate

Shepherd Community Center serves 200 children daily with a focus on education & love

We cannot change statistics, but we can change lives

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Spring Break Blues 2

Soccer Stars 2

Easter Eggtravaganza 2

Safe Summer Days 3

Shopping for Shepherd 3

In Kind Needs 3

Jay's Journal 4

Healthy Neighbors...

We are excited to extend another opportunity to care for our friends in a very much-needed way.

Beginning Saturday, March 3rd, Shepherd Community Center is opening our free neighborhood Health Clinic. The clinic will be open on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, with hopes of extending those hours by the end of the summer.

We have several doctors and nurses, two pharmacists and four administrative staff people who have volunteered their time and skills. We are also providing pastoral staff from our church and others to meet with those who are in need of pastoral care.

March 3rd, the Clinic will be open from 9:00 to 12:00. Volunteers will be on hand to baby-sit, guide visitors and patients through the Clinic, and to provide breakfast!



The Clinic will begin with acute care, meaning short-term illnesses and health problems (such as ear infections, bronchitis, etc.).

Long term goals are to provide an OB doctor once a

month, and then to transition to primary care, meaning we would continue to treat acute illnesses, but also address issues such as chronic disease management, (diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, asthma), preventative medicine, health education, and lab services.

We rejoice as we open the doors to our new clinic and recall Jesus saying in Matthew 25:26, "I was sick and you looked after me."

If you are interested in assisting with this new ministry please contact Andrew at andrewg@shepherdmail.org

Opening Doors...

Did you know that sometimes, something very small has a very BIG JOB? Here's how!

Shepherd Community Center OPENED its doors to a single mom!

She OPENED her eyes to the needs of her child.

Her child OPENED her

arms to Shepherd's love.

Which OPENED up NEW OPPORTUNITIES for them to grow and succeed!

That OPENED the door to a BETTER LIFE!

Will you OPEN your heart and continue to create opportunities for this mom and child plus countless other children and families?

Please consider PARTNERING with Shepherd by committing to give a nominal monthly amount as part of our OPEN DOOR PROGRAM.

Your gift allows us to continue to reach those in need.

Call Steve Ellson at the Shepherd office at 375-0203 or email him at: stevee@shepherdmail.org.

Spring Break Blues...



Spring Break is a time many children look forward to. No school, no homework, wonderful warm weather! It is fantastic, isn't it?

Not for our neighbors. The kids we serve at Shepherd Community Center do not look forward to Spring Break.

In fact, this is a time when they are often hungry and scared.

That is why we offer them Spring Break Totes. Like the Christmas totes we deliver, we will give each child enough food for three meals a day while they are on spring break.

We include the following items in the totes:

- 14 individual microwave meals (such as Hormel dinners or Chef Boyardee w/pop tops)
- 7 breakfasts (such as poptarts, nutragrain

- bars, individual cereal)
- 8-10 juice boxes
- 6-8 individual fruit cups or 1 box fruit snacks
- 6-8 small bags of chips or packs of crackers
- 6 individual cups of pudding or other dessert

All items are easy to open so that the kids can feed themselves.

“Tragically 8 out of 10 children in our neighborhood only receive 2 meals a day IF they are in school.”

Soccer Stars...

This May Shepherd Community Center will be starting up our summer soccer program.

This year we are partnering with T.C. Howe Academy and Indy Parks (Urban Soccer Development League) to help our kids stay active, develop a love for the sport of soccer, and most importantly to have fun.

Last season we had fifty to sixty boys and girls ages five to thirteen in our program. We are looking forward to the start of our new season.

To make our program a success we need many coaches and other supporters who just want to make an impact in the lives of our children.

Our season will begin on Tuesday, May 29th and will end on Saturday, July 28th. Practices will take place every Tuesday evening at T.C. Howe Academy's Field. Saturday games will be played at Kuntz Stadium.

Please contact Curtis at curtisa@shepherdmail.org for more information on our soccer program.

Easter Eggtravaganza...

Rejoice! He is Risen!

We'll be celebrating Easter at Shepherd Community on April 7th.

Easter Program in English will be at 1:30, and in Spanish at 2:30.

After worship, we will walk across the parking lot to the Center for Easter dinner.

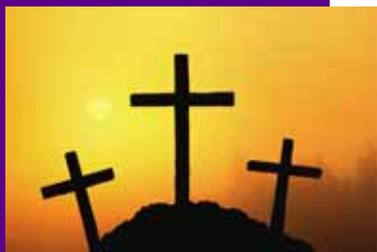
There will be photo opportunities with the happy hopper himself, the Easter bunny.

And what fun is the day

without a traditional egg hunt for the little ones?

As the festivities wind down, each family will receive a food basket to take home.

Rejoice! He is Risen indeed!



Safe Summer Days...

Kids need a safe place to go in the summer where they can play, learn, relax and have fun. This summer Shepherd Community Center provides all that and more.

Children, age pre-school through High School, can attend a 9-week summer camp every day from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm.

Children will play in a safe and fun environment, and:

- have 2 meals a day
- work on reading skills through tutoring reading

- attend weekly science labs
- go swimming
- take trips to the Zoo, the Children’s Museum, the beach, and colleges (places they may never have been)
- have weekly bible study
- receive back-to-school clothes and supplies

But, it’ll cost ‘em. Each child has to pay his or her own way -- \$1.00 a week.

These kids will learn valuable money skills, but we obviously will need your help!

Only \$80.00 will send one child to Summer Day Camp for a week; \$720 will keep a child in camp for the entire summer.

These kids will be working hard to earn that dollar. Send your money to camp this summer, then have fun, sit back and relax. Your money will be hard at play.

To make a contribution please contact Steve at stevee@shepherdmail.org



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

1 John 3:18

Shopping for Shepherd...

Now you can help us break the cycle of poverty without leaving your home or office.

We launched “Shopping for Shepherd” on April 1st with the Grand Opening of our very own web based store.

While shopping you can visit with a staff member, get to

know them better and find out what types of things they need to run their program successfully.

You can then select the item or items you would like to purchase and proceed to a fast and secure checkout. To make things easier Mastercard and Visa transactions are welcome!

Please stop by today by visiting www.shepherdcommunity.org and clicking on the “Shopping for Shepherd” link.

Thanks for helping us break the cycle of poverty on the near east side of Indianapolis!



In-kind Needs...

If you would prefer to do the physical shopping yourself or don’t have access to a computer we do have things that we need that will not appear in our web based store, at least not initially. All of these items assist us in providing our neighbors the best of care.

- Copy paper
- Construction paper
- Glass cleaner

- Paper towels
- Dish soap
- Diapers
- American cheese slices
- Hamburger
- Hot dogs
- Fruit juice boxes
- Cereal bars
- Granola Bars
- Trash bags
- 8’ Step Ladder

- Air Compressor

All items and donations big or small help us in our efforts to break the cycle of poverty and we appreciate your generosity. ***If you need us to pick up items that you would like to donate please call Ed Parman at 375-0203 to make arrangements. Otherwise donations can be dropped off M-F 9am-5pm.***



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This newsletter is sponsored by:



Our Mission

Shepherd Community Center

*cultivates healthier children,
stronger families and a safer
neighborhood through suppor-
tive relationships that meet
the physical, emotional, aca-
demic and spiritual needs of
area residents.*

Jay's Journal...

As 2007 continues to unfold, we see yet another year of exciting change at Shepherd Community.

We are still celebrating our new location and our wonderful new building. Many times I have been asked, "Did we lose anyone from our programs in the move." The answer is 100%, NO. We are so thankful that no one has left the programs because of the move. In fact we have 70 more in the program.

And now this year, we are also celebrating the opening of the Shepherd Community Clinic! Those families in our programs will be able to have an option, other than the emergency room, for their health related needs.

We are also able to provide basic medicines for our neighbors. This is so exciting as we look to helping our families break the cycle of poverty.

We are continuing the shuttle service for our neighbors since the closing of our only grocery store. This has proven to be a huge hardship for those with no vehicles.

While we know that this is a temporary help, we are working with Hanover College to develop a long term solution. Herein lays a key focus for Shepherd Community.

While Shepherd is working hard to meet the various needs of our

neighbors, we must also work on the systemic issues that work hard to keep those families we serve stuck in poverty.

It is our goal to both meet the immediate needs and attack those issues that will have a long term impact on breaking the cycle of poverty.

It is a reminder that much of the work and the accomplishment may not be seen for years.

Thanks for your support to enable us to continue the growth and expansion of ministry.

*Jay Height
Executive Director
Shepherd Community*