The Power of One

When we first buy a puzzle, we see the completed picture on the front. It’s beautiful or detailed or interesting to us. But when we open the box, hundreds if not thousands of separate pieces lie inside. It would be easy to pick up one piece and say “You don’t matter” and throw it away. But if you took out that one piece, the puzzle would never be complete. Each piece of the puzzle has a specific role in the final picture, a role that no other piece can play.

You are a vital piece of the Shepherd puzzle. Your role, no matter how you engage with Shepherd, is essential to helping children and families break the cycle of poverty - whether you give $1 a year or volunteer every single day. Without your giving of time, talent, or treasure, a piece would be missing. That piece is YOU. You are the Power of One. (continued next page)

Specific Ways YOU Can Help

IN-KIND NEEDS:
Kleenex / Anti-Bacterial Wipes / Gift Cards to local restaurants—fast food (for mentoring matches) / Canned Soups / Canned Fruits / Shampoo / Toothpaste / Tooth Brushes / Bars of Soap / Shaving Cream

Shepherd is a faith-based, non-profit organization established in 1985 with a simple but staggering goal: to break the cycle of poverty on the near Eastside of Indianapolis. Located centrally within the community it serves, Shepherd offers programs for children, teens, adults, and families. Our primary tools? Education and love.
The Power of One

The Power of One means every dollar you give, every minute you volunteer, and every child you hug matters. It makes a difference because one moment can change a life forever. You help us make our Continuum of Care, serving our neighborhood children and families physically, emotionally, spiritually, and academically. With you, we can meet all the needs of a person, helping them break the cycle of poverty. How do we see the Power of One making a difference through Shepherd? We see it through the volunteers, families, donors, staff members, and Board. And they do too...

Dan Irish and his family not only donate, they also serve at Shepherd to help break the cycle of poverty. “As a family, we want to be part of the real life change that Shepherd Community proposes. From nutrition education to sports and social justice, these all have life-changing impacts for Indianapolis. The opportunity to contribute with our time, talents, and treasures not only helps those who need it but it also helps us educate our own family and friends as to the real conditions, limitations, and struggles of how some of our neighbors live. Whether it is sponsoring children or supporting a program, we feel that our donations actually make a direct, positive change in people’s lives.” Dan is the Power of One.

Another volunteer, Davonnie Menendez, helps with Shepherd’s After-School Program five graders. Davonnie is passionate about drawing cartoons and making music. He uses these gifts to be open and silly with the kids. “I have been affected not only by the kids that I get to serve, but also by every person here at Shepherd that I have the opportunity to serve alongside. I am passionate about relationships and here at Shepherd, it all starts and ends with relationships.” Davonnie is the Power of One.

Staff member, Daniel Rodriguez, works with the Fellows and Interns Program and has a first-hand perspective on how everyone makes a powerful impact at Shepherd. “One of the greatest privileges I have at Shepherd is seeing every intern discover how one gift, one passion, one word, and one minute they give to the kids at Shepherd can make a huge impact.” Daniel is the Power of One.

Board Member Jake Stamper continues to serve with Shepherd because he knows first-hand that Shepherd makes a difference. “I’m passionate about Shepherd Community because I grew up in poverty and I wish that as I was growing up I had a Shepherd Community Center in my life.” Jake’s role as Shepherd’s Board Chairman allows him to see how each person makes a difference. “The greatest impact that I’ve realized is that the Continuum of Care - meeting the physical, emotional, spiritual, and academic needs of our neighbors - it only works when each person gives their personal time, talent, and treasure, no matter the size, it makes the Continuum possible.” Jake is the Power of One.

Whether you are able to come in every week, give every month, or just help when you can, you are vital and appreciated piece of the Shepherd puzzle. Thank you for all you do. The Power of One - You are.

Tabea Meyer

“Tabea Meyer is no stranger to many of the same challenges that Shepherd faces. Tabea was born into an unstable, inconsistent, and unpredictable home environment in Germany until, at the age of 6, she moved with her mother and siblings to United States. Tabea’s personal experiences fueled her passion to give back to a community in need. Tabea attended Indiana Wesleyan University where she studied Social Work with a concentration in Addiction Counseling. After graduation, Tabea’s heart for serving others grew when she learned of Shepherd’s values, passions, and success in Indianapolis, she began volunteering.

“Tabea volunteered at many places, but no organization has ever cared about my passions or empowered me as much as Shepherd,” says Tabea. Currently, working at Shepherd’s Fellowship Program, Tabea feels right at home leading a class of fifth graders during our After-School Program and serving in the Family Ministry Programs.

Tabea is able to use her Social Work degree on a daily basis in Shepherd’s Family Ministry Programs, working with both individuals and families. Tabea is able to sit down and explore with our families, build authentic relationships, discuss what is going on in their lives, and navigate how Shepherd can help them meet their needs. Tabea often helps when families are out of other options.

Tabea Meyer is a powerful example of how one person can overcome their challenges to make that same difference in so many lives. The Power of One: Tabea Meyer.

Did You Know?

In 2014 Shepherd had:
Over 500 patient visits
Over 50,000 meals served
51 kids in college
159 Child Sponsors
1,367 food totes go to families during Christmas and Thanksgiving
272 families shopped in the Christmas Store for 767 kids
40 mentors paired with Shepherd kids
Over 19,000 volunteer hours clocked
262 individuals served through Shepherd’s Tax Preparation Program, helping families save over $50,000 in tax fees

Planning for a Future of Giving

You can leave a legacy of giving that lasts far beyond your lifetime and give a lasting hope to families living in poverty. By including Shepherd Community in your estate planning, your planned gift can help you leave a legacy and impact lives for years to come. For more information on planned giving options, contact Rex Fisher at rex@shepherdcommunity.org or call 317-375-0203.

Run for a Cause

Help Shepherd Community break the cycle of poverty by running the Indy Mini Marathon on May 2, 2015. All proceeds will go towards Shepherd’s Summer EXCEL Program - a fun, academic day camp for inner city youth. If you are interested in running the Indy Mini Marathon or supporting a runner on Shepherd’s behalf, contact Jeff Boxell at jboxell@shepherdcommunity.org or call 317-375-0203.

Save the Date

The 7th Annual Shepherd Community Golf Outing will be held on Monday, September 21, 2015 at the Bridgewater Club in Carmel, Indiana. If you are interested in sponsoring or attending the outing, contact Jeff Boxell at jboxell@shepherdcommunity.org or call 317-375-0203.

Development

Thanks for the impact you have made through Shepherd Community Center!
Together, great things have happened. Lives have been changed, the neighborhood has improved, and hope has been instilled in countless lives. Together, we are transforming a community.

2015 marks 30 years of serving the near Eastside of Indianapolis. As we move forward, we are also reflecting. Looking deeper into the progress we have made over the past 30 years of service. We will be documenting our success, our challenges, and what has truly made the biggest impact. We will go even deeper into our years of service to gain insights from those of us who have served to see and hear the subtleties that make a difference in our community.

And we already know, we owe you all a big thank you! As a co-creator of change, your investment has made a huge difference.

And, your help is even more important for the future. You have helped get us here, and your help will enable us to take all we have learned and be even more effective as we journey forward.

Through your partnership, we will be even more effective. Together, we will transform our city and have an even greater impact on our students, families, and community.

Thank you for your partnership.