

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN CHARLOTTE
ONE CAUSE
AT A TIME



August 15, 2014

Includes:

- **Volunteer Opportunities**
- **Reaching Our Half-Million Dollar Milestone**
- **Sign Up For Our Third Anniversary Dinner on November 10**
- **And More**

Upcoming Volunteer Needs at our Partner Agencies

“Open Week” Volunteer Opportunities at Charlotte Family Housing 8/31-9/04

An “Open Week” at Charlotte Family Housing means that the agency does not have a congregation or other organization hosting any of its needs for that week, leaving **all** volunteer opportunities at the shelter(s) open. During the Week of 8/31 – 9/4, two of Charlotte Family Housing's three shelters are facing open weeks, with eight openings available just on September 2. The agency needs our help! Opportunities for individuals, groups, teens and families include:

- Overnight hosts for Sunday-Thursday
- 6pm meals for the residents on Sunday (8/31), Tuesday (9/2) and Thursday (9/4)
- Childcare on Tuesday (9/2) while the adults attend a required class
- Phone and door coverage on Tuesday (9/2) while the Resident Advisors attend a meeting

Focus on Crisis Assistance Ministry's Moving Ministry

The Moving Ministry supports families transitioning out of homelessness by providing a team of volunteers to help move them into their new homes. Teams of 5-10 individuals are needed to load, transport, and unload donated furniture from the Furniture Bank to the customer's new residence. Volunteers must be over 16 years old and able to lift and move furniture which may include very heavy items and appliances. Groups will need to provide a moving truck and car pool to the homes together and are encouraged to volunteer on Thursday or Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. The timing is flexible.

Upcoming dates for the Moving Ministry are August 21, 29, 30 and September 6.

To sign up or learn more about these and other volunteer opportunities at Charlotte Family Housing and Crisis Assistance Ministry, please visit the Community Matters Volunteer Calendar through the Community Matters Volunteer Page at <http://www.communitymatterscharlotte.org/volunteer.html>. Sign up to be a hero in your community! Please remember to also complete the Volunteer Interest Form for our Partners.

Community Matters Passes Half-Million Dollar Milestone in Funds Raised to Help Our Community

A Message from Steering Committee Co-chair Tom Lott

I am not sure what day it happened or which donation took us over the top, but through your efforts, Community Matters recently passed the milestone of raising half a million dollars. That's \$500,000 raised for our local community since our inception 2 ½ years ago. We would never have imagined that our industry would come together like it has to make such a meaningful difference in the Charlotte region. With the exception of money to pay for insurance and events (dodgeball tournament, dinner, etc), all of our funds go directly to our charity partners,

Just as important is the time you and your respective organizations have spent volunteering to help our charity partners. I can't tell you how rewarding it is to see so many firms banding together to help our community. These hours are not directly counted in our fundraising but they too have made such a meaningful difference to help fight and prevent homelessness in Charlotte. Through your help and commitment – we are making a meaningful difference in Charlotte. Thanks to all of you for achieving a milestone we never thought would happen.

And Where Did The 500,000th Dollar Come From?

We also did a little digging to see exactly where the 500,000th dollar came from. Thanks to the meticulous record-keeping of our treasurer, Gwyn Fuller, we learned that it was a donation given by Lorie Kistler for dodgeball participant Dana Smigiel. Dana -- with McNeary when she played dodgeball but now with Arch -- was thrilled to be part of the milestone. "Community Matters is a great organization consisting of many dedicated volunteers who see the need and have the desire to give back to our local community," she said. "It is wonderful to see so many people within our industry getting involved and thoroughly enjoying their time while doing so."



Dana Smigiel and her friend Lorie Kistler

Third Annual Celebration Dinner is November 10 - Sign Up for a Table Now

We're pleased to announce that our Third Annual Celebration Dinner will be held this year on Monday, November 10 at the Club at Longview. The celebration dinner will allow us to recognize the work of our member companies and to present our 2014 checks to Charlotte Family Housing and Crisis Assistance Ministry. Mark your calendars now.

We also encourage you to sponsor a table of 10 and invite your customers, business partners and employees as guests. All proceeds above the cost of the event will go toward Community Matters' support of our partners' work to end homelessness. Sponsorships are available at three levels:

- Platinum \$25,000
- Gold \$10,000
- Silver \$ 5,000

We hope that you will consider a sponsorship. Last year, the dinner was one of our most successful fundraising events, and we need your support to reach our \$200,000 goal. To sponsor a table, email kedar.bryan@arrowpointcap.com with your level of sponsorship.

Company Volunteer Activities: Lockton Companies, The Hartford



18 volunteers from Lockton Companies recently spent a great afternoon working at the Crisis Assistance Ministry Furniture Bank. They loaded and delivered furniture to a formerly homeless man who was getting his own apartment. In addition to unloading furniture and setting up his apartment, the team gave him a WalMart gift card to help him purchase some essentials. After that, the Lockton staff went back to the Furniture Bank and spent the remaining part of the afternoon assembling furniture (tables, chairs, shelves, etc.) for future deliveries. The team thought it was a great bonding experience and that the Crisis Assistance folks were incredible! Thank you Lockton!



A team from The Hartford recently worked at the Crisis Assistance Ministry Free Store as part of its semi-annual staff meeting. According to Executive Loss Control Consultant Dana Vorholt, "It really hit home for all of us when we finished up and were told that 50% of the items processed would be out the door and in the homes of people in need within 3 days." Thanks to all The Hartford volunteers!