



30 Teams Already on Board for Dodgeball Tournament *12 Spots Remain So Register Today; Volunteers Needed*

A Few Initial Updates:

- **The Hartford and Travelers are leading the pack with most teams signed up at 5 each. The Hartford is fielding the Dodge-Tastic Hartford Ballers, Globo-Gym, Hartford MM Center, Team STAGgering, and the Knuckle-Ballers. Travelers teams are the Claim Throwers, Snoop Dodgy Dodge, Sticks & Bricks, the Red Writers, and the Time Travelers. Way to get the word out in your companies!!**
- **AmWINS and Aon are our other multi-team companies with two teams each.**
- **Other companies signed up are ACE, AIG, Engle Martin & Associates, Great American, Guardian Life, Hedrick Gardner, Hull & Company, Ironshore, Keystone, Marsh, Mercer, McNeary, Wells Fargo and Willis. Our two charity partners are signed up as well!**
- **Way out front in team fundraising is Adam Mathis' AmWINS Submission Impossible team with \$1,740. Geoff Amidon's Time Travelers team is 2nd at \$815. These two teams were #1 and #2 in fundraising at this point last year as well. Way to go -- let's keep that momentum going!**
- **Travelers' Laury Auman is #1 among individual fundraisers with \$655 raised to date. Nipping at his heels are Keystone's Cameron Annas at \$560 and AmWINS' Adam Mathis at \$480.**
- **Remember the new rule this year -- in the event of a tie in the initial round of play, the team that raised the most money in fund-raising will go to the next round. That means you should start putting together your fund-raising strategies now! The highest fund-raising team will again be treated to a day at the lake and the highest individual fund-raiser will enjoy dinner at one of Dressler's restaurants, all courtesy of City of Charlotte Risk Manager Dan Pliszka and his wife.**

Aggressive sign-ups, all-out fundraising, cutthroat competition -- our early teams are showing how it's done. To our other members -- don't let these first teams keep the glory. Sign up today and take them on. It's going to be a great tournament...and all for a GREAT CAUSE!

We also need volunteers -- for set-up, refereeing, shuttle driving, the cornhole contest and more. To sign up, just complete the volunteer form, attached at the end of this

newsletter and also available through the dodgeball website, and send it to Angela Matherly at amatherly@snyderslance.com.

Reminder on Tournament Logistics

WHEN

Friday, April 17, 11am to 3pm

WHERE

Sports Connection, 10930 Granite Street, Charlotte 28273

WHY

To support Community Matters' fundraising efforts for Charlotte Family Housing and Crisis Assistance Ministry while having some fun with colleagues across the industry

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

Teams of 8 from local insurance firms and companies...or just groups of friends in the industry. If you don't have a team, sign up as an individual and we'll put you on a team based on your level of play. Must be 18-years-old to play. Entry fee per registered player is \$30.

WHEN DOES REGISTRATION CLOSE

Friday, April 3 (or whenever we hit the maximum number of 42 teams)

HOW ARE FUNDS RAISED

Each team is being asked to raise at least \$1,500...and hopefully much more!

WHAT ARE THE LEVELS OF PLAY

Like last year, there will be two levels -- competitive and recreational

ARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Absolutely, just complete the volunteer form, attached at the end of this newsletter and also available through the dodgeball website, and send it to Angela Matherly at amatherly@snyderslance.com.

ARE SPONSORS NEEDED

Definitely. For information, contact Angela Matherly at amatherly@snyderslance.com.

HOW DO I REGISTER

Through our website at <http://dodgeball.kintera.org> beginning March 3. Or link through our Community Matters Website at www.communitymatterscharlotte.org.

Space is limited to 42 teams so register as soon as you can. Event T-shirts are also available for \$12 each -- make sure you order one when signing up.

100 Community Matters Volunteers Give Their Time and Energy to the 'Extreme Makeover' at Charlotte Family Housing's Hawthorne Place

Beginning March 6, Charlotte Family Housing began an "Extreme Makeover" on its Shelter at Hawthorne Place -- and by the time it's over on March 14, more than 100 Community Matters volunteers will have painted, assembled and disassembled furniture, decorated rooms and more! Community Matters also purchased the paint for the project.

During the first weekend, the Community Matters Teen Program, under the supervision of Andrea Neill, took charge of painting the living room, while other volunteers tackled the common areas. Six teams --

from AIG, AmWINS, the City of Charlotte, ESIS, Great American and Snyder's-Lance -- each sponsored a family sleeping room, providing the manpower for painting as well as supplying the bed & bath linens and other necessities to ensure each family's new room will be comfortable and welcoming!

This week, new flooring is being installed throughout Hawthorne Place. Then, on March 13-14, Community Matters volunteers will be returning to assemble new beds and decorate the newly painted family sleeping rooms. And AIG is donating several pieces of art for the common areas.

"There were participants ranging from co-workers and friends to family, mothers, sons and daughters," said City of Charlotte Risk Manager Dan Pliszka. "There were hope team members and painters of all shapes and sizes. More paint was applied to the walls than the participants and a good time was had by all. In the end, the shelter makeover is a work in progress culminating on the weekend of March 13, with the assembly and placement of new furniture and the decoration of the rooms by our Community Matters volunteers."

"I thoroughly enjoyed Saturday. It was inspirational to see all the volunteers and all the positive work that is being done in the community for those who so desperately need it," says AIG's Margaret King. Vonni Davis of AIG added, "This was a great team-building experience bringing together employees and families giving back to the community which makes us all stronger working together."





Two shots of Community Matters volunteers at the Hawthorne Place Extreme Makeover. Thanks to Dan Pliszka for the photos.

Volunteers Needed for Crisis Assistance Ministry's Relocation Assistance Initiative

Crisis Assistance Ministry has a new initiative that helps families moving out of homeless shelters and into stable housing. Families select essential household furniture at the agency's Furniture Bank; then a team of volunteers helps move the items to the family's new home. This service saves families from using their limited financial resources on the high costs associated with moving expenses, and helps families live with the dignity that comes from having a properly furnished home. Crisis Assistance Ministry needs our help to make this happen!

- We're looking for teams of 5-10 individuals 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 rent a moving truck and car pool to the homes together.
- Groups can volunteer on Thursday or Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Timing is flexible.
There are immediate needs for assistance on 3/26 and 3/27.

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> and then email Corrina Kirby at ckirby@crisisassistance.org , with a copy to karen.wilder@aig.com.



Community Matters volunteers taking part in the Relocation Assistance Initiative last year.



CM Volunteer Form.2015.docx