

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN CHARLOTTE
ONE CAUSE
AT A TIME



March 2, 2016

Mark Your Calendars For Our Four 2016 Fundraising Events

- **Fifth Annual Dodgeball Tournament: April 29, with registration beginning March 14**
- **Third Annual Golf Tournament: July 18**
- **Third Annual Party with a Purpose: September 22**
- **Fifth Annual Celebration Dinner: November 7**

Details to follow, including registration dates for our latter three events!

Volunteer Needs for March

Our partners -- Crisis Assistance Ministry and Charlotte Family Housing -- have many volunteer opportunities during the month of March. Below are the dates now available. To learn more about each and get instructions on how to sign up for a particular date, please access the Community Matters Calendar through the Volunteer Page on the Community Matters Website at <http://www.communitymatterscharlotte.org/volunteer.html>.

Crisis Assistance Ministry

- **Free Store Assistance** (volunteers to sort and inspect donations, stock the Free Store and assist as needed): March 15 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. (up to 20 volunteers); March 22 from 9-11 a.m. (up to 10 volunteers)
- **Breakfast or Lunch Ministry** (2-15 volunteers to provide food and beverage for customers in line for services): March 4 or 23 for breakfast or lunch; March 11 or 30 for lunch
- **Donations:** Current most-needed items are coats, jackets, sweatshirts, blankets and other warm items. Always in need of men's clothing, plus-size and maternity clothing, work boots, linens and pots & pans.

If you are able to fulfill an opportunity at CAM, contact Laurie Schwartz, volunteer@crisisassistance.org, with a copy to karen.wilder@aig.com.

Charlotte Family Housing

All opportunities take place at Hawthorne Place, 300 Hawthorne Lane near Presbyterian Hospital Main.

- **Meals for 25-30 persons** (dropped off at 6 p.m.): March 8. Pizza, subs, spaghetti or fried chicken and sides are all crowd pleasers.
- **Childcare** during a class for parents at the shelter: Sunday afternoons, March 6, 13 and 20 from 3:15-5:45 p.m.

If you are able to fulfill an opportunity at CFH, contact Tammy Medlock, tmedlock@charlottefamilyhousing.org, with a copy to mbissinger@thezenith.com.

Community Matters Kicks Off 2016 with Leaders & Coordinators' Meeting at Dressler's Restaurant

More than 30 Community Matters leaders and coordinators gathered at Dressler's Restaurant at the Metropolitan to get energized for the new year! In addition to hearing about the four fundraising events outlined above, company representatives were encouraged to develop and share ideas in the following areas:

- Engagement -- offer suggestions for getting other companies or industry segments involved -- or suggestions on potential new members: Contact Tom Lott at tom.lott@amwins.com or Angela Matherly at amatherly@snyderslance.com
- Fundraising -- share ideas that have worked for you -- or to get help with your own company's fundraising program: Contact Dan Pliszka at dpliszka@ci.charlotte.nc.us
- Volunteering -- opportunities, ideas and suggestions for volunteer projects. For Charlotte Family Housing, contact Tammy Medlock, tmedlock@charlottefamilyhousing.org, with a copy to mbissinger@thezenith.com. For Crisis Assistance Ministry, contact Laurie Schwartz, volunteer@crisisassistance.org, with a copy to karen.wilder@aig.com.
- Communications -- share your stories in our newsletter or on our website -- let others know how your company has supported our agency partners or other charities in the Charlotte area: Contact Kedar Bryan at kedar.bryan@arrowpointcap.com

Our leaders and coordinators also gave Jon Dressler a big round of applause at the meeting for his financial support of Community Matters -- his donations have totaled \$15,000 over the past two years! Jon contributes \$1 for every calamari appetizer sold at his Dressler's Metropolitan and Birkdale restaurants and for every pimento cheese appetizer sold at his Dogwood restaurant near Phillip's Place. All of us in Community Matters are grateful for his strong support -- you can show your appreciation to Jon by visiting one of his three locations.



Thanks to Dan Pliszka for acting as our official photographer at the meeting. For more of Dan's photos, visit <http://dppics.phanfare.com/7156304>