

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN CHARLOTTE
ONE CAUSE
AT A TIME



March 31, 2016

This edition also includes special volunteer needs for April

34 Teams Registered for Dodgeball Tournament *Eight Spots Remain So Sign Up Today*

A Few Updates after Week Two of Tournament Registration:

- The Hartford is leading the pack with most teams signed up at five -- Hartford Hammers, Mr. Dodgers' Neighborhood, Team Staggering, The Grinders and a yet-to-be-named team. Next up is Travelers with four teams -- Sticks & Bones 3.0, The Dodgeball Express, The Red Writers and The Who Done Its. Way to get the word out!!
- Other multi-team companies are AmWINS, Chubb and Willis Towers Watson with two teams each.
- Other companies signed up are AIG, BDO, CNA, Engle Martin & Associates, Great American, Hanover, Hedrick Gardner, Keystone, Liberty Mutual, Lincoln Harris, Lockton, Markel, Marsh, McNeary, Mercer, Sampo Japan Nipponkoa, Wells Fargo and Westfield.
- Out front in team fundraising is Adam Mathis' AmWINS Submission Impossible team with \$2,375. But close behind is Noelle Wood's Willis Towers Watson team at \$2,190. Third place goes to Nick Abraham's Markel Maniacs at \$1,030. Let's keep that momentum going!
- Willis Towers Watson's Mark Goode is #1 among individual fundraisers with \$2,160 raised to date. Behind him are Markel's Nick Abraham at \$1,030 and AmWINS' Joel & Andrea Neal with \$770 each (\$1,540 for their team).
- **REMEMBER:** Fundraising is more important than ever. Not only does it increase our contributions to our charity partners, but it also figures into tournament play. All tournament play tie-breakers and wild card selections go to those teams that have raised the most money. In addition to prizes for tournament play, the team raising the most money gets a day on Lake Norman with their spouse/significant other/guest, courtesy of Dan Pliszka, while the individual top fund-raiser and guest get dinner with Dan at Dressler's.

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!

Reminder on Tournament Logistics

WHEN

Friday, April 29, 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 15 (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 with this newsletter and also available through the dodgeball website, and send it to Melanie Hudson at MLHUDSON@travelers.com.

ARE SPONSORS NEEDED

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

HOW DO I REGISTER

Through our website at <http://dodgeball.kintera.org> beginning March 14.

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.

Volunteer Needs for April

Following are the volunteer needs for our two charity partners -- Charlotte Family Housing and Crisis Assistance Ministry. 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>.

Two Special Projects at Charlotte Family Housing

CFH has two special projects on tap for April. The first is the **Mothers' Empowerment Brunch**, designed for all women in CFH's program, with up to 100 guests expected! It will be held at St. John's Baptist Church, 300 Hawthorne Lane near Presbyterian Hospital Main on Saturday, April 30. The event is from 10 a.m. until noon, although volunteers are needed before and after:

- Set-up: 3-5 volunteers needed at 9 a.m.
 - Childcare during the brunch: 3-5 volunteers arriving at 9:30 a.m.
- In addition, CFH is seeking donations of the following for the brunch:

- Coffee, juice and water
- Four breakfast quiches and/or breakfast casseroles
- Fruit trays
- Individual yogurt cups
- Bagels, cream cheese and butter
- Breakfast biscuits
- Assorted muffins
- Flowers and decorations
- Cups, plates, napkins and tablecloths in spring colors
- Flowers and decorations
- Goody bags to take home

If you can volunteer, bring food, or help out in any way, contact Tammy Medlock at 704-774-7866 or TMedlock@charlottefamilyhousing.org, with a copy to mbissinger@thezenith.com.

The other special project is renovation of the group's Day Center at its Plaza Place Shelter (2410 The Plaza in Charlotte). Two groups are needed -- one to paint and prep the room and one to help build furniture alongside an IKEA design team. Both parts of the project are expected to last about 3-4 hours each. If you're interested, contact Katie Vodra at kvodra@charlottefamilyhousing.org with the dates you could help out.

The final April volunteer opportunity is a meal (sandwiches or spaghetti) for CFH's wellness group (10-12 people) on Tuesday, April 12. Your office can bring the food by -- or you can donate money for the meal and CFH will pick the food up. Again, contact Katie Vodra at kvodra@charlottefamilyhousing.org if you can assist.

Crisis Assistance Ministry

- **Free Store Assistance** (volunteers to sort and inspect donations, stock the Free Store and assist as needed): Tuesday, April 19 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. (15 volunteers max)
- **Breakfast or Lunch Ministry** (2-15 volunteers to provide food and beverage for customers in line for services): Wednesday, April 6 for breakfast at either 7:30 or 8:30 a.m.; Thursday, April 7; Tuesday, April 19; or Thursday, April 28 for lunch at 11:30 a.m.
- **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 Michelle Bissinger at mbissinger@thezenith.com.



CM Volunteer Form.2016.docx