



## TAX CREDIT PROGRAM SUCCESS

With the passing of April 15<sup>th</sup>, the Tax Credit Program at Samaritan Center is in the wrap up stages. This year volunteers helped **130** households obtain a total of **\$92,463.00** in refunds or credits. That's an average of **\$711.00**. The total EIC was **\$37,908.00**. The total PTC was **\$27,532.00**. Total Child Tax Credits were **\$1,437.00**. The total for excess withholding refunds was **\$25,463.00**. This is an increase over last year when **84** households were helped and the total was **\$81,271.00**.

All of this is due to the outstanding efforts of our volunteers. Our thanks go out to them for their tremendous efforts. As with all our services the volunteers are the lifeblood of the program. Special thanks go to The Association of Government Accountants and Exchange National Bank for sending so many volunteers to us.

The Tax Credit Program gives direct insight to the financial situation persons who come to us in need. We asked our volunteers to give share stories and input, here are two of the responses:

I had a little lady come in a couple weeks ago, and she had an appointment for her taxes. She is legally blind, and still working. This was the first time Samaritan Center had completed her taxes. Last year she had to borrow money to pay her taxes, as well as the preparer, because they weren't prepared properly. I feel like we could probably do a revised for at least the last year, and get her some money back. She had extensive medical bills, and no one had ever told her about any deductions for her taxes. She said she couldn't accept anything else from the Samaritan Center, because she said someone else needed it worse than she did. She got some money back this year, and she started crying. She was so grateful.

A week or so ago I was talking to a young man (about 25 or so) who shared with me that he was on disability. I made a few inquiries of him and decided that he probably was eligible for the property tax credit. So I suggested that he might be eligible and offered to help. Sure enough he qualified for \$720! He owes his unexpected gain to the tax credit program at the Samaritan Center. Otherwise I probably would not have been aware of the opportunity to pass it on to him. My involvement this year was very limited but one young lady that I did help turned out to be eligible for a significant child credit payment. I helped her find someone who would file electronically for her. She later called to thank me (and the Samaritan Center) for the help. It is a rewarding feeling to help those in need pro-bono. You and all the volunteers at the Samaritan Center deserve a lot of credit for the good work you do - all pro-bono. I thank you for inviting me to be a part of it although my involvement has been very small compared to others. But the few that I have helped (through the Center) indeed needed the help. Thanks for the opportunity.

The Tax Credit Program will remain open by appointment only to still reach persons who have not filed their taxes for one reason or another.

### SAVE THE DATE

Mark those calendars! The fourth annual Samaritan Center Foundation Dinner and Auction is scheduled for Thursday July 13<sup>th</sup>. The event will once again be held at Capitol Plaza Hotel.

The auction committee is in the process of gathering auction items. If you have a donation, suggestion, or inquiries contact the Samaritan Center at 573-634-7776 or email [jeni@midmosamaritan.org](mailto:jeni@midmosamaritan.org)

# LETTER CARRIERS FOOD DRIVE

The annual Letter Carrier's Food Drive is coming up fast! The date of this year's drive is Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup>. Persons wishing to donate to the drive should place non-perishable food stuffs in bags at their mailbox. Letter carriers or volunteer representatives will be collecting bags through the day. The items collected in the Jefferson City area will stay here at the Samaritan Center to aid those in need right here in our community. The NALC food drive is an essential source of food supply for the Samaritan Center. About 1/3 of our annual can good supply comes from this drive. The outstanding support it receives in the community is vital to our mission.

All non-perishable foods are accepted. Samaritan Center asks that items are in non-glass containers. Glass jars present many hazards in the collection and sorting process. Of special need this time of year are things children can

make on their own as many are without a lunch program while school is out for the summer months. Items that fill this need include meals in a can (Spaghetti's, ravioli, etc.), macaroni and cheese, cereal, and canned meats like chicken and tuna.

Peanut butter and jelly are also great items to donate, just remember to stay away from glass jars.



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Most of you will probably know Don Kling who works in the pantry and the warehouse. He she has been a devoted volunteer at the Samaritan Center for two and a half years and generally works about nine hours a week. In the pantry and warehouse, Don does many different things that help our clients and staff such as providing warehouse coverage when staff are not able to be there and helping to pick up and sort the bread.

Prior to volunteering at the Samaritan Center, Don worked at the State Treasurer's Office. Currently, he still works part-time there working with unclaimed property. He works there about three or four mornings a week.

Don has two sons that live in Columbia. He enjoys mountain and road biking in his spare time. Don is also a part of the volunteer disaster relief team with the Red Cross and was one of the individuals to help communities that were hit by Hurricane Katrina.

Don said that he always wanted to be a volunteer, but found that it was difficult to find the time before he retired. When searching for a place to give his time, he decided that the Samaritan Center would be good place because of the wide array of services that it offers to the community.

Besides being a great learning experience, Don sees volunteering as a very enjoyable activity. "I look forward to coming here in the mornings and I enjoy every day that I come in" Don stated. Don also mentioned that the other volunteers that he works with make each day a fun experience.

The Samaritan Center wishes to thank Don for all of his hard work, time, and commitment to the Samaritan Center! Don brings his humor, experience, and enthusiasm each day that he is here. His efforts have helped the Samaritan Center to help many individuals and families in Mid Missouri.



# MARYLYN'S MESSAGE

God's Construction Season!

Everywhere we look the birds are busy buzzing back and forth from their nests making sure everything in the nursery is in perfect order. Rabbits are checking out their nests and trying to keep everyone confused as to where they are located. As "Owl said in Bambi every one is twitterpated." I think spring is the best time of the year. Everyone is busy. Growing lawns and flower beds need attention and everyone is full of energy because we are surrounded by so much beauty.

I hope you have most of your projects finished by May 13<sup>th</sup> so you can come help us out with our huge Letter Carrier's Food Drive that Saturday. Please leave your food out by your mail box early that day or bring it with you when you come to Volunteer. We need food sorters and young people with strong backs for lifting. Of course, lunch will be provided and it is a great day to work on your suntan. The team will have everything in place when you arrive. So put on your shades and come help us stock up for the kids this summer. We are averaging at least sixty families every morning coming for food. You can only imagine how much food that equates to. Our little people will be out of school and cooking on their own so please be generous.

Last week we were contacted by a teacher who had a child in foster care that had a large cavity in her tooth. No dentist would take her Medicaid. Our dentist said, sure send her in. When she came in she was in such pain that I don't know how she studied in seventh grade. Dr. Nathalie took care of her and she has called back twice to thank us for seeing her. Generous people doing great things at the Samaritan Center everyday!

While I am in construction mode I want to remind all of you of our Annual Dinner & Auction the July 13<sup>th</sup> at the Capital Plaza. It truly is a marvelous and plain fun evening. I hope many more of you can participate this year and those of you who know what I am talking about be sure to plan again this year. The garden will be absolutely gorgeous again this year.

God bless all of you for all your continued support. Keep listening for His voice in those summer breezes as He says, job well done!

Marylyn

## ROTARY WEST HELPS IN A BIG WAY

During a beautiful luncheon at the Jefferson City Country Club, the Rotary West Club presented the Samaritan Center with a \$12,000.00 check. The money was raised through a car raffle where tickets were sold for \$100.00 each. Mr. Larry Neal was chairman of the event. RACS was also presented a check for \$12,000.00 from the same fundraiser.



Thanks to their efforts and generosity many of our families will have food on the table, their rent paid or their electricity turned on this summer.

Thank you to Mike Kehoe Ford, Bernie Fechtel, and Warren Prospt for their donations to food and beverages at the winery. Alan Mudd procured a dinner at O'Donohue's for the salesman at Mike Kehoe's who sold the most tickets.

# HYVEE PLANS TO STUFF THE TRUCK

HyVee in Jefferson City is sponsoring "Stuff the Truck" between May 22nd and May 28th at their store to raise foods that kids can fix for themselves while they are home alone this summer. Please shop their on that weekend and help them stuff the truck. Food collected will go to Samaritan Center's food pantry.

## NEW VOLUNTEER DENTISTS

Dr. John Whipple Jr. DDS received his undergraduate from Woodcrest Chapel in Columbia then went on the UMKC dental. He practiced in Tipton for 26 years before moving to Jefferson City to join Dr. Tungesvik and Dr. Standlee in their practice. Dr. Whipple has a son John III age 23 and a daughter Laura, 13.

Dr. Bart Carney DDS received his undergraduate from University of Missouri Columbia before attending UMKC dental. He has recently returned home to Jefferson City to practice with Dr. Ambrose. Dr. Carney and his wife Mandy have one 18month old son and are expecting their second child.

## RABBIT RECAP

Thank you for all the support of our Easter basket collection. 958 Easter baskets were distributed to children in need. The response within our community was great as always. Thank you for making a better day for so many children and families!

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### May

- 13 Letter Carriers Food Drive
- 29 CLOSED Memorial Day

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#### Hours of Operation

- Open to Public: 9:30am-11:30am Monday-Thursday  
4:00pm-6:00pm Thursday
- Medical Clinic: 4:00pm-6:00pm Thursday
- Dental Clinic: by appointment Only,  
call (573)761-3473 for information
- Staff Office Hours: 8:00am-4:00pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
8:00am-6:00pm Tuesday Thursday

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