



## 3rd Quarter Newsletter 2014

### Dine Around and Stay In Town October 23rd 5:00-8:30

Our annual Dine Around and Stay in Town is fast approaching. We are excited to have Square Market preparing appetizers, Christy's on 6th serving soup and salad, and Puckett's Grocery serving sliders. The evening will end with delicious MULETOWN roasted coffee and a sampling dessert from Pie Sensations. Variety Records will supply the music!

Call 388-3840 for your tickets!



2013 Dine Around at Puckett's Grocery



### THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who supported our 2014 School Supply Giveaway. 355 kids were assisted with their school supplies. We would like to thank Junior Auxiliary, Wellness and Aquatics Complex, Columbia Pediatrics, Department of Health and all the volunteers who helped make this years giveaway a huge success!

## 2014 Bowling Tournament

Our 2014 Bowling Tournament was a great success! A big thank you to all the teams



2014 BMC Metalworks Team

Excavating.

who participated. Thank you to our sponsors: Michael Fulbright, M&M Automotive, Chaz Molder, Foster's Insurance, Parks Motor Sales, Pease Business Machines, Title Associates of Columbia, Rocky Top Outdoors, Kraft CPA, Gail Moore, BMC Metalworks, Dr. Steven Nowlin, Verona Caney Gardens and Landscaping, Veterinary Wellness Clinic of Columbia, The Szflarski Family, Brandom Genglebach, Ebonite Galaxy Lanes, Truelove's Pizza and Grits, Impressions, UES, US Bank, S&S

## Opportunities at the Family Center

### Job Searching?

Tennessee Farm Bureau donated cubicle workspaces and we turned them into job searching cubicles. If you, or someone you know requires access to the internet to apply for employment, come by The Family Center and use our computers!



Our Job Search Cubicles

## Future Educational Opportunities

\*Positive Parenting Classes- November 5th

\*Budgeting Classes- October 15th, November 19th

\*Anger Management Classes- October 29th and November 26th

\*Brunch and Learns- August 21st October 23rd (Fire Prevention in the Home)

\*Lunch and Learns- October 30th (Presentation by Starla Hardin UT Extension)

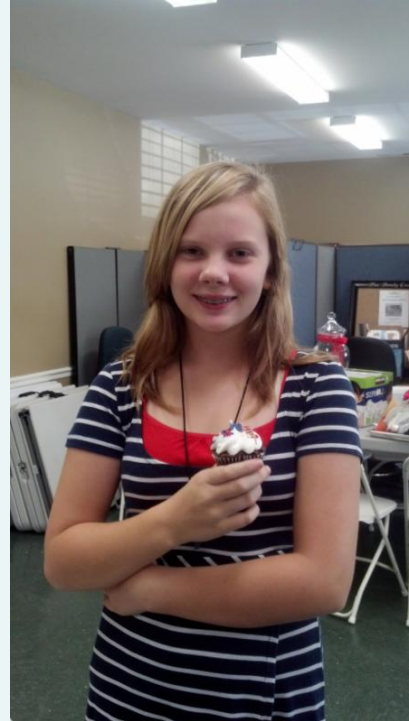
November 20th (Presentation by Starla Hardin UT Extension)

**Note: There are no Educational Opportunities in December to prepare for Santa's Workshop**

[Visit our Calendar for more details!](#)

## 2014 3rd Quarter Statistics

|                    | Families Served | YTD         | Amount Paid        | Paid YTD            |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Columbia Power     | 126             | 478         | \$13,097.83        | \$48,519.39         |
| Mt. Pleasant Power | 8               | 48          | \$850.00           | \$4,940.00          |
| Atmos Energy       | 13              | 157         | \$3,745.00         | \$29,983.67         |
| DREMC              | 7               | 61          | \$892.00           | \$6,271.69          |
| Rent               | 53              | 169         | \$6,378.45         | \$18,490.65         |
| Eyeglasses         | 17              | 43          | \$1,608.00         | \$4,477.00          |
| Emergency Lodging  | 13              | 38          | \$965.79           | \$2,571.71          |
| Gasoline           | 77              | 237         | \$1,948.49         | \$5,957.19          |
| MRMC Foundation    | 16              | 48          | \$1,355.43         | \$3,614.61          |
| Miscellaneous      | 3               | 19          | \$300.00           | \$1,669.88          |
| Food Purchased     |                 |             | \$5,945.70         | \$11,643.16         |
| Food Donated       |                 |             | \$10,000.50        | \$50,436.93         |
| Pantry Families    | 865             | 2132        |                    |                     |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>1198</b>     | <b>3430</b> | <b>\$47,087.65</b> | <b>\$188,575.88</b> |



Shelby Volunteering on her Birthday!

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

"Baptism by fire" is a very accurate description of my first three months at the helm of this wonderful organization. We had our second annual bowling fundraiser and a school giveaway assisting over 355 children in my first 30 days...not to mention quarterly reports, newsletters, board meetings and the overwhelming daily work of assisting people in crisis and continuation of the programs they depend on. I had a great mentor and predecessor but nothing can prepare you for what it means to be the Executive Director of a non-profit especially one so busy as The Family Center. I was quickly swallowed up by all my new responsibilities.

As I settle into a sense of normalcy and my to-do list gets a little smaller, I now have time to marvel at this community and the support I have received these first three months. Every day I feel the love this community has for The Family Center. People have dropped by to explain how they helped in the past, and give promise to continue in the future. I have received many phone calls to congratulate me and offer the same support they have for years to this wonderful organization. Churches have reached out letting me know of their part in our programs and how I can count on them to continue... I have also received a few words of advice from past directors!

I have always known how much The Family Center means to those who need help. We have pulled many people out of the gutters of poverty; and their gratitude is undeniable... But what I failed to realize, prior to taking over this position, is how much we mean not only to those we assist but also to those who are called to help. Every day, the donations come in... people come to help... phone calls and offers are made to do more. "Can our Sunday school class come and work in the gardens?" "Can you take these clothes and give them to someone in need?" "Can I pray for your families?" "These kids want to clean The Family Center, is that ok?" It is an unbelievable feeling to see so many people who want to help those in need and The Family Center is a wonderful place to do so.

It amazes and humbles me to be a part of such a wonderful organization that means so much to so many. I look forward to my next three months with the holidays approaching, with many more opportunities to witness firsthand how much this community really cares about those in need. I am excited to be in this role and am excited for what is to come... There is no better place to learn how much people care about others and how wonderful this community is, than here at The Family Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dawn Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dawn Taylor, Executive Director

## Extreme Givers: Thank You



Executive Director Dawn Taylor and Job Search Coach Raquel Waters with Nikki, our United Way Ambassador

Benevity Community Fund, Berea Church of Christ, Bigbyville United Methodist Church, Blue Springs Free Will Baptist Church, D.R. Horne, First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist Church, Greymere Church of Christ, Highland Park Baptists Church, Maury Baptist Association, Maury Hills Church of Christ, Riverview Baptist Church, Rodney Adams, Saint Catherine's Church, Dr. Fann, St. Peters Episcopal Church, Karen Phillips.

## Ways to Help!

### Kroger Community Rewards!

Kroger Community rewards is a new program that helps Non-Profit organizations by earning money as the community shops. By registering your Kroger card and selecting The Family Center's number **89559**, you will help us earn points every time you shop. The points turn into dollars for The Family Center which turns into assistance for Maury County residents. Help us by enrolling in the rewards program today! [Click here to enroll!](#)





## Coupon Collection!

Last month, Professional Couponer Debby Kidd presented a class on "Easy Couponing" at The Family Center to teach our families how to save money. We at The Family Center have learned some valuable lessons from her presentation and

are clipping coupons to save money on our pantry. Please bring your unwanted coupons to The Family Center to help us clip and save!

## Adopt A Box!

Thanksgiving is fast approaching! Many of the families we serve will not have the means to provide a Thanksgiving meal. Adopt a Thanksgiving Box and provide a Thanksgiving meal for a family in Maury County they can cook themselves. Our goal is to provide 75 boxes to our families. Call 388-3840 to participate!



2013 Thanksgiving boxes.

[Click here to see what is included in each box](#)



Our first Christmas donation of the year.

assistance! If you would like to help, call 388-3840 for more information!

## Santa's Workshop!

It is never too early to think about Christmas! Shopping, baking, wrapping... It will be here before you know it! Don't forget to include a present or two for our Maury County families that are struggling this year. We helped 589 children and adults last Christmas through adoption or Santa's Workshop. We are already receiving toy donations and calls for

## Coat Collection

The cold weather is upon us! Last year we saw record temperatures and many of our families did not have the proper outerwear to protect themselves from the bitter cold. If you have coats, hats, gloves or scarfs you are no longer wearing, please consider giving them to The Family Center. We want to make sure no child or adult goes without warm clothes this year.



## Atmos Assistance!

Do you know someone that needs assistance with their **Atmos** Gas bill? The Family Center can pay their old bill, current bill or reconnection fee

for the next few weeks provided we have not already assisted them with their Atmos bill this year. **There is no income limit!** Please do not let someone go cold this year because of an old bill or reconnection fee! Call 388-3840 for an appointment.



*This offer is only for Atmos bills. All other utility assistance must meet regular Good Samaritan eligibility requirements. We can not pay reconnection fees or past bills on other utility bills.*



## Bell Ringers Needed!

The Family Center is also the local Salvation Army Unit. Every year we ring bells in front of Kroger, Wal-Mart and Hobby Lobby to collect money to help Maury County families. Last year we raised over \$28,000.00! 80% of what we collect stays here in Maury County to help pay rent and utility bills.

We need volunteers who are willing to ring the bells for a good cause! Bell ringing shifts are in 2 hour increments, it is a great activity for youth groups and families. Watch for the bell ringing schedule to be on our website in the next few weeks. Call 388-3840 for more information!

## Opportunities to Serve

### Teach a class

We are beginning a new year of Educational Opportunities. If you have something you would like to share with our families and would be willing to facilitate a program or lead a discussion feel free to contact us. We are always looking for new learning experiences for our families!



August Lunch and Learn Cooks Chief Lee Bergeron and Jimmy Phillips

### Prepare a meal

The Family Center needs volunteers to prepare meals for our Brunch and Learns and Lunch and Learns! If you would like to help please give us a call at 388-3840!

## Partner Spotlight!

We want to say a special thank you to Columbia Academy Students! Almost every week, a student or group of students visits The Family Center to help with gardening, sorting clothes or straightening up the pantry. We love it when the young give their time and talents to help others!



Columbia Academy Students sorting clothes



## Volunteer Spotlight!

Ashley Raquet is one of our Wednesday morning volunteers. She has a special talent of organization, decorating and helping others. You can find her rearranging our supply cabinets, decorating our community room or helping a family locate school uniforms. Here she is at the school giveaway helping a child pick out school supplies. Ashley has a heart of gold and energy that never ends. We would not stay organized if not for her! Thank you Ashley!





## You shop, Amazon gives

Did you know you can help The Family Center by purchasing items on Amazon Smile? This is similar to Amazon website but a portion of your purchase will be sent to The Family Center as a donation.

[Click here for more information!](#)



## Shop Swipe and Help

By registering your Kroger card on line and selecting The Family Center, you can help us earn money to put back into the community. Our code is 89559!

[Click here for more information!](#)

## Board Members

Kyle Bratton, President  
Jennifer Fulbright, Vice President  
Jennifer Cook, Secretary  
Karen Vest, Treasurer  
Beverly Horner, Finance  
Frank Bellamy  
Lee Bergeron  
Allison Gengelbach

Kathy Lafferty  
Donald Flowers  
Wade Kincaide  
Jimmy Phillips  
Debbie Turner  
Shelley Taylor  
Jeff Smith  
Sherri Mitchener

Jeff Smith  
Jack Cobb  
Pam Williams  
Robin Wilhite, Jr.  
Donnise Strong  
Suzanne Jordan  
Elizabeth Cox  
Terry Hendrickson

## Staff Members

Dawn Taylor, Executive Director

Cathy Stoltz, Volunteer/Office  
Coordinator

Lisa Fields, Good Samaritan Coordinator

Raquel Waters, Job Research Coach

Plus 25 Volunteers!

Robin Watson, Life Skills Coach

Dawn Taylor  
Executive Director  
931.388.3840

Bridging those in Crisis

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