



BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF MASSILLON

The Boys and Girls Club offers summer programs, after-school programs, and sports leagues for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. It's a trusted organization offering structured after-school programming to residents of Massillon and western Stark County.

After-school program participants get homework help and small group tutoring. They also participate in projects and activities that promote healthy lifestyles and strengthen life skills. Many kids come to the Club right from school; get help with homework; participate in art, technology, or reading activities; and then stay for dinner. Programming is designed to help members develop and sustain positive relationships and acquire a strong belief in their own self-worth.

As program participation continues to increase, Sisters of Charity Foundation funding will help the Boys and Girls Club hire an educational director to provide program oversight and further develop the curriculum of its middle-school program over two years.

DUEBER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Kids' Club began as an unstructured program of Dueber United Methodist Church to keep first and second graders safe after school in the vulnerable Dueber neighborhood of Canton. As demand has grown, the program has become increasingly structured. Time is devoted to homework assistance, arts and crafts, snacks, games, and other learning activities. The overriding goal is to help the students strengthen their cooperative skills and critical thinking skills.

Teachers often refer students to the program for additional academic help. Kids' Club tutors are McKinley High School students and church members, including one who was a Kids' Club participant. The tutors collaborate closely with the children's teachers to help students work through their individual academic challenges. Sisters of Charity Foundation funding will help sustain Club operations over two years.

PROJECT REBUILD

Project REBUILD serves Stark County's young adults, primarily high school dropouts between the ages of 16 and 24. Participants must be low income, a youth or adult offender, or part of the foster care system.

REBUILD participants earn a high school diploma or GED while also learning construction skills. Construction is used as a vehicle to teach more generalized skills, such as dependability, reliability, teamwork, engagement, and other soft skills.

To increase employability even further, Sisters of Charity Foundation funding will allow 40 REBUILD participants to earn a General Industry certification from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Because so many employers require the certification, being certified may give REBUILD participants an advantage in the job market.



AUNT SUSIE'S CANCER WELLNESS CENTER FOR WOMEN

Established in 2013, Aunt Susie's is a volunteer-led organization that aims to ease the burden of women living with cancer. At no cost to the client, Aunt Susie's provides transportation to and from medical appointments, light housekeeping, companionship, meals, a resource directory, and modest "dignity tops" to wear during treatment.

The medical transportation is provided by volunteers using their private vehicles. Unfortunately, Aunt Susie's has had to turn away some wheelchair-bound patients seeking medical transportation, as their mobility was simply too limited for the volunteers to accommodate. Sisters of Charity Foundation support will enable Aunt Susie's to provide professional ambulance services to meet the needs of these clients.

MERCY MEDICAL CENTER

Since 2004, Mercy Medical Center's Immigrant Health Outreach program has provided medical interpreters for patients at Mercy and its affiliated medical offices.

The interpreters schedule and attend medical appointments, explain diagnoses, and help with medication issues. They also help arrange transportation and connect patients to community resources. Six interpreters work on an on-call basis, seven days a week.

The need for interpretation services has steadily increased, with demand more than doubling just since 2013. Most clients have immigrated here permanently for work. Some are from Mexico, Honduras, and El Salvador, but 80% are from Guatemala, where the K'iche' language is spoken.

Sisters of Charity Foundation support has helped sustain this program since its inception, to ensure this underserved population has continued access to essential medical services.

SERVING AREA MILITARY

The Serving Area Military (SAM) Center was founded in March 2015 to help veterans and their families. The Center provides resources other veterans' organizations don't, including a free grocery store, a program offering new clothing, and warming kits for winter. The organization also helps veterans access needed benefits, resources, and outreach services.

Homeless veterans transitioning into housing typically don't have the basic household items needed to set up a home. The Center provides lodging kits for veterans and military families who are rebuilding their lives. The kits include pots and pans, silverware and kitchen utensils, sheets, cleaning supplies, and other necessary household items.

Sisters of Charity Foundation funding is supporting the purchase of lodging kits and funding general efforts to connect homeless veterans with resources and benefits.

Focused In Hope

