

The Volunteer Voice



MONTHLY VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 9

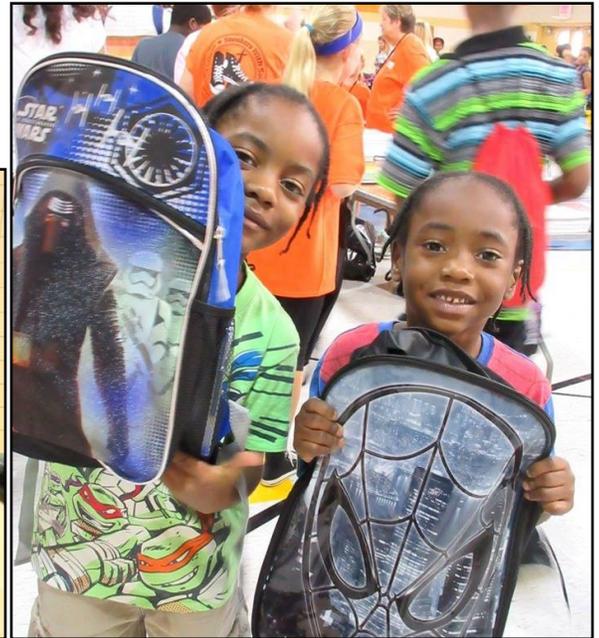
Senior Editor: Julie Strassman

Associate Editor: Natalie Gemberling

September 2016

Volunteers help over 500 students at Backpacks & BBQ

On Saturday, August 13th, over 100 volunteers from Kingdom House, Manchester UMC, Kirkwood UMC, and Guardian Angel Settlement Association came together at Peabody Elementary School to serve at the 2016 Backpacks & BBQ. The volunteers helped children try on shoes (collected by Manchester UMC), pick out their favorite backpack (collected by Kirkwood UMC), and get all of the supplies on their list - from crayons and glue sticks, to protractors and college ruled notebooks (collected by Guardian Angel). Once each family



had received their supplies, they were invited out to the Peabody playground, where a picnic was waiting. Thanks to the volunteers' hard work and the donors' generosity, over 500 children and teens are fully equipped and ready for the new school year!



OFS Jubilee Collects 41 Carts of Groceries + \$1,349 cash

On Saturday, July 30th, Kingdom House volunteers came together to participate in the 2016 Operation Food Search Jubilee. Volunteers collected donations at three area grocery stores: Arsenal Schnucks, Telegraph Dierbergs, and McKenzie Point Dierbergs. At the end of the day, they had

collected 41 grocery carts full of food, plus \$1,349 in cash! Thanks to the hard work of the volunteers, Kingdom House will be able to provide many nutritious meals through our Health & Wellness program and Cooking Matters classes. Thank you, and Bon Appetit!

Welcome New Volunteers!

- ◆ Kristen Darr
- ◆ Ben Favre
- ◆ Aubrie Hoffman
- ◆ Ashli James
- ◆ Katie Miller
- ◆ Kristie Nienaber
- ◆ Arnold Phillips
- ◆ Braden Spratt
- ◆ Teresa Strong
- ◆ Rachel Wesenberg
- ◆ Elise Westhoff

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Meet Maura Cosgrove, Volunteer Engagement Intern

Meet Maura Cosgrove, Volunteer Engagement and Service-Learning Intern for Fall 2016! Maura will be helping develop Urban Forum curriculum and experiences, as well as helping further advance volunteer engagement opportunities.

What made you want to be involved with Kingdom House? I stumbled across Kingdom House while searching for service-learning opportunities in the St. Louis area. As a current Bachelor's of Educational Studies student at UMSL, where my degree focuses on education in nontraditional settings, my goal was to work with an organization that served the St. Louis community, and also engaged its volunteers with educational service projects. Kingdom House seemed to be the perfect fit!

What life experiences do you have that will add value to your internship? What do you hope to gain from your internship? In 2010 -2011, I was a member of AmeriCorps NCCC, where my experience made me fall in love with service learning. My AmeriCorps experience connected me with people and communities across the United States in ways I would have never imagined. I hope to continue connecting with others through Kingdom House's Urban Forum and Volunteer Engagement programs.

What do you want to do after you complete your internship/graduate? After graduation, I hope to work in the nonprofit sector with volunteer engagement or with educational programs that promote positive changes in communities across the world. My dream job would be to work for an international nonprofit that connects people through service learning. I believe the best way to learn is by immersing yourself into other cultures and trying things outside of your comfort zone.

Tell us more about you; how do you enjoy spending your free time?

I enjoy trying new restaurants around St. Louis, going to concerts, photography, and hanging out in Tower Grove Park.



Welcome Sister Rosemary DeDentro, Daughter of Charity



Meet Sister Rosemary DeDentro, volunteer in the Infant Center and Food Market!

Sister Rosemary has been a Daughter of Charity for 50 years and has been missioned to Dallas, New Orleans, Kansas City, and St. Louis. She has worked in multi-service agencies as a teacher, director, and administrator. In the beginning of August, Sister Rosemary joined Kingdom House as a volunteer in the Infant Center and Food Mar-

ket, every Monday-Friday. Sister Rosemary joins us with many positive relationships with staff members, plus knowledge of the Kingdom House neighborhood. She spent three years living and working in the Darst-Webbe Housing Projects in the 1960s. She is excited to volunteer, as she and her community see it as part of their mission, along with enjoying the feeling of being needed, meeting new people, and reading and singing with the babies!

Sister Rosemary enjoys spending time with her family, creating arts and crafts projects, taking photos, gardening in her flower garden, and sharing love and treats with neighbors' and family's dogs.

Sept. Birthday

◆ Cyndie
Jones

Happy Birthday!