

Fairmount Providers' Meeting

Thursday, February 19, 2015

****Special thanks to Lisa and her volunteers at the Villages at Roll Hill community center for the delicious lunch and for their presentations about Black History.**

...Great News for the Community...

- Casey Betz, development director at St. Leo's announced that the St. Leo food pantry will be partnering with Catholic Charities to open a larger choice pantry in the former Kroger building at the corner of Carll and Baltimore. It is expected to open by April. Catholic Charities also plans to offer some additional services there including education and counseling.
- Daniel Minera who is a member of the Cincinnati School Board says that the board wants to get input about ways to better serve the community and encouraged attending school board meetings which are held every other Monday or calling or sending suggestions. He said the board is considering possible uses for the old North Fairmount School on Baltimore Avenue. Among suggestions that were offered were using the building for free GED programs, possibly becoming a satellite site for Cincinnati State, offering a room where St. Vincent de Paul furniture could be available for pick-up and creating a space for youth activities.

...Improving Our Health...

- The 4th annual Health Fair "Spring into Being Healthy!" will be held at the Villages at Roll Hill community center on Thursday, March 19, from 11 am to 1 pm. Included in the event will be Cincinnati hearing center, Miami Heights Chiropractic, Meals 4 You, the public library, police and fire departments, TriHealth. Primera mental health, Newcomer funeral services, Covenant Villages physical rehab with oxygen saturation screenings, Walgreen Pharmacy, the Red Cross, Healthy Moms and Babes, St. Vincent de Paul, Cincinnati Association for the Blind, UC, Legal Shield and Spirit Home care. Lisa is still trying to get a mammography van.
- Margie Weller of Healthy Moms and Babes said the van has been off the road due to bad weather. She spoke of the organization's programs to help pregnant women have healthy pregnancies and support mothers after the baby is born.

...Helping Save Money...

- The Villages at Roll continues to be sub-site for the Community Action Agency's HEAP program that helps people learn to pay their bills on time and can erase outstanding balances if they stay in the program for 2 years. CAA will be at the community Center Tuesdays 24 and March 17 from 9 am to 1 pm. On January 13, 31 families were enrolled in the program. People need to bring a current ID, social security cards for all family members living at the residence, proof of income for the past 90 days, and a current utility bill. If persons bring their paperwork to Lisa Monday, Feb. 23 between 2 and 4 pm, she will have it ready and see that they are seen. 60 families were served Feb. 3.
- The Kroger shopping program is going well and helping families stretch their food stamp dollars.
- There will be free tax service at the Millvale Rec Center Saturdays,, Feb. 21, and March 7 and 21 from 9 am to 3 pm. Santa Maria is also sponsoring a west side free tax preparation site for persons earning less than \$52,000 a year at Elder high school's Schaeper center, 4005 Glenway. Avenue from 9 am to noon February 21, 28, and March 7 Appointments are required . Call Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center, 235-3835 to schedule an appointment.
- Officer Gibson warned about leaving things of value visible in the car and leaving the keys in the car with the car running. He said that theft from autos is higher at this time of the year. He also talked about what to do if you suspect you see a drug sale—take down the license plate number and description of what you observed and call 765-1212. **DO not** approach.

- Women at Pathways at Talbert House are available to do volunteer work. Call Antonio Roberts 557-2500 ext.2372 or email antonio.roberts@talberthouse.org

...Welcoming Newcomers to Our Community...

- Daniel Minera of City Gospel Mission who works with the Hispanic community said he is available to provide best practice approaches for organizations that are seeing an increased number of Hispanics coming to them for services. Contact him at dminera@citygospel.org
- Courtney Craig of the Welcome Center at Roberts school shared the schedule for the coffee hour that is offered each Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:30 am The program ends on May 26. There is a theme for each week including such topics as how to start a business, health, domestic violence and mental health. She also shared information about ESL classes from 6 to 8 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A new program is starting March 10 and registration is required. Call 363-4693. Basic, intermediate, and advanced classes are offered. There is free child care for children ages 3 to 10. Courtney also shared that the Welcome Center is now certified by the Mexican government to provide an individualized program to help Spanish-speaking persons get their high school degree in Spanish so they will be able to get better jobs if they should return to their home countries. Registration is now open. Interested persons can come to the welcome center Monday through Friday from 10 am to noon or call 363-4693 for more information.

...Jobs, Jobs, Jobs...

- Cincinnati Works is offering the Phoenix program to help people with troubled pasts and those who need a fresh start. They have connections with local employers and offer free career services including one-on-one employment coaching. Walk in to complete an application 708 Walnut Street downtown from 8 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday to fill out an application or call 744-9675.
- Antonio Roberts of Talbert House Pathways program said they are hiring. Go to talberthouse.org for more information. The women's program at 1616 Harrison is expanding and there will be a meeting Friday, Feb. 20 from 10 am to noon for any construction firms that might be interested in the job.
- The Vineyard donated many items to the Community Center at the Villages at Roll Hill, including Dickie work jeans. Contact Lisa 591-2692 if you can use them.
- Wallick Communities which owns the Villages at Roll Hill is looking to hire a Spanish speaking rent specialist. Go to wallickcommunity.com for more information

...It's Busy, Busy, Busy at the Villages of Roll Hill...

- During spring break week March 30 to April 4 the Community Center at the Villages at Roll Hill will offer program for youth. Each day will have a theme including sports, books and games, and movies.
- Whole Again will provide summer breakfasts and lunches at the Villages at Roll Hill.
- The St. Xavier Big Brothers program continues to be successful benefitting both the big and little brothers. The next event is Saturday, Feb. 21.
- The Girls' Life group at the Villages at Roll Hill is teaching life lessons besides having fun. The girls made cookies on Feb. 5 and some didn't pay attention and their cookies burned. They learned the importance of attending to what they are doing.
- The Villages at Roll Hill community center will be closed March 12 and 23 through 27.
Congratulation to both UC social work interns at St. Leo's have been accepted into graduate school—Natasha Lovely into the University of Michigan and Jocelin Morrow into Boston University.

Since Many Providers Will Be Taking Part in the Health Fair at Villages at Roll Hill on the Same Day as Our Meeting Do We Want to Cancel Our Meeting? Please email me your opinion alannoleo@aol.com