

Fairmount Providers' Meeting
Thursday, April 21 2016

****Special thanks to Jim and the Millvale Rec center for hosting and for Mabel Forsythe and St. Leo's for providing lunch. We are blessed to have so many wonderful people doing great work in our community!**

...New Faces...

- Gail Crawford, Talbert House Pathways for Women, 557-2500 ext.2372, gail.crawford@talberthouse.org
- LaShona Carpenter, Working in Neighborhoods, 541-4109, ext. 101, lcarpenter@wincincy.org
- Shannon Heine, Cincinnati Police Department, 352-2547, Shannon.heine@cincinnati-oh.gov

....Together We Can Do Great Things...

...To Make Our Neighborhoods More Beautiful and Safer...

- Cincinnati Police Officers Shannon Heine, Oscar Cyramek, and Gregory Vollner shared information about the newly initiated PIVOT which identifies "hot spots" in neighborhoods and focuses on interrupting and getting rid of the cycles of crime there. There are 8 investigators in the unit who work on stopping crime from every angle. They depend on help from citizens and encourage people to call 765-1212 or the drug hotline 352-2673 when they see something suspicious. Heroin is a major problem. People can help by getting license plate numbers from buyers, but especially from dealers who often use rental cars and move their business from street to street. Callers can remain anonymous. It is important to call because repeated calls for service help identify trouble spots.
- Sidney Jasper, also of WIN is working on community projects including the South Cumminsville community garden and increasing access to fresh food. She shared the community's newsletter which will be going to neighborhood residents. On Saturday, May 14 three groups from Go Cincinnati will be working on beautification projects. From noon to 6 pm there will be competitions at Wayne playground to get representatives for various activities for Cincinnati's community games program in July.
- With the city providing two dumpsters this week, a spring cleanup is under way in North Fairmount. Go Cincinnati will also work with the Community Council to redo the point at Baltimore and Cummins that welcomes people into the neighborhood.
- Groundworks Cincinnati and Green Umbrella are encouraging walkers and bikers to join others on the bike trail this spring.

...To Provide the Best for Our Children...

- Donna Bellamo, who does home visiting with Healthy Moms and Babes, supporting moms through pregnancy and the baby's first year of life, shared van locations and schedules. She said the agency is working on housing in Western Hills for homeless pregnant women who will be able to stay at the home until their baby is one. When they get their own apartment they will be able to take the furniture from there to their new home. Healthy Moms continues to have luncheons in community centers showing moms how to prepare healthy low-cost meals.
- Donna also shared information about a local diaper bank, sweetcheeksdiaperbanks.org which helps provide diapers to needy mothers through partner agencies. Healthy Moms and TriHealth are some of their partners. Agencies interested in becoming partners can fill out an application on the web site.
- Jim Boyle, director of the Millvale Rec Center described a typical day at the center. Students arrive and receive a snack at 2:15 pm. They then can take part in programs including homework club, computer lab, and games. At 5 pm they receive a hot meal. The center is available after 6 for teens and adults. Membership cost for the year is \$2 for children, \$10 for teens, and \$25 for adults.

- The Rec Center hosted the golden gloves boxing competition in March which was attended by close to 350 people. Girls on the run will have its race on May 7. The 14 and under basketball team won the league and tournament championship and were treated to a meal at Montgomery Inn.
- Lisa Hyde Miller of the Villages at Roll Hill said the health fair in March was very successful. The St. Xavier Big Brothers' program with a picnic for big and little brothers and their families Saturday, May 7 at St. X. The boys are going to a Reds' game this Sunday and recently went bowling with their big brothers. The Girls' Life Skills group will wrap up its programming for the school year on Thursday, May 5 with a special ladies night out with massages and doing nails for the girls and their mothers, grandmothers, and guardians. The girls will give their mother's day gifts which consist of a double sided frame with a picture of the girl on one side and their "Love Letters" on the other. In February and March they focused on what is love and what is not.
- Programming for summer at the Villages at Roll Hill Community center will begin June 13 and end August 12.
- Childhood Food Solutions (CFS) is growing and serving more children. 4000 children received spring break sacks including students from Carson, Oylar, and Reese Price schools. They are working on getting a truck donated to help with summer food distribution.
- Mabel Foorsythe of Amicus Children Learning Center says the agency is growing with locations in Millvale, McKie, and Winton Hills Rec centers and Dean Dunne from UC to set up new sites. Summer programs will be multicultural and address diversity. There will be a lot of focus on STEM Mabel is proud of students from Winton Hills who won 2nd place in a recent science bowl competition.
- Rev. Everett Brewer of President Drive church of Christ says the church will again have its Friday night game nights from the beginning of June until school starts in August.
- The neighborhood pastors' group that is working with district 3 will again have its Day of Hope event August 13 at Wayne play field. The day offers free food, clothes, school supplies and information from social service agencies.

....To Make Opportunities Available...

- Vicki Norman of Talbert House introduced Gail Crawford of Pathways for Women. She reported the new addition is complete and will become an honors dorm for 14 women who are making consistent progress in the program. The site can serve up to 100 women. There will be an open house on Friday, April 29, from noon to 2 pm to show off the new facilities.
- Casey Betz, development director for St. Leo's church, reminded providers that the **Hunger Walk is Memorial Day, May 29**. She encouraged people to sign up and walk for St. Leo's food pantry which now serves some 1300 people in its new location which is now a choice pantry. **This is the largest fund raiser for the pantry. All money specified for St. Leo's pantry on the walk registration will be put in its account at the Free Store Food Bank.** This money helps the pantry provide not just staples, but meat, dairy, and produce to families.
- There will be new pamphlet holders at the St. Leo Food Pantry. Providers are encouraged to bring any fliers about resources and events that might be beneficial to pantry patron.
- St. Leo's community garden is expanding and will be providing food for the pantry as well as for the farmers.
- Ladies from Lisa's church will also have a ladies night out with massages and nails for women at the Villages at Rill Hill. They will also bring dresses for them to wear when they attend the Cincinnati Opera's dress rehearsal later that evening at the Aronoff Center.
- Roll Hill Academy and Villages at Roll Hill partnered to present a job fair where there were several hires and representatives of companies that hire people with a felony record.

- Lashonna Carpenter of Working in Neighborhoods works on employment for the agency. She is also involved with the Hands Up Initiative in the city that helps with job skills and gaining employment that matches one's skills.
- Pamela J. Adams, president of the North Fairmount Community Council said the council is also involved with the Hands Up Program for job training

May Fairmount Providers' Meeting
Thursday, May 19, 2016 11:30 am to 1 pm
Millvale Rec Center