

# AROUND THE Circle Newsletter

Circle Of Concern  
Food Pantry



## Team Building

Football, baseball, soccer – all team sports we're familiar with. Here at Circle Of Concern, we'd like to add another to the list. Build a team of friends and family and join us at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Run Circles Around Hunger 5K on September 16!

Is there a better way to spend a fall morning than with a cheerful crowd enjoying a stroll—or run—along the scenic Meramec River? Bring a crowd and be part of our anticipated crowd of 500 in this, Circle's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. We have two ways to sign everyone up with a \$5 discount per person!

One way is to visit [circleofconcern.org](http://circleofconcern.org) and click to our Fleet Feet event page. If you sign up 10 or more people in one shopping cart, the system will automatically discount everyone with \$5 off the regular \$25 fee per person. You'll just provide the names, ages and shirt sizes of each member of your team.

If each of your teammates will sign up separately, you can call Juliet at 636.861.2623 x106 and get a personalized team discount code. You can share that code with your members, direct them to [circleofconcern.org](http://circleofconcern.org) and when they sign themselves up, they can provide the team discount code at check-out. It's as easy as tying a running shoe!



This year's race will be a fun time. Besides the music and CrossFit warm-up that has set our pace in previous years, we're launching the first-ever top-your-own Cereal Bar. Super healthy or sugary sweet, we'll have a cereal you love and lots of goodies to top it with!

Whether a single runner, a walking couple or a whole team of riverside strollers, register today at [circleofconcern.org](http://circleofconcern.org).

## Current Needs:

- Cereal
- Dinner Helpers - **CRITICAL**
- Mac & Cheese
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Canned Chicken
- Ibuprofen, Tylenol, Aspirin - **CRITICAL**
- Laundry Soap
- Dish Soap

**\*\*\*We have a CRITICAL need for new box fans and window A/C units for clients with health issues.**

## OUR MISSION:

Circle Of Concern feeds the hungry and provides assistance to low-income families living in west St. Louis County.

## OUR VISION:

Improving every life in our community by reducing hunger and poverty.



*Feeding Families is  
Just the Beginning*

# A CLIENT STORY

Sticky, sweaty volunteers recently staffed a food drive at a local grocery store. Shopping lists of our most-needed foods were handed to customers walking into the store. Bags full of those items were purchased and given to the volunteers by those generous customers as they left.

Rather than buy from the list, one woman stopped to write a check. As she handed it to the volunteer, she said, "I was a Circle client. Now I'm able to help." It was a \$500 check.

Circle has touched many people in 50 years, and many of them strove for the chance to return the favor. Has Circle ever helped you? We'd love to hear your story with an email to [IAmCircle50@circleofconcern.org](mailto:IAmCircle50@circleofconcern.org). We will only share your name if you say we can, but we'd love to hear from you.



## A Circle History Moment

November 4 is quickly approaching. Will you be joining us?

We are currently building our invitation mailing list for our once-in-a-lifetime 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Forest Hills Country Club in Chesterfield. To ensure you receive your invitation, please visit [circleofconcern.org/Events](http://circleofconcern.org/Events) and click through to add your address to the mailing list. Or you can register for the event online right now!

We'll see you on November 4!

## Food Drive August 19



**Please visit Walmart-Highlands (Manchester and 141) on Saturday, August 19 to help stock Circle's food pantry shelves. We'll have a shopping list of most needed items on hand. Thank you!**

## June Stats:

Number of people fed = **1,780**  
Number of bags distributed = **2,790**  
Number of families = **584**  
Kid bags shared = **278**  
Cost = **\$89,231.17**

**Financial Assistance**  
**36** families received **\$5,547** in financial assistance

**Volunteers**  
**177** volunteers shared **1,942** hours

## Mark Your Calendar!

Gather your favorite little Oompa-Loompas for this family-favorite event! Metro West Firefighters are hosting a showing of the original **Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory** (the Gene Wilder version!) for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Family Movie Night at the Fire House! Bring your family and a blanket to Metro West Fire Station #1. Popcorn is provided and cold drinks are only \$1 for this fun night of exploring the fire trucks, visiting with Metro West's bravest and settling in for this time-honored favorite film.

What:	Family Movie Night at the Firehouse Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory
When:	Sunday, September 24
Time:	Doors Open 6 p.m., Movie Starts 7 p.m.
Where:	Metro West Station #1 (13835 Manchester Road, Ballwin)
Parking:	Regions Bank and Salem UMC
Cost:	Suggested donation two (2) cans of food per person





# 5K RUN/WALK

benefiting

## CIRCLE OF CONCERN FOOD PANTRY

Are you ready to make a difference in the lives of hungry families? Then hit the trail on Valley Park's scenic Meramec River Trail on September 16 to **Run Circles Around Hunger!** Paced for runners or perfect for a casual walk with family and friends - all proceeds benefit Circle Of Concern's food pantry and programs for our neighbors.

**NEW IN 2017!**

A first-of-its-kind

**Cereal Bar**

after hitting the trail!  
Healthy cereal or sweet  
with an array of  
tasty toppings!

**WHEN:** Saturday, September 16, 2017

**WHERE:** Arnold's Grove Trail Head Park  
4 Meramec Station Road  
(Hwy 141 & Marshall)  
Valley Park, MO 63088

**TIME:** 7 a.m. Check-In  
8 a.m. CrossFit Warm-Up  
8:30 a.m. 5K Run/Walk Start  
9-10 a.m. Music, Food & Fun  
9:30 a.m. Winners Presented

**COST:** \$25\* per person  
\$20\* per person on teams of 10+  
\* \$3 service fee on online sign-ups

- Race is chip-timed by Fleet Feet
- Register by Aug 21 to assure your size T-shirt
- Packet pick-up at Circle on September 13 from 3 to 7 p.m. or at event check-in

Thanks to our Platinum Sponsor!



EXPRESS SCRIPTS®

**REGISTER ONLINE NOW at [circleofconcern.org](http://circleofconcern.org)!**

There are **TWO WAYS TO PAY:**

1. Pay online with your credit card
- OR
2. Reserve your spot online and then send your check to -  
Circle Of Concern, Attn: 5K, 112 St. Louis Avenue, Valley Park, MO 63088

Do you have a team of 10 or more participants?

- If you register them all at once, the \$5 discount per person will be applied automatically.
- If your participants will register separately, call Juliet (636.861.2623 ext. 106) for your own unique Team Discount Code to share with your participants. Save \$5 per registration!

**We're Collecting 1,000 Boxes of Cereal!**

Cereal is a good, quick meal for our clients. Will you please bring a box or two to share with the families we serve?

# Run Circles Around Hunger 5K Run/Walk



**September 16, 2017**  
**Arnold's Grove Trail Head, Valley Park**

Promote your business or family by **sponsoring** this 4th Annual Run/Walk. You'll also help feed your community by supporting the food pantry and programs of Circle Of Concern, serving local families in need since 1967.

## Sponsorship Levels\*

- ☐ **Platinum Sponsor** **\$2,500**
  - Prominent Company Name and Logo Placement on Circle website and in paid Print Ads, in Circle newsletter article and Race Signage
  - On-Site Booth Space
  - 10 Race Entries for your Company Team
  - Social Media Recognition
- ☐ **Gold Sponsor** **\$1,000**
  - Company Name and Logo on Circle website and in paid Print Ads, in Circle newsletter article and Race Signage
  - Social Media Recognition
- ☐ **Silver Sponsor** **\$ 500**
  - Company Name and Logo in Circle newsletter article and Race Signage
  - Social Media Recognition
- ☐ **Bronze Sponsor** **\$ 250**
  - Company Name in Circle newsletter article
  - Social Media Recognition

\* Sponsors will be acknowledged in all possible materials pre- and post-event.

**Call Cyndi at 636.861.2623 x117 or email  
Cyndi@circleofconcern.org to sponsor**

## Sponsorship

**Sponsor online at [circleofconcern.org](http://circleofconcern.org) or**

**CHECK YOUR SPONSORSHIP LEVEL BELOW**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Sponsor Level:

- ☐ **Platinum Sponsor** **\$2,500**
- ☐ **Gold Sponsor** **\$1,000**
- ☐ **Silver Sponsor** **\$ 500**
- ☐ **Bronze Sponsor** **\$ 250**

**VISA Mastercard Discover Check**

Amount Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Email your logo to [Cyndi@circleofconcern.org](mailto:Cyndi@circleofconcern.org).*

Circle Of Concern \* Attn: Cyndi  
112 St. Louis Avenue \* Valley Park, MO 63088  
**[circleofconcern.org](http://circleofconcern.org)**





# The Garden

How does your garden grow? At the Parkway Southwest Middle School (PSWM) garden, the answer is – with the help of lots of friends!

Four years ago, then vice principal of PSWM, Jill Loyette, had a seed of an idea. With the help of her family's business–Greenscape Gardens–the school would plant a garden and share the produce grown with Circle. A small corps of community volunteers—including Circle volunteers Jean Campbell and Larry Quick—and students took the dirt, seeds and supplies donated by Greenscape and turned a patch of school lawn into a simple garden patch. A small harvest was shared with Circle...and several deer who seemed to claim the plantings for themselves.

A few years went by. Whole seasons of very dry or very wet weather limited the production of tomatoes, peppers, greens and other wonderful vegetables. But, the school, students, volunteers, a deer-proof fence and Greenscape persisted.

Fast forward to the school year just past. Although Jill has moved to another school, the school's administrative assistant, Alexis Newsome, became the garden's new champion. Greenscape and volunteers continue to support the project, but the big story is that of the students. Among the most enthusiastic are the students who live in the city and attend PSWM. Many of these students have never had the opportunity to work with the land. They planted veggies that later made appearances on cafeteria plates. Alexis used allotted funds to bring the children to the garden this summer to help and to see the hundreds of pounds of food the garden has yielded so far. Greenscape gave each child a tomato plant to take home, and Alexis drove into St. Louis to deliver pots to plant them in.

Like vegetables work together to make a good salad, each partner works together to make the PSWM garden a thriving source of food for the school and Circle and a powerful outdoor classroom to teach young people the joys of a garden!

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## Note From Cyndi

Can you tell that we'd love to welcome you to the 4th Annual Run Circles Around Hunger on Saturday, September 16?! This issue is full of the whens and wheres of this event. Here are a few more fun details: Won't you join us?

For just \$25, you'll get your own premium Dryblend T-Shirt (register by August 21st to get the size you want). Fleet Feet of St. Louis is doing our chip timing for all participants this year. Rod & Charlie (a talented classic rock duo) will be rocking the live tunes. Our friends at CrossFit Valley Park will lead a gentle-yet-invigorating warm-up. And after your beautiful jog or stroll along the Meramec River, fuel up for the rest of your day with all the cereal and toppings you can eat at our Top-Your-Own Cereal Bar. And last but certainly not least, the kids will LOVE the balloon sculptures created by Sammy J Balloons.

Let's recap. That's a workout, live music, breakfast, t-shirt and balloons. Oh, and awards in seven age categories. All for \$25! What are you waiting for!? Run—or walk swiftly—to your computer to register today at [circleofconcern.org](http://circleofconcern.org) or check out [fleetfeetstlouis.com](http://fleetfeetstlouis.com) and search for "Run Circles." See you there!

Cyndi





# Circle Of Concern FOOD PANTRY

*Feeding Families is Just the Beginning*

112 St. Louis Ave.  
Valley Park, MO 63088  
Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
Paid  
St Louis MO  
Permit 175

## How Does Your GARDEN Grow?

### Board of Directors:

**Steven Ernst**  
*PRESIDENT*

**Lana Biondo**  
*VICE PRESIDENT*

**Matt Claflin**  
*TREASURER*

**Michael Bauer**  
*SECRETARY*

**Karen Aubuchon**  
**Frank Haase**  
**Sue Hoffman**  
**Maria Keena**  
**Doug Paul**  
**Alva Rozar**  
**Greg Shoemaker**  
**Jason Sinclair**  
**Carol Vandable**  
**Amy Vollmer**

### We share many donations with our clients:

- Food, Canned and Packaged
- Fresh Garden Produce
- Dry Pet Food, Litter
- New School Supplies
- New Toys
- New Blankets, Hats, Gloves

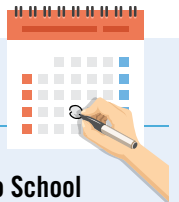
### Donations are accepted:

Mon, Tue, Fri..... 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Wednesday ..... 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Thursday ..... 9 a.m. - noon  
Saturday..... 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



**"LIKE US"** on Facebook and visit us online at [www.circleofconcern.org](http://www.circleofconcern.org).

### Important Dates:



- August 9**      **Donation Drop-Off for Back To School**  
Circle Of Concern
- August 19**      **Super-Circle Food Drive**  
Walmart - 201 Highlands Blvd., Manchester
- September 2-4**      **Circle Closed for Labor Day Weekend**
- September 16**      **4th Annual Run Circles Around Hunger 5K**  
Arnold's Grove Trailhead Park, Valley Park
- September 24**      **Family Movie Night at the Firehouse, Ballwin**
- November 4**      **50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner**  
Forest Hills Country Club, Chesterfield

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