Giving is Good for Business!

As Circle of Concern moves through this, our Golden Anniversary Year (50), a major focus will be our outreach to local business friends, new and old. With three major fundraisers and several smaller events planned for the year, corporate sponsorship opportunities are aplenty. Ranging from $500 to $15,000, these sponsorships offer opportunities for businesses large and small; and with each comes an array of recognition benefits, including signage, social media mentions, logo placement, event tickets and more!

Why should area businesses support local charities like Circle? Aside from the marketing and publicity benefits mentioned above, there is significant evidence showing that corporate philanthropy is just...good for business! When a company supports a local charity, it’s an investment that:

- Creates good will in the community
- Strengthens the local economy
- Provides opportunities for networking
- Increases employee morale

The Missouri Food Pantry Tax Credit adds even more value to your 2017 corporate sponsorship of Circle of Concern. If you are interested in learning more about sponsorship opportunities with Circle of Concern Food Pantry, contact us today at 636.861.2623 x117, or cyndi@circleofconcern.org. Your support provides wholesome foods, utility assistance, mentorship and scholarships to area families.

~ Cyndi Miller
IN MEMORY OF:
from 12/1/2016 to 12/31/2016

Ruby Adams
Harlan Barteau
Dennis Basler
Dorothy Blair
June Brown
Barbara Buatois
Tom Burkholder
William Casey, Jr.
Gale Clement
Deann Culbertson Sentell
Ray & Katherine Dains
James R & Helen E Davies
Druella DeLisle
Shirley Dingler
John Edwards
Rita Elsea
Lance Ericson
Gene Fieher
Alfred Harris
John J. Hayes Jr.
Warren Hecht
Audrey Hirth
John
Dennis Johnson
Charles Keller
Rose Kuhlmeier
Eddie & Margaret Kunst
W A Larry
Jean McCain
Jerry McMahon
Dominic Mikal
Dave Milster
Don Muse
Chris Nelson
Oliver & Helen Newberry
Flip Pallozola
Cindy Poertner
Christine Royal
Lillian Sandier
Sylvia M Scheer
Marianne Schenck
Donna Smith Galchus
John Spencer
Mary Steins
Nancy Stephenson
Benjamin Stratton
Russell Strohmeyer
Alma “Ruth” Van Der Tuin
Bill & Wilma Van Genderen
Lori Vincent
Richard Wells
Rita Westerfield
Jerry & Marj Withers
Alegra Wright
Betty Wunderlich

A Client Story

At Circle, the gratitude goes both ways. Thank you!

December Stats:

Number of people fed = 1,864
Number of bags distributed = 3,075
Number of families = 645
Cost = $88,513.88

Finances

Assistance
30 families
$3,323.00

Volunteers
171 volunteers
1,990 hours

Thinking Outside the Circle

The Crossing Church with Chesterfield, Fenton and Mid Rivers Campuses

Circle is blessed to have many church partners in our community, and one of them is The Crossing church. On a blustery day in December, members of an outreach team pulled up to Circle’s warehouse with a box truck full of food—a portion of the church’s annual cross-campus food drive.

The team got to work unloading more than 340 cases of non-perishable foods—ready to share with Circle families. KTVI-Channel 2 News came by for footage of a busy pantry during the holidays and documented the bustle and bluster to share the story of kindness in action.

Many thanks to The Crossing for your care!

A Circle History Moment

1989 – Circle moved into its own building in Valley Park, after operating out of borrowed space in local churches since its founding. This site—where today’s Circle now stands—is affectionately called The Old Building.
Those People

An article in Family Circle magazine, written by Jennifer Ball-Tufford, has been circulating here at Circle. It begins:

“Last Halloween, there was a food drive at the school where I work. Strolling by one day, I checked out the bins. There were gluten-free crackers, rice pasta, olive tapenade, artichoke hearts packed in seasoned oil and quinoa. Another woman happened by. She smiled, then said this: “Too bad they won’t know what to do with most of it.”

It was one of those moments in life when your ears hear something but your brain can’t quite process it. I asked, “What do you mean?” The woman turned toward me, still smiling. “Those people won’t know what most of that stuff is. I mean, really. Quinoa?”

The writer reveals to us that she was one of “those people,” needing the help of a food pantry for a time after a divorce. She recounts the shame of empty Old Mother Hubbard cupboards and her childrens’ quiet grace as they enjoyed the variety the pantry had to offer. Dented cans of creamed corn and jars of marinated artichokes, organic risotto and off-label crackers – the writer’s poverty didn’t keep her from appreciating common and uncommon ingredients.

Families that come to a food pantry—to Circle—aren’t “those people.” They are us.

Jelly Roll Bunco!

Get your Bunco BFFs together for the 3rd annual Circle Bunco Fun-Raiser Nite! Join us on Friday, April 21 at St. John Church (15800 Manchester in Ellisville) for classic Bunco, a silent auction, prizes and fun! Proceeds will help buy jelly and other items for Circle’s food pantry.

The popular event starts at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30) and features a cash bar (beer and wine), hors d’oevres, desserts and free soda and water. The cost is $20 per person.

This event sells out quickly, so register online at circleofconcern.org no later than April 15. Bunco!

Did you know...

...that 1 in 4 children in the United States spend some or all of their early childhood in poverty. Research suggests that individuals who spent more time in poverty in early childhood demonstrate signs of impaired mental health in their late teens, including higher levels of externalizing symptoms (acting out) and learned helplessness by age 17.

~ Clinical Psychological Science

Share Your Stories!

How do you know Circle? Are you a donor? A past or present volunteer? Have you been a client?

We’re 50 years old in 2017 and want to share your stories. Please drop us a line by emailing your experiences to IAMCircle50@circleofconcern.org. Thank you!
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, Thur, Fri......9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wednesday ..................9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday......................9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

“LIKE US” on Facebook and visit us online at www.circleofconcern.org.

STAFF DIRECTORY ........................................................................................................636.861.2623
Cyndi Miller, Executive Director ..............cyndi@circleofconcern.org ..........ext. 117
Juliet Holden, Senior Director ..............juliet@circleofconcern.org ..........ext. 106
Michelle Lepak, Pantry Director ..............michelle@circleofconcern.org ..........ext. 107
Niki Vandable, Client Services Director ......niki@circleofconcern.org ..........ext. 108