Five Things - Values

Circle Of Concern’s mission guides everything we do. It even keeps a place of honor right here on the front page of this newsletter. What you might not know is that we are also guided by our five value statements. Here are some examples of our values in action:

1. INTEGRITY
   Integral to everything we do, we are driven to do what is right. Our procedures keep us accountable to best practices as we serve our clients, receive and spend contributions and conduct our daily business.

2. RESPECT
   It’s easy to respect others when things are happy; it’s sometimes challenging when there’s a conflict. A client recently visited us about a difficult personal situation, and every word was loaded with the frustration and anger he was feeling. Recognizing that the circumstance was coloring the tense interaction, our volunteers worked hard to load their every word with compassion and respect for the client’s situation to arrive at a peaceful solution.

3. COLLABORATION
   No one organization can do it alone. To that end, Circle regularly shares surplus food and other items with other food pantries, participates with other agencies when emergencies demand big responses and joins hands with other organizations when a client needs more than we can give. Such was the case when a family experienced a devastating house fire. Between Circle, other nonprofit organizations, local police departments and a local hotel, the family had help with housing, food, supplies, and support during the rebuild.

continued on page 2
Thinking Outside the Circle

Homestead Financial

Granny to the rescue! The feisty grandma of the 1-800-GRANNY-8 advertising fame – or the generous employees of Homestead Financial – conducted an office drive for Circle, bringing in bins and boxes of personal care and food items. Led in the effort by Chris Proffer, the team at Homestead declared that they’re not done. Next up – school supply drive! Thanks, Granny!

Five Things, cont. from page 1

4

STEWARDSHIP
We are grateful for the time, talents and investments our stakeholders share with us. When the client schedule is light, we call off volunteers so they don’t feel they are twiddling their thumbs. We work hard to match volunteers to jobs that draw on their strong skill sets. When a donor contributes, we reinvest it in our clients and in our ability to sustain good service.

5

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE
We strive to do our best every day. We also continually strive for better. Some of our volunteers recently underwent extensive refresher training on client practices, which opened discussion to some new procedures to make our clients’ experiences better and our volunteers’ jobs smoother.

School Is Out...
...which means Back To School is right around the corner! We’ll share school supplies with our Circle kids in August and welcome your help! Please visit circleofconcern.org to see a list of items we need for grades K through college. Watch for more info in July!

A Circle History Moment

As we celebrate Flag Day on June 14, we note that Circle’s flag pole holds special significance. When we opened our new building, the pole traveled from the closed Fenton Chrysler plant to stand tall over Circle and our service to the community.

April Stats:

Number of people fed = 1,572
Number of bags distributed = 2,644
Number of families = 551
Cost = $76,107.54

Financial Assistance
24 families received $4,638 in financial assistance

Volunteers
175 volunteers shared 1,850 hours
Mobilized!

Whether we’re planning to fill the food pantry shelves for the future or responding to sudden emergency needs like the recent flooding, Circle can count on many in the community to come together and get the work done:

KMOX Radio hosted a drive-through food and cleaning supply drive, benefiting Circle and other local agencies. By the end of a long, productive day, it took multiple trips to bring the mountain of donations back to Circle for distribution to our clients.

Volunteers joined with the Ballwin and Valley Park post offices for the annual Letter Carrier’s Food Drive – Stamp Out Hunger! Our Valley Park postal friends delivered food collected on their rounds right to Circle, while crews on site in Ballwin secured more than 80,000 pounds of food. Thank you to all the generous postal customers and every letter carrier!

Flooding hit our area hard. Preparing against a worse-case-scenario, our volunteers worked hard to get client records and other critical items offsite. Afterward, Circle participated in an area Multi-Agency Resource Center, or MARC, held at Manchester United Methodist Church. Along with the services of the Red Cross, Salvation Army, various State of Missouri agencies and many others, Circle shared food, cleaning supplies and more with any families whose homes or jobs were impacted by the flooding. Thank you to our partner agencies and volunteers who help our neighbors rebuild.

There’s still time to join us at the rescheduled 13th Annual Circle Of Concern Charity Golf Tournament, hosted by the deacons of St. Mark Presbyterian Church. The Aberdeen Golf Club is back in good form after the floods of May, and you can still sign up your foursome to play on June 26.

A foursome costs $500 (single player $125) and includes a challenging round of links-style golf, food, beverages, prizes and a silent auction.
Mobilized to Serve!

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.

Important Dates:

- **June 24** Jubilee Food Drive
  Walmart - 201 Highlands Blvd., Manchester
  Presented by Operation Food Search
- **June 26** RESCHEDULED
  13th Annual Charity Golf Tournament
  Aberdeen Golf Club, Eureka
- **June 26**
  General Membership Meeting - note new time!
  6:00 p.m. St. Mark Presbyterian Church
  601 Claymont, Ballwin
- **July 1-4** Circle Closed for Independence Day Weekend
- **September 16** 4th Annual Run Circles Around Hunger 5K
  Arnold’s Grove Trailhead Park, Valley Park
- **November 4** 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner
  Forest Hills Country Club, Chesterfield

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