July 2021

Food Pantry

UND THE **Circle Newsletter Circle of Concern**



Summer. School.

Classes - in-person and virtual - might be on a hiatus for the summer, but at Circle of Concern, we're already thinking about the new school year!

Most of our children will be back in the classroom in August, and they will need backpacks and supplies to start the year off right. For many years, with the help of our generous friends, Circle has stocked those backpacks through our Back To School distribution event serving hundreds of children.

In 2020, concerns about holding large events demanded we shift from an in-person distribution to a gift card for each child. We will continue providing gift cards in 2021. We are confident that either Back To School model, in-person or via gift card, will achieve the primary goal of this program - to ensure children get the tools they need to confidently participate and thrive in school.



You are the key to providing critical supplies to families that might otherwise not be able to purchase them. This year, instead of bringing us actual pencils and notebooks, we invite you to support Back To School with a monetary gift to Circle in July. Please write School Supplies on the memo line of your check, or write School

Supplies on the Tribute Name line of the 'Donate Now' credit card form on circleofconcern.org.

On behalf of all our kiddos, thank you!

Current Needs:

- Rice, Bean, Potato Sides
- Canned Chicken
- Beef Stew
- Chicken & Dumplings
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- · Cake Mixes, Muffin Mixes, etc.
- Canned Vegetables
- Dinner Helpers
- 4+ Blade Razors
- Feminine Hygiene Pads, Size 4-5
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Pull-ups 3T-4T



Feeding Families is Just the Beginning

In Honor and In Memory

(March 1 - May 31, 2021)

When you make gifts in remembrance or honor to Circle of Concern, you both celebrate your loved ones AND include them in your support of the programs of this organization. Thank you for valuing our work with your care for your loved ones.

IN HONOR

Delores Ahrens for Mother's Day Lindsay Ahrens's Birthday AJ & Jo's Birthdays Jill Albano's Birthday Ballwin OES Officers Paula Black's Birthday Jim & Elise Boscia's 50+1 Birthday Janet Byington Penny Christoffel's Birthday Circle Board of Directors Circle Staff **Circle Volunteers** Ginny Clancy Tom Colwell COVID-19 Helpers Pierce Croner's 4th Birthday Faith Des Peres Presbyterian Church The Guy in the Green Subaru Sandy Guymon Receiving "Pillar of Parkway" Irene Kampeter for Mother's Day M/M Randy Karl's Anniversary Gary & Lori Klopf's 40th Wedding Anniversary Andrew Loeffelman The Lord Mary M. Happy - Mother's Day Nan McCabe Bill Mix's Birthday Karina Patel Linda Patton's Birthday Paying It Forward Emma Jean Phillips for Mother's Day

Pioneers Edie Quick Red Hats Ann Ross Hazel Rozema's Anniversary Rose Schwend's Birthday Dan Stauder Being a Rock Through Recent Surgery Susan's Retirement Nancy Swoboda - Happy Easter! Vicki Voss' Birthday Alderman Ed Walker Jane Walsma's Birthday Barb Woehle's Birthday Diane Zenk's Birthday

IN MEMORY

Ronald Abling Joy Allen Sharon Azzarello Ray & Bobbie Baniak Don & Elaine Baumbach Kathryn L Bettis Margaret Mary (Peg) Bolen Martha & Earl Brewer Louisa (Lulu) Brotherton Ron Brown Nancy Brueggen Rose Marie Bruno Jane T Burle James (Jim) Byington Rick Camden Betty Chadd Marvin Cohen William Patton Combs Connie Conrad

Judy Cooper **Robert Crews** Susan Cuddihee Katherine & Ray Dains Grace M Deane Drusilla DeLisle Jerry Dudding Louise DuMontier Gene Enchelmaier Bob Fahey Bert Faison **Robin Ferris** John Garcia Dr Gordon Gilliatt Ginny Rodney Goessman Joann Grzywinski Jean Guarino Carole Hansmann Warren Hecht Helen Mary Ann Herzwurm Mae Hudson Tom Hunter Sharon Hutton Phil Iffrig Janet Jesus Christ Evangelina Kliensorge Mary Lou Knoll Haran Kumar Tricia Lemay Patrick F Livingston William Luedde James Meyer Dominic Mikal George Minkevich

Irene Mispagel Mom (Chancal Kapoor) John Moore Sandra Moyich Elizabeth C Mozley Louis Mueller Marlene Muir Nancy Murray Don Muse Rose M Paule Donald Piekarski **Betty Rakestraw** James P Reeves Mary M Reeves Mary Rogers Steve Rouff Christine Royal Marianne Schenck Helen Seagrass Edward & Eileen Snodgrass Juanita Stallnacker **Tommy Staples** Marguerite Stricker Earl Stroud Jr Bo Sturhan Walter Suydam Shirley Swanson Karen Toth George David Trost Don Van Hulzen Cresentia Walsh Ross Watson Mary Willman Laura Wind Carolyn Wolff Sarah Jane Young

The Guy in the Green Subaru

Picture the scene -

Brad is in a drive-thru fast food lane, picking up food for the kids. He panics, realizing his wallet is at home. As he explains to the cashier in the window, the driver ahead of him in a green car overhears and offers to pay for dinner. "Pay it forward, buddy. Just pay it forward."

As Brad says, "I figured that I could either pay for someone else at some other place and time, and help that person out with what is probably just an inconvenient situation... Or, I could donate to Circle of Concern in honor of the Guy in the Green Subaru, and be 100% certain I was helping someone who really needed the assistance, rather than someone like me who just didn't remember his wallet when he went to get takeout."

Thank you, Brad, for your generous payment forward on behalf of families that really need the help.



A warm holiday season at Circle begins in the heat of the summer. We have launched our 2021 Holiday Joy campaign to underwrite our Thanksgiving Basket and Holiday Adoptions programs with gift cards again in 2021. These cards will purchase turkeys, special family ingredients, and cherished gifts for hundreds of families this November and December.

Please visit *circleofconcern.org* to make a gift, or mark Holiday Joy on your check's memo line. And thank you for warming the season for our client families!



Harvest Moon Trivia Goes Virtual!

A favorite St. Louis experience-trivia night-seemed threatened in 2020 as large groups took a backseat to social

distancing. We cancelled our own scheduled Harvest Moon Trivia Night out of an abundance of caution.

Well, 2021 is a new year, and Circle will once again host Harvest Moon Trivia on Friday, September 17. This year, though, it's VIRTUAL! That is, ZOOM technology will bring at-home teams together to compete in six rounds of challenging trivia. Circle staff has all played this way, and the consensus is – it's still fun and you can play in jammies!

We know it will be a new experience to play online for many of our previous trivia players. Some things to know:

- Most of the fun at trivia night is gathering with your friends. You can still do that in the comfort of your own home. And you can even include and see trivia ringers from other parts of the world on your team;
- Scoring, questions, extra games, your table treats and more still are all part of the fun;
- We can help with technical questions and requirements before the event and during the night:
- Your registration still supports Circle's food pantry and other programs.

Visit *circleofconcern.org* to register your team today or to sponsor the event.

Circle's volunteers are like a family, and we at Circle recently lost a brother.

Patrick Livingston volunteered as a receptionist and caseworker since 2011. That he was intensely dedicated to making life easier for our clients goes without saying. In fact, it's Patrick you see kicking off our video on the volunteer page of *circleofconcern.org*.



Beyond his commitment to Circle, it's worth noting that Patrick seemed just as dedicated to being our resident comedian and rabble rouser. He had a wild joke or lively political commentary at the ready every day, and he was quick to share it. As he once said, after struggling with repeated illness over the years, he didn't worry about watching his words. He said what he thought ... which occasionally led people to exclaim, "Patrick, you can't say that!" He would just laugh and tell another joke.

Patrick, we truly will miss your humor, your spirit and your unwavering care for the people we serve.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

To paraphrase former FLOTUS Lady Bird Johnson, "Where vegetables grow, so does hope!"

In that spirit, dedicated volunteers of Circle-led by Larry Quick-have planted a vegetable garden in our slip of lawn next to our building, with plans of sharing the harvest with our clients. Tomatoes, peppers, beans and much more – watch here for updates through the growing season!

Circle welcomes surplus fresh fruit, vegetables and herbs from home gardens...and the families we serve love it too!





We raise a margarita glass to El Toluco Tacqueria & Market! A recent dining event at this delicious Manchester restaurant raised \$605 for our food pantry. Thank you, Maggie and crew!



Many thanks to Victoria, Mary and Will for making bracelets and selling them from the driveway to benefit Circle. Charity begins at home – thank you!



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Back To School Already?!

Board of **Directors:**

Michael Bauer PRESIDENT

Dolores Rodenberg VICE PRESIDENT

> **BJ** Hillermann TREASURER

Allison Love SECRETARY

Lana Biondo Charlotte Bukowski Thomas Chibnall Frank Haase Brandi Hamm Virginia Pearson Edie Quick Cindy Wolk

We share many donations with our clients:

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

Donations are accepted:

Monday	9 a.m 3 p.m.
Tuesday	9 a.m 3 p.m.
Thursday	9 a.m 12 p.m.

Remember - Your monetary gift or food donation can qualify for MO Food Pantry Tax Credits. Contact juliet@circleofconcern.org to find out more.

Important Dates:

July 5	Circle Closed in Observance of Independence Day
July 26	Virtual Board Meeting Contact cyndi@circleofconcern.org for information
August 1	Art With a Purpose Exhibit - Local Artist Mary Hanson American Legion Post #156, Kirkwood
September 6	Circle Closed in Observance of Labor Day
September 17	Harvest Moon Virtual Trivia Night! circleofconcern.org
September 27	Virtual Board Meeting Contact cyndi@circleofconcern.org for information



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