

AROUND THE Circle Newsletter

Circle of Concern
Food Pantry



The State of Circle

Serving Circle as a volunteer can mean wearing many different hats, and I'm proud to say I've worn my share of them. Starting in 2013, I've met one-on-one with clients when they've come for monthly appointments. Special events committees were fun opportunities to put Circle's best face forward to new friends in the community. The board of directors welcomed me aboard (get it?!) in 2018, and this year, I'm serving as president of the board.

From this vantage point, I can fully appreciate all the moving parts of this organization that has served west St. Louis County for 55 years. It's also clear to me that the great need local families have experienced over the past two years has been met at Circle by extraordinary commitment and sensitivity by our volunteers and staff. The Client Choice service we've celebrated in our food pantry during normal times – the dignity-respecting model that features clients “shopping” for their favorite foods and flavors – has been halted during the pandemic in favor of a safer curbside food distribution model.

Despite the need to pre-fill bags of groceries, our team has incorporated as many opportunities for choice as possible. Holiday events that featured large gatherings to provide Thanksgiving Baskets or Holiday Adoption gifts gave way to gift cards, but our friends in the community assured that each family felt the warmth of the season. We've experienced spikes in our client numbers, and with each spike, I've seen that we have stewarded our human and financial resources to maintain or exceed our level of service.

The view forward in 2022 is a bright one. I, along with everyone else, am looking forward to a return to normalcy and safety, with regard to the pandemic. At Circle, I see our staff and volunteers bringing new energy to each of our programs, always striving to make them better for our clients. With the staff, the board of directors is preparing a new three-year strategic plan to chart a course that ensures we will always be prepared for the future, no matter what it brings.

**“ Thanks to our community,
the State of Circle is strong. ”**

Current Needs:

- Jelly
- Condiments
- Dinner “Helpers”
- Pasta Sauce
- Kid's Body Wash (not baby/infant)
- Boxes of Multi-Size Tampons
- Feminine Hygiene Pads (size 4 or 5)
- Women's Pull-Up Incontinence Briefs (sizes L & XL)



Circle of Concern
FOOD PANTRY

*Feeding Families is
Just the Beginning*

continued on page 2

Circle by the Numbers

3,052

people (unduplicated) were fed through Circle's food pantry in 2021, from

1,035

families (unduplicated)

959

Kid Bag gift cards fed more than 1,500 children through the summer

269

families received Emergency Financial Assistance for rent and utilities

25

young people received college scholarships to set them on a productive path

13

adult clients received scholarships for job certifications and other programs to improve their income potential

97

campers learned, played and grew from summer enrichment opportunities

497

were served through our Back to School program

346

children felt extra special on their special day, thanks to Birthday Club

622

tables were topped with Thanksgiving favorites

652

families – 2,040 individuals – experienced a warm holiday season via Holiday Adoption

Getting Down and Dirty at Circle!

Last year, a team of dedicated volunteers launched our Garden Greens project – a working garden on the lot adjacent to our food pantry. Over the summer months, the project reaped over 900 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables that were shared with client families!



We are looking for volunteers to join the passionate group of gardeners who make this project possible. If you enjoy being outdoors, working with your hands and literally seeing the "fruits of your labor," then this opportunity is for you.

Please send an email expressing your interest to circle@circleofconcern.org and someone will follow up with you!

DEAR DIANE, Volunteers, and All that work for this organization. I must stop and make time to thank you all for the difference you make in so many people's lives including mine. And to All that donate as well. The word thank you is heard all the time, and it doesn't express how truly thankful for All the Help thru the years and the people that stand in the cold, rain, heat to give. But I truly mean Thank you for your Blessings. Most of all I thank God for the clothes on my back, the roof over my head and the food your organization that makes my cup overflow.

Special thank to DIANE for your compassion and for Helping me free up my portion of my rent for expensive car repairs. I'm so very grateful. You have helped me grow as a person and I miss my monthly visits in office with a friendly smile around every corner and How are you doing Elvira. I pray for a New and better world where we can get back to some normalcy. Circle of concern runs as a unit, a team. Thank you so very much for investing in me.

Thru Christ

The State of Circle

cont. from page 1

With that said, we are always alert to potential challenges. Food prices are a concern, as is the supply of the foods we give. While we look forward to fully opening our doors to welcome clients back inside our building, we will continue to observe recommended safety measures. And, as the last two years has taught us to do, our volunteers, board and staff will always stand ready to respond to unforeseen changes in our world that bring more families to our door.

In closing, I can whole-heartedly affirm that, thanks to our community, the state of Circle is strong. In gratitude for your continuing support and investment in our programs for families, I tip my hats to you!

Dolores Rodenberg

President, Board of Directors

Return to the Golf Course!

It's been a long, golf-less three years since we last played the links at Aberdeen Golf Club, and we look forward to welcoming you back! Come play with us on Monday, May 23, 2022!

18 holes of challenging golf, food, drinks, games and a silent auction – this tournament is a popular, relaxing day on the course for you, your friends and colleagues. Sponsorships are also available to promote your business.

Sign up your foursome—or reserve a sponsorship spot—today by visiting circleofconcern.org or complete the form in this newsletter.



Veggies & Videos at the Pantry!

Visit circleofconcern.org often to catch our new pantry videos, featuring Circle's own dietetics pros! Virginia – board member, pantry volunteer and registered dietician – joins with Becky, a dietetic technician who also serves as our pantry assistant, to produce quick videos about the wholesome foods we share and the nutritional impact it has on our families. Heart-healthy options, the inner beauty of greens, the greatness of grains – it's all here at Circle!

New Board Members

Welcome to our new board members –

Mark Barbee,
Mayank Chaudhary
and **Aaron Froehlich!**

They join the rest of our committed, skilled board of directors to guide Circle in year 55 of serving our neighbors.

To access this fiscal year's pool of Missouri Food Pantry Tax Credits for donations made in 2021, you must file your state tax return no later than April 15 (even if the state extends the general filing deadline).

Contact juliet@circleofconcern.org or cyndi@circleofconcern.org to find out more.

**April 15
is the
Day!**

Holiday Joy Appeal

On behalf of our clients, THANK YOU to everyone who made our Holiday Joys campaign a joyous addition to our clients' season! The families we serve received your kindness with such smiles and gratitude!



Trivial Matters

Save the date
Friday, September 23
for the return of Circle's popular Harvest Moon Trivia Night! We'll be back at Andre's West in Fenton with all the fun, challenges, games, auction and raffles you've come to expect. More info is coming!

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.

In Honor

(September 1 - December 31, 2021)

We are honored by your gifts to Circle in honor or in memory of your loved ones.
Thank you for including us in the care you show to them.

Theresa Aandahl's Christmas!
Bridget Albright
Kimberly Albright
Jim & Sally Allen
Anonymous
Julie & Marc Bahr
Ronald & Loretta Beckman's
 35th Wedding Anniversary
DeAnna Bender - Merry Christmas!
John Bender - Merry Christmas!
Todd Bender - Merry Christmas!
Barbara Bess
Maurice A Boehmer Jr's Birthday!
Braefield Residents Picnic
Marsha Bray
Wayne & Bobbie Brent's
 64th Wedding Anniversary
Carole Ann Brown
Barbara Brown for Christmas
Gene Brown for Christmas!
James Brown for Christmas!
Laura Brown for Christmas!
Mary Jo Butler & Family
The Rev Kevin Cameron
CCI Employee Fund
Nora Chibnall
Christmas!
Greg & Penny Christoffel - Thanksgiving
Circle of Concern
Circle of Concern Volunteers
Circle Staff & Their Dedicated Service
Circle's Autumn Appeal
Susan & Larry Clark,
 In Thanks & Happy Holidays!
David Combs
Community Christian Church
 Family & Friends
Community Christian Church Staff
Don & Billie Coon
Margaret Croner
Shelby & Cruz Croner, Grandchildren
Crossing Church Ministry Holiday Fund
Kayla Cully
Mike Dedic for Christmas!
Chris Delaney for Christmas!
Don & Sharon Delauter
Denise's Birthday
Peggy Duenke's 90th Birthday

Mary Ann Enlow
Ray Evans at Christmas
Feeding the Needy
Frank & Amanda
GHR Realtor's Wonderful Clients!
Goahler Family Christmas
Marquita Goldsmith
Parker Groves' 11th Birthday
Carol Gruen
Trudie Guinther's 70th Birthday!
Frank Haase
Steve & Becky Hager for Christmas!
Dean & Betty Hammann
Gwyn Hankinson
Richard Hansmann
Dawn Held
Dorothy Hewitt's 100th Birthday
Juliet Holden
Jennifer Homa
Bob & Mariann Hubbard
Humanity
Joyce Inman
Jen's Birthday
Jeremy's Christmas
Barb & Boyd Jones
M/M Michael Karl
M/M Randy Karl
Mrs Randy Karl's Birthday
Kate's Birthday
Alan & Sylvia Kaufman
M/M Ryan Kertz
Tom Koonce's 80th Birthday
Carla & Don Koss
Mark & Deborah Kumming
Bob & Connie Kuntz's 50th Anniversary
John Lauer - Merry Christmas!
Jane Lemonds
Liz's Birthday
Robert & Judith Lowrey
David & Colleen Marino
Jeff Matney
Tim Maxwell & Cynthia Barnett
Alberta McGilligan
Debbie McWard
Scotty Meyer's 90th Birthday
Jo Ellen Miller's Birthday
Marti Mueller's Birthday
Brad Murphy

Gerald & Karen Nash
The Rev Kevin Parkin Family for Christmas!
Keena Patel
Emma Jean Phillips' Birthday
Emma Jean Phillips for Christmas!
Mike & Sally Pierle
Gary & Becky Pool
Quad City Ramblers'
 50 Years of Friendship
Madeline Raile, Merry Christmas!
Jerry & Chris Range
James Rayburn's Birthday
Cindy & Dick Reinking
John & Joyce Ruiz
Richard & Barb Ruiz for Christmas!
Penny Ryan's Birthday
Sacred Heart Parish Choir
Salem in Ballwin United Methodist Church
Gene Schlatter
Laurie Schlatter
Owen Schmidt
Rosemary Schmist
Doug & Jennifer Schoen
Daisy Schrader's Birthday
Ben Schwartz
Sisters of Good Times
My Sisters, Nieces & Family
Dolly Spoerner
St Louis Parrothead Club
Angela Staples
Dave & Sandy Stark-Tenny for Christmas!
Stacey Stater-Bierk
Barb Stroh
Nancy Swoboda's Birthday
Team DKM
Those Who Need It Most
Linda & Chris Thumm
Ann & Rick Torbert
Judy Underhill
Ron Unger's 80th Birthday
Valley Park Meals on Wheels
West County Democrats
Bill Wiley Sr
Barb Woehle
YaYa's Christmas Celebration
M/M Gary Zenk's Anniversary

In Memory

(September 1 - December 31, 2021)

We are honored by your gifts to Circle in honor or in memory of your loved ones.
Thank you for including us in the care you show to them.

Martha & Earl Brewer	Louise DuMontier	Dr Elizabeth Korte	Rares Caledor Popa
Edith Lea Akers	Stephen Dunne	Elias J Kosednar	Karen Porter
Elnora Albano-Holman	Bernard Dyer	Jane Kostelc	Johnie & Rozella Rankins Jr
JoAnn Andres	Betty Dyer	Margaret Kuntz	Dennis Reichert
Andrew Michael	David Dyer	Patricia Kunza	Susan Richardson
Joseph "Butch" Antal	Linda Dyer	Mary Landworth	Steve Riesenmy
Arlon	Helen Earls	Gene Lane	Ed Rock
Atla	Donald Easter	Lorene Lane	Christine Royal
Ray & Becky Baker	John Edwards	Troy Lane	Laura Ruck
Sue Baker	Edward Fick	Joyce Large	Sammy
Ray & Bobbie Baniak	Gene Fleher	Randy Leach	Jennie Savage
Randall Barron	James Floyd	Esther & Andrew Lehmann	Nancy & Al Schekore
Virginia Barnett	Donald Follmer	Virginia Linenbroker	Marianne Schenck
Lisa Baumgartner	Lynda Foster	Mary Claire Link	Darwin Schlag
Eldon Beckham	Danny Franck	Rose & Sylvester Liss	Shirley Schoessel
Bella	George Franck	Mary Little	Donald Schrier
Margaret Mary "Peg" Bolen	Dan Fridrich	Patrick Livingston	Doc Schuckman
Paul Boling	Joyce Gamewell	Grace Loeffelman	George Schwartz
Allan Bollman	Georgiana Geroncin	Frederick & Agnes Loeffler	Kenneth Schweiss
Emanuel Buelter	Julie Gerwitz	Jean Luedde	James & Gerard Sharkey
Robert Buerk	Howard Allen Gleason	Hazel Mabrey	The Rev Richard Simonson
Gene Buescher	David Goalstone	Americanna Magness	Evelyn "Nanny" Snead
Gregory Bullard	Rodney Goessman	Pete Makulec	Snodgrass/Spencer
Peggy Joyce Burns	Lawrence Gene Goldfarb	Fred Manget	Loved Ones
Dolly & Anthony Busalaki	Janet Grass	Danny Wayne Martin	Sophie
Elaine Marie Butz	Eunice Gray	Scott Martin	Matthew Spector
Jerry Caesar	Mark Grewe	Janet Mazzuca	Dick & Helen Sponsel
Richard A Camden	Henry Grzywinski	Glenda McClain	Jenny Straszacker
Pat Castro	Robert Guinther	William F McNamara	Earl Stroud Jr
Trevor Clark	Neil Haake	Mandi Mesey	Sandra Suetterlin
Coco	Evlewt Groene Harman	Jane Messner	William Swanson
Robin Collins	Warren Hecht	Frank Meyer	Peggy Tayloe
Patricia M Combs	Irene Hecker	Dominic Mikal	Jennifer Terry
Connie Conrad	Rosemary Heitert	Bill Milla	Ralph & Wanda Theriac
Charles Cramer	Cathleen Heitmann	Thomas Morrow	Christopher Tuepker
Susan Cuddihee	Bonnie J Hill	Louise Mueller	Richard Van Leuven
Judy Curry	Herman Holtmeyer	Marlene Muir	Marilyn & Charles Walters
Shirley Uding Daubel	Linda Horrell	Janet Murphy	Robert Weiler
Patricia Devoti	Larry Howell, Family Member	Don Muse	Harry & Jean West
Clyde Dickerson	Charles W Hrebec	Helen Newberry	Rose & Bob Westermann
Kathryn Oppermann	Carl Hudson	Oliver E Newberry	Larry Wexelman
Dieckmann	Mae Hudson	Ralph Newberry	Randy White
Jim Dimitry	Tony Ikemeyer	Gertrude O'Neill	Laura Wind
Judi Dongoshi	Tony Kampeter	Joan Oppliger	Mary Helen Winsby
Millie Drabing	Jerry Kehlenbrink	Our Parents	Jerry Withers
Pat Drentlaw	Darlene Kellum	Flip & Arleen Pallozola	
William Duepner	John Kies	Wayne Peters	
Joan Duffey	Bob Klausmeier	John Pils	

Registration

Name: _____

Address/Zip: _____

Phone (required): _____

Email (required): _____

____ Golfer - \$150* ____ Foursome - \$600*
 ____ Sponsorship _____
 (level and amount- see descriptions)

Team Captain: _____

Email Address: _____

Player 1: _____

Email Address: _____

Player 2: _____

Email Address: _____

Player 3: _____

Email Address: _____

Player 4: _____

Email Address: _____

____ I'm unable to participate.
 Please accept my donation \$ _____

____ I have enclosed a check, payable to: Circle of Concern,
 and mail to Circle of Concern, P.O. Box 444, Valley Park,
 MO 63088

____ I wish to pay with my credit card. (Please mail form to
 Circle of Concern, P.O. Box 444, Valley Park, MO 63088)

Card number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Security #: _____

*For tax concerns, the value of goods and services received is \$75.00 per golfer (cart, greens fees and meals.) Payments made directly to Circle of Concern may be eligible for Missouri Food Pantry Tax Credits.

About Circle

Circle of Concern Food Pantry assists low-income individuals and families within the footprint of the Parkway, Rockwood, and Valley Park school districts and the 63026 ZIP code in Fenton. Primarily a food pantry, Circle shares wholesome foods, personal care items, diapers, detergent, and other necessities, and provides short-term emergency financial assistance to eligible households.

Circle helps struggling families with their immediate needs, but also invests in the future of its clients through coaching, counseling, career mentorship programs, college and trade school scholarships, and children's programs.

Circle serves approximately 650 families monthly with the help of a very small staff and a devoted team of community volunteers.



Circle of Concern
 112 St. Louis Avenue
 Valley Park, MO 63088

Phone: 636.861.2623
 Fax: 636.861.2296
 Email: circle@circleofconcern.org



Orthopedic Specialists

Proudly Sponsors

Circle of Concern's 16th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, May 23, 2022
 Aberdeen Golf Club



Circle of Concern
FOOD PANTRY

Event Info

Presented by:
St. Mark Presbyterian Church



Circle of Concern Charity Golf Tournament
Monday, May 23, 2022

8 a.m. — Check-in and light breakfast
9:30 a.m. — Shotgun start

Buffet and awards begin immediately
following tournament

Golfers will play a four-person scramble format with
varied flights and prizes.

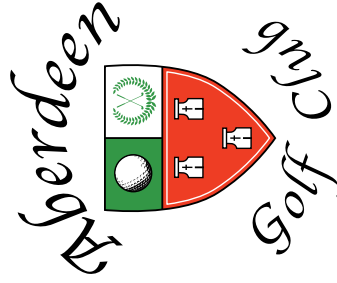
Raffle and auction items

\$150 per golfer / \$600 per foursome

CONTESTS

- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin
- \$10,000 Hole-in-One

About the Club



The Scottish Golf Experience

Aberdeen Golf Club is an 18 hole, par 72,
links style golf course. Our unique layout
features undulating zoysia and native grass
terrain, sod wall bunkering, two lakes, and bentgrass
greens against a picturesque backdrop of the Meramec
River bluffs.

The course is set up as a true shot-makers paradise.

Sponsorship

Go Orange Sponsors: \$3,000

The premier sponsorship is aptly named "Go Orange" because orange is the designated color representing hunger awareness. Donors at this level will have their signage displayed throughout the clubhouse and the opportunity to hang a company banner in the dining room. Registration for one foursome is also included at this level.

Hydration Sponsors: \$1,500

Donors at this level will have the logo and promotional message on each tournament beverage cart and signage located near drink coolers at tee boxes.

Par Three Sponsors: \$500

Donors will have signs with their logo and promotional message featured near the tee boxes on all four "closest to the pin" par 3 holes.

Putting Sponsors: \$300

Donor's logo and promotional message will greet each golfer on the approach to the practice green.

Hole Sponsors: \$150

Donors will have signs with their logo and promotional message featured at a tee box at one of the holes on the course.





Circle of Concern FOOD PANTRY

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

NONPROFIT
AUTO
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST LOUIS, MO
PERMIT NO. 3252

The State of the Circle

Board of Directors:

Dolores Rodenberg
PRESIDENT

Allison Love
VICE PRESIDENT

Cindy Wolk
SECRETARY

Bernie Hillermann
TREASURER

Mark Barbee
Mayank Chaudhary
Thomas Chibnall
Aaron Froehlich
Brandi Hamm
Virginia Pearson
Edie Quick

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.



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

Important Dates:



April 9	April Showers personal care item collection
April 15	Circle closed for spring holiday
May 23	Circle of Concern Golf Tournament at Aberdeen
May 30	Circle closed for Memorial Day
June 17	Benefit Dinner at El Toluco
July 4	Circle Closed for Independence Day
July 25	Virtual Board Meeting
September 23	Harvest Moon Trivia is Back!

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
Nancy Bauer , Volunteer/Special Events Director	nancy@circleofconcern.org ext. 113
Jenny Lawrence , Program Director	jenny@circleofconcern.org ext. 108