February 2020

2019 Bicycle Project

In November of 2018, I was contacted by the City of Bonne Terre regarding a group of abandoned and unclaimed bicycles that had to be moved from city storage. I was told they had offered them to other organizations and would be sent to the scrapper if we didn’t want them. I asked to take a look at the bikes, and the city accommodated. I was amazed at the quality of some of the bicycles and told the city officials that I would find some way to utilize them.

Remembering a project at the Potosi Correctional Center, which refurbished bicycles for a Washington County Christmas project, I contacted the ERDCC at Bonne Terre to see if they might be interested in doing the project with these bicycles. I was contacted by Julie Bell and she stated she would talk with staff about the potential of doing the bicycle repair project. After a couple of weeks I was told we had a green light for the work to begin. We then scheduled a meeting in late January for Ms. Bell, Elizabeth Gammon and Jeremy Lynn to discuss how to proceed. It was decided that the bicycles could be delivered starting in February.

The Bonne Terre maintenance crew began transporting the bicycles to ERDCC in February. I believe all bikes were on site by early summer. The justice involved individuals under the supervision of ERDCC staff completed the repairs and reconditioning of the bicycles.

In May of 2019, we were contacted to make the first pick-up of bicycles. Most of this group of approximately 20 bikes were delivered to East Missouri Action Agency and the “Community Supervision Center” at the Farmington Correctional Center. EMAA’s Head Start program distributed the smaller bikes to some of their families. The adult sized bicycles delivered to the Community Supervision Center were utilized by justice involved individuals in their search for and transportation to employment. For most of these individuals, these bikes are their only source of transportation.

Over the summer, the Partnership took delivery of the rest of the bikes and distributed some directly from the office, but again most went directly to the delivery points listed above. We hope to do this project again in the future as it put the bikes to good use and provided over 60 individuals with much needed transportation.

A big thanks goes out to the City of Bonne Terre, The Eastern Reception Diagnostic and Correctional Center Staff and Inmates who completed the repairs, East Missouri Action Agency, Community Supervision Center and my volunteer helper, Red Barton.

Bill Bunch, Executive Director
SFC Community Partnership
SAVE THE DATE! FAMILY HEALTH EXPO
April 25, 2020
New details headed your way SOON!

SEMO ASSETS
A program that turns dreams into realities.

Is your dream...

Home-ownership
Small Business venture
Increasing Education

We can help you!

The SEMO Assets Program helps low-income families to save money to be used in one of three ways: for the down payment on their first house, for post-secondary education expenses, or for small business capital. The money the family saves will be deposited into an Individual Development Account (IDA) and matched by EMAA.

Future home-owners could earn up to $5,000 by saving only $1,000 of your own income.
Small Business and Post-secondary Education savers can earn up to $4,500 by saving only $500.

Program Qualifications include:
Annual incomes that are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
Six month minimum enrollment
At least one working adult in the home
Commitment to participate in the program
Participation in Financial Literacy workshops (FREE)

Contact us to learn more about the program!
403 Parkway Drive, PO Box 308
Park Hills, MO 63601
Phone (573) 431-5191 x.1128
Fax (573) 431-7377
thinch@eastmoaa.org

This project/program is funded 61% at $47,700 by federal funds and 39% at $30,000 by nongovernmental sources for a total amount of $77,700. The federal funds are received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provided by the Missouri Department of Social Services, Family Support Division and Administration for Children and Families.
Valentine’s Day Pretzels Fundraiser for SEMO Family Violence Council

The Shelter Ladies are at it again! It’s time to order sweets for your Sweetheart! You can get 6 delicious, candy-coated pretzel rods for just $5.00! Orders will be delivered on February 14th. Call 573-358-3913 to make your order. All proceeds go to SEMO Family Violence Council.

East Missouri Action Agency Upcoming Events:

- EMAA announced that the **Housing Rental Assistance** waiting list will open on February 13th at 8 a.m. You can register online at eastmoaa.org or in person at 403 Parkway Dr. in Park Hills. It is advised that you sign up as early as possible as the list often fills up before 9 a.m.
- **EMAA Tax Assistance** begins on February 3rd and goes until April 15th at the Outreach Office on 903 E. Chestnut St. in Desloge. This is a free service to those who are single, making $29,000 or married, making $40,000 or less.

GriefShare Support Group Starts

GriefShare, a grief support group, is now being offered by Grace Presbyterian Fellowship. They are located at 1034 Karsch Blvd. in Farmington. The classes begin on Sunday, February 2, and will be a 13-week support group that methodically looks at the reality of grief, the hard questions of grief and how to live with grief.

It is a Faith-based program and all are welcome. The cost of the 13-week group is $15 per person and will be on Sunday evenings from 6-8 p.m. Weekly seminar topics are:

- Is this normal?
- Challenges of Grief
- The Journey of Grief Parts 1 & 2
- Grief and Your Relationships
- Why?
- Guilt and Anger
- Complicating Factors
- Stuck
- Lessons of Grief Parts 1 & 2
- Heaven
- What Do I Live for Now?

You are welcome to begin attending the GriefShare group at any point. Each session is “self-contained,” so you do not have to attend in sequence. You will be able to pick up any sessions you missed in our next 13-week cycle.

**What to Expect**

At the weekly meetings, you’ll find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an ‘oasis’ on your long journey through grief. There are three key parts to your GriefShare experience:

- **Video Seminar** - Encouraging, information-packed videos featuring leading grief recovery experts
- **Support Group** - Small group discussion about the weekly video content
- **Workbook** - Journaling and personal study exercises that reinforce the weekly session topics

For more information about the program, go to www.griefshare.org

To contact Grace Presbyterian Fellowship, call 573-212-7637 or email gracepresp fellowship@gmail.com.
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Al Sullivan - SFC IDA
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Becky Yount - West County School District

RECURRING CLASSES & SUPPORT GROUPS

♦ FREE CLASSES OFFERED BY PARKLAND HEALTH CENTER:
  => Childbirth Classes Offered monthly. Open to any expectant parents. Visit parklandhealthcenter.org/baby for current schedule and registration.
  => Breastfeeding Classes Offered monthly. Open to any new or expectant mom. Visit parklandhealthcenter.org/baby for current schedule and registration.
  => Sibling Classes Offered monthly. Open to any parents and their children. Visit parklandhealthcenter.org/baby for current schedule and registration.
  => Diabetes Self-Management Class 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 1-3 p.m. at the Farmington Public Library. For more information, visit parklandhealthcenter.org or call 760-8396. Open to all ages.

♦ Life After Loss Support Group: Sponsored by Heart & Soul Hospice, the group is a safe place to process grief, learn healthy coping skills & connect with others. Open to public. 3rd Thursday each month, 4:30-6:00 p.m. at 412 Cayce St., Farmington. Please call 756-7066 or email farmingtonhospice@pmma.org.

♦ NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group & Family Support Group: Both meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the LIFE Center for Independent Living, 725 E. Karsch Blvd., Farmington. Call 573-701-4185 for more information. www.nami.org.
Thank You!

We would like to give special recognition to those who donated toys and sponsored, taking the time to shop from individual wish lists for 633 children.

A very special, heartfelt thank you to all of our amazing volunteers; we could not do this without you.

Season of Hope 2019
Serving 1,292 Children in 470 Families!

And to those we’ve inadvertently failed to mention— THANK YOU!


Turn Page to see List of Financial Contributors...
Thank You!

To the many friends and neighbors who were financial contributors to

Season of Hope 2019

Serving 1,292 Children in 470 Families!

And to those we’ve inadvertently failed to mention— THANK YOU!