



JULIE CENTER NEWS

Purpose

Winter 2021

 "Rivers belong where they can ramble
Eagles belong where they can fly
I've got to be where my spirit can run free
Gotta find my corner, of the sky."

In the musical *Pippin* the main character is an unfulfilled and discouraged young man. He sings this song in Act 1 and then sets out to find meaning and an extraordinary life. He remains unfulfilled until he helps a woman and her son. Up until that point, he could not find a purpose for his life because he could not see beyond himself. He was a very self-centered and arrogant man. It was only through helping and thinking of someone other than himself that he finds his purpose. In this ordinary life, the man who was once lonely, lost, and sad becomes happy. Pippin would not have fared very well this

past year and lock down would have been exceedingly difficult for him. Just in time, he gets lucky and realizes that a life working with and for others is a pretty happy life. Activist Dorothy Day said, "We have all known the long loneliness and we have found the answer is community." The desire to care for others is in all of us. The need to serve others and ourselves. Simple acts of kindness like bagging groceries, dropping off food, or setting up WiFi for a neighbor help us feel less alone and more connected. Cooking a warm nutritious meal for your family or a stranger is an act full of purpose and meaning. We have learned a greatly deal during this pandemic period and the most important one is how we care for each other. The staff and volunteers of the Julie Community Center are committed and caring. During this time, they have continued to ensure that folks are connected to health care and have enough food and essentials. They are the backbone of the center and keep us grounded in our mission. Thank you for your kindness and service. A big thank you goes out to Mix Church on E. Baltimore Street whose congregation prepared breakfast and lunch bags for families from April through June and then distributed fresh meat, poultry, and vegetables.

They also supplied warm dinners to the residents of Apostolic Towers. They are a blessing to the community. Thank you x 1000! The next thank you goes out to Ismael Galindo and his crew. They have transformed the center to ensure the building is safe and healthy for decades to come. Mil gracias!

 "Lean on me when you're not strong and I'll be your friend,
I'll help you carry on,
For it won't be long till I'm going need somebody to lean on."

Peace, love, laughter, and hot chocolate!



The President's Corner

The Julie Community Center is committed to serving its neighbors in South East Baltimore. At the heart of the center is a committed staff, board, and volunteers that have helped us support the neighborhood during the pandemic. Even through COVID-19, the center has been able to serve the community by providing free meals every Friday and raising money for rental assistance for our neighbors in need.

The Julie Center has also gone through a period of change during the pandemic. We have been doing some renovations at the center. We wanted to make it safer for



groups to social distance, and we wanted to give our new partners, Patterson Park Music Academy, a beautiful place to call home. We are excited to have lovely music coming from our center this year. We also have a new website! Please go to <https://www.thejuliecommunitycenter.org/> to stay up to date on center activities.

The Julie Center has always worked to understand the needs of those in our community. To be true to this mission, we want to hear from you; listen, and incorporate your ideas, suggestions, and feedback. Please go to our new website to fill out our community needs assessment so we can learn how to best help you! This year our focus is to continue our partnership with our neighboring schools, as families, teachers, and students, look for support during the pandemic, expand our neighborhood engagement, and develop programs and community events that uplift our neighborhood.

To all of our family and friends, thank you for your continued support! Stay healthy and safe!



Perri Carroll
Board President

Program News

Social Services Outreach

The wonderful Maryvale Prep students prepared 130 Thanksgiving baskets. Families from our local elementary and middle schools, Commodore John Rogers, Tench Tilghman, and Wolfe Street Academy as well as 20 senior residents at Apostolic Towers were the recipients of this wonderful gift. Through the generosity of the students, the pantry at *Gift of Hope* was stocked for the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. Thanks again to Maryvale Prep and the wonderful students as well as to Services Outreach Coordinator, Dominique Allen!

Through the kindness of an anonymous donor, 5 families received Christmas baskets that included a whole chicken roaster and fresh vegetables. Thank you for your kindness and generosity. 4 families from Wolfe Street Academy received a \$100 gift card for Aldi's from a wonderful couple. Thank you Dave and Pat!

Our University of Maryland Social Work Intern, Nathalie Werebe, started a GoFundMe campaign in December to raise funds to assist families with rent, utilities, and housing. She raised \$3000. All funds went to families from Commodore

John Rogers and Tench Tilghman. Brava Nathalie!!

Adult Education

Theodore LaPerre, last year's Americorps volunteer, has passed the baton to Jack Cashmere. Last program year Theodore provided GED instruction and worked with 8 students from the freshman class at Dunbar High School. They worked on career development and goal setting. He also was able to provide math and language arts tutoring to 4th graders virtually. Good luck Theodore in your new endeavors.

New Americorps Volunteer

Greetings! My name is John Cashmere, and I'm the new adult education instructor for the Julie Community Center. I'll be responsible for rejuvenating the Center's GED preparation program, expanding adult literacy opportunities, and developing English as a Second Language programming for any interested community members. As with past adult education specialists at the Julie Center, I am part of Notre Dame Mission Volunteers, the direct-impact branch of AmeriCorps founded by the Sisters of Notre Dame. Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, I was an English teacher in Ecuador with the U.S Peace Corps. I'm excited to bring

my knowledge as an educator and experience in service to Baltimore, and I'm looking forward to helping the Julie Center continue to serve the community's needs, even as we battle this pandemic. Outside of my professional duties, I'm a lifelong Marylander, Georgetown Hoya, rugby player, and DC sports fan. You can refer anyone interested in our adult education programs to jacash781@gmail.com, or reach out for an update or advice.

Health Outreach

Health Coordinator, Lizzy Spradley's, focused attention in 2020 was supporting the health and case management needs of individuals receiving suboxone treatment at local mobile health vans. Lizzy worked with 160 individuals to help address their social, financial, and health needs. Thank you Lizzy.

Workforce Readiness

We are currently in the process of recruiting and interviewing for the next Child Care Training Program class. Classes will begin at the end of February.

Youth Activities

Due to the pandemic, we were unable to hold our Summer Peace Camp nor the Culinary Camp. After school programs are also on hold. The Girl Scout Troop

continues to meet virtually. Once we have made our way through this pandemic the joyful cacophony of children's voices will once again fill the center.



CENTER NEWS



Hats off to Sr. Tracy Dill for her tireless determination to launch the Julie Community Center website. This has been years in the making. Thank you Sr. Tracy for your dedication and perseverance. For the last several years she has been working with Rosie Van Schoor of *Rosie's Creative, LLC* to design and launch the site. We have been catapulted into the 21st century! Check out our FaceBook and Instagram sites too.



We are pleased and extremely excited to announce our new partnership with the Patterson Park Academy of Music. The Academy will be utilizing the newly renovated 3rd floor. Please check out their website for class information, www.pattersonparkmusic.com.

Music enriches the lives of children, decreases stress, and studies have shown that music improves

concentration and academic success. It is also a fun time! We will be setting up a scholarship fund to assist families in paying for the lessons. More information about the fund will be on our website soon.



As much as I love the sound of music in the air at the center, the sound of construction has been heavenly! In the summer we embarked on making needed repairs to the building. The basement now has ample storage for food and supplies and space for mountain bikes. The kitchen received a fresh coat of paint and a new floor as well as two storage areas for baking sheets and supplies that are easily accessible for the kids in the Culinary Camp. The Patterson Park Academy of Music are enjoying their new home on the newly renovated 3rd floor. It is such a homey, creative, and inviting space. The most recent repairs and spruce up has occurred in the 2nd floor computer room. It is amazing what paint, a new floor, and some organization can accomplish. It is a welcoming space for learning. Thanks again to Ismael Galindo and crew for their talent and hard work. Let me know if you need work done around your home. I highly recommend this team.

THANKS!

The Mayor & City Council
of Baltimore

The Baker-King Fund

T. Rowe Price Foundation
-Matching Gifts

Johns Hopkins Health System
Federal Hill Smiles

--Catholic Community of
South Baltimore

--Holy Trinity Russian
Orthodox Church

--Our Lady of the Angels
Church

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

-Cable Street Community

-Fort Street Community

-Glen Avenue Community

-SNDdeN Geralate

-SNDdeN TriProvince

Development Program

-SNDdeN East-West Province

Maryvale Preparatory School

Notre Dame Mission

Volunteers

Gayle and Craig Adams*

Patricia Babington

Valerie & Joseph

Baumgartner*

Carolyn & John Boitnott*

Mike Burdinski

Dennis Carlson & Beulah

Downing

Damiana Chavez

Msgr. Paul C. Cook

Blaise D'Ambrosio

Sharon Yandian & Peter

Vogel

Belinda Davis

Ellen Kiel

Sr. Mary McFadden, SND

Sr. Edith Ann Kane

Charles & Lydia Duff

Anita Pilch & Matt Lesko

Eileen Robinson

Morris Carroll

Joy Lloyd-Montomery

Aaron Litz

Nova Getz & Oliver Baron

J Allan Riorda

Ashley Lucci

Taylor Lucci

Tavera Perry

Gepilla Asfaro

Bryn Weber

Josh Peeling

Turian Brown

James Halcott

Carm & John Dorsey

Jeanne Dorsey

Teresa Cattaneo

Phillip & Karen Earley

Lori Edwards

Beth Russo

Barbara Ann English, SND

Theresa Graves

Karyn and Don Haasen

Carol A. Hartke

Cynthia Hypki

Alexis Johns & Annette

Rovito

Brian Judy

Margaret Judy & Family

Lisa Knickmeyer

Reisa Tomlinson

Hayley Carpentar

LaTonya Young-Clayborne

Susan Ely

Denise Markoff, DDS

Janet Mooney & Kurt

Schiller

Barbara M. Moore*

Mollie Fein

Mary Ellen & Bernard

O'Neill

George & Shirley Sgouros

Patrice Moore & Arthur

Drought

Jay & Michelle Naish

Doron & Jaz Erenberg

Laura & Tony Norris

Brian & Colleen Phebus

Rebecca Coppola

David and Pat Phoebus*

Sonia Quezada

Timothy Reuling

Mary Rippey

Jeanne Sears

Theresa Skepton

Mike & Rosemary Walbert

Ann Wilson*

*Outstanding Support

More THANKS!

Special THANKS for generous
support and services:

- Julie Center Board members
- Fell's Point Corner Theatre
- Wolfe Street Academy
- Commodore John Rogers School
- Tench Tilghman Elem/Middle School
- St. Vincent de Paul Head Start Program
- Carolyn Geraghty & Team
- Web support: Tracy Dill, SND
- Instituto de Educación Infantil

ANNUAL AWARDS

Julie Community Center
Annual Awards were
postponed until Spring 2021

Staff: 2020-21:

Belinda Davis Elizabeth Spradley

Dominique Allen Jack Chasmere

Nathalie Werebe Laura Syron

Julie Center Board:

2020-21

President: Perri Carroll

Vice-President: Janelle Lawrence

Secretary: Tiffany Long

Treasurer: Brian Judy

Therese Dill, SND

Ariel Demas

Director: Laura Syron



Remember the **Golden Rule:**

Treat others the way you
want to be treated!



Julie Community Center. 100 S. Washington Street. Baltimore, MD 21231. 410-675-6300

www.thejuliecommunitycenter.org