



A sponsored ministry of Sisters
of Mercy, New York,
Pennsylvania, Pacific West

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Dolores Mosakowski
Shirley Skiff

Volunteer Opportunities:

Contact Sr. Michele at 898-0167

- Adult mentors
- Youth programming
- Event/fundraiser committee members
- Environmental initiatives
- Fieldtrips
- Christmas Play/Store
- Thanksgiving distribution

Christmas Wish List:

- **Christmas Gifts—for House of Mercy youth store- \$1-\$5**
- Gift cards for emergency food
- Gift bags for Santa's Christmas Shop

Fall 2017 Newsletter



House of Mercy 2005 Woodlawn Ave Erie, PA 16510 www.houseofmercyerie.org



Dear friends,

We had a great summer with lots of activities. **The youth favorites included going to Waldameer and the Waterworld!** For some it was their first time. I am amazed at how much they appreciate the Erie activities. Weekly fieldtrips would not have been possible without your generosity.

Erie Gives 2017 was the best yet! The House of Mercy had 49 donors (10 of which were new donors). We raised \$4795.08. The Sisters of Mercy were our largest donor giving \$1000. Thanks to all who supported the House of Mercy. After several years of saving and the support of the Sisters of Mercy **the House of Mercy was able to purchase a 2016 Dodge Grand Caravan** for ministry. Your gift will ensure that we can provide opportunities for youth and families and distributed needed donations.

During September, **over 100 youth were registered and signed up for Christmas gifts.** Many families also requested a Thanksgiving food box. We depend on your support during the holiday season especially!

Please join us for our **2nd TECHNO Bingo on Saturday, Nov 11, 2017** at the Harborcreek Social Hall. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased on-line at Eventbrite.com or by contacting Sr. Michele at 814-898-0167. If you order 5 tickets on-line at the same time, you can qualify for a free ticket. Gather your friends and come out to win great electronic prizes for yourself or for Christmas gifts! See our poster on the back for all the details. This is a great fundraiser because electronics are something many families in our neighborhood lack. One middle school boy recently asked if he could "borrow" a tablet to take home because he didn't have one! **Your participation will provide a library of electronics and assist with our Christmas needs.**

Every year at Christmas we provide a Christmas Store for youth in our area to select and wrap four new gifts for family members. We usually serve about 100 kids. This year we are planning on hosting the **Santa's Shop at Diehl Elementary where 500 kids will benefit.** We really need your help! Please collect new items valued \$1-\$5 for mom, dad, brother or sister or send your financial gift so we can purchase what is still needed after we receive donations. Contact Sr. Michele to volunteer as a shopper assistant or gift wrapper.

Gratefully,
Sr. Michele Schroeck, RSM, House of Mercy Director



Thank you Erie Gives!

Your generosity enabled us to purchase a new van and provide even more opportunities for the youth we serve!



Thanks to **Plyler Entry Systems** for donating Seawolves tickets for our kids to enjoy!



These youth loved learning how to bake cookies! (They were delicious!)



After patiently waiting, our butterfly finally emerged and we got to set it free!



Thanks to **Jackie Orelski** and the **25 PRI volunteers** that readied our garden for winter!

We'd like to welcome our new VISTA, Miss Meg to the House of Mercy!



Thanks to the over 25 Mercurhurst volunteers for helping with our programs! Here are our **NEW** times for our after-school programs:

Homework Help:

M-Th 3:30-4:30—Middle/High

M-Th 4:30-5:30—Elem.

Enrichment

M-Th 6-7—Elem.

M&W 7-8—High School
T&Th 7-8 Middle



Betty and Bill Filipkowski and others collect backpacks all year! Your donations enable our youth to start the school year off right.

Thanks to Mary May and the Catholic Daughters of America for donating over \$900 worth of school supplies, we were able to distribute 45 backpacks to elementary, middle and high school youth!



The elementary youth were able to enjoy a fun-filled field trip to Port Farms on Sept 18, 2017!



Saturday Nov. 11, 2017

Harborcreek Social Hall
7275 Buffalo Rd.



Cost:
\$25/person

Purchase tickets at
Eventbrite.com

TECHNO
BINGO

Doors open
at 5:30pm

Games begin
at 7pm

Food and drinks
available
for purchase

Wine and beer
tickets available

Snacks
permitted

NO outside
alcohol

*Must be 21
to attend*



16 Games
9 Cards per
game

50/50
Raffle

Gift
Auction

PRIZES INCLUDE:

Activity Tracker*

Smart TV*

Laptop*

*One winner per game

Tablet

Wireless Headphones

Wireless Speakers

Consolation and Door Prizes
will be Best Buy gift cards

For more info check out:
facebook.com/HouseofMercyErie
or call Sr. Michele at 814-898-0167



HOUSE of MERCY

2005 Woodlawn Ave Erie, PA

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A place of welcome hospitality for an east side Erie neighborhood, the House of Mercy, established and sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, promotes a healthy neighborhood by providing activities and advocacy that engage children in positive experiences for them and their neighborhood.

The Eastside Grassroots Coalition, supported by the House of Mercy and the UECDL now has regular neighborhood meetings at the JFK Kids Café Center on the second Thursday of each month from 6:30-8:00pm. The November meeting will be Nov 2nd so neighbors and community members may hear from Kathy Dalkemper and Joe Schember before the election. Hope to see you there!

EGC boundaries include Buffalo Rd- Eastside Connector- McClelland and E 12th St.

The EGC prioritized community needs including:

- ◆ Street Safety and Road Conditions
- ◆ Opportunities for Young Adults and Jobs
- ◆ Vacant Lots, Blight, and Illegal Dumping
- ◆ Neighborhood Safety and Crime



We published our first Report and Action Plan in May 2017! It can be accessed on-line at www.goo.gl/B6wibJ

EASTSIDE GRASSROOTS COALITION

Buffalo Rd - Eastside Connector - McClelland - E 12th St

During the end of the August House of Mercy program, youth supported by an Erie Community Foundation Grant and trained by Code Enforcement surveyed 670 properties along Buffalo Rd and the two blocks north and south from East Ave to McClelland to determine housing conditions and repair needs. In addition, House of Mercy youth, Mercyhurst University students, and Gannon Gives volunteers surveyed each household in the target area to determine needs and hopes.

The Sisters of Mercy, House of Mercy applied for the Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credit Program. Thanks to **Northwest Savings Bank** for pledging \$25,000 to provide at least five housing improvement grants of \$5000 to five low-income families in the target area. Applications will be available in Jan. 2018.

The UECDL is currently working on a Planned Urban Garden Project.