

Sisters of Mercy, New York,  
Pennsylvania, Pacific West

### Advisory Board 2015

**Sr. Lisa Mary McCartney, RSM**  
Sponsorship Council Liaison

Sr. Michele Schroeck, RSM  
*Director of House of Mercy*  
Ruth Alberstadt  
Julia Bandecca  
Sr. Rita Brocke, RSM  
Sheila Coon  
Barbara Edwards  
Carla Ihli  
Christine Lundt  
Chabi Subedi  
Mary Zenner  
Eileen Zinchiak

### 2015 Mercyhood Members

#### Presidential level

William Hilbert Jr.  
Matthew and Anne Marie Schroeck

#### Member level

Doris Adams  
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bergkessel  
Mr. and Mrs. Charley Biggs  
Jim and Kathy Dammeyer  
Marie Desser  
Marge Ferrick  
Rev. John B. Jacquel  
Linda Johnson  
Kaveney family  
Allene Kraus  
Robert Quinn  
Carolyn Ruth  
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Schroeck  
Ken and Leslie Schroeck  
Kathleen Schroeck  
Mr. and Mrs. James Toohey  
Jean Vickey  
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Whitman

Mercyhood members provide an annual gift of membership and commitment to assist the House of Mercy.

#### 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:

- \$1-\$5 value new items for Christmas store
- \$20 gift cards for teens/parents
- New coats, gloves/mittens, boots
- Food gift certificates

100% of all proceeds donated to the Sisters of Mercy, House of Mercy, go directly meet the needs of youth and their families in the House of Mercy neighborhood.



HOUSE of MERCY



2005 WOODLAWN AVE. ERIE, PA 16510  
(814)-898-0167 WWW.HOUSEOFMERCYERIE.ORG  
SPONSORED MINISTRY OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY  
NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA PACIFIC WEST COMMUNITY  
FALL/CHRISTMAS 2015

## Activities and Advocacy

Thanks to **Betty and Bill Filipkowski, Janet Peters and other friends of the House of Mercy**, we were able to distribute over 40 backpacks filled with supplies for House of Mercy participants.

Thanks to **Mary May and the Catholic Daughters of America**, we have over 40 birthday bags to make a child's day special.



Thanks to Home Depot, City of God Foundation, House of Mercy VISTA, Elisha Helgen, master gardeners, Mike, Ellen and Jackie we increased our House of Mercy Crenshaw Garden yield by 400% We raised 25 beds of vegetables and **shared them with neighbors, House of Mercy participants, Mercy Center for Women, and Second Harvest Food Bank.** Thanks Gannon Give volunteers for helping us prepare the garden for winter.

\$2723.43 was raised by 30 donors who gave to the House of Mercy through Erie Gives.

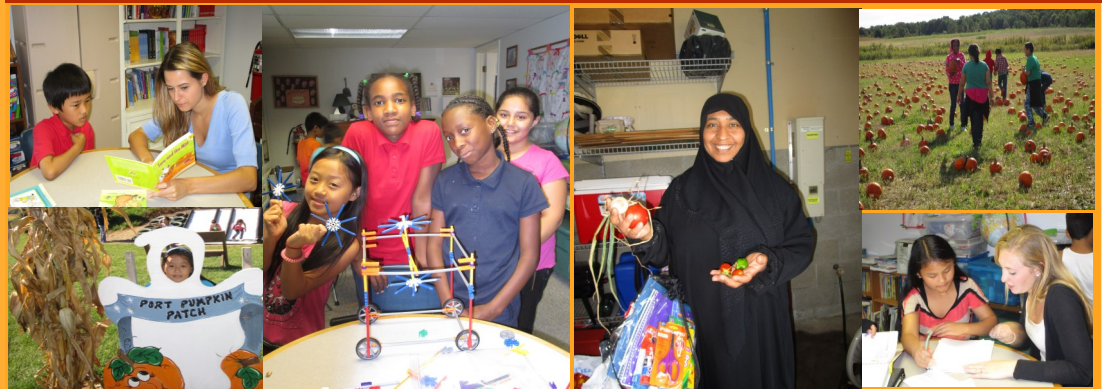
Thanks to **Ms. Michelle Ahrens, winner of the Junior Achievement Youth Volunteer of the Year Award**, we were able to have an unforgettable day at Waldameer, and Darien Lake. How do you like our House of Mercy t-shirts?



Waldameer

This summer we were able to provide a healthy lunch to all our participants. During the school year we offer homework assistance on Mon. and Tues. and evening activities on Wed and Thurs.

When youth finish homework they enjoy reading a book, playing educational games on 10 Kindle Fires (donated by the Erie Women's Fund) and learning STEM skills by building with K'NEX kits. This fall we enjoyed a field trip to Port Farms and the Erie Zoo Boo. Our middle and high school groups have been exploring college campuses.



This year we have started parent speaker nights on Mondays once a month. We were happy to have St. Martin Center Housing Program provide information to interested families on Oct 5th.

# Holiday Opportunities

## Thanksgiving

The need is greater than ever this year. We have **33 families** registered for a **Thanksgiving Basket** provided by **Second Harvest Food Bank on November 24, 2014**. Additionally, in honor of parent conferences and to encourage good behavior, **Santa's Helpers** will provide children ages 1-10 with a wooden toy.



St. Martin Center will provide Christmas gifts for children under 12. This year many parents are requesting boots or shoes. We would like to provide a \$20 gift for our youth ages 12-17, most of whom are the ones who assist their parents with completing the forms, especially in immigrant families. MPS has pledged to help but we need YOU too.

If we raise enough, we can offer a food gift card to needy families.

Your gift will help us keep giving during the long winter months.



We also have our annual **Christmas Play on Tuesday, December 8 at 5:00pm at the JFK Center**. House of Mercy youth get to learn the real meaning of Christmas and be the "star" of the show! **Please join us!**



Christmas Play



HOUSE of MERCY

2005 Woodlawn Ave Erie, PA  
16510

Non Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Erie, PA  
Permit No. 22

*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 the and their neighborhood.*

## Christmas

While most of the families we serve are **Hindu or Muslim**, they are surrounded by images of **consumerism at Christmas!** The House of Mercy strives to empower youth to **give** and not just receive..

We will have our annual **Christmas Store at the JFK Center on Thursday, December 10, 2015 from 3-6pm**. Every child is able to select a new gift for each family member. At this time we have fewer gifts than other years. We are especially in need of \$1.00 new items for moms, dads, brothers and sisters.

We are also in need of **volunteers:** wrappers, shopping assistants and cashiers for that day. **Can you HELP children understand the true meaning of Christmas?**



Christmas Shopping  
For Family

During the cold, winter weather, many children walk to school without boots, **mittens, hats, or warm coats**. We would like to provide every participant with a \$20 gift card to purchase winter boots. **Will you help?**

Donations may be sent  
to:  
House of Mercy  
2005 Woodlawn Ave.  
Erie, PA 16510  
Or call us with  
any questions:  
(814) 898-0167