



CMR NEWS & VIEWS

Community Ministries of Rockville

NOVEMBER 2018

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THANK YOU TO OUR THANKSGIVING DONORS

This year, our supporters provided Thanksgiving meal baskets to give over 350 families in our community the makings for a beautiful holiday gathering! Please say thank you to these groups as well as the many others who give of their time, talent and treasure every year.



American Insurance Trust * Early, Cassidy & Schilling, LLC
 Holton-Arms School * Landon School * Living Faith Lutheran Church
 Potomac United Methodist Church * Rockville Presbyterian Church
 Rockville United Methodist Church * St. Barnabus Indian Orthodox Mission
 St. Elizabeth Catholic Church * Stein Sperling Bennett De Jong Driscoll PC
 Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville

Some of our many Thanksgiving volunteers:

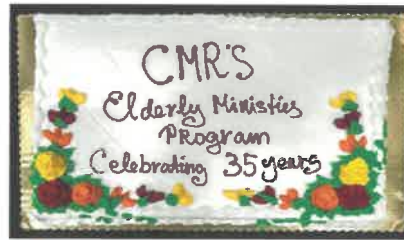


ELDERLY MINISTRIES CELEBRATES 35 YEARS

On Friday, November 9, Elderly Ministries celebrated 35 years of service to seniors living in the City of Rockville. All clients of CMR's Elderly Ministries Program are lower income residents who are able to remain in their own homes when they receive some assistance.

Elderly Ministries provides Home Care Services (light housekeeping, laundry, changing bed linens, personal hygiene, etc.) as well as Safe and Secure Services (life alert systems, food delivery, replacement of appliances, handyman services, etc.) so our clients can continue to live safely, comfortably and independently.

Attendees at the luncheon included clients, volunteers, nonprofit partners, City of Rockville partners, former staff, funders, and many others who have helped shape and support the program for three and a half decades. Here are some memories of the afternoon:



Please join CMR staff and volunteers in saying "We will miss you" to Program Director Andrea Rogers who has left CMR to continue working with seniors in Rockville through the Rockville Senior Center. Please welcome Will Mohan who continues the tradition of caring service to the elderly in our program as our new Elderly Ministries Program Manager. He can be reached at WMohan@CMRocks.org

NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC SINGERS OFFER THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT TO BENEFIT CMR

Join supporters and staff of CMR at "THE JOYS OF CHRISTMAS featuring the NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC SINGERS" at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 15, 2018. This annual event, held at Christ Episcopal Church is free of charge, but free will donations for CMR's 5 programs is strongly encouraged. This concert is always a successful fundraiser and a favorite holiday tradition for many in our community.

A processional and candlelight recessional frame this concert, "The Joys of Christmas", featuring a range of Renaissance to Contemporary music styles for choir. A wide variety of familiar holiday music is planned, including John Rutter's "Star Carol", Ola Gjeilo's "The Holly and the Ivy", and the traditional audience sing-a-long. Don't let the names of these pieces of music scare you. It is a lovely concert and always includes some pieces with which the audience is familiar. And there is a request for some simple audience participation near the end of the evening!

The National Philharmonic Singers, conducted by Stan Engebretson and Victoria Gau, is a select group of 25 singers associated with the National Philharmonic at Strathmore. The Singers perform featured concerts throughout Montgomery County. This is their 13th year at Christ Episcopal Church for their holiday program to benefit CMR. [Concert Link](#)



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO MAKE THE HOLIDAYS BRIGHT for CMR Clients



DONATE TOYS AND GIFTCARDS: Toys for children ages 0 - 12 years, recommended value of \$20 - \$30 each. Gift cards to stores like Target, and TJ Maxx for teen children. Recommended value of \$20 - \$30 each. CMR serves as a zip code coordinator through the Montgomery County Holiday Giving Program. The toys and gifts the 150+ children receive through CMR for the holidays are often the only gifts they get.

DONATE A HOLIDAY DINNER BASKET: St. Francis congregants do a wonderful job of providing holiday meal baskets for the families who will pick up through the Holiday Giving Program on Saturday, December 22. CMR must find meal baskets for those who pick up on Thursday, December 20. We would like to collect an additional 25 meal baskets for that date. Find the recommended list of items to fill the basket, along with a \$25 gift certificate to Giant or Safeway (to purchase main protein), [here](#). Deliver to CMR Wednesday, 12/19 or Thursday, 12/20 from 10am - 4pm.

VOLUNTEER:

Week of December 17: Make calls during the work day to clients scheduled to receive December toys and Holiday meal baskets. Spanish/English speakers strongly encouraged to volunteer. Organize toy donations in preparation for distribution on Thursday, December 20 and Saturday, December 22. Wrap toys for Santa to distribute at our Client Holiday party on December 22. Various times available.



THURSDAY, December 20: Help parents choose gifts for their children, check clients in and out, help gift wrap, keep children occupied, distribute meal baskets/gift cards, help families transport to vehicles, stock and keep gifts/baskets/miscellaneous stuff neat. At our 1010 Grandin Avenue office. Distribution is 3pm - 7pm. Shifts available 1pm - 4pm, 4pm - 6:30pm, 5pm - 7:30pm. Please register to assist (see below).

SATURDAY, December 22: Help parents choose gifts for their children, check clients in and out, help gift wrap, keep children occupied, distribute meal baskets/gift cards, help families transport to vehicles, stock and keep gifts/baskets/miscellaneous stuff neat. At St. Francis Episcopal Church. 10033 River Road, Potomac. Distribution is 12pm - 4pm. Shifts are 11:00pm - 2:00pm and 2:00pm - 4:30pm.



CLIENT Holiday Party, Saturday, December 22: Set up guest tables, buffet, craft stations. Serve food, help children with crafts, help Santa give out gifts, clean up, and other tasks. Party is at St. Raphael Catholic

Church, 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville. Set up begins at 4:30pm. Shifts are 4:30pm - 9pm or 5:30pm - 10pm.

If interested in any of these opportunities, please contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172.

CMR COUNTS ON YOUR END OF YEAR GENEROSITY to serve our Clients in 2019

As the year draws to an end, the community tends to think of those who are less fortunate. At CMR, that is our focus every day of the year, as we provide:

- healthcare for the under insured
- permanent supportive housing for the formerly homeless
- financial emergency assistance for those about to be evicted
- education for immigrants
- eldercare for those aging in place



The most vulnerable often means low-income members of the community. In Montgomery County, "low income" are families earning less than 2½ times the federal poverty level - a family of four with an annual income below \$62,750. At the County minimum wage of \$12.25 per hour, it takes 2½ full time jobs (99 hours) every week of the year to earn that amount. A two parent/two child family? That is a lot of work hours for two earners!

Hard workers in our community that earn close to minimum wage include:

- Restaurant employees, day laborers on a construction site, house cleaners
- Pharmacy workers, security guards, home health aides, veterinary assistants
- Certified nursing assistants, trash collectors, ambulance drivers
- Hotel clerks, receptionists, and so many others



continuing to work.

These are important people in our community. These are the people CMR serves each day, each year: when they need medical attention but do not have health insurance; when their 10-year-old car must be repaired so they can get to work, but paying that bill will leave them \$500 short on rent; when they want to improve their English so they can earn more to better support their family; or when they have worked hard all their life, living paycheck to paycheck without the ability to save, and age or illness prevents them from

WILL YOU HELP US HELP THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY? CONSIDER MAKING A YEAR-END FINANCIAL DONATION TO CMR or specify the CMR program that speaks to you personally. Please mail a check to CMR (Community Ministries of Rockville), 1010 Grandin Avenue, #A1, Rockville, MD 20851 or donate [online](#).

Our goal is to raise **\$40,000 of our annual budget through year-end giving in 2018**. This year, changes in the tax laws may affect how some of our supporters are able to give. As you consider your year-end donations this year, CMR wants to offer three thoughts:

- Some tax specialists recommend bundling what you would normally give in two years into one year to maximize your tax benefit. We are thrilled to receive a donation in December 2018, but if you want to bundle for 2019, a donation in January will still help us serve our clients in 2019. Donate again before 12/31/19 to bundle.

- Donating stock that increased in value to CMR can directly lower your taxable income;
- Giving a little less than you did in previous years - determining your tax bracket and reducing your usual donation by that amount may mean the same financial bottom line for you.

Thank you for thinking of the vulnerable in our community. Thank you for supporting our neighbors, as CMR has done for over five decades. And the happiest of holidays to you and yours!

DONATE TO CMR!

Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, December 15, 2018 8:00 p.m.
NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC SINGERS
CHRISTMAS CONCERT to benefit CMR
 Christ Episcopal Church
 107 South Washington Street, Rockville, MD



Sunday, February 10, 2019 4:00 p.m.
ROCKVILLE SINGERS & ROCKVILLE CHORUS to
benefit CMR's Rockville Emergency Assistance Program
 Rockville United Church
 355 Linthicum Street, Rockville, MD

Saturday, April 27, 2019 6:00 p.m.
CMR'S ANNUAL GALA
 Lakewood Country Club
 13901 Glen Mill Road, Rockville, MD

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HOLIDAY ONE-TIME OPPORTUNITIES See "What You Can Do to Make the Holidays Bright..." in article #4

CLIENT INTAKE COORDINATORS for Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP). Are you a compassionate, detail-oriented person with a desire to help those in need? Work a four-hour shift weekly during business hours (ideally from 9am-1pm or 1pm-5pm) to help us assist Rockville residents facing eviction; provide County residents with referrals for low-cost dental and other services; and much more. Training is provided.

FRIENDLY CALLERS for Elderly Ministries Program. Call the same client(s) each week to check in, chat, and confirm that the client received home care services. Listen for changes in cognitive abilities, learn of any changing physical conditions, and be a friendly, caring voice. Depth and length of each conversation is based on the desire of the volunteer and the client.

TRANSLATORS at the Kaseman Health Clinic are needed for four-hour shifts once each week between the hours of 9am and 5pm. Openings currently on Monday afternoon, Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday. Help us ensure that our providers and patients can

communicate clearly. Confidentiality is required.

DONATIONS REQUESTED:

For Kaseman Health Clinic:

C-Fold Paper Towels, Paper Towels, Hand Sanitizer, Antibacterial Hand Soap, Trash Bags, Disinfecting Wipes, Scouring Powder, Window Cleaner, Facial Tissue, Bleach, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Dishwashing Liquid



For more information about these opportunities and others, please visit our [Volunteer Page](#) or contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#) at 301-637-0172.

Thanks to CMR's Board of Directors!

Board Chair Paul Love, President and Executive Director Agnes Saenz, Vice Chair Judy Ackerman, Secretary Rae Pearl Canizares, Robert Dorsey, Angeline Lazarus, Frank Molony, Rouzanna Oganissian, and Carrie Yearick
Ex-Officio Mary Jane Joseph, Chair, Kaseman Health Clinic Board
Ex-Officio Jody Eccleston, Treasurer

STAY CONNECTED:



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