

Outreach/Social Justice Ministry Descriptions

Mission:

To promote and coordinate the charitable efforts of the St. John the Apostle Catholic Church family to assist those in need, both within and beyond our parish boundary.

We accomplish our mission by developing continuing relationships between the parishioners and the recipients of our outreach support. We expand our outreach within and beyond the parish boundaries through identification and coordination of charitable activities that will foster family oriented ministries. We educate the parish population on ways and means to support the needy, and facilitate parish efforts to achieve efficient and effective results.

The Outreach Ministries function as a focal point for all parishioners to channel resources allowing us to integrate all Parish committees as a resource network.

OUTREACH CO-CHAIRMEN Marnie Dyer 757-426-8702, marnied@cox.net or Lori Eberhard 757-689-8842, triggerf14@gmail.com

FEED OUR NEIGHBOR

The goal is to feed and care for those less fortunate by serving and providing meals, canned goods, personal items and support where needed. Currently, we provide two meals per year during the months of February and March. Coordinator Kristy Winfield 757-496-7991 or kmwinfield@msn.com

HOLIDAY OUTREACH

During the months of November and December we offer extra assistance to needy families and local charities through parish collections; baskets are assembled and items delivered prior to both Thanksgiving and Christmas. Coordinators Marnie Dyer 757-426-8702, marnied@cox.net or Lori Eberhard 757-689-8842, triggerf14@gmail.com

HOPE HAVEN

Comprised of three ministries; The Children's Home, Adult Home & Summer Camp. The SJA community provides school supplies, seasonal gifts, and other supplies to help both the Children's Home & Summer Camp operate. Hope Haven Adult Home provides a caring environment for up to 19 seniors who are on extremely limited incomes. Each month volunteers plan activities and interact with the residents. We also provide many necessities for the elderly residents as well as holiday and special occasion gifts during the year. Hope Haven operates without the assistance of state or federal funding. Coordinator Ellen Graham 757-373-7699 or ellenbgraham@cox.net

JUSTICE/LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

There are two feet to social justice; works of charity and works of social action or justice. This ministry focuses on the justice aspect; the underlying causes of injustice, working towards long-term solutions. If you have a desire to see the “bigger” picture and find out more! Coordinator Cathi Reade 757-301-8774 or cathireade@cox.net

MEALS ON WHEELS

The Meals on Wheels Association of America (MOWAA) is the oldest and largest organization in the United States representing those who provide meal services to people in need. MOWAA works toward the social, physical, nutritional, and economic betterment of vulnerable Americans. Coordinator Ellen Graham 757-373-7699 or ellenbgraham@cox.net

MENTAL HEALTH

This ministry provides support to Beach House, a safe haven for those recovering from mental illness. It also raises donations for the Community Trust Fund, which provides dental care for the mentally ill. Brings speakers to our parish to provide education, as well as serves as a resource for family & friends of those with mental illness. Lastly, we write letters to both state & federal legislators regarding mental health initiatives. Coordinator Kay Ashby 757-285-8362 or oahukay@cox.net OR Ellen Murphy 757-430-0244 or emurpy@harrisconnect.com

RESPECT LIFE

This ministry provides education and information to the community regarding the sacredness and dignity of all human life. We plan and organize the annual trip to Washington D.C. for the March for Life; we support our local Birthright through a bowling fundraiser and participate in prayer vigils at local abortion clinics. We currently meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00p.m. in the school conference room. Coordinators Lew & Mary Cabral 757-228-3944 or LewCab@cox.net

SAMARITAN HOUSE:

Samaritan House is a non-profit organization providing a safe harbor for homeless families and victims of domestic violence. One hundred residents, as young as 2 months olds, stay at the facilities each night. Assistance includes free legal service, day care for children, and assistance writing resume/job search program. Coordinator Mary LeMoine 757-689-8494 or mlemoine26@verizon.net

SANDBRIDGE OUTREACH

A mutual endeavor by Saint John the Apostle Catholic Church and Sandbridge Community Chapel United Methodist Church (SCCUMC) to help those in need within our area. Assistance is provided for rent, fuel, utilities, clothing, furniture and food. Contact the Parish office at 757-426-2180 or SCCUMC at 757-721-3105.

SANDWICH BRIGADE

Once a quarter you would be asked to make 10 bag lunches (meat/cheese sandwich, fruit, chips etc.) and drop them off at your coordinators house. The bag lunches are then taken to the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center and distributed to homeless in our area. Coordinator Ginger Hitchings 757-646-7551 or hvch3@gmail.com

SETON YOUTH SHELTERS

Seton Youth Shelters provides a safe haven, counseling & outreach services, 24 hours per day, without charge, to assist youth in crisis throughout Hampton Roads. The goal is to reunite families and to continue the counseling for both teens and parents after they leave the shelter. It is the only such program in the area. Coordinator Jila Costello 757-427-7090 or jjc988@aol.com

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

When our troops are far from their families, we seek to provide support through care packages (including snacks, books, and toiletries) along with cards of thanks and encouragement. This is a year round effort. Coordinator, Kathy Manzi 757-427-2974 or kathy.manzi@cox.net