

MULTI-SERVICE



NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2010

200 WEST SPRING STREET
BOYERTOWN, PA 19512
610-367-6957
OFFICE HOURS: 8:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.
Monday thru Friday
www.boyertownareamulti-service.org

EDITOR: KAREN YOUSE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: DANA L. EICHERT

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK....

By the time this newsletter is sent, children will be back in school and looking forward to football and fall events. It is really hard to wrap the mind around these activities when the temperature outside is hovering around 90 degrees. Equally as hard to comprehend is the fact that we will soon be spending much of our time administering the fuel assistance program and planning for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Due to the large volume of requests, it becomes necessary to plan for these events long before we are mentally prepared to deal with them. The LIHEAP program (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) has become increasingly difficult to manage due to the large number of households seeking assistance and the constant state of flux in the program. This increased demand has led to a decision to change the way we administer the program. This year the applications will be completed by trained volunteers who will be available Monday afternoons from 1pm-4pm, all day Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:30am-4pm, and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings 6pm-9pm beginning the middle of October. The exact start date will depend on the date established by the Department of Public Assistance. Applicants will not need an appointment and will be seen on a first come first serve basis. Anyone not having all the necessary documentation will be asked to come back when they have all of their information. It is our hope that this will increase the efficiency of the program and assure that more people get the help they need in a timely fashion. All those who are eligible are asked to apply as soon as the program opens. We will make that date public as soon as it is announced.

Multi-Service continues to be effected by the sheer volume of people looking for assistance. Whether it is help with food, fuel, and transportation, or people seeking information relative to insurance, senior center programs, or meals on wheels the requests are at an all time high. As anticipated, the increased need coincides with increasingly stretched funding dollars. Fundraisers become more important as a method of filling in some of those funding gaps. On September 11th Multi-Service will hold its second annual Art Auction and its first annual Vacation Raffle. The Art Auction will feature art work from local artists as well as works from nationally known artists.

Memorabilia from the sports and entertainment industry as well as tickets to sporting events, novelty items, etc. will also be featured. The drawing for the \$10,000 vacation package will also take place that evening and those who have purchased a raffle ticket may use that ticket as admission into the Art Auction. Both raffle tickets and art auction tickets are available at Multi-Service. Anyone interested in additional details may call the office at 610-367-6957 or go to www.boyertownareamulti-service.org. We hope to see you at this very enjoyable event.

In connection with the Boyertown Area Multi-Service Endowment Fund, we have enlisted the help of Steve de Perrot, artist and founder of Pots by de Perrot in Lititz, Pa, to design a donor wall honoring those who contribute \$5,000 or more to the fund. Donations may be in the form of a bequest, outright gift, insurance policy, etc. Please stop by and take a look at the wall located in the Multi-Service lobby. The Endowment Fund will help secure this organization's place in the community and its continued work for years to come and it is also a great way to honor or memorialize a loved one. Information regarding the Endowment Fund can be obtained at Multi-Service or on our website.

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The holidays are fast approaching and Boyertown Area Multi-Service is working hard to make sure that local families who are struggling will still be able to celebrate. Each year we help nearly 140 families at Thanksgiving and over 350 children at Christmas. Many of these families would not be able to sit down and enjoy a turkey dinner at Thanksgiving or have anything to give their children at Christmas without our support. That is why we always do our best to work with each and every family that comes to us for assistance at the holidays, which could be more than usual considering our current economic conditions.

There is absolutely no way that we would be able to meet the needs of all of these families without a tremendous amount of community support. If you are interested in partnering with Boyertown Area Multi-Service to help local families this holiday season, please contact Amy Davies at (610) 367-6957.



200 West Spring Street
 Boyertown, PA 19512
 www.boyertownareamulti-service.org

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Boyertown Area Multi-Service, Inc. is a member agency of the Boyertown Area United Way, and is also funded in part by the Pennsylvania Department of Aging through Berks County Office of Aging, Montgomery County Aging and Adult Services, and the generosity of the individuals, churches and organizations of the Boyertown Area.

If you are interested in making a donation for Thanksgiving, we are in need of the following items to make Thanksgiving meals: turkeys or turkey breasts, potatoes (instant or fresh), sweet potatoes, stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce, vegetables, fruits, bread/rolls/muffin mixes, pie fillings and pie crusts. Volunteers are available to help accept these items between the hours of 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., Monday through Friday from November 1st to 17th. If you need to make other arrangements, please call.

Anyone interested in sponsoring a child for Christmas, please call to receive a personalized wish list for a child and a letter explaining drop off dates and other details.

Families currently experiencing financial hardship and needing assistance this holiday season should contact Amy Davies at (610) 367-6957 as soon as possible. Proof of residence, social security cards and proof of income will be requested.

Each year we have the privilege of facilitating as members of this community step up to meet the needs of those that are less fortunate. We look forward to seeing the true spirit of the holidays at work again this holiday season.

THE FESTIVAL OF TREES
 is scheduled for Friday, December 3, 2010, and will once again be one of the stops on the Holiday House Tour.



MULTI-SERVICE STAFF

- Executive Director: Dana Eichert
- Secretary/Bookkeeper: Kathy Murphy
- Receptionist/Transportation Coordinator: Heidi Lee
- Over 60 Case Manager: Virginia Cox
- Under 60 Case Manager: Amy Davies
- Energy/Meals on Wheels (MOWS) Case Manager: Lori Bernhard
- Food Program Manager: Nancy Kremm
- Evening Receptionist: Darlene Strubilla
- Center Director: Karen Youse
- Assistant Center Director: Patricia Petrauskas
- Center Receptionist: Fran Doaty
- Program Coordinator: Vanessa Heim
- Bus Driver: Joy Harner
- Chef: Richard Mackey, Jr.
- Prep Chef: Ursula Wieland
- Facility Manager: Greg Rothenberger
- Custodian: Russell Bouchat
- MOWS Volunteer Coordinator: Elaine Bangs
- Editor: Karen Youse
- Typist: Kathy Murphy

Did you renew your 2010 Multi-Service Membership?

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 E-mail _____ Phone _____
(to receive membership updates)

Membership Categories

_____ \$25 Individual _____ \$35 Family _____ \$50 Associate
 _____ \$100 Friend _____ \$250 Benefactor _____ \$500 Sponsor _____ \$1, 000+ Patron

Please make check payable to: Boyertown Area Multi-Service, Inc.

Please check here to receive information about Multi-Service Endowment Fund.

All contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by laws.

Boyertown Area Multi-Service, Inc. is a tax exempt corporation under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3).