

MISSIONS WIN TEAM NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, November 18, 2018

In attendance: Autumn Dennis, Liz Shuburte, Moe Parisien, Lisa Fetters, and Cindy Wolk

Minutes from the August meeting were approved.

Moe provided an update regarding his ongoing discussions with The Islamic Foundation. He connected with the founders of their Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) clinic and attended an open house there on 11/10. During the open house he learned that VIM is a volunteer clinic offering free, non-emergency primary healthcare for patients aged 18-64 who are not covered by Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance and who meet federal 200% poverty guidelines. The clinic is located off Baxter road. When Moe asked if these was anything MUMC can do to help, the founders expressed a need for volunteers for a range of positions including Receptionists, Nurses, Social Workers and Physicians. They also need monetary donations; Moe volunteered to write grants for them. This was a big step forward in this interfaith partnership! Discussion ensued on the best way to let the congregation know about VIM's needs. We will also need to find a way to track number served for our WIN Team goal.

Autumn gave an update on the literacy project. She spoke with the Principal of Carman Trails to assess their literacy needs. She was told they have plenty of literacy tutors through the Oasis program, but their Backpack Food program folded and they could use assistance there. An additional meeting with Parkway West Middle School revealed they might not need as much food as we're currently providing; we will explore ways to possibly redirect some of their food to Carman Trails.

Autumn also met with Peabody Elementary School in the city of St. Louis. They desperately need tutors, especially for 4th and 5th graders. Only 11% of their students are reading on grade level.

The WIN Team noted there is a big disparity between our stated goal (serving those in Parkway, Rockwood and Valley Park school districts) and where the needs are (city of St. Louis). The team is serving over 1,000 individuals in the aforementioned districts already between Sneakers with Soul, Food for Kids and the Personal Essentials Ministry. Our goal may be revised to have the literacy component extend beyond the original boundaries and go into the city. Doing this for the literacy component would still align with the Conference Goal to increase the literacy rate.

We will also explore how our team can further support Kingdom House as they already have an established relationship with Peabody Elementary. We learned through Brenda Stobbe at Living Word that those relationships can take quite some time to develop. Teachers in the city need to trust us and know we're there for the long haul vs. just dropping in to read a few books and leaving.

Cindy provided an update on the Personal Essentials Ministry (PEM). There is still a good amount of money in the ministry fund, some of which will be used for diapers and laundry detergent. Those two items are currently in high need at Circle of Concern. MUMC is still providing toilet paper to all 600 families every time they shop at Circle. Discussion around how to re-direct the congregation to purchase diapers and detergent. There was also discussion about letting the congregation know there are families in need of adoption for the holidays at Circle.

The next two WIN Team meetings are:

January 6, 2019 at 12:15 to prepare for Leadership Board presentation

January 12 (time TBD but will be in am) to present our team's status at Leadership Board meeting

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cindy Wolk