

UPCOMING EVENTS

2012 Holiday Open House

December 1, 2012
SM East Price Hill Office
3301 Warsaw Avenue

2012 Birthday Brunch

December 2, 2012
Verdin Bell Event Centre

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- Christopher Zimmerman, Macy's, Inc.**
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Santa Maria Community Services, Inc.



Life in the COMMUNITY

HELPING FAMILIES HELP THEMSELVES SINCE 1897

FALL/WINTER 2012-2013



H. A. Musser, Jr.
MA, MSW, LISW

Message From the President & CEO

Santa Maria Community Services is excited to have added a wonderful new program through the merger with Literacy Center West. The staff and volunteers of this program are exemplary, and we are thankful that we are now working as one organization. The individuals and families we serve now have easier access to crucial services with no duplication of efforts. It truly is a "marriage" of two strong organizations becoming even stronger.

As we approach the end of our fiscal year,

Santa Maria looks to its supporters for added investment in the work that we do. Nearly 50% of all individual giving to Santa Maria occurs in the final month of the year, so we are heavily dependent on those who choose to invest their resources with us. Santa Maria is leading the efforts on the Westside to improve kindergarten readiness for children, coach families to financial stability and link uninsured working people with health care resources. The generosity of both long-term and brand new supporters is what makes this work possible. If you would like to consider a year-end investment in this important work, please go to www.santamaria-cincy.org. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many.

Birthday Brunch Happens on December 2

Join Santa Maria and sponsors, PNC Bank and T. J. Maxx, at the 2012 Birthday Brunch to celebrate its 115th Anniversary and 40th Anniversary of its Meals-on-Wheels program.

During the celebration Sr. Agnes Coveney, OSU, Director of Mission Integration at TriHealth and member of Santa Maria's Board of Directors, will be honored with the Sr. Blandina Award. This award pays tribute to the life of Sr. Blandina Segale, SC, who founded the Santa Maria Institute and had a great influence on the lives of many. The winner of the Sr. Blandina Award is a creative thinker/doer, persistent in overcoming obstacles, a champion of the minorities, fearless against injustice, unbowed by failure and able to involve the community. Sr. Agnes exemplifies these qualities!

In addition to the Sr. Blandina Award, Price Hill Will will receive the Organizational Award for their continued hard work and

success in the Greater Price Hill community.

Santa Maria's Birthday Brunch will begin at 10 am at the Verdin Bell Event Center. Cost for the Brunch is \$45 per person.

In addition to a Grand Split the Pot Raffle, guests can bid on silent and live auction items. Proceeds from the Brunch will help support Santa Maria's Meals-on-Wheels and Wellness programs. For more information, contact Leslie Schultz at 513-557-2730, ext. 408. For easy registration go to www.santamaria-cincy.org/birthdaybrunch.html.



Santa Maria's Meals-on-Wheels program celebrated 40 years in 2012

Foundation Corner

Santa Maria has recently enjoyed generous support of the following foundations:

The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati -- for Santa Maria's *Wellness Program* to develop a curriculum for training Community Health Workers and a business plan to sustain and replicate that training by incorporating it into the Price Hill Urban Health Network.

Molina Healthcare -- for Santa Maria's *Wellness Program* in support of a series of twelve classes (six in English and six in Spanish) titled, "Price Hill Cooks Healthy" to encourage healthy cooking and healthy grocery shopping.

Marge and Charles J. Schott Foundation -- in support of Santa Maria's *Meals-on-Wheels Program* to help with administrative costs.



Volunteers for Santa Maria's Meals-on-Wheels program ready packages that are delivered to 130 individuals on a daily basis

Charles H. Dater Foundation -- for Santa Maria's *Youth Program* to provide healthy, alternative community activities to the youth in East Price Hill, Lower Price Hill and Sedamsville/Riverside. These activities foster leadership skills, prevent community and family violence and increase children's success in school.

Summertime Kids Grant Program of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation -- for Santa Maria's *Youth Program* to provide resources to implement the neighborhood improvement projects in Lower Price Hill. By participating in this summer project, area youth transformed an empty lot into a



Lower Price Hill Youth transformed an empty lot into a vegetable garden this summer through the Summertime Kids grant

vegetable garden where they, their friends and family members were able to enjoy the harvest of fresh cucumbers, green beans, peppers and tomatoes.

The Women's Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation -- for Santa Maria's *Family Child Care Program* to support scholarships for four Family Child Care Providers towards obtaining their Child Development Associate Degrees.

The Donald C. and Laura M. Harrison Family Foundation -- For *Literacy Center West* in support of its Evening GED program.

Ohio Casualty Fund -- for *Literacy Center West* in support of its Griswold Education Center.

Scripps Howard Foundation -- to purchase books for Santa Maria's *Promoting Our Preschoolers Program*. The books will focus on: rhyming, alphabet recognition, alliteration, numerals, questions and answers, vocabulary and will help prepare children for kindergarten.

US Bank Foundation -- for Santa Maria's *Affordable Housing Program* in support of the educational component of the program.

The Greater Cincinnati Foundation -- to support merger operations between Santa Maria and Literacy Center West.

Administrative Office and Sedamsville Center

617 Steiner Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45204
(513) 557-2730

East Price Hill Center

3301 Warsaw Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45205
(513) 557-2700

Literacy Center West

3208 Warsaw Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45205
(513) 244-5062

Lower Price Hill Center

718 State Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45204
(513) 557-2710

Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center

2918 Price Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45204
(513) 587-6920

Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center Partners With Bank On Greater Cincinnati

The Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center (FOC) has signed on with Bank On Greater Cincinnati as a financial education community partner. Through this program, the FOC will offer basic banking classes to families and individuals in Greater Price Hill who want to open their first checking account, or who need information on a “second chance account.”

A bank or credit union account can be the first step in saving, planning for the future, building credit and climbing the economic ladder. Statistics show at least 25% of families in Price Hill don't have checking accounts, based on research results that the city compiled before Bank On was established. These families are at risk of having cash stolen from them, paying high check cashing fees and fees for other financial transactions, and are targets for



predatory lending.

Through the Bank On initiatives, local leaders and agencies work with financial institutions like banks and credit unions to design safe, affordable and convenient transaction accounts as well as educate the public about the benefits of having an account and how they can access them. After a participant completes the Bank On workshop, they will be able to get a certificate and referral to participating banks for a Bank On Account. This program will help those who are on the Chex System and cannot open a bank account, or who have never worked with a mainstream financial institution before.

The next Bank On classes offered by the Price Hill FOC at 2918 Price Avenue will take place on:

- Sat., Dec. 8, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
- Fri., Dec. 14, 10 am - 1:30 pm (lunch included)
- Fri., Jan. 11, 10 am - 1:30 pm (lunch included)
- Sat. Jan. 19, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

To RSVP or find out more information regarding these classes, please contact Tonicia at 513-587-6920 ext. 301.

Santa Maria President and CEO Honored

Santa Maria President and CEO, H. A. Musser, received a Governor's Distinguished Hispanic Award from the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission last month at a gala event in Columbus, OH. H. A. received the “Nuestra Familia” (Our Family) award for Santa Maria's efforts by going the extra mile to make certain that Latinos are included and engaged in our society and demonstrating a commitment to long-term partnerships to make Ohio a welcoming place for all people.

Also receiving an award at this event was a friend of Santa Maria: Mr. Simon Sotelo of PNC Bank, who received the Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Award. Santa Maria Board

of Director Tony Simms-Howell serves as Finance Chair on the Commission, appointed by the Governor of Ohio.



H. A. Musser, Jr. and Tony Simms-Howell

Donations In Memory Of

Barbara Acheson
Edward Acheson

Anne Coffaro Angilella
Jan Shaefer

Norma Berringer
Carroll Berringer

Catherine Binkley
Barbara Hammersmith

George Brinkman
Paul and Shirley Reisiger

James and Helen Broe
Mary Nicolay

Rose Delaney
Barbara Kruezkamp

Ruth and Pasquale Daria
Patricia Gerke

Lilian Hart Fey
Patricia Hart Linesch

Jack Fricker
Bob and Joan Friedmann

Peter Ginocchio
Deborah and Louis Ginocchio

Nancy Humphrey
Brittany Coppoolse
Andrew and Katie Howard
Nune Krayerman
Maureen Maxfield
John and Chellie McLellan
Rachel Mousie
Thanapat Vichitchot
Becky Young

Mary Kersting
Raymond Kersting

Jeanette Kerth
Tom and Janet Wernke

George Klapper
William and Nancy Remke

Daniel Kohnen
Nancy Black

Carolyn Logan
Brittany Coppoolse
Andrew and Katie Howard
Nune Krayerman
John and Chellie McLellan
Rachel Mousie
Thanapat Vichitchot
Becky Young

Elizabeth McCrone
William and Nancy Remke

Harvey Musser
Doris Musser

John Nieszal
Don and Jane Lubbe

Memorials *Cont.*

Joan Rimele
Bob and Joan Friedmann

Virginia Ruehlmann
Eugene Ruehlmann

Marilyn Rullmann
Bob and Joan Friedmann

Mary Siemer
Walter Siemer

Fay E. Stilz
Charles and Mary Hais
Queen City Advisors

Jim Westerfield
Carol Espelage
Bob and Joan Friedmann

Memorials For Literacy Center West

Olive Jaworski
Robert and Phyllis Smith

In Honor Of

Bob Conway
Jim and Vi Powers

Tom Hart
Patricia and Ed Linesch

Alice Henkel
Frances Hornikel

Sisters of Charity
Celebrating Special
Jubilee Anniversaries in
2012
S. Pat Marie Bernard, SC

In Honor Of Birthday

H. A. Musser, Jr.
Nune Krayterman
Douglas and Virginia Wright

Back to School Fair a Success!

On August 4 local community organizations joined together and hosted the 2012 Price Hill Back to School Fair at St. Lawrence Church. The following statistics sum up the success of the event:

- 1200 backpacks donated by the Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Apartment Association
- 1171 backpacks distributed at the Back to School Fair. Remaining backpacks divided between all committee member organizations to give away at their agencies
- 436 families attended (up from last year's 381)
- 112 vision screens were performed (37 recommended for follow-up)

Thanks go to the following organizations that donated items and funding to this great event: Cincinnati Federal Savings and Loan, Cincinnati Area Credit Unions, Buffalo Wild Wings, Busken Bakery, Chik-Fil-A, City BarBQue, Frisch's, Graeter's, Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Apartment Association, The Kroger Co., Lee's Chicken, Rallys, St. Lawrence Church, Skyline Chili, Subway and Warsaw Federal Savings and Loan.

Thanks also go to the following organizations that hosted the event: Price Hill Will, The Women's Connection, Lifepoint Solutions, Urban Appalachian Council, Hamilton County Family and Children First and Santa Maria Community Services.

International Welcome Center Offers Free Spanish Classes and a Coffee Hour

Santa Maria's International Welcome Center (IWC) is now offering free Spanish classes to members of the community. Manuel Iris, a published poet and doctoral student at UC's Romance Language and Literature department, and Ana Bosarge, founder of the Spanish classes, teach basic and intermediate level Spanish. The classes are now using Panorama textbooks, which are also used at some universities, therefore the students are on a set curriculum. Spanish classes are Saturday mornings from 10 am - noon at Literacy Center West, Santa Maria's newest program, located at 3208 Warsaw Avenue. To register for classes and for more information, call 513-363-4693.

The IWC now offers English classes on the computers at Literacy Center West. On Saturday mornings, students attend sessions to learn English using IBM's Reading

Companion program. With the software, students practice listening, reading and speaking English. While at the lab, students are also learning how to use the computer and navigate the internet.

The IWC also offers Coffee Hours at Roberts Academy, which have been a huge success. Every week different speakers present sessions on a variety of topics to families ranging from mammograms to domestic abuse, business to banking. Attendance has grown steadily as more and more people attend each week for the informative sessions.

The upcoming Coffee Hour calendar includes:

- November 27 - Housing Opportunities Made Equal
- December 4 - Julia from the YWCA - Self Breast Exam Information
- December 11 - Metro Bus Service Information
- December 18 - End of year party

For more information about Santa Maria's International Welcome Center contact 513-363-4693.



Safety issues was the topic at a recent Coffee Hour

Promoting Our Preschoolers Celebrates Graduation to Kindergarten

August 10, 2012 was a great day for Santa Maria's Promoting Our Preschoolers' (POP) Hispanic children! It was a day the children celebrated their graduation to kindergarten.

After completing the POP program, the Hispanic families joined together to celebrate the beginning of their children's big journey into education. Over 100 people, including parents and family members, attended the celebration. During the celebration Margarita González was recognized for her seven years of participation in the POP program. The event guests also enjoyed singing karaoke and dining on wonderful food, including pizza and homemade tamales provided by the parents.

Santa Maria's POP program works with any family in the Price Hill area who has a child ages 3-5 years old. The goal of the program is to give the parent/guardian tools they need to teach their child kindergarten readiness skills. Typically the POP Family Advocate visits the family's home twice a month with

books and activities for the child. These visits are enhanced by group activities and trips for the families.

If you or someone you know might be interested in Santa Maria's Promoting Our Preschoolers program, contact Susan at 513-557-2700, ext. 202 or susan.conrad@santamaria-cincy.org.



A happy group of Hispanic preschoolers celebrates their graduation to Kindergarten

Shop at Kroger and Help Santa Maria!



Moms from IWC tour Kroger

Join Santa Maria's International Welcome Center (IWC) Coffee Hour moms and families in supporting Santa Maria by shopping at Kroger! During a recent coffee hour gathering, the IWC group visited the local Price Hill Kroger and signed up to receive the Kroger Plus Card. Now they are supporting Santa Maria!

The Kroger Co. has come up with a new and much easier way to support Santa Maria! There is no longer a need to reload a Kroger gift card--all you have to do is register your Kroger Plus Card at www.krogercommunityrewards.com and choose Santa Maria as the organization you want to support! Each time you shop at Kroger and use your Kroger Plus Card, the eligible amount of your purchase will be counted toward Santa Maria's total. In 2011 Santa Maria received almost \$1,500 from the Kroger Rewards program!

If you have any questions about the new Kroger Community Rewards program, contact Leslie at 513-557-2730 ext. 408 or leslie.schultz@santamaria-cincy.org.



2012 Brunch Auction Items

A get-away package to Indianapolis, including a weekend stay at the Indianapolis Marriott (includes meal certificate at Bistro 33)

An Elder High School football t-shirt, white hoodie, Christmas ornament and "The Pride of Price Hill" book

A copy of the book "Fifty Shades of Gray"

Coupons for free Donato's single topping pizzas

Frisch's Big Boy coupons

2 admission passes to the Newport Aquarium

4 passes to National Amusements

2 \$10 G/C for Graeter's

30 minute game play coupons from Gameworks

G/C for 18 holes of golf for two at Aston Oaks

4 reserved Grandstand seats to Keeneland

Sunday Brunch for 2 at The Grand Finale

\$5 G/C to Newport Coldstone Creamery

2 Biz-Tix tickets to Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park

A basket of University of Cincinnati items, including a winter jacket, throw, nylon drawstring backpack, t-shirt and much more

\$25 G/C to Arthur's

A round of golf for 2 at The Links golf course located at Rising Star Casino

Coupons for Free Regular Mike's Way sub sandwiches at Jersey Mike's

2 admission passes to the Kentucky Derby Museum

4 tickets to the Krohn Conservatory Holiday Show

2012 Brunch Auction Items Continued ...

One-night stay for two at The Westin Hotel

4 tickets to The Harlem Globetrotters game on Saturday, Dec. 29th, 2 pm

2 tickets to a Friday or Sunday performance of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

Assorted Arby's sandwich coupons

2 admission passes to Kings Island

4 free admission passes to Skatetown USA

4 9-hole greensfee G/C to Shawnee Lookout Golf Course

2 adult admission passes to the Taft Museum of Art

\$15 G/C to T. G. I. Friday's

\$50 G/C for Primavista

2 tickets to a show during Season 19 of the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company performances

\$25 G/C for La Petite Salon and Spa

A Maker's Mark bourbon basket

A crystal Hershey's Kiss candy dish with assorted Hershey's Kisses

8 tickets to a UC Women's Basketball game

5 free game passes for Skallywag Tag

\$25 G/C for Sea Ray of Cincinnati

Handmade jewelry

A basket full of Cyclones bobbleheads, t-shirt and game ticket vouchers

Assorted G/C to Max and Erma's

A deluxe one-night stay at the Netherland Hilton

A tin of over 12 dozen homemade buckeye candies

Bob and Joan Friedmann Honored at National Philanthropy Day Luncheon

"Change the world with a giving heart" was this year's theme at the Association of Fundraising Professionals' National Philanthropy Day Luncheon. Over 600 individuals gathered at the Hyatt Regency Cincinnati on November 15th, to celebrate the great philanthropic community Cincinnati has become.

Santa Maria's nominated honorees for this year's luncheon were Bob and Joan Friedmann. When Bob and Joan celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2003 their children decided to set up the Bob and Joan Friedmann Fund to be used in support of Santa Maria's volunteer program. Since then the Friedmann's have continued to generously contribute to that fund.

In addition to their monetary contributions, both Bob and Joan continue to give generously of their time and talents to Santa Maria's Meals-on-Wheels program -- something they've been doing for almost 30 years.



Bob and Joan Friedmann

Fourteenth Annual Price Hill Women's Health Fair a Success!

It was a cold day, but the sky was clear and sunny for the Price Hill Women's Health Fair, held on Saturday, October 6th, 2012. This event, the 14th of its kind, has become a tradition in the area. One participant stated, "They have all made me feel welcome every year I have attended." This year 119 women arrived at the Price Hill Recreation Center and received a variety of much needed preventative screenings and information on health topics and local community organizations.

Free services included glucose, cholesterol, BMI and blood pressure screenings; bone density screenings; pap smears and pelvic exams; and mammograms. There was also information from several organizations, including The Womens' Connection, the Urban Appalachian Council, the American Cancer Society, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and Santa Maria. In addition, the women were also treated to breakfast and lunch, as well as healing therapies such as chair massages and Reiki.

The Price Hill Women's Health Fair remains an important resource for medical

screenings and health education in the community. Nearly 50% of the women in attendance lacked health insurance.

This day would not have been possible without the support of the many providers, exhibitors, and volunteers who took time out of their weekend to serve the women of Price Hill and beyond. Providers included Good Samaritan Hospital, TriHealth Healthy Women/Healthy Lives, and the YWCA Breast and Cervical Health Network. The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Sigma Omega, is also due a special note of gratitude for their donation of materials and time in helping to prepare and serve breakfast and lunch for providers, exhibitors, volunteers and participants.

Sponsors also included the SC Ministry Foundation, Kohl's, Closing the Health Gap, Cincinnati Recreation Commission and Mercy Health Partners.

When asked if she would attend next year, one participant said, "Yes, and I'll try to tell all my friends."

Volunteer View

Santa Maria would like to say a big “THANK YOU” to the HUNDREDS of volunteers who have provided THOUSANDS of hours of service to Santa Maria this year. These hours add up to approximately 20,000 hours by year’s end, which is equivalent to about ten full-time positions. Santa Maria is so grateful for each person who sacrifices time and effort to assist us in accomplishing our mission to “empower Greater Price Hill families as they achieve sustainable health, housing and family life.”

Santa Maria’s volunteers come from local middle and high schools, all the major universities in the Tri-State, small and large businesses, community residents and other community and social service organizations. They use their many and varied talents to assist with mailings, data entry, special events, field trips, clerical work, indoor/outdoor

spruce up projects, building maintenance and program operations.

During these difficult economic times, Greater Cincinnati residents time and again have demonstrated a colossal “heart” and generosity in helping their neighbors through difficult times. Those who have been out of work lent their time, talent and resources to help another. It is this spirit of helpfulness that built this country and has sustained us. It is this same spirit that will get us through these times.

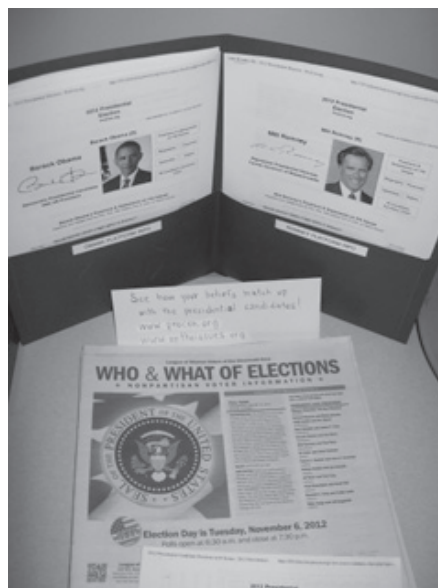
You may be one of those who have been a part of our team this year. If not, we are always looking for new volunteers and invite you to contact Gladys Bell, Volunteer Manager, at 513-557-2730 ext. 415 or gladys.bell@santamaria-cincy.org.

Literacy Center West Raises Student Awareness

The Election has come and gone, and often times voting is the farthest things from the minds of the students at Literacy Center West (LCW). Serving students ages 17-21 (and older) who have dropped out of high school means a population who has not yet had the opportunity to register to vote. For almost all of the students here at LCW, this was the first major election in which they participated, and their voices were vital.

To raise awareness and promote participation in the election, the LCW staff assisted students in filling out voter registration forms, updating addresses, and mailing them in. As a result, lively debates began to break out between the students about the electoral candidates. An opportunity to learn is never overlooked at Literacy Center West. Non-partisan voting guides were made available for the students to peruse or take home to share with their families. The guides provided a comprehensive list of important issues and each candidate’s stance. Students began to debate with more facts, and learn more about the issues that matter and affect their lives.

The hope is that students felt more knowledgeable and involved and therefore chose to vote -- for the 2012 Presidential Election, but also for upcoming local elections. Knowledge and access has helped them feel informed and confident to cast their ballot as engaged, educated citizens.



Non-partisan literature was provided to Literacy Center West students for the 2012 Election

2012 Brunch Auction Items Continued ...

4 tickets to a Cincinnati Reds game of choice (excluding Opening Day) in section 133, plus an autographed baseball by Homer Bailey

\$35 G/C for Green B.E.A.N. Delivery

An autographed football and photo by Cincinnati Bengals coach, Marvin Lewis

2 tickets to a Cincinnati Ballet performance of The Nutcracker

\$20 G/C for Arnold's Bar and Grill

5 \$10 G/C for Izzy's

2 18-hole golf passes at Hillview Golf Course

An Associate Membership to the Cincinnati Arts Association

2 \$10 gift cards for Cheddar's Restaurant

One-year subscription to Cincinnati Magazine

4 regular admission passes to the Behringer Crawford Museum

A one-night stay at the Marriott Cincinnati at Rivercenter

\$20 G/C to Bon Bonerie

\$25 G/C to the Book Rack

Appetizer cards from Brio Tuscan Grille

2 admission passes to the Cincinnati Zoo (can be used for Holiday in Lights)

\$35 G/C to Stonecreek

A one-night weekend stay at Courtyard by Marriott Airport

Adorable matching set of kitchen aprons for mother, daughter and doll by Cookin' Cute

4 Cincinnati scene Wedgewood plates based on drawings by Caroline Williams--Cincinnati Art Museum, Sycamore Hill, Kemper Log Cabin and Findlay Market



Santa Maria Community Services

Helping families help themselves since 1897.

Administrative Office

2918 Price Avenue

Cincinnati, OH 45204

(513) 557-2730

www.SantaMaria-cincy.org

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Volunteers Needed to Offer Free Tax Prep

Santa Maria is one of several organizations operating a volunteer tax preparation site at Elder High School. The upcoming tax season will be the seventh year of this free program, and we expect to complete 400 tax returns and bring more than \$500,000 in refunds back into the Price Hill community.

The typical cost to taxpayers who pay for this service is more than \$200 per return, so the taxpayers who take advantage of our free tax prep services are able to keep more of their refund for their families.

Santa Maria is now recruiting volunteers who will receive free training from the IRS. Once certified by the IRS, these volunteers can help workers file their taxes electronically. The tax prep dates will be on Saturdays in February and March, 2013.

Volunteers must be willing to share time, skills and interests, have basic computer skills, have the ability to deal with the public in a helpful and supportive manner,

be friendly, dependable and flexible, attend the training provided by the IRS and have the willingness to learn tax laws applicable to low income filers.

The IRS trainings will take place on:

- Tuesday, Dec 18 from 6 - 8 pm (for returning volunteers)
- Saturday, January 12 from 9 am - 4 pm (for new volunteers)

Both trainings will take place at the Elder High School Schaeper Center.

If you would like to explore this volunteer opportunity, please call Danielle at Santa Maria to learn more: 513-587-6920 ext. 300.

You can also visit www.makeworkpay.com to learn more about the program and sign up for a one-hour information session.