

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Price Hill Pacer Weekly Training Program

Begins February 2014  
Locations/times to be announced

### 2014 Bienestar Recognition Luncheon

May 16, 2014  
The Millennium Hotel

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Santa Maria Community Services, Inc.



# Life in the COMMUNITY

HELPING FAMILIES HELP THEMSELVES SINCE 1897

FALL/WINTER 2013 - 2014



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

## Message From the President & CEO

When you think of Santa Maria Community Services, what comes to mind? Perhaps our location on Cincinnati's Westside. Perhaps our Meals-on-Wheels program or another specific program.

Perhaps our 116-year history of service, started by the Sisters of Charity. Perhaps our partnerships with dozens of other organizations to strengthen our work with families.

All of these are accurate responses, and there are so many more. Santa Maria is a place of caring and support for thousands of individuals and families annually. Santa Maria gives people the tools to improve their

education, income and health conditions. And we do our work in the most efficient way possible, with more than 500 volunteers adding to the capacity of our wonderful staff.

As this year comes to a close, I offer my heart-felt thanks to all of you who partner with us to make a difference in families' lives. Thank you for joining us in offering a hand up to those we serve.

As you think about your year-end giving options, I ask you to consider a special contribution of any amount to Santa Maria Community Services. Your investment will generate powerful human returns.

With gratitude,

## Santa Maria Honors Sr. Connelly, Hart Pharmacy at Birthday Brunch

Sr. Kathryn Ann Connelly, S. C. and Hart Pharmacy were recently honored for their dedicated service to the Price Hill community at Santa Maria's Birthday Brunch held on Sunday, December 8 at the Verdin Bell Event Centre.

Connelly, who received the Sr. Blandina Award, is a graduate of Seton High School and the College of Mount St. Joseph and has been a Sister of Charity for more than 60 years. The award honors a creative thinker and doer who is persistent in overcoming obstacles, a champion of minorities, fearless against injustice, unbowed by failure and able to involve the community.

Connelly began her career as a teacher before becoming the first female superintendent of Catholic schools in Ohio, leading the schools of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for 18



Sr. Kathryn Ann Connelly, S. C.,  
Sr. Blandina Award Recipient

years. Since retiring, Connelly has focused her attention on community involvement, serving on the boards of Price Hill Will, Santa Maria Community Services, Lower Price Hill Community School and the Legal

... .. continued on page 3

### 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

## Foundation Corner

Thanks to the many supporters of Santa Maria and its programs! Recent gifts include:

For the Wellness program:

- Helen Steiner Rice Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation
- The John A. Schroth Family Charitable Trust

For the Youth program:

- Charles H. Dater Foundation
- The Andrew Jergens Foundation

For the Promoting Our Preschoolers program:

- SC Ministry Foundation
- Scripps Howard Foundation

For Literacy Center West:

- The Donald C. and Laura M. Harrison Foundation
- US Bancorp Foundation
- Maxwell Weaver Foundation

For the Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center:

- The Women's Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation

For the Meals-on-Wheels program:

- The Marge and Charles J. Schott Foundation

## Price Hill Financial Opportunity Hosts Family Art Project

In August Santa Maria's Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center staff and clients participated in a community art project in partnership with Illuminating the Arts. Local photographer Pat Bruns led clients in a two-part photography workshop with the theme of "achieving success and stability in Price Hill."

Clients and their families took a photography walk around the neighborhood to capture images that were representative of their experience in Price Hill, and what they vision for the future of the neighborhood.



Families worked together to make collages of their photos



Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center clients and staff worked together to capture images that represent their vision for the future

In the second session families learned photo collage techniques and created a personal collage using the photos they had taken in the first session. Collages were on display during a gallery walk hosted by Illuminating the Arts during the Cultural Heritage Fest and remain on display at the Financial Opportunity Center.

Thanks to Pat Bruns for the photography lesson and opportunity to host a fun, family activity for Santa Maria's clients.

## Santa Maria IWC Expands Programming

The Santa Maria International Welcome Center (SMIWC) has worked to expand and diversify its programming. The Spanish Coffee Hour on Tuesdays has been so successful that it has expanded to an English Coffee Hour on Thursdays. While enjoying coffee, fruit and bakery goods, the attendees learn about life lessons in the United States. Some examples of topics discussed at coffee hours include HIV/AIDS prevention, equality and rights in housing and safety presentations. The SMIWC has also begun hosting Computer Lab hours. These sessions, facilitated by Gisela Camba, allow community members to bolster their computer literacy and gain skills necessary for being productive in the modern



English Coffee Hour attendees learn various tools in Microsoft Word with Gisela Camba and Susanna Shepherd



Spanish Coffee Hour attendees develop topics for future sessions with Santa Maria's Wellness Program Director, Laura Brinson

workforce. SMIWC Program Director Luz Elena Schemmel is spearheading a new and exciting project, Plazas Comunitarias, that integrates educational resources and actions for life and work, mostly directed at Mexican youth and adults, Latin and native Spanish speakers. This program is in cooperation with the Mexican government and allows for a pathway to an education certificate that is valid both in the United States and in some Latin American countries. Finally, the SMIWC is working to strengthen the Out of School Time Network in Price Hill through a new system being developed by Chas Wiederhold. The intent of this network is to more efficiently place young people in Price Hill in out of school time programming that positively reinforces their strengths and provides additional opportunities.

## Birthday Brunch

Aid Society. Sitting on the boards at Seton, Purcell Marian and Lehman high schools has kept Connelly close to education.

Santa Maria also recognized Hart Pharmacy for its commitment to helping the community. Located on Glenway Avenue, the family owned pharmacy has partnered with Santa Maria's Wellness program to help supply counseling and necessary medications to underinsured individuals. Members of the Hart family have served on Santa Maria's board and even worked for Santa Maria, in addition to other volunteer efforts in the neighborhood.

Thanks go to event Title Sponsor SC Ministry Foundation, as well as event

... .. continued from page 1

sponsor PNC Bank, and table sponsors Robert Conway, Joan Friedmann, Hart Pharmacy, Neil & Ginny O'Connor, Sisters of Charity, Western & Southern Financial Group and Robert and Marilyn Wildermuth.



Hart Pharmacy, Organizational Award recipient  
Pictured left to right - Becky Boeing Turner, Tom Hart, Mimi Hart, Aimee Hart and Eric Gillespie

## Donations In Memory Of

Dorothy "Dottie" Baudendistel  
Guy and Del Langenbrunner

David Black  
Nancy Black

Robert Brophy  
Martha Brophy

Andrew Espy  
W. Joseph Williams, Jr.

Mary Gayle Gott  
Bob and Joan Friedmann

Kevin Healey  
Charles and Karen Healey  
Terence Healey  
Stephen and Laura Johnson

John Heidemann  
Bob and Joan Friedmann

Richard Huebner  
Ruth Huebner

Mary Beth Kaplan  
Ruth Huebner

Daniel Kohnen  
Nancy Black

Thomas Koppenhoefer  
Ruth Koppenhoefer

Anthony Lesting  
Charles and Mary Hais

Connie Lubbers  
William and Nancy Remke

Paul Matthew  
Bob and Joan Friedmann

Sr. Arlene McGowan  
Atrium Medical Center  
Foundation  
Maureen Maxfield

Carol Ann Miller  
Ruth Huebner

Joe Mueller  
William and Nancy Remke

Harvey Musser  
Doris Musser

Mary Siemer  
Walter Siemer

Mary Vollrath  
Paul and Shirley Reisiger

Kathy Ware  
Paul and Shirley Reisiger

## A Night at the Ballet

Santa Maria's Promoting Our Preschoolers, International Welcome Center and SPARK programs recently had the opportunity to attend a performance of Swan Lake at the Aronoff Center. Tickets were generously donated through Most Valuable Kids, a local organization that brings positive inspirational experiences of live sports or entertainment events to underserved children in the Greater Cincinnati area. Tickets are distributed to kids who would enjoy the opportunity to go to an event, but would otherwise not be able to attend, because of the high costs associated with tickets.

The children arrived early for music, snacks and activities in the lobby. They even took a quick dance lesson with a real ballerina. It was a night they will never forget!



Enjoying an impromptu ballet lesson with the Cincinnati Ballet

## S. Pat Marie Bernard, SC, Receives Award



Pictured left to right - Laura Brinson, Blair Schoen, S. Pat Marie Bernard, SC, and S. Juliette Sabo, SC

On September 10 Santa Maria staff members, Blair Schoen and Laura Brinson, accompanied Santa Maria Board Trustee, S. Pat Marie Bernard, SC, to Columbus, Ohio to see her receive the Molina Healthcare of Ohio Community Champions Award. Because of her years of dedication to Santa Maria and the communities she has served for the past 50 years, Santa Maria nominated S. Pat Marie Bernard, SC, for the award. The Community Champions Award is given by Molina Healthcare to honor unsung heroes of their communities. Congratulations S. Pat Marie Bernard, SC!

## Lower Price Hill Center Hosts Haunted House

Through a collaborative effort of Santa Maria, the West Eighth and State Teen Council, Lower Price Hill community members and approximately 30 youth worked together to put on their biggest performance of the year! The youth in Lower Price Hill put their creative minds together in order to transform the West Eighth and State Teen Council building into a frightening haunted house for Halloween.

The yearly haunted house provides the Lower Price Hill community with a two-day fun and free event that is full of shrieks and screams. 300 people attended the annual event this

year. All that is required for admission is a canned food item, which is collected and added to Thanksgiving baskets in order to benefit the families in Lower Price Hill. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event a huge success!



## A Little Time to “Make a Difference”

### Do you have a little time in your schedule to “Make a Difference?”

There are opportunities throughout the year to volunteer at Santa Maria that may fit into your schedule. A few examples of how we offer opportunities to “Live United” are:

#### 15th Annual Price Hill Women’s Health Fair

**Fair:** More than sixty people gathered to make the 2013 Price Hill Women’s Health Fair successful this year! Since the Price Hill Recreation Center was closed for renovations, the fair was held for the first time at Roberts Academy.



Many volunteers help make the Price Hill Women’s Health Fair run smoothly!  
Thank you to all who helped!

The volunteer team included individuals from Santa Maria and its Board of Directors, Price Hill community members and individuals from AmeriCorps, Christ Hospital, Mercy Health Physicians, Procter and Gamble, Public Allies, The Sigma Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha and TriHealth. Many of the volunteers also came from local universities, including Miami University, The College of Mount St. Joseph, Northern Kentucky University, University of Cincinnati and Xavier University. The diverse group of volunteers made interpretation available not only in English, but also ASL, Belise, Creole, French, Persian, Spanish, Swahili and Tusi.

What a group! Many THANKS to all those who participated in the Price Hill Women’s Health Fair.

**Meals-On-Wheels:** Santa Maria delivers meals to approximately 150 people in the Greater Price Hill area. The meals are delivered to eligible homebound residents to assist them in maintaining a nutritious diet. The clients look forward to the delivery and appreciate the volunteers who show up at their door.

Santa Maria’s 40+ year Meals-on-Wheels program involves more than 50 people who have been ongoing volunteers for many years--many of who work in pairs.

A big THANK YOU goes to Pearl Zinser, one of the very first to deliver meals in 1972. She faithfully delivered meals on route D every Wednesday until October 2013. Her legacy is long, loving and greatly appreciated.

Santa Maria is currently in need of delivery persons for some of the Meals-on-Wheels routes. Also needed are individuals who would be willing to serve as substitutes for one of the regular volunteers who is unable to participate on a given day, especially during the winter months.

Would you, your family or work group like to take responsibility for a route? Two people from your group could rotate delivering a particular route as frequently as your schedule allows. Some volunteers schedule to deliver a route weekly, every other week or once per month on a certain day. The clients enjoy getting to know and expect you on your day!

If you are interested in these or other volunteer opportunities at Santa Maria, contact Gladys Bell at 513-557-2730 ext. 415 or [gladys.bell@santamaria-cincy.org](mailto:gladys.bell@santamaria-cincy.org).



Meals-on-Wheels volunteers prepare meals for delivery at Santa Maria’s Sedamsville location

## Donations In Honor Of

Agney Gilbert  
Bonnie and Garry Miller

Charlotte Hills  
Martha Steele

Ted Mitchel  
Alan and Coyee Futscher

H. A. Musser, Jr.  
Atrium Medical Center

Sisters of Charity  
Celebrating Special  
Jubilee Anniversaries in  
2013  
S. Pat Marie Bernard, SC

## In Honor Of 59th Anniversary

Guy and Del  
Langenbrunner.

## In Honor Of Speedy Recovery

Paul Conway  
Marty Conway



## Continue to Raise Funds For Santa Maria By Shopping at Kroger!

This time of year is an excellent time to support Santa Maria while shopping at Kroger! Santa Maria is honored to be a part of the Kroger Community Rewards program! Over the past year Kroger has donated almost \$1,200 to Santa Maria through this program!

**All supporters of Santa Maria who registered their Kroger Plus Card prior to April 1, 2013 must re-enroll online to continue supporting Santa Maria through this program.**

Signing up or re-enrolling only takes a few moments and is completed in a few simple steps. To re-enroll:

- Visit Kroger's website at [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)
- Sign in using your email address and password. If you have forgotten your password, just click on "forgot password" and a link will be sent to your email to change your password.
- Enter the first three letters of Santa Maria (SAN) and click search.
- Select Santa Maria by clicking on the circle to the left of Santa Maria's name
- Save changes
- If you have not signed up before today, follow the easy steps at the website listed above.

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

## Welcome to AmeriCorps Volunteers, Interns

Santa Maria has recently welcomed many new AmeriCorps volunteers and student interns from area schools. Among them:



**Charles Wiederhold**, who is known as Chas, is from St. Martin, OH, and grew up right next to the Ursuline Convent and Chatfield College. Chas graduated from

Wilmington High School and went on to attend the University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning, where he graduated in April 2013 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture. While at UC he co-oped for emersion design in Evanston, working on the Lick Run Redevelopment Master Plan, Cincinnati Art Museum and several Department of Defense contracts. Chas also co-oped in Chicago for SHED Studio where they focused on Sustainable, Humane and Environmental Design.

His personal projects include a 4-unit apartment for homeless veterans with HU+IV/AIDS, a mixed-use urban farm, grocery retail and apartment complex and the Territory Urban Design Team, a summer youth program in Albany Park, one of the most diverse immigrant neighborhoods in the United States. Chas has also studied abroad twice, once in Tanzania and Kenya and again in Spain, Belgium, France, the UK and Italy. He is an AmeriCorps volunteer through LISC working at the Santa Maria International Welcome Center and East Price Hill Office. At Santa Maria Chas will focus on developing an Out of School Time Network in Price Hill, specifically targeting the barriers to involvement within the Greater Price Hill immigrant community.

**Gisela Perez Camba** was born in Tondo, Manilla in the Philippines, and lived on a street with her entire family. Gisela moved to the United States in 1993 and her family currently resides in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. After studying at



Villanova University, Gisela graduated in 2010 with a degree in Political Sciences with a concentration in East Asian Studies and minors in Chinese and Business. During school she worked in the mountainous Ifugao region in the Philippines as a Filipino and linguistics expert. She worked with villages in the area developing diversified business models for a new economy, facing the struggle of aging communities, and combating brain drain in rural communities. After college Gisela spent two years in Japan with the Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme, promoting cultural exchange between English-speaking communities of the world and Japan through education and racial and cultural international exposure.

Gisela is an AmeriCorps volunteer with Notre Dame de Mur working at the Santa Maria International Welcome Center. Her main responsibility is coordinating English as a Second Language (ESL) programs for immigrant populations in Price Hill, including administrative work for the Tuesday and Thursday ESL classes, computer literacy programs, Saturday practical English classes and Spanish and English Coffee Hours.



**Susanna Sheppard** is a graduate of Miami University in Oxford, OH. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in International

Studies (Latin America concentration) and also earned a Diploma in Paralegal Studies from the Academy of Court Reporting in Cincinnati, OH. Susanna worked in customer service for several years at United Dairy Farmers. She has also worked and actively volunteered as a private tutor for A to Z Tutoring, including serving a previous year with AmeriCorps in Frankfort, KY. Currently she is an AmeriCorps volunteer at the Santa Maria International Welcome Center.

## Santa Maria Loses Dedicated Volunteer

Recently Santa Maria received word that long-time volunteer Bob Friedmann had passed. Bob was a dedicated volunteer and supporter of Santa Maria, particularly with the Meals-on-Wheels program. Each week he joined his wife, Joan Friedmann, in delivering meals to clients who enjoyed their visits.

In 2005, Bob and Joan set up a fund at Santa Maria to support the volunteer program. This would ensure that their legacy would continue at Santa Maria.

Please join us in praying for the Friedmann family as they remember his life and in giving thanks for Bob and the outstanding life of service he gave to Santa Maria.

## Donations For the Friedmann Fund at Santa Maria In Memory Of:

### Robert Friedmann

Anonymous  
Hank and Sannie Boesing  
Thomas and Mary Jean Bushman  
James Carpenter  
Marion Chappel  
Marty and Paul Conway  
Dan and Nancy Dever  
Beverly Deye  
Anne Dulle  
Greg Dulle  
Mr. and Mrs. James Dulle  
Joseph Dulle  
Carol Espelage  
Gregory and Susan Friedmann  
The Richard Friedmann Family  
Todd and Mary Beth Gandy  
Cathy and Brian Graham  
Raymond and Beverly Groene  
Barbara Hammersmith  
Alice Henkel  
Robert G. and Viginia E. Johnson  
Mike and Mary Kayse  
Barry and Chase Kohn and  
Friends at Western Hills  
Retirement Village  
Nune Krayterman  
Barbara Krollmann  
Guy and Del Langenbrunner

Mary Ann Litmer  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lutmer  
Thomas and Nancy Matthew  
Richard McDonald  
Ellen and Joe McManus  
Diana Meckfessel  
Mike and Kim Monahan  
Rosemarie Murray  
Neonatal Nurse Leaders of So. OH and KY  
Dan and Laurie O'Rourke  
Maureen Reis  
Nancy and Bill Remke  
Cynthia Rohe  
Dorothy Roth  
Jennifer Schadle  
James Schapker  
Robert and Marilyn Schirmann  
Larry and Arlene Smith  
Mernie Smith  
Mary Jo Stemmer and Family  
Ernest Timperman  
Dr. and Mrs. Walter Timperman  
Christopher Torbeck  
Judith M. Tracey  
Bob and Ruth Westerfield  
Ethel Westerfield  
Ted Westerfield  
John and Mary Williams

## ECS Welcomes JoAnne Dwyer

Santa Maria's Every Child Succeeds (ECS) program recently welcomed new Family Support Worker, JoAnne Dwyer. Before coming to Santa Maria, JoAnne worked in early childhood as a lead teacher (preschool and toddler ages) for 8 years. She is a huge advocate for the toddler (not terrible 2s!) -- they are curious, independent, chaotic and explosive.

JoAnne earned a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education from Miami University, Oxford, OH, but began working in the early childhood arena 13 years ago. She then went back to school to earn her Masters in Inclusive Early Childhood from

the College of Mount Saint Joseph.

The job opportunity at Santa Maria's ECS program was perfect for JoAnne -- it offered the opportunity to work on the west side and have more flexibility in her schedule to spend time with her own family while working with other families and their young children.

JoAnne currently lives in Cheviot with her husband Sean and 2 year-old daughter Brianna in their new home. She loves being a mom and a new wife to Sean. They enjoy doing things as a family, including going to the zoo, exploring local parks and camping in the country.

## Price Hill Pacer Training Group Coming to Price Hill!

Santa Maria Community Services and Price Hill Will are proud to announce the beginning of a Price Hill Pacer training group that will begin in February 2014. This opportunity is made possible thru a grant awarded to Santa Maria from Interact For Health.

The bi-weekly training group will take place in different areas of Price Hill and will prepare participants for the Price Hill Pacer 5K, set for Saturday, June 7. This group will focus on beginning steps to walking a 5K (3.1 miles).

Healthy snacks, group t-shirts and weekly door prizes will be given out to participants. Free registration for the Price Hill Pacer will be awarded to all participants who complete a minimum amount of training sessions. This group is open to all individuals.

More information will be announced in January.

We look forward to seeing you!



## 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](http://www.SantaMaria-cincy.org)

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## Celebrating 116 Years at the 2013 Birthday Brunch!



Above - Guests at the 2013 Santa Maria Birthday Brunch listen to the program at the beautiful Verdin Bell Event Centre.

Right - Table Sponsor Western & Southern Financial Group



Below - The Hart Pharmacy family received the Organization Award for their commitment and dedication to the Price Hill Community

Right - Santa Maria President and CEO, H. A. Musser, enjoys time at the Brunch with one of his grandsons.

