

UPCOMING EVENTS

2012 Bienestar Recognition Luncheon
May 18, 2012
McCormick and Schmick's

2012 Price Hill Pacer 5K
June 9, 2012
Elder High School

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SPRING/SUMMER 2012



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

Message From President & CEO and Board Chair

Literacy Center West to become part of Santa Maria

For 115 years, Santa Maria Community Services has been proud to make a difference in the lives of people in Price Hill. In all that we do, we strive to continually improve our community and our organization. So for nine months, Santa Maria has explored the merits of a potential merger.

We are thrilled to report that, after an in-depth examination, the Boards of Directors of Santa Maria Community Services and Literacy Center West (LCW) have decided that they will come together as one organization. This means that Literacy Center West will become a program of Santa Maria, operating as one of Santa Maria's centers.

Both Boards are convinced that clients will be served better, community resources will be used more efficiently and staff will have more opportunities to be fulfilled in their work.

We are not doing this because of a fiscal emergency. In fact, both organizations continue to be strong. We are doing this because it will allow us to make an even greater impact on our community for years to come.

We expect this will be a great fit because

Literacy Center West's programs complement those offered by Santa Maria. All services the two organizations provide independently will be available after the merger.

Literacy Center West is a 24-year-old nonprofit that works to break the cycle of poverty. It focuses on GED preparation and job-readiness training by tutoring, teaching and counseling people. Based in Price Hill, it has nine employees, about 50 volunteers and 400 donors. Each year, it serves about 350 people from across Greater Cincinnati. More information about LCW is available at www.litcenterwest.org.

Before deciding to go ahead with the merger, we consulted our major funders, including the United Way of Greater Cincinnati. All encouraged us to move forward.

Representatives from both organizations have been meeting to plan the integration. We hope to finalize the merger about July 1.

In the coming weeks, we will have a lot more to tell you about this effort. Meanwhile, if you have questions, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Santa Maria and those we serve.



Ted Mitchel, Santa Maria Board of Directors President,

Administrative Office and Sedamsville Center

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Cincinnati, Ohio 45204
(513) 557-2730

East Price Hill Center

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

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

Putting Cultural Competency To Work: Building and Maintaining Cross-Cultural Relationships in the Community

by Santa Maria Intern, Kaitlyn Wessels

On Thursday, April 26, Santa Maria held an all-day, all-staff training on cultural diversity. With great support from former Santa Maria Board member Sister Arlene McGowan, SFP, staff enjoyed the beautiful accommodations at Centennial Barn on the campus of the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor for the day.



Santa Maria staff members discuss group exercise results at the Cultural Competency training

The Cultural Competency training consisted of two main sessions. Santa Maria was honored to be joined by a four-person professional panel including:

- Norm Solomon, Director of Refugee Resettlement Services at Catholic Charities of Southwestern Ohio;
- Rhonda Robinson, an MSN with more than 30 years of experience in healthcare and mental health settings;
- Nancy Laird, Human Services Coordinator at the Urban Appalachian Council;
- Gloria Rodriguez-Milord, a licensed social worker with more than 30 years of experience working with children and families.

The panel spoke about the cultural values of four diverse groups in Price Hill: African, African -American, Appalachian and Hispanic. After their brief individual presentations, the panel held a Q & A session to address questions from staff and offer culturally competent strategies for effective

service delivery.

By lunch time, presenters and staff alike were ready for the delicious spread of McAlister's Deli sandwiches, wraps, salads, and snacks generously provided by Santa Maria Board Member, Sheila Conway.

After lunch staff entered the afternoon refueled and ready to work. This session focused on improving the organizational system by infusing cultural diversity into all aspects of the organization. Facilitated by Dr. Jeannette Taylor, professor and program chair at the University of Cincinnati School of Social Work, and her colleague Chip Henderson, staff worked through a series of exercises and group discussions to generate ideas for improvement and change throughout the organization.

By the end of the day, staff had many positive things to say about the overall training experience. "It's always beneficial to take a step back and think about ways we can improve," one staff member wrote. "It was fun and informative doing that today."

Thanks again to all of the presenters, staff and supporters who made this training possible. It would not have been such a success without you.



The Cultural Competency training was a positive experience for all Santa Maria staff

Donations In Honor Of

Sr. Agnes Coveney, OSU
Marjorie Perin

New Grandmother

Blair Schoen
Maureen Maxfield

Birthday

Rhonda Musser
Douglas and Virginia Wright, Jr.

Christmas

H. A. and Rhonda
Musser
Douglas and Virginia Wright, Jr.

For the Friedmann Fund Birthday

Bob Friedmann
Mark and Caroline Friedmann

Sister Pat Marie Bernard, SC, Honored At 2012 Bienestar Recognition Luncheon

Santa Maria Community Services honored local healthcare leaders of the Hispanic/Latino communities at its seventh annual Bienestar Recognition Luncheon on Friday, May 18th at McCormick and Schmick's in downtown Cincinnati.

Through its inception and development, Santa Maria's Wellness/Bienestar program has counted on and benefited from the support of many exceptional individuals and organizations devoted to enhancing health and education options for the Hispanic/Latino population.



S. Pat Marie Bernard to be honored at the Bienestar Recognition Luncheon on May 18

S. Pat Marie Bernard, SC, was honored at the Luncheon with the *Sr. Margarita Brewer Hope Award*. With degrees in both Medical Technology and Nursing, S. Pat Marie Bernard has ministered in healthcare for the past 50 years. Forty-two of those years were in New Mexico at St. Vincent Hospital in Santa Fe, St. Joseph Hospital in Santa Fe, St. Joseph Hospital in Albuquerque and the last 23 years as Executive Director of the Villa Therese Catholic Clinic in Santa Fe, a basically free clinic providing health services to uninsured/underinsured families. In 2004 Sr. Pat Marie moved to the Cincinnati area where the Sisters of Charity (SC) Motherhouse is located. She volunteers at Santa Maria's Wellness/Bienestar program performing wellness checkups. She has served on Santa Maria's Wellness Advisory Committee and currently serves on the Board of Directors. Recent volunteer work has also included serving on the Sisters of Charity Bayley Senior Care Corp. Board and nursing assistance at the Bayley Adult Day Care program. Sister Pat Marie states her "passion" in life is the spiritual journey. She is involved in retreat work and spiritual direction through the Spirituality Center at

the SC Motherhouse.

The Greater Cincinnati Latino Coalition (GCLC) was recognized with the organizational award. In 2006 the GCLC was formed so that service providers to the Hispanic/Latino community in Cincinnati could connect with others to endure no gaps in critical services to the Hispanic/Latino population and to increase cultural competency in the delivery of existing services. Since then the GCLC has assisted numerous agencies in becoming more aware of and sensitive to the issues within the translation services, advocacy to Hispanic/Latinos and serving as advisory partners. Members of the coalition all share the same passion and perseverance toward a common goal: to make positive changes in existing service delivery systems that will have a positive impact on the quality of life for Hispanic/Latino individuals and families within the Greater Cincinnati community, empowering them to succeed and thrive.

Impact sponsors for the 2012 Bienestar Luncheon are PNC Bank, SC Ministry Foundation and Ethicon Endo-Surgery. Santa Maria's Wellness/Bienestar program is generously supported by TriHealth/Good Samaritan Hospital, Mercy Health and GE Aviation.

Luncheon speaker was local immigration attorney Marilyn Zayas-Davis. Mistress of Ceremonies for the event was Geri Hernandez from Macy's. The Bienestar Recognition Luncheon was held on Friday, May 18 at McCormick and Schmick's.



Bienestar Recognition Luncheon Impact Sponsors

PNC Bank
SC Ministry Foundation
Ethicon Endo-Surgery

Bienestar Program Sponsors

TriHealth/
Good Samaritan Hospital
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GE Aviation

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Allan and Patricia Acheson
Edward Acheson
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Linda Acheson
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Bob Bill
Guy and Del Langenbrunner

David Black
Ms. Nancy Black

Bob Bruns
Guy and Del Langenbrunner

Pastor Ernst Cassy
Joe Busken

Virginia Cavanaugh,
Mother
Dr. John W. Cavanaugh
Cross Cultural Communications,
LLC

Minnie Cupito
Chuck and Mary Hais



Suzzette, successful FOC client, tells her story at the FOC Open House



Community members, current clients, donors and funders welcomed the Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center to its new location

Memorials *Cont.*

Helen B. Dirr
Annette and Theodore Suesz, Jr.

Virginia Fallon
Tom and Janet Wernke

Lillian Hart Fey
Patricia Hart Linesch

Edmund Fritz
Vicki and Mark Hall

Virginia Gardner
Tim and Marianne Shannon
John and Colleen Walroth

Angela Hammersmith
Todd Hammersmith
Guy and Del Langenbrunner

Lee Hammersmith
Barbara Hammersmith

Joan M. Heidemann
Anonymous
Mary Rose Hart

Dr. Henry Clay Beekley
Mrs. Elsie K. Beekley

Judge John W. Keefe
Mrs. John W. Keefe

Mary Kersting
Raymond Kersting

New Location For Price Hill FOC

On Monday, April 16th, the Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center (FOC) celebrated its Grand Opening with an open house event. Community members, current clients, donors and funders welcomed the FOC to its new location at 2918 Price Avenue. FOC staff led tours of the new building, including the computer lab, which will be used for job search and workshop space where orientation sessions, tenant education classes and financial and employment workshops are held.

Attendees had the opportunity to hear from representatives of the FOC partner organizations, including Santa Maria, Cincinnati Works and Price Hill Will. H. A. Musser, President and CEO of Santa Maria thanked representatives from First Financial Bank, who sponsored the renovation of the building as well as the United Way of Greater Cincinnati and LISC for their ongoing support in building the FOC program.

Suzzette, an FOC client who recently shared her success in the program in the FOC's recruitment video, spoke about how much the services provided by the FOC had helped her family move closer to stability and self-sufficiency. Suzzette truly demonstrates what can be achieved when the FOC's core services of employment coaching, financial coaching and income supports are used in conjunction with one another.

Being in the new space has allowed the FOC staff to better serve the needs of their clients and they would like to express their gratitude for everyone who made it possible.

For more information about the Price Hill FOC, contact Danielle at 513-557-2710, ext. 300.



Santa Maria's Volunteers Are Awesome!

Awesome! That's the term that describes Santa Maria's team of volunteers!! Santa Maria is fortunate to partner with such a diverse group of volunteers who are woven throughout its programming. Santa Maria is grateful to each and every volunteer, because our impact would not be noticeable without them.

Although National Volunteer Week took place during April 15-21, Santa Maria celebrates its volunteers all year. During April Santa Maria celebrated its volunteers at a Recognition Dinner for those who have given 25 or more hours of service during the year. The delicious dinner was held at The Farm and John Louis, a local magician provided amazing entertainment.

On Tuesday, May 22, all Santa Maria volunteers who have been involved during the past year are invited to the Volunteer Picnic held at Embshoff Park in Delhi from 3-6 pm.

The 2012 Spring Health Fair, sponsored by Santa Maria, The Ohio Commission on

Minority Health and Cincy Cinco is one of the largest events of the year. Totally staffed by volunteers, the Health Fair involved more than 75 persons to offer this service to the community. There were 13 FREE screenings and more than 25 exhibit tables of health-related information in English and Spanish. 35 Spanish bilingual volunteers provided interpretation services from registration to serving the nutritious lunch snack. The Health Fair volunteers came from the University of Cincinnati, Xavier University, Northern Kentucky University, The College of Mt. St. Joseph, General Electric, the City of Cincinnati Health Department, TriHealth, Americorp, Public Allies and more.

If you are interested in a volunteer experience with Santa Maria, contact Gladys Bell at 513-557-2730 ext. 415 or gladys.bell@santamaria-cincy.org.



Over 75 volunteers helped at the Price Hill Spring Health Fair

Price Hill Pacer 5K Scheduled For June 9

Join sponsors Macy's, SC Ministry Foundation, Rudemiller Family Medicine, Hart Pharmacy, The Kroger Co., Cincinnati Sports Medicine, Mercy Health HealthPlex, Cincinnati Federal Savings and Loan, Judy Harmony, Warsaw Federal Savings and Loan, The Model Group, Price Hill Chili, Hofmeyer and Sons, PepsiAmerica and Skally's Old World Bakery in "Hoofin' it up the Hill!" The seventh annual Price Hill Pacer 5K Run/Walk benefiting the community programs of Santa Maria Community Services and Price Hill Will takes place on Saturday, June 9 at 9 am.

The 5K (3.1 mile) course begins at Elder High School's Schaeper Center at Vincent Avenue and runs through the surrounding neighborhoods. New this year is the Hart 1 mile walk, sponsored by Hart Pharmacy, for those individuals wanting a less strenuous course. Rewind 94.9 will get the party started with MC Steve Mann and Zumba warm up and cool down exercises will be led by Mercy Health HealthPlex.



Runners begin their race at the 2011 Price Hill Pacer

Each participant will receive a goody bag and a chance to win one of many door prizes. Recognition awards will be given to the winners in all age categories. Split the pot raffle tickets will be sold during the event. Refreshments, including hot dogs, bagels, bananas and SnoCones will be served before and after the event.



Runners and walkers can get more information, a map of the course and download a printable registration form at www.pricehillpacer.org. Pre-registration postmarked by June 2 is \$15 for adults, \$10 for students (17 and under) and \$10 for the family/group rate of 5-10 people. Online registration can be completed until June 5 at midnight. After the registration deadline, the cost is \$20 for adults, \$15 for students, and \$15 per person for the family/group rate. T-shirts are not included in registration and can be purchased for an additional \$5. Proceeds from the Price Hill Pacer benefit the community programs offered in Greater Price Hill by Santa Maria Community Services and Price Hill Will. For more information or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.santamaria-cincy.org or www.pricehillwill.org, or contact Leslie Schultz at leslie.schultz@santamaria-cincy.org or (513) 557-2730 ext. 408.

Planned Giving Honor For Tony and Regina Reis

The Greater Cincinnati Planned Giving Council recently accepted the nomination from Santa Maria and Catholic Inner-city Schools Education Fund (CISE) of Tony and Regina Reis for a 2012 Voices of Giving Award.

Both organizations were blessed to have known this wonderful couple. They were

caring and selfless individuals who touched the lives of many through their generosity and service. In 1997, Tony and Regina created the Anthony H. and Regina M. Reis Charitable Remainder Unitrust. After Tony's passing in February 2011, CISE and Santa Maria each received generous distributions as beneficiaries of their trust. (Regina predeceased Tony in April 2009.)



Award winner Grace Costello (right) and Luz Elena Schemmel

Santa Maria volunteer, Grace Costello, was honored for her community service by the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission (CHRC) on Thursday, March 22, 2012. This event was held in the Cincinnati City Council Chambers at City Hall. The award seeks to honor youth who actively promote positive human relations within their school and/or community.

Grace, age 16, is involved with Santa Maria's International Welcome Center (IWC) located at Roberts Academy. She assists in helping provide child care and enrichment activities for children while their parents learn to speak English at the English as a Second Language class.

"Grace really relates well with the children that she works with. She loves to interact and play with the kids and is a tremendous help," says IWC Program Director, Luz Elena Schemmel. "Grace volunteers just because she enjoys it."

Besides volunteering at Santa Maria, Grace gives freely of her time to other organizations, including the Cincinnati Zoo, Su Casa and Starfire. She enjoys giving back to the community.

Memorials (continued)

Thomas Koppenhoefer
Ruth Koppenhoefer

Camilla M. Kramer
Charles and Patricia Bernitt

William Leesman
William and Nancy Remke

Jack Lengerich, Sr.
William and Nancy Remke

Lucille Meirose
Walter Meirose

Sr. Terry Metz
Nancy Ferrari

Joseph Murray
Mr. and Mrs. William Remke

Barb Nolan
Chuck and Mary Hais

Tom O'Brien
William and Nancy Remke

Dr. Jerome Roth
Mary Rose Hart

Bob Schott
Ruth Schott

Mary Siemer
Walter J. Siemer

Lavern Trame
William and Nancy Remke

Elaine Willenborg
John and Betty Willenborg

Mimi, Jake and Sydney
Wittich
James and Joyce Beckenhaupt

For Christmas

Edna Busch-Braegger
Barbara Kruezkamp

John O'Brien
Margaret O'Brien

Price Hill FOC Program Director Honored



Santa Maria employee Kayla Camp-Warner, Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center Program Director

The Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration

(ASPA-GCC) recently honored one of Santa Maria's employees, Kayla Camp-Warner, at the ASPA-GCC's Public Administrators of the Year Awards Banquet on Friday, April 20 at The Phoenix in downtown Cincinnati. Annually, ASPA-GCC honors outstanding individuals for their work in the field of public administration including government, education and the non-profit sector.

Kayla, Price Hill Financial Opportunity Center Program Director, was honored with the Early Careerist award. Award recipients were also recognized as a part of Public Service Recognition Week (May 6 - 12) during the Greater Cincinnati Public Service Recognition Celebration on Thursday, May 10 at noon on Fountain Square.

Child Development Programs Host Events For Families

On March 21, Santa Maria's Family Child Care (FCC) program hosted a fun event for all providers and children. A juggler



A juggler shows off his skills for the FCC outing

entertained the group with feats of skill, smiling faces were painted, a delicious lunch was shared and a special treat of cotton candy was enjoyed at this circus themed event. The Family Child Care program provides on-going training to currently certified family child care providers, as well as encouragement and guidance to a small group of providers.

In the evening of March 21 Santa Maria's SPARK (Supporting Partnerships To Assure Ready Kids), POP (Promoting Our Preschoolers) and HIPPIY (Home Instruction for Preschool Parents and Youngsters) programs hosted a parent workshop at Roberts Academy. Parents and

children participated in literacy and math activities in both English and Spanish. These activities can also be used at home. In addition, a parent break-out session was held to inform parents about what the children will need for kindergarten. Childcare and a pizza dinner were provided.

Friday the 13th is traditionally considered an unlucky day but the families from POP, SPARK and ECS (Every Child Succeeds) have broken that tradition. On April 13 25 families assembled for a spring time celebration. Along with a chicken dinner, there were games, door prizes and a special drawing.



Families located their homelands and then joined them together

Together the participants discovered that the families are very diverse and come from all the continents of the world except Antarctica!

Meet Olivia!

Olivia was welcomed into this world in March of 2009 by her family, Cissy and Albert Frommel and siblings. Olivia, soon after birth, developed difficulties. Discharged from the Neonatal ICU, Olivia was referred to the Every Child Succeeds (ECS) program, where they met with Santa Maria employee, Colleen Healey.

Santa Maria's Every Child Succeeds program, through Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Help Me Grow of Ohio, provided service coordination and parent support to the family. Olivia's parents received therapy consultation for specific needs relative to Olivia's development. ECS, Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services (D. D. S.) and Children's Hospital Cincinnati provided specialists to advise Cissy and Albert of the use of strategies to put Olivia on a continuum for growth and development to reach her developmental milestones.



Olivia as a baby

Throughout the past three years, Olivia and her parents have met with Colleen more than sixty times to discuss strategies using the ECS Parents' As Teachers Curriculum focusing on five domains: intellectual, communication, motor, socio-emotional and adaptive. This information paired with the therapy consult from Hamilton County D. D. S. and

Children's Hospital therapists has allowed Olivia to meet her milestones.

Olivia is able to attend pre-school as her parents research what best fits their needs. Three Rivers School System found that Olivia met her milestones in all five areas of development and referred Olivia to a typical pre-school program. In this sense, "TYPICAL" is the best possible outcome!

Santa Maria partners have made the Frommel family's three year journey smoother, as other obstacles have arisen. The family received community help, such as housing counseling through the Legal Aid Society, a Holiday gift basket from Elder High School and parent support and community referrals for family activities. These services paired with the love and tenacious effort by the family of Olivia are the most important aspect of Olivia's life. The continual effort given to Olivia by her family has made all the difference in Olivia's development. Olivia, a spirited, energetic and independent child, is able to hold her own in a large family and is ready to meet the challenges of the school environment.

This past March Colleen met with the family for the last time to provide the ECS Graduation Certificate and the age-appropriate parting gift bag. The family surprised Colleen with a picture frame and photos of Olivia over the past three years and a heartfelt letter describing the family's thanks. Olivia was visibly unhappy at the final meeting and would not pose with Colleen in the photo, but she would sit on her mother's lap for just a moment.

Foundation Corner

Santa Maria's Wellness/Bienestar program was awarded \$30,000 by **The Josephine Schell Russell Charitable Trust, PNC Bank Trustee**. Grant funds will be used to strengthen the program's outreach to the uninsured/underinsured vulnerable population in order to promote healthy behaviors and aid in the discovery, prevention and basic management of chronic diseases.

The Louise Taft Semple Foundation awarded \$15,000 towards the purchase of a new van for Santa Maria. The van will be used to provide field trips to youth in Santa Maria's Youth Development program, as well as help with transportation to the agency's group activities for the Wellness/Bienestar program, the International Welcome Center and senior group participants.



Help Santa Maria by Shopping at Kroger!

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@santamariacincy.org



Santa Maria Community Services

Helping families help themselves since 1897.

Administrative Office

617 Steiner Avenue

Cincinnati, OH 45204

(513) 557-2730

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Santa Maria's MOW Program Celebrates 40 Years!

“What’s for lunch today? Today we’re serving broccoli cheddar chicken over rice, with carrots, corn, wheat bread with margarine, pineapple tidbits to our Meals-on-Wheels recipients. Could you or a senior you know benefit from a healthy, nutritionally-balanced meal delivered to your home? Contact Carol Espelage at 513-557-2730, ext. 402 to learn more about Santa Maria’s Meals-on-Wheels program and sign up today!”

This recently posted entry to Santa Maria’s Facebook page tells a little about Santa Maria’s Meals-on-Wheels (MOW) program. But here’s a little more history about this program that’s celebrating 40 years!

The Santa Maria’s MOW program started in 1972. Today it is the longest volunteer run MOW program in the Cincinnati area. Lois Wagner saw the need to feed the elderly in the Price Hill area and discussed her idea with Steve Lange from Santa Maria. Gathering her friends and other church parishioners, she began picking meals up from area restaurants, which were already packaged for each individual, and delivered them to whoever was in need.

Some of these restaurants included Quebec Gardens, Ferdinand’s and The Crow’s Nest, as well as the old St. George Hospital on Queen City, St. Francis/St. George Hospital on Boudinot and the YMCA daycare that was held at Seton High School. As time passed, the Senior Services levee was passed, which has helped fund the MOW program in the Greater Cincinnati area since then.

Today meals are delivered to over 150 individuals a week by over 90 volunteers. Four of the women that volunteered when the program began are still delivering meals today: Marge Rellar, Pearl Zinser, Lois Wandstrat and Lil Stagge.

You too can volunteer for this amazing program and provide home-bound, older adults with nutritious meals five days a week and a frozen meal for the weekend. The elderly clients also have the added assurance of knowing that someone will regularly check on their well-being and help out with other tasks or supplies if necessary.

If you would like to volunteer or if you know of someone who could benefit from receiving these meals, please contact Carol Espelage at 513-557-2730 ext. 402, carol.espelage@santamaria-cincy.org or Gladys Bell at 513-557-2730 ext. 415, gladys.bell@santamaria-cincy.org.