

YMCA Van Buren Shelter Services Monthly news & updates



June 2022

Donation Needs

- Baby Bottles
- Pacifiers
- Towels & Washcloths
- Coloring Books
- Water Bottles

Amazon Wish List



Give Her Hope Campaign

Donations to Give Her Hope fund resources that help women, men and families leave our shelter and secure stable housing. Giving hope can mean so many supports, like an apartment down payment, a ticket to travel to family out of town, or the fee to obtain a birth certificate.

In 2022, Give Her Hope has given \$87,523 in assistance helping women, men, and families in central Ohio.

The Knowledge Center Opens on the Family Side at Van Buren Center

Van Buren Center has a new space available to guests at the shelter on the Family Side called the Knowledge Center. The Knowledge Center will now extend available services to guests on the family side and make it easier for them to access onsite workshops, resume classes, computers, meet with outside agencies and so much more!

The first workshop (pictured below) was held in the space last week and facilitated by [The Nutter Center for Empowering Women, Inc.](#)

Give Her Hope 2022 Impact

- **81** paid security deposits and rental assistance.
- **51** outstanding utility bills paid.
- **6** Greyhound bus tickets purchased reuniting loved ones.

*#s from January 1-June 30, 2022

We need your help to continue changing lives and giving hope back to our shelter guests. Anything you can give truly makes the difference and can change a life.

Please consider giving today and click the link below.

[Give Now](#)



Workshop Volunteer Opportunities

Melissa Marcum, Employment and Guest Resource Coordinator has developed a resume-building class for Van Buren Center guests that will be available in the Knowledge Center. Currently, we are looking for volunteers to assist the facilitator of the resume class. The volunteer role will require you to have basic computer skills to assist guests with typing, formatting, printing, and scanning documents during the class.

If you are interested in finding out more or would like to get involved please email

melissa.marcum@ymcacolumbus.org



Summer Fun for Van Buren Kids



This summer every Tuesday and Thursday the Van Buren Center offers the kids in the shelter activities including painting, crafts, BINGO, play, and FUN in the afternoon. Last week the kids painted, played outside on the playground with bubbles and water on the playground, and enjoyed a puppet show!

Thank you Arby's Foundation for granting us funds to support our efforts! Check out pictures from our Summer Program last week and the awesome activities made possible through the Arby's Foundation.



Thank you for helping us support the youth in our community!



Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon 2022 Highlights

Earlier this month, the Van Buren Center hosted its annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. For the



first time in 2 years, it was in-person so it was such a special moment for us to have to share together again.

Thank you so much to everyone that was able to attend. We look forward to seeing you all again next year and if you were unable to attend we hope you are able to join us then!



Community Spotlight



Assistance League of Metro Columbus

On Thursday, Carol Morgan from the Assistance League stopped by with 105 hygiene kits for our men, women, and families. The continued support and efforts of the Assistance League have provided and sustained access for our guests at the Van Buren Center to these vital resources for over a year now.



Dress for Success

Dress for Success returned this month with their mobile unit in our parking lot. The program provides women at our shelter with free clothing and services that empower women to achieve their potential and economic independence. This month they brought volunteers with them who played with the children so that mothers could attend their appointments without distraction or worry.

[Visit Our Website](#)

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