



Happy Fall!

We have been busy and are excited to share with you some of the wonderful things taking place at Van Buren Center and our Men's Shelter. Below are some of the amazing opportunities to come and we would love for you to join us!

Volunteer Opportunities

In March, we decided to postpone all meal service volunteer opportunities based on the recommendations of federal, state, and local government health officials due to COVID-19 and to ensure the health and safety of our volunteers, guests, and staff.

- November 1st kicks off the return of volunteer opportunities in the kitchen at Van Buren Center.
- [Click Here](#) to view the Kitchen Service Sign-Up
- Volunteers will not be able to sign-up for Kitchen Service until 10/30/2020.
- Don't forget to complete the YMCA Shelter Service Volunteer Orientation! [Click Here](#) to complete.

Holiday Season

We need your help! Please consider joining us this holiday season in our efforts to ensure our men, women, and families are provided with a delicious meal by donating food or supplies. To find out more [Click Here](#)

Santa's Workshop

Volunteer to be an Elf in our Santa's Workshop or contribute in other ways by helping us make the holiday magical for the families at Van Buren Center. Below is the flyer with more details on how to get involved. Stay tuned in for next month's newsletter where we will announce the dates for the workshop and sign-up to get involved. Spots are limited and they fill up fast!



the YMCA FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTHY LIVING FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YOU CAN GIVE A CHILD A MAGICAL HOLIDAY

Become an ELF in Santa's Workshop
VAN BUREN CENTER

We want to surprise children at the Van Buren Center with a magical gift this Holiday season. Our goal is simple! We want each child to open a gift chosen especially for them.

HOW AN ELF CAN CONTRIBUTE

Purchase gift cards and food certificates.
Donations of any amount are accepted and may be tax deductible.

Give new, unwrapped gifts of your choice; stockings; stocking stuffers; & toys
Items can be delivered to our Donation Drop-Off area at Van Buren Center. Simply, pull up to our loading dock and call the front desk once you arrive.

Volunteer in Santa's Workshop.
Contact us for details.

HELP MAKE A CHILD'S WISH COME TRUE THIS YEAR

WRITE A CHECK payable to the YMCA of Central Ohio (memo: Van Buren Santa Workshop) and send it to 595 Van Buren Center, Columbus, OH 43223

SPONSOR A CHILD OR LEARN MORE by emailing vbvolunteer@ymcacolombus.org

Van Buren Center Community Mural Project

The first mural was completed last month and is located in the Single Adult Women's Dining Hall. The project is completely collaborative, and guests submitted ideas, designs, as well as helped paint the mural. One guest wrote a poem about Van Buren Center to go along with the mural.

[Click Here](#) to watch the video and see the progression of the mural!



Shelter Service Staff Spotlight

Chef Keith



"Keith has led the Van Buren Dining Services team since January 2020. His tireless service to others does not go unnoticed and his homemade tomato soup gets rave reviews! He's excited to welcome volunteers back into The Caring Kitchen."

YMCA Shelter Services Impact Report for the Month of September 2020

Van Buren Center & Men's Shelter

of Women served: 271

of Families served: 91 (295 individuals)

of Men served: 303

of Guests who were successfully housed: 12 Single Adult Women, 16 Families, 4 Men