

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF REDSTONE PRESBYTERY

**REDSTONE MISSION COODINATOR-Kathy Haluska, 128 Lynn Road, Brownsville, PA 15417
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TOGETHER IN SERVICE - MISSION OPPORTUNITIES – 2023

Together in Service, formerly known as Mission Opportunities, is one way that Presbyterian Women support mission. The generous giving of Presbyterian Women to Together in Service funds mission initiatives such as health care, education, reconciliation and healing, poverty relief and more, as well as support for existing denominational and ecumenical programs.

Consider the following mission opportunities recommended by the national PW.

Puerto Rico:

Your gift to Together in Service in Puerto Rico will support ongoing recovery efforts in three key areas:

- **Community Centers**
This project will establish after-school support through music, sports, homework help and other child-centered activities. The purpose of these activities is to shift community activity towards the Presbyterian churches across the Synod of Puerto Rico. Establishing a children's community program will provide space for recreational activities to take place, allowing children to develop the resilience and social skills that are needed, particularly in the context of the aftermath of the storm.
- **Clean Water**
This project will help make possible the installation of a clean water system in the First Presbyterian Church in Aguada, Puerto Rico. The well, which will be drilled at the church, and clean water systems will provide access to potable water to thousands in the municipality of Aguada.
- **Home Reconstruction**
Funds from this project will be used for construction materials and equipment used by churches and mission teams coming into the Northwest Presbytery, the largest presbytery of the Synod of Puerto Rico. Teams will repair and rebuild homes that have not been restored through federal assistance.

To donate to this Together in Service project, go to www.presbyterianwomen.org/give. To be *Together in Service*, other PW groups offer ongoing support to local church or community projects. Other groups commit to answering short-term needs in their communities. Others choose to support one or more of the affiliate organizations listed below:

- **On Eagle's Wings Ministries**
On Eagle's Wings offers free, Christ-centered support to individuals caught in the web of sex trafficking. They also have an online call center and continue to learn how to reach out to those in need.
- **Sunset Gap Community Center**
Sunset Gap is a "Christian-based organization uniting people of all faiths and providing programs that contribute to the physical, social, economic and spiritual growth of the people of Cocke and Sevier counties in Tennessee. Coordinating home repairs, a thrift shop, food pantry and meal delivery program, Sunset Gap enhances the well-being of people in an impoverished area of Appalachia.

- **Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition**
Ending human trafficking will require building awareness and coordinating efforts in every community. San Francisco's Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition (BAATC) works to achieve slave-free by coordinating the intervention, aftercare and prevention services in the community.
- **Puente Community Resource Center**
Puente is the only community resource center in south San Mateo County, California. This area's farms employ many immigrant workers who cannot easily access social services. Puente offers programs in health and wellness, adult education, leadership development and employment, in addition to providing emergency resources for rent, utilities, clothing and toiletries.
- **Ciliwung Community Center**
This community center provides women in Jakarta with the opportunity to learn about nutrition, get support for their families and learn skills that will be a source of income. The center also houses a kindergarten and library.
- **The Suwung School and Clinic**
Sorting and recycling items from garbage dumps is a source of income for a number of residents of Bali's capital, Denpasar. The Protestant Reformed Church in Western Indonesia (GPIB) supports these individuals and their children with a school and medical clinic in the garbage dump.

For more information, contact PW's mission associate, Cheri Harper, at cheri.harper@pcusa.org. Below are other organizations you may consider.

Agricultural Missions

is an independent ecumenical organization that has been in existence since 1934. AMI was formed for the specific purposes of supporting rural peoples in their struggles to achieve justice, better lives and communities, and to educate its North American constituency and general public on issues of importance to the rural peoples in the United States and other countries.

Bread for the World

A nationwide Christian movement that seeks justice for the world's hungry people by lobbying our nation's decision makers.

CARE

CARE is a leading humanitarian organization dedicated to fighting global poverty, saving lives, and achieving social justice. Their community-based efforts empower women, improve basic education, prevent the spread of disease, increase access to clean water, expand economic opportunity and protect natural resources.

Children's Defense Fund

A nonprofit organization that advocates for children's rights, including education, health care, economic security and other social justice issues.

Christmas International House

Christmas International House is a Christian ministry designed to offer hospitality to international students during the two-week Christmas holidays. Participants witness to the reality that, behind diversity, everyone stands together as one human family.

Church Women United

A Christian women's movement that celebrates unity in diversity and works for a world of justice and peace, particularly through World Day of Prayer.

Church World Service

CWS is a cooperative ministry of Protestant, Orthodox and Anglican denominations providing sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief and refugee assistance in more than 80 countries.

Days for Girls International

Days for Girls believes every girl in the world deserves education, safety and dignity. They work toward this goal by helping girls who would otherwise go without to have access to quality sustainable feminine hygiene and awareness.

ECPAT-USA

ECPAT-USA works to protect every child's basic human right to grow up free from the threat of sexual exploitation and trafficking through lobbying federal and state legislators and corporate boards; educating first responders and ordinary citizens; and empowering youth to take the lead against human trafficking through education and knowledge.

Ecumenical Women at the United Nations

An international coalition of church denominations and ecumenical organizations which have status with the Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) at the United Nations. Grounded in our faith and commitment to global justice, Ecumenical Women trains and empowers an expanding network to advocate for gender equality at the United Nations.

Fellowship of the Least Coin, A Program of the Asian Women's Church Conference

Fellowship of the Least Coin is a global, ecumenical prayer movement. Founded on the belief that prayer unites a worldwide family of faith, women from around the world pray for peace and reconciliation and set aside the least coin of their country as a symbol of that prayer.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity International is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat builds and rehabilitates houses in partnership with homeowner families.

Heifer International

Heifer is an international organization that works with communities to end hunger and poverty and to care for the earth.

IMA World Health

IMA World Health provides essential health care services and supplies to vulnerable and marginalized people the world over.

Knitting4Peace

Knitting4Peace is a grassroots organization whose members knit, crochet and weave as a visible sign of the real work of the organization: knitting together the global community. As participants create, they pray for each other, for the recipients of the items and for hope, healing and peace.

Little Dresses for Africa

Little Dresses for Africa is a nonprofit, non-denominational Christian organization originally formed to send messages of hope and worth to girls in Africa, in the form of simple dresses made out of pillowcases. The program has expanded to other continents and now includes boys' shorts, school scholarships, meals, and support at several locations.

ONE Campaign

ONE is a campaigning and advocacy organization of more than seven million people around the world taking action to end extreme poverty and preventable disease, particularly in Africa. ONE believes that the fight against poverty isn't about charity, but about justice and equality.

Partners for Just Trade

Partners for Just Trade (PJT) is a non-profit, faith-based organization that builds partnerships between producers living in extreme poverty and consumers in North America. They address root causes of poverty through Fair Trade sales, education, solidarity and a commitment to trade justice.

SERRV

SERRV is a nonprofit, fair trade organization dedicated to lifting disadvantaged artisans, farmers and their families out of poverty. SERRV sells unique, handcrafted product collections from their 55 small-scale artisan/farmer organizations and cooperatives. In addition to fair wages, SERRV's partners receive training to help grow sustainable businesses.

Ten Thousand Villages

Ten Thousand Villages markets handicrafts created in underdeveloped countries, thus providing a vital and fair income to the artisans. In addition to organizing shops and fairs, this organization tells the stories of the women and men whose lives are improved through these sales.

World Day of Prayer USA

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide, ecumenical movement of Christian women who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Offerings collected during interfaith services benefit women and children around the world.

World Food Day USA

Although hunger is a social ill that we must deal with every day, on one day each year, hunger eradicators (that's us!) join together in our local communities to raise awareness about hunger and food insecurity through hunger walks, speaker events, food drives and more.

In addition to these affiliations at the national level, Presbyterian Women at the local level are involved with numerous secular, ecumenical or interfaith organizations that share our PW values.

To learn more about these missions you can visit

[https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what we do/support-mission/together-servicemission-opportunities/](https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what-we-do/support-mission/together-servicemission-opportunities/). If you don't have access to a computer or the internet you can contact the Redstone Mission Coordinator, Kathy Haluska, by phone, text or email for additional information

To ask a question or to learn more about PW Affiliations, contact Susan Jackson Dowd at susan.jackson-dowd@pcusa.org or 844-797-2872 ext. 5368

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SYNOD OF THE TRINITY
2023 PW Synod Mission Project: Welcome Home SIS
A Safe Space for System Impacted Survivors

The Synod of the Trinity's Presbyterian Women's mission project for 2023 is Welcome Home SIS, which is a non-profit, Christ-centered safety net that serves women who have been impacted by the criminal injustice system and have endured a period of imprisonment.

Come Grow with Us! And its Fresh Community Garden and Safehouse Expansion, was our focus in 2022. We have decided to continue our sponsorship of this worthy organization in 2023. As quoted in the flyer, "Last year we had to turn away two women because we didn't have the room. Unfortunately, both of these women are now back in prison. One because she was sleeping in a building she thought was vacant, and she was there because she had nowhere else to go..."

"Is it our fault these women went back to prison? Of course not. Could we have prevented it? Absolutely. I say this because not a single woman in our program has gone back to prison, not one." -Angela Regan, Founder/Director

More housing is needed for these women, and that is where our donations come in. Not only are they providing a safe place to live but they are also helping the women to gain critical skills for sustaining themselves and helping them to get back into the community. Please get this information out to your women. For more information go to their website here: WelcomehomeSIS.org.

Please give generously to this worthwhile mission project
Checks must be written to Redstone PW and sent to Sue Blank, PW Treasurer
4068 Bushy Run Road, Jeannette, PA 15644 by Nov.15, 2023

LOCAL MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Redstone Presbytery encourages support of five local non-profit organizations. These are:

1. The Blackburn Center in Greensburg
2. The Welcome Home Shelter in Greensburg
3. Angel Arms in Latrobe
4. City Mission in Uniontown
5. Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of Fayette in Uniontown

Information about these programs and how you can help can be found on the following pages.

BLACKBURN CENTER AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Address: 1011 Old Salem Road, Ste 202, Greensburg, PA 15601

Phone: 724-837-9540 Toll free 24 hour hotline #:1-888-832-2272 or 724-836-1122

Website: www.blackburncenter.org

Since 1976, Blackburn Center has been providing services to victims of domestic and sexual violence in Westmoreland County, and presenting education programs across this community. Our mission is to actively advocate for the rights of all people to live free from violence and oppression in their homes and communities and provide supportive services to survivors of all forms of domestic violence and sexual assault. All of Blackburn Center's client services are **free** and **confidential** and can be **anonymous**.

New items needed throughout the Year for Blackburn Center's clients/shelter residents include the following:

Kitchen

Dish drying racks

Dinnerware sets

Drinking glasses/cups

Food items: any canned food, other non-perishables, etc. *Food items we especially need include: all kinds of soups, condiments (mayonnaise, mustard and catsup), jelly, salad dressing, mayonnaise, ketchup, canned tuna, canned chicken and other meats, canned or bottled juices.

Silverware-sets

Kitchen utensils

Glass baking dishes

Plastic pitchers

Paper towel holders

Pots & Pans

Skillets

Small appliances: **electric**

Can openers, coffee makers,

Toasters, mixers, etc.

Zip-lock bags (2 gallon sizes, 2.5 gallon, quart size)

Bathroom

Children's Toothpaste

Hair brushes

Hair care products for women of color

Paper products: toilet paper

Shower Curtains & Liners

Toddler/Training Toothpaste

Bedroom

Air Mattresses (any size)

Bed-in-a-bag sets (twin & full)

Comforters (twin & full)

Baby monitor

Underwear: Women's sizes 9-12

Not needed at this time:

Travel-size toiletries &

Adult toothpaste, shampoo,

conditioner, body was, bar soap,

Menstrual hygiene products

Miscellaneous

Adult coloring books

Flashlights

Duffel Bags

Extension cords

Gasoline cards (Get Go & Sheetz)

Gift cards (Giant Eagle, Shop n' Save, Walmart & Target)

Long distance calling cards

Square Sterilite Laundry baskets

Mops

Mr. Clean Magic Erasers

Sweat suits sizes S,M,1X,.2X,.3X

Tool kits

TracFones & Cards

This list changes from time to time, so go to the website for an up-to-date list of needs.

Please put the items that are in **bold** at the top of your shopping list.

We ask that all donated items be **new**.

CASH donations are always appreciated.

Deliver your donations on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9Am to 3PM.

To arrange for a donation drop-off at a different time, please call the office at 724-837-9540.

If you have used items to donate, the agency can provide a list of thrift shops in the area that make items available to Blackburn Center residents at no cost to them.

WELCOME HOME SHELTER (CONNECT INC.)

Address: 218 South Maple Ave. Greensburg, PA 15601

Contact: Colen Brown/Team Leader Phone: 724-838-9133

Website www.sphsconnect.org

The Mission of the Welcome Home Shelter is to combat the homelessness in Westmoreland County and surrounding counties. They provide temporary housing and support services to homeless families, single parent families and single women. They offer a 30 to 60 day stay at the shelter. During that time, case managers attempt to address the reasons which caused the homeless situation and work with the client to find safe and affordable housing. Classes in budgeting, housing, home maintenance, nutrition and parenting are offered at the shelter. Each year Welcome Home assists an average 250 women, children and men who find themselves homeless in Westmoreland County or 7000 shelter nights.

They appreciate financial gifts, new or gently used clothing and small household items. Following is a list of items you can donate to help their guests.

Toiletries

Shampoo/Conditioner
Deodorant (male & female)
Body Wash-Soap
Razors-Shaving Cream
Toothpaste, toothbrushes, floss
Feminine Hygiene products
Make-up

Food

Non-perishable items
Canned Goods
Spices, Condiments
Sugar, coffee, flour, rice, tea
Bottled water
Juice (canned or frozen)
Dry food goods (potatoes, mixes)
Healthy children's drinks

Kitchen Items

Dish towels & wash cloths-sponges
Food storage containers
Aluminum Foil-plastic wrap
Zip-lock bags (assorted sizes)
Pots and pans
Plastic storage bowls
Paper plates, cups, utensils, napkins

Miscellaneous

Batteries (AAA, AA, D, C)
Storage containers
Combination locks
Hand warmers
School supplies (backpacks,
Notebooks, markers, sharpeners, tape, etc.)
Art Supplies

Adult Needs

Bus passes
Gift cards (Walmart, Shop n' Save, Giant Eagle,
Rite-Aid etc.)
Phone cards
Calendars (appt. books, tablets, pens)
Socks, gloves, caps (male & female)

Children's Needs

Diapers (all sizes)
Infant and toddler clothing
Socks, all sizes (male & female)
Bottles-Bibs
Infant and toddler food
Shampoo-Body wash

Linens

Bath towels and washcloths
Blankets (single & double)
Twin and double sheets
Comforter (single & double)
Pillows

Medicine Cabinet Supplies

Medicine (cough & cold)
Antacids
Ice packs
First aid (Band-aids, kits)
Thermometers
Desitin

Seasonal

School supplies (backpacks, notebooks, markers,
Sharpeners, tape, etc.)
Holiday gift wrap
Tape (assorted types)

Connect has recently opened a Reclamation Center that accepts your donations and the revenue from the sale of those donations help fund homeless assistance programming. We gratefully accept gently used donations that are sold in our store or given to needy residents we serve in our homeless programming in Westmoreland County. It is located at **4000 Hempfield Plaza Blvd., Suite 926, Greensburg, PA 15601**. For a limited time we are asking that you coordinate a scheduled drop off of your donations, by calling 724-838-9133, and asking for Tracy Scott.

Items We Can Accept:

- **Clothing of any type**
- **Books, Records, CD's** (No magazines or Encyclopedias)
- **Furniture** (Must be in good condition. No water damage, severe cosmetic damage to wooden items, no rips, stains, tears, or structural damage. We are unable to take disassembled pressed wood items.)
- **Collectibles**
- **Jewelry**
- **Antiques**
- **Shoes & Accessories** (Handbags, Ties, Belts, Scarves, etc.)
- **Household items** (Dishes, House-Ware, Knick-Knacks, etc. Must be clean and undamaged.)
- **Linens** (Sheets, Towels, Blankets, etc.)
- **Small Electrical Items** (TV's, Radios, Clocks, Lamps etc. They must be in good working order. Televisions cannot be older than 5 years.)
- **Computers, Laptops, and other electronic items.** All personal information should be wiped as well as all passwords removed. CRT monitors **will not** be accepted because of the toxic material content.
- **Large Household Appliances.** Such as Stoves, Refrigerators, Washers, Dryers, Air Conditioners, etc. They must be in proper working order, clean and rust-free and have a power cord. We cannot accept any gas appliances.
- **Mattresses and Box Springs.** Reclamation does sanitize these items; however we cannot accept mattresses if there have any tears, holes, structural damage or stains.
- **Upholstered Items.** We cannot accept items that are torn, soiled, stained, excessively worn, pet damaged or structurally unstable. Reclamation does not repair or professionally clean items and can only offer for sale in the stores clean and useable items.
- **Exercise Equipment.** Bicycles, Treadmills, Sporting Goods, etc. if in good repair. We cannot accept NordicTrack Ski machines. These must be evaluated on an individual basis. Please call for clarification of current policy. (724-838-9133).
- **Garden or Farm Equipment, Tools, Display Props & Cleaning Supplies** (Cleaning Supplies will not be sold. They will be used for cleaning purposes in the Store or emergency homeless shelter.

ANGEL ARMS

Address: 338 Main Street, Latrobe, PA 15650

Phone: 724-539-7900 Website: www.faithforwardpa.com

Contact: Dawn Hennessey - E-mail: faithforwardpa@gmail.com

Angel Arms is an infant recovery home. They provide a short-term safe atmosphere for infants and children suffering from substance abuse. Angel Arms provides support services for families and communities; to educate, recognize and provide managed care for infants and children exposed to drugs while providing services for the birth parents and caregivers. They also are a voice for those who are victims of drug abuse and a support for those who are fighting to heal and be set free. Please support this special program through prayer, financial support, funds for renovation, volunteers, and supplies. Check out their website for more information.

Mark 10:16 *“And he took them in his arms and began blessing them, laying hands on them.”* Dawn Hennessey is the founder and director of Angel Arms. Her story is compelling, and she is willing to share it with groups.

CITY MISSION (LIVING STONES INC.)

GPS Address: 155N. Gallatin Ave. Uniontown, PA 15401(P.O. Box 943)

Phone: 724-439-0201((9AM-5PM) Website: www.citymissionfayette.org

Contact Kelly Snyder Email: ksnyder@citymissionfayette.org

City Mission Living Stones, Inc. is a nonprofit organization whose sole purpose is to provide for the needs of the homeless population. Each year they serve over 500 men, women and children through shelter programs. Services are specifically designed to facilitate the transition from homelessness to independence and economic security. They operate four facilities; a men's shelter, a women's shelter, the Gallatin Living Center which has units for families and Home Again for youth. For more details go to their website www.citymissionfayette.org. This website has a wealth of information about their programs and future projects. Monetary donations are needed for several capital projects. Some of the buildings need renovations and they plan to increase the number of housing units.

They also participate in the Feinstein Foundation Food Challenge each spring during March and April. Mention the Feinstein Challenge on your check and your donations will be matched during those two months.

Their needs change so you should call before doing a donation drive.

Please call first if you need to drop off these suggested donations:

PERSONAL: Men and women. Comb, brush, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, crème rinse, shaving needs, disposable razors, deodorant. Sanitary products for women,

FIRST AID: Peroxide, rubbing alcohol, latex and non-latex gloves and band aids.

LAYETTE: Disposable diapers, baby wipes and all baby supplies.

HOUSEHOLD: Paper towels, napkins, toilet paper, cleaning and laundry products.

BOOKS: Large Print Bibles (King James) Children's books

SPECIAL: CASH: *Needed for food supplements.*

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of Fayette

79 West Fayette St., Uniontown, PA 15401

Telephone: (724)-438-0709 Fax: (724) 430-4611

Carol Ashton cashton@ivcgf.org

Liz Dunham ldunham@ivcgf.org

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers was organized in 1991 when Trinity United Presbyterian Church of Uniontown developed a senior ministries program. Initially funded through a grant from the Presbytery, the program grew and incorporated other congregations in the area, creating an interfaith network of trained volunteers to provide supportive services and outreach to meet the needs of the elderly.

Their mission is maintaining older adults in their own home with dignity and independence through the support of people of faith. Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers provides free services to the elderly in the county like medical transportation, grocery shopping, helping with correspondences, balancing checkbooks, taking pets to the veterinarian, telephone reassurances, minor home repairs if they own their own homes and more.

COVID-19 restrictions caused a significant financial blow to the organization as they had to cancel annual fundraisers like their dance, golf scramble and style show. The program is in need of volunteers and financial contributions. Volunteers can do as much or as little as they want, adding that medical transportation is the biggest volunteer need, and most of the transportation is local.

The organization is also looking for monetary donations. A \$5 donation can translate to three hours of service for elderly in the area.