

Summer 2005

Focus on Community

Member Agencies

ACLU of Ohio Foundation
 Asian American Community Services
 BRAVO Buckeye Region Anti - Violence Organization
 Camp Fire USA Central Ohio Council
 Camp Sunrise
 Capital Area Humane Society
 CASA of Franklin County
 Cat Welfare
 Center for Wholeness
 Central Ohio Green Ed Fund
 City Year Columbus
 Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio
 COSI Columbus
 Deaf Services Center
 Enhanced Life Styles Training Facility
 Equal Justice Foundation
 Franklinton Development Association
 The Free Press Columbus Institute For Contemporary Journalism
 Greater Columbus Habitat for Humanity
 Hocking.Athens.Perry Community Action
 The Inn at Broad
 Interfaith Center for Peace
 Kaleidoscope Youth Coalition
 League of Women Voters of Metro Columbus Fund
 Material Assistance Providers
 Mercy For Animals
 MOBILE Mid Ohio Board for an Independent Living Environment
 Native American Center
 NARAL/Pro Choice Ohio Education Foundation
 Neighborhood Services, Inc.
 Niches Retreat Center
 Ohio Alliance for Arts Education
 Ohio Citizen Action Education Fund
 Ohio Coalition on Sexual Assault
 Ohio Domestic Violence Network
 Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association Ed Fund
 Ohio League for the Mentally Retarded
 Ohio Literacy Network
 Ohio NOW Education and Legal Fund
 Project Open Hand Columbus
 Simply Living
 Stonewall Columbus
 Vietnam Veterans of Ohio
 Waldorf Education Columbus
 WrightChoice Intern Program

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Here we Grow Again!

New members join Community Shares of Mid Ohio

Nine area nonprofits joined Community Shares of Mid Ohio as new member agencies in 2005. With the addition of these groups, **Community Shares now includes 45 non-profits providing vital services and programs in central Ohio and throughout the state.**

“A common feature of our members is their commitment to developing long term solutions to many community issues such as safe and healthy neighborhoods, affordable housing, hunger, human and civil rights, animal protection, and the like,” said Melissa Magers, Executive Director. “CoSMO is dedicated to fostering social justice and community involvement by strengthening the capacity of local nonprofits through trainings, leadership development, and collaborative fundraising.”

Capital Area Humane Society Works to find permanent loving homes for shelter animals; responds to calls of animal abandonment, abuse, or neglect; administers feral cat program; and protects neighborhoods from disease by helping to control stray and wild animals.

Cat Welfare No kill shelter for cats; feline placement and adoption services; low-cost spay/neuter program.

City Year Columbus Provides tutoring and whole class and peaceful play support to 23,194 children, mentoring and training more than 800 middle school students, hosting 11 free vacation camps for more than 2,435 students, and building 13 playgrounds.

COSI Columbus Hands-on, interactive science center motivates a desire toward a better understanding of science, industry, health, and history through involvement in exhibits, demonstrations, and a variety of educational activities and experiences.

Deaf Services Center Committed to the betterment of the lives of deaf, hard-of-hearing, and late-deafened individuals in Central and Southeastern Ohio by providing case management, advocacy, legal help, peer support, and systems change to individuals in need.

Inn at Broad Provides secure housing for female-led single parent homeless families for 12-18 months, helps them establish an escrow account for permanent housing and supports them as they move from supportive to permanent housing.

Native American Center Provides social services to Mid Ohio's Native American population including a free food and clothing pantry and free weekly programming to deal with drug, alcohol, and tobacco abuse. Hosts two annual powwows, a source of cultural and artistic pride where veterans and elders are honored.

Ohio Alliance for Arts Education A statewide non-profit located at the Vern Riffe Center that addresses the issue of arts education through advocacy, education, professional development, building collaborations, and capacity building.

WrightChoice Intern Program Intern recruitment, development, and placement program that provides social and economic empowerment targeted to minority students and students with disabilities through lasting partnerships with businesses, schools, and universities.

Campaign pledges increase for 11th straight year

With deep gratitude to its donors, Community Shares announces that campaign pledges for its 2004 workplace campaigns increased by 11% from 2003, to over \$325,000. “This is the eleventh straight year of increases,” said CoSMO Executive Director Melissa Magers. “As we reach more donors in more work-

place campaigns, employees have responded to the work of our members by supporting their programs and services.” Since its first campaign in 1993, CoSMO has distributed over \$1,250,000. to its members from contributions raised in workplace campaigns.

Thanks a million!



Partnering together for Literacy

CoSMO is currently involved in a project aimed at helping non-profit community libraries better serve adult learners. According to the National Adult Literacy Survey (NALS), 20 to 28 percent of the adult population lack a sufficient foundation of basic skills to function successfully in our society. To help address the need to increase literacy, CoSMO is donating books for teen and adult readers to community libraries throughout Columbus.

Thousands of books were purchased from the City of Columbus' former ABLE program, The Literacy Initiative, as part of the City of Columbus' Facilities Management Department's fund raiser for the charitable giving campaign. Hundreds of "How to" books, romance and suspense novels, and reference books were donated to non-profit community libraries.

Over 300 books for teens and adults were donated to the St. Stephen's Community House to assist with the start up phase of the teen/adult branch of the library with The Benesch Children's Library dedicated on behalf of **Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP**. To assist with Benesch's long-term plan to maintain the new library and help it grow, CoSMO partnered with Ohio Literacy Network (OLN), a CoSMO member, to provide more than 1,500 brochures with tips to help adults achieve basic literacy skills. The brochures will be donated to the teen/adult branch of the library upon completion. Books were also donated to Vietnam Veterans of Ohio, The Columbus Aids Task Force, and Wesley United Methodist Church.

CoSMO volunteer and fundraising opportunities

One volunteer opportunity that folks say is a lot of fun and requires only a few hours is working at the **Community Shares concession stand at Ohio Stadium and the Schottenstein Center**. For four years now CoSMO has sold concessions during **The Ohio State University football and men's basketball games as well as concerts** held throughout the year at the Value City Arena. CoSMO receives a percent of sales, providing an important revenue source for operations. Call **262-1176** to find out more about these and other volunteer opportunities.

Donate your car to CoSMO! We have teamed with the Volunteers of America (VOA) and their car recycling program to accept donations of automobiles, which will be auctioned off with any proceeds being shared by CoSMO and VOA. Call **262-1176** to make arrangements for pickup of your car.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

You can help us by introducing Community Shares to friends and colleagues who share your interest in expanding the capacity of local progressive nonprofits and would be willing to speak on our behalf to develop new or expanded workplace campaigns.

We are seeking suggestions for companies to approach and folks who can put us in touch with decision makers or write letters of support. We can tailor a workplace campaign to meet the needs of employers and employees.

Contact Community Shares at 614-262-1176, or email us at comshare@core.com.



Community Shares of Mid Ohio

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Columbus, Ohio 43214

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Columbus, Ohio
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LOOK FOR
COMMUNITY
SHARES IN
YOUR
WORKPLACE
CAMPAIGN!

You're invited to our campaign kickoff/donor recognition

Where: Whetstone Park of Roses Shelter House, 3901 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43214

When: Thursday, September 29 5 to 7 p.m.

Why: Connect with your community

What: To kick off the Fall workplace fundraising campaign season and thank our many generous donors, as well as share information about the work and services of Community Shares member agencies.

Directions to Whetstone Park of Roses Shelter House: From I-71, exit on North Broadway, proceed West to High St., turn North on High Street, proceed approximately 1.5 miles north to the Whetstone Park entrance located at 3901 N. High St. Enter at this location, follow the park entry road to the lower parking lot. Wheelchair accessible.

Door Prizes

Food

Music

Non Profit Agency Information Fair