ECHO'S CURRENT LETTER TO US ALL ...



Food Drives ... June - St. Mark's Lutheran!!!

Letter Carriers to Help ECHO "Stamp Out Hunger"

ECHO is grateful to the Letter Carriers of the Burke, West Springfield, and Central Springfield Post Offices who are willing to join us in our mission to make sure that our neighbors do not go hungry! On Saturday,

May 11, carriers from these Post Offices will pick up donations of non-perishable foods that residents leave next to their mailboxes early that morning. These foods will be brought to ECHO to be sorted and shelved by teams of volunteers.

The "Stamp Out Hunger" Drive is vital to ECHO. Few organizations hold food drives during the summer. Food from this collection helps ECHO get through the lean months ahead. See a complete list of most-needed items on our home page at <u>echo-inc.org</u>. This list includes canned meats and fish, dried beans, canned beans, canned fruit, boxed potato products, pancake mix and syrup, and much more.

What ECHO Needs Right Now

The Clothing Department at ECHO is responsible for providing diapers and baby wipes for our client families who need them. We welcome donations of wipes and disposable diapers, especially sizes 2, 3, 4 and 5. This month, we are also hoping for donations of new or gently used sneakers for boys or girls and of summer clothing for boys or girls. We always need men's jeans, especially in waist sizes 30 and 32, as well as new socks and underwear. The Housewares Department needs new or gently used 5-quart and 4quart pots, irons, blenders, and towels.

ECHO's Donation Door, 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, is open from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM on weekdays, and from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Receipts are cheerfully provided.

Are You a Whiz at Social Media? ECHO needs you!

If you enjoy creating social media posts and wish to use your knowledge and talent to serve the community, please consider talking to ECHO about our Social Media Coordinator position. ECHO is looking for a creative person who could devote 3-to-5 hours a week helping ECHO engage with the community to convey our news and needs. If you want to find out if this volunteer opportunity is right for you, please email <u>Volunteercoordinator@echo-inc.org</u>

ECHO also has a few openings for Counselors, Assistant Counselors, Food Room Volunteers, and Clothing Volunteers. We are also seeking people to join a Grant Writing Team to research and apply for funding opportunities. We are proud to be an allvolunteer organization. Our volunteers bring a wealth of talent, experience, and commitment to the mission of helping our neighbors in need!

Girl Scout Troop 52061, Making Birthdays Festive

The members of Girl Scout Troop 52061 decided to help local families who are struggling financially by providing them the basics for birthday celebrations. These scouts assembled Birthday Bags with balloons, candles, cake mix, icing, and festive napkins and donated them to ECHO. They will be distributed to families where there is a need to brighten a birthday that occurs in the midst of household difficulties. ECHO thanks these generous and enterprising scouts!

Upcoming Dates to Note

May 4 - Saturday Opening May 8 - Executive Committee meets May 11 - Letter Carriers "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive May 20 - Board of Directors meeting May 27 - Closed for Memorial Day June 1 - Saturday Opening June 19 - Closed for Juneteenth For more information about ECHO on the following topics, please click the links to our website: <u>Find us on Facebook</u> <u>Donate Money</u>

<u>Needed School Supplies</u> <u>Tips on Holding a Donation Drive</u> <u>ECHO's Amazon Wishlist</u>