



OPEN M

A Ministry of Faith, Health and Hope

941 PRINCETON ST., AKRON, OHIO 44311

330-434-0110 | WWW.OPENM.ORG

SEPTEMBER 2017 EDITION

OPEN M is Thriving

Written by Bob Titus

Summer is on its way out, ushering in the fall season. Can you believe it is September already?

I thought that I would share with you some of the exciting things that are going on at OPEN M.

God has been so good to OPEN M.

Thank you for your generosity, time and prayers throughout the year.

I hope to see you all at our **Fire & Ice Celebration on September 15, 2017**. Tickets and more information is available on our website, www.openm.org.

I covet your prayers and conversation.

Email me at r.titus@openm.org

*In Him,
Bob Titus, CEO*



PANTRY:

- Will serve approximately 31,500 meals
- Distribute 492,275 lbs. of food
- Projected cost of food market value \$855,000
- Thanksgiving - Approximately 330 meals to be served
- Christmas - 200 + Families assisted
- Easter - 30 food boxes



CLINIC:

- Over 700 active patients
- 70 volunteer doctors
- 21 specialties
- 12% growth for the clinic
- 300 new patients in 2017
- Over 3000 visits
- Market value of distributed prescriptions, \$1,430,000
- Dental up 30%
- Diabetics' clinic up 20%



COMMUNITY WORKS CONNECTION (CWC):

- As of August 2017 there are 124 CWC candidates employed
- 75% of our graduates are working
- 42 have been on the job longer than one year
- Many have achieved:
 - Stable housing
 - Purchased vehicles
 - License restoration
 - Expungements



FAMILY DEVELOPMENT:

(Getting Ahead)

Bridges out of Poverty

- 56 graduates
- 155 since 2012

CHRISTMAS FOR THE LOVE OF CHILDREN

600 children will receive gifts, pajamas, school supplies and other items.

CHRISTMAS PREP IS UNDERWAY!

With summer just about over and those cool autumn evenings already starting to fall into place, it's time for us to start looking forward to the even faster approaching Christmas season!

Our Christmas for the Love of Children program is just around the corner and preparations are underway.

Last year, hundreds of volunteers and donors filled the multi-purpose room with food & gifts to distribute to families in our area for the holidays.

This year we would like to challenge our partner groups and businesses to get involved by sponsoring an item to give to our families.

These items include many different options from school supplies, gifts, or even basic pantry food items that many of our supported families just won't have on their own.

This is a great way to reach out to those families in our community who are not able to provide a Christmas for their own family.

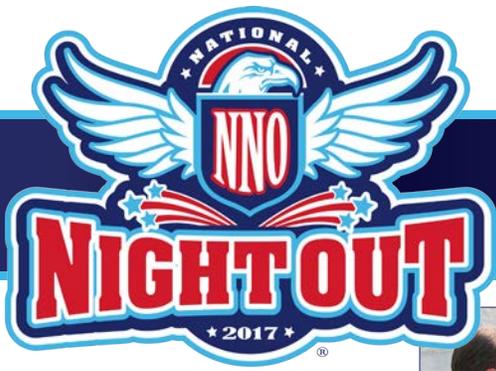
Here's how you can help:

- Sponsor a family
- Collect food, school supplies or gifts
- Volunteer

If you'd like to find out more and to sign up, please call Nate at 330-434-0110 x409.

To speak with a specific department, please call 330-434-0110 and the following extension:

Clinic: 413 Community Works Connection: 434 Family Development: 403 Pantry: 416 Volunteers: 409



National Night Out® at OPEN M brings neighborhoods together against crime

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police - community partnerships along with neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer and more caring places to work & live.

NNO is designed to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community.

Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August.



Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more.

OPEN M was one of 15 host sites in Akron this year - you may have even noticed a little story on the news that night about it!

In partnership with T.R.Y.



Ministries, we also passed out 150 backpacks full of school supplies, specially tailored to students from K - 12 at the event!

We drew quite the crowd this year: over 300 people came by to take part in the party.

Our very own "Food for the Soul" leader Pastor Campbell, Stacey Morgan & Nick Holly manned the grill and fired up piles of burgers, dogs & sausages for all in attendance.

There were tons of activities and entertainment going on all evening, from local band 'Unity', 'Ordered Steps' step-dancing group and the Lion's Players praise dancers. Thank you very much to our own Vikki Thomas for organizing our event at OPEN M!

For a full picture gallery, please visit: www.flickr.com/photos/openm



CLINIC CORNER

Good Deeds Lead to Even Bigger Blessings

Ms. A, came into the clinic at 9am thinking she had an appointment.

There were no physician visits scheduled for that day, but Ms. A had to come in a wheelchair by public transportation because she can not walk.

She had injured her back in a serious fall several months ago in another area of the country.

She was not able to get any medical care for the injury and has since lost her mobility. She lives in almost constant pain.

She stated to our Community Health Worker, Za'Kaya Solomon, that she was staying in an

abandoned house to keep out of the elements and had no money or food.

While Za'Kaya was researching a variety of resources for her, our food pantry provided her with a meal to eat immediately.

We were able to provide her with assistance: applying for Ohio Medicaid, emergency food, AMHA housing and provided her with information about the CORE Furniture Bank.

Za'Kaya then went to her own home and got her some food to take with her that day.

2 hours later after all the initial assistance was set up, the clinic provided her

with a ride to the bus depot in Akron. It was arranged that she would come back in 2 days to see the orthopedic physician and one of the medical doctors.

She warmed the hearts of everyone in the clinic. Two of our volunteer staff gave her some money, and OPEN M provided her with cab fare back to her new place of residence.

The dental clinic at OPEN M has grown exponentially in the past few months. We have pondered how we were going to be able to meet the needs of the community with the limited resources we had.

The same afternoon that Ms. A received all the assistance from the clinic staff, the clinic received a call from a person wanting to donate a gently used

dental chair and lighting to the clinic.

The offer was originally made to another local charity and they recommended it be offered to us. We had to move quickly on the offer as the owner was moving and needed it out of their home by the next day.

Within a few minutes we were able to get a commitment from T.R.Y. Ministries to provide us with 3 men to assist with pickup at the owner's home.

We have noticed that every time the clinic goes above and beyond to help someone with their needs, God answers our prayers. These incidents are nothing short of divine intervention.



Donations made in honor of:

Sylvia Trundle's Retirement

by Mr. & Mrs. Tim McMahan

Donations made in memory of:

Pat Hess

by Granger United Methodist Church

Jack Haag

by Mrs. Mary Ann Haag

Dr. Charles W. Reynolds

by Ms. Betty Reynolds

Dr. Charles W. Reynolds

by Mr. & Mrs. James Salem

Anita Tersigni & Peg Miller

by Mr. & Mrs. Hank Tersigni

Norbert Weisend

by Mr. & Mrs. John Weisend

NETWORKING EXTRAVAGANZA



Please join us, October 11th at 5pm, and a large assembly of local food and beverage vendors providing free samples for an evening dedicated to expanding the networks of our local businesses.

Young professionals are encouraged to attend this exciting local networking event. Tour the OPEN M facility and hear about all of our exciting strides in Akron!

More info available on our Facebook page!

A SIMPLE HELLO COULD LEAD TO A MILLION THINGS



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Akron, OH 44311

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for a full list of recent
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JOIN US SEPTEMBER 15TH FOR FIRE & ICE! THANK YOU SO MUCH TO OUR 2017 SPONSORS!

VISIT WWW.OPENM.ORG FOR TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION!

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