



OPEN M

A Ministry of Faith, Health and Hope

941 PRINCETON ST., AKRON, OHIO 44311

330-434-0110 | WWW.OPENM.ORG

NOVEMBER 2018 EDITION

50

YEARS

1968 - 2018



HERE WE COME 2019

By no means do I want to rush through the end of the year. However, as we are planning and gearing up for the 2019 year. I wanted to share our new strategic plan in full with you.

Is it exciting...Yes Is going to be challenging... Yes

When there is a will, there is a way.

I am challenged each and every day, with poverty all around me. This is what compels me to reach higher.

I covet your thoughts and prayers

In Him, Bob
r.titus@openm.org

Transforming Lives... Breaking the Cycle of Poverty, Strategic Plan 2018-2020 provides a distinct road map for **OPEN M** over the next three years.

This strategic plan, developed in conjunction with a number of community partners, volunteers and others, will help **OPEN M** focus its efforts to build on a fifty year legacy of addressing unmet community needs.

The strategic goals are aimed at ensuring that **OPEN M** remains a vital, financially viable ministry that can effectively offer programs and services consistent with its mission, vision and core values.

Most importantly, the implementation of this plan will result in a renewed and expanded commitment to strengthening programs that break the cycle of poverty one person and one family at a time and move them closer to independence, productivity, and inclusion in the community.

2018-2020 STRATEGIC GOALS

In pursuit of this vision and consistent with its mission and core values, **OPEN M** will be guided over the next three years by the six broad goals identified in this strategic plan.

1. Provide effective and sustainable mission-relevant programs addressing unmet community needs.
2. Position **OPEN M** as a major community leader in strengthening current and developing new mission-relevant collaborative relationships and strategic partnerships.
3. Optimize the current and future potential of **OPEN M**'s employees and volunteers.
4. Strengthen **OPEN M**'s Board of Directors structure, composition, and functioning.
5. Increase the awareness and visibility of **OPEN M**'s mission and services.
6. Enhance **OPEN M**'s sustainability by increasing its philanthropic support and generating new revenue sources.

OUR MISSION

The mission of **OPEN M**, a Christian ministry, is to provide pathways out of poverty for all by feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, and strengthening the community.

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

Clinic: 413 Community Works Connection: 434 Pantry: 416 Volunteers: 409

A SIMPLE HELLO COULD LEAD TO A MILLION THINGS.



OPEN M

A Ministry of Faith, Health and Hope

NETWORKING EXTRAVAGANZA

It's always a good day when we can bring new people into OPEN M and share our mission with them.

On October 10th OPEN M once again opened its doors for our annual Networking Extravaganza, and the turnout was amazing. It was a full house all night long.

OPEN M welcomed 7 chambers from all over the area, along with plenty of local food vendors ready to pass out samples to our nearly 200 guests.

There was Grilled Cheese and soup from Tom + Chee, hummus and cucumber salad from Aladdin's, the best wine from Troutman & Wolf Creek wineries, among plenty more options!

At OPEN M our mission is to provide pathways out of poverty for all by feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, and strengthening the community. We were definitely able to convey that message to plenty of new individuals who weren't familiar with OPEN M before that night.

Tours were given, missions shared and connections were forged. Our CWC manager Dj'd the night, all in all it was a great night to spread awareness and share the amazing work done by OPEN M to plenty of new faces.



CLINIC CORNER

COLD & FLU SEASON IS HERE FOR OUR CLINIC

Cold & Flu season has hit OPEN M's Clinic.

The clinic has been experiencing a constant increase in patients throughout the year and during this time of year that trend is fully continuing. We are receiving 6-8 requests per day for new patient registration.

The Clinic is now booked up well into mid-late November so that we can get our patients in to see our doctors. The increase in patients has strained our pharmacy and increased our need for medication donations.

We need Tylenol XS, 500 mg. tabs., Naproxen Sodium 220mg. tabs, Ibuprofen 200 mg. tabs, ant type of cold & flu relief products, such as Thera-flu, DayQuil Daytime or Nighttime, Vitamin C, Multiple Vitamins, Robitussin or other cough syrups, decongestants.

Next time you're at the grocery store and see the big bins of sale medication near the checkout think of OPEN M and our patients and grab a couple bottles for us. We and more so, our patients are extremely grateful.

We are also offering FREE flu shots to patients to do all we can to get ahead of this years flu bug, patients must be at least 18 years old.

Donations made in honor of:

Ron & Norma Swank

by Clare Paquette

Donations made in memory of:

Daneen Pitts

by Ms. Ceatris Cypryla

Marjorie Sampson

by Ms. Geraldine Gross & High Tower Holding LLC

Peg Miller & Anita Tersigni

by Mr. & Mrs. Hank Tersigni

David Brennan

by Mrs. Fran Donovan, Ms. Jeanette Harrison, Mr. Frank Harvey, Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Jackson, Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Kloss, Maynard Family Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. Gregory McDermott, Mr. Thomas Merryweather, Mr. & Mrs. David Scarponi, Mr. & Mrs. Norma Shilliday, The Love Akron Network, Mr. & Mrs. John Yankey, The Fankhauser Family, Mr. Jon Pavloff, Ed and Lee Harrison, the OPEN M Staff



Our Christmas for the Love of Children is well underway !

Our goal for this year is to match the number of kids we were able to help last year, and we look to be doing just that!

Our largest need to make this program a success is sponsors.

What that entails is signing up as a sponsor and we'll send you

the names of however many kids you'd like to help. You will just need to buy them two \$25 gifts or just donate \$50 per child and we'll handle it all for you!

To sponsor or for other ways to get involved, fill out the response form online by visiting www.openm.org/christmas.

For more information, email us at n.kreis@openm.org or call at (330) 434-0110 ext. 409. The deadline to sign up is **November 26th**.

Pajamas for Kids

OPEN M is teaming up with Pajamas for Kids again this year to provide pajamas for each one of our Christmas for the Love of Children recipients.

Pajamas for Kids collects donations of new pajamas, as well as, monetary donations. New pajamas may be purchased for boys or girls in sizes 5 through adult. Pajamas may be dropped off at OPEN M weekdays 8:30-5:00 by December 12th.

Monetary donations can be sent in with the envelope included in this newsletter, just make sure to note "Pajamas for Kids" in the memo line of your check!

Contact Lisa Becker or Mary Rinaldi at pajamasforkids@gmail.com if you have any questions or to arrange a pick-up of your donation.



OPEN M

A Ministry of Faith, Health and Hope

OPEN M
941 Princeton St.
Akron, OH 44311

Return Service Requested



GIVE. PRAY. GO.

To sign up for any "Give" or "Go" or for more information, visit openm.org or contact us at volunteer@openm.org or (330) 434-0110 ext. 409.

DECEMBER

GIVE Consider making a year-end donation

PRAY For the 200+ families sponsored through our Christmas for the Love of Children program

GO Christmas for the Love of Children - various dates in December



A FEW NOTES FROM OPEN M

Pantry needs your help

Our pantry is in need of groups, businesses or churches to cook and serve lunches for 2019 Hot Lunch Program. We have April through October full covered but we still have gaps in the winter months.

Winter months tend to be around 75-100 people a day! Its your choice if you'd like to cook and prepare the lunch here at OPEN M or we even have some groups that just show up with a big stack of pizza to share with our neighbors. Below are a list of available dates for 2019. Please contact Julie at 330-434-0110 x.416 or j.carneal@openm.org to sign up!

Jan : Friday 25th Feb : Wed 20th, Friday 22nd, Thurs 28th

March : Wed 20th, Friday 22nd, Friday 29th



OPEN M
Neighborhood Center

There is still a need for Christmas food donations!

Along with the gifts our Christmas for the Love of Children participants receive, OPEN M also provides a full food box with all thats needed to prepare a Christmas dinner for their family.

We still have a few items missing and could use your help to fill the gaps! If you or your group is willing and able to provide somewhere around 210 of the available remaining items please call Julie at **330-434-0110 ext. 416** for all the info!