

...Flavors
Community Garden

"It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood, A beautiful day for a neighbor. Would you be mine? Could you be mine?..." - Fred Rogers



ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

***SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH
NEIGHBORHOOD
NETWORK***

Board of Directors

Officers

President

Steve Erhartic

Vice President

Barbara Drew

Secretary

Charlene Sisson

Treasurer

Lucia Salvia

Craig Corsi

Ronald DiVecchio

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Carol Morehouse, SSJ

Andrew M. Schmidt

Michael Tellers

Richard Vendetti

Sean Wiley

Ex-officio

Clare Marie Beichner , SSJ

Mary Maxwell

Scott Whalen, PhD

Our Mission Statement

The SSJ Neighborhood Network sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania provides leadership, advocates for local residents and partners with the broader community to develop opportunities for both personal growth and neighborhood revitalization.



Our Vision Statement

The Neighborhood Network will work toward mobilizing local leadership, providing a focus for self-help initiatives, earning the trust of the neighborhood residents, and the confidence of the broader community.

*Revitalizing a Neighborhood
Empowering its People*

Dear Friends:

“At the center of the universe is a loving heart that continues to beat and that wants the best for every person. Anything we can do to help foster the intellect and spirit and emotional growth of our fellow human beings that is our job. Those of us who have this particular vision must continue against all odds. Life is for service.” – Fred Rogers

Don't you just love Fred Rogers and his wonderful quotes! As part of the amazing team here at the SSJNN we all strive in our lives of service to “foster the intellect and spirit” of a neighborhood and the people living in that neighborhood. We came here 11 years ago to bridge the gaps of a broken community by generating life and energy through our works of empowerment, education and revitalization. It has been a journey blessed with God's grace and we are thankful daily for the gifts this neighborhood has brought to all of us. “In giving we shall receive,” and we have. Every day we love coming to work and there is never a day that ends without an uplifting and amazing story that inspires us to greatness.

We hope that our stories included in this annual report demonstrate the great works you have accomplished through your support of the SSJ Neighborhood Network. We are forever grateful for your loving heart. You are the center of our universe as we work to cure a badly bruised and neglected neighborhood. Without our loyal donors and grantors our work here could not be accomplished. You have prevented hunger, enriched the lives of children, revitalized a blighted area, empowered women and families, created community involvement and fostered the mission of the SSJ Neighborhood Network. We together are changing this world, one person, one building, one block, one neighborhood at a time.

We are blessed by the presence of you. You truly have “fostered the intellect, spirit and emotional growth of your fellow human beings.”

Sincerely,



Wally, Sister Carol, Rose, Sister Phyllis, Sue Ann

Rose

Rose Graham
Executive Director

Sister Carol

Carol Wilcox, SSJ
Program Director

Sr. Phyllis

Phyllis Hilbert, SSJ
Neighborhood Advocate

Wally

Wally Brown, SSJA
Housing Coordinator

Sue Ann

Sue Ann Wisniewski, SSJA
Development Director

Watch our Garden Grow...

How does our garden grow? With the assistance of 44 children and 23 adult volunteers.

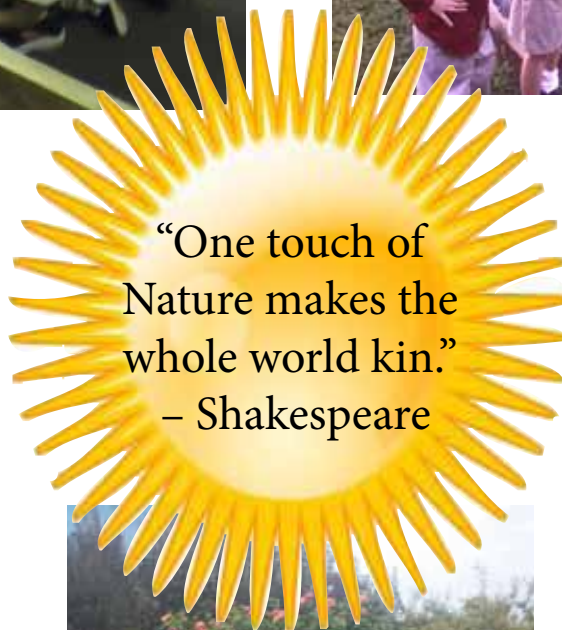
MEASURING and dividing the length of boards, discovering the difference between a wrench and pliers; and screws and nails.



BEING AMAZED at how that little seed got to grow into a plant you can't even reach the top of and at how many different things people from other countries grow.



LEARNING about different types of tomatoes and beans so you get the right seeds to plant on the window sill.



READING recipes and measuring ingredients to bake the zucchini cupcakes or cook the spaghetti sauce.



GETTING DIRTY fingernails, and sore backs, and serious thirst while you mix the soil, and put in the plants with the kid down the block you've always seen but never talked to.



submitted by: Gary McEnery



EATING hot dogs off the grill, and getting into the newspaper, and knowing you're doing a good thing for the neighborhood.

SOUP KITCHEN

hosted at St. Paul's RC

*serves a complete
Dinner
to
100 - 120 People
each Monday evening.*



Genesis Home of Historic Little Italy Neighborhood

SSJNN rents at below-market rent to a family who dreams of homeownership and is willing to practice the discipline to make it happen. If the family decides to buy in the historic Little Italy Neighborhood they will be eligible for a \$1200 grant. Genesis House has provided safe and affordable housing for six families. Presently one of those families is in the process of purchasing their own home.

Refugees Brighten Our Neighborhood

New Life has come to our neighborhood! Families from Bhutan, and Somalia have chosen to begin their American life with us. We have grown from two families to seven families with a future promise of more families joining us. Due to their strong work ethic and goal oriented focus, our first family will be ready in a few months to move from renting to homeownership. Wally Brown from SSJNN staff connects these families with neighborhood landlords when apartments are available. Catholic Charities, the International Institute and the Multicultural Center collaborate to assist the refugee families as they transition to their new life in America. We at SSJNN have been encouraged by their example of steadfastness in their daily struggle to maintain their beliefs and values.



WHO HAS BEEN FILLING OUR METER...



A Trusted Name, Inc
 A-1 Automotive, Inc
 Anonymous x 4
 Larry and Susan Adiutori
 Eleanor Agnello
 Agresti Law Offices
 Sister John Frances Aiello
in honor of the 2010 Golden Jubilee
 Edward and Kathleen Althof
 American Hollow Boring Co
 Ameripac Industries, Inc
 Jay Armbruster
 Elaine Arrigo
 Mary Ann Ashworth
 Judith Askins
 Assessment Evaluation Inc
 Dr. Edward Bajorek
 Dr. Charles and Mrs. Beverly Bales
 Peter and Linda Balter
 Albert and Mary Barbato
 John and Bridget Barber
 J. Leonard Barretta
 David and Mrs. Bartnicki
in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert
 Rev. Don Baxter & Honorable Sue Baxter
 Dr. Warren and Mrs. Christine Beaver
 Linda Bebko-Jones
 Sister Mary Francis Becker
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
in honor of Sisters Moria Sullivan & Michele Healy
 Dr. Jeffrey Bednarski
 Mark Behringer
 Janet Bergkessel
 A. Bergquist
 Michael and Mary Teresa Beuchert
 Jerome and Mary Blakeslee
 William Bleil
 John and Colleen Bloomstine
 The Bloomstine Family Fund #1 of the
 Erie Community Foundation
 Atty. Lawrence Bolla
 Edward and Diane Bolt
 Bonnell's Collision

Angela Bontempo
 Dr. Richard Boyle
 Judge Daniel Brabender
 Dr. William and Mrs. Pepe Brereton
 Paul Brugger
 Brugger Home for Funerals, LLP
 Casimer Brozowski
 Mary Burke
 Brian and Heidi Burton
 Atty. Donald Buseck
 Dr. Joseph and Mrs. DeeDee Cacchione
 Rita Cappello
 Captain Ron's
 Dr. Willis and Mrs. Mary Cardot
 Carl Carlotti
 District Justice Thomas Carney
 Carrara Steel
 Gay Catania
 Cathedral Women's Council
 Catholic Charities
 Serafina Cavicchio
 Dr. Mary Beth Cermak-Bell
 Jeanette Chimenti
 Church of St. Mark the Evangelist
Parish Lenten Project
 Roland and Geraldine Ciacchini
 Circolo Nazionale Lodge #122
 Dr. Christopher and Mrs. Kaitlyn Clark
 The Cleonice Tavani Family Trust
 Dr. Richard and Mrs. Sue Cogley
 Joan Collins
 Dr. Mary Colt
 Ronald and Delores Corsi
 Craig and Julie Corsi
 CROP Walk – Soup Kitchen
 Joseph and Ann Cuzzola
 Edward and Christine Dahlkemper
 Dahlkemper Jewelry Connection
 Jeff and Kathleen Dammeyer
 Donald and Rosemarie Damon
 John and Kathleen Davison
 Mike DeDad
 David DeSante

Brenda Desser
 Susan DiCara
 Sister Jean Baptiste DiLuzio
in honor of the Diamond Jubilee 2010
in honor of the Diamond Jubilee 2011
 Linda DiRienzo
 Dr. Bernandino DiStafano
 Chuck and Nancy Donnelly
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
 Dr. Robert Dowling
 John Doyle
 Joanne Doyle
 John and Barbara Drew
 Sister Mary Drexler
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
 Roberta Duberow
 Drs. Frederick & Kathleen Dudenhoefer
 George and Judith Dufala
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
 Mary Duval
 Sister Mary Ellen Dwyer
 Honorable Jane Earll
 Eddie's Collectibles
 Charles and Mary Eisert
 Thomas and Susan Elliott
 Steve and Sarah Erhartic
 Erie Bayhawks – Hoops for Hunger
PNC played for SSJNN
 Erie Beer Company
 Erie Indemnity Company
 ERIEZ Magnetics
 ETG Communication
 Evans Capital Management
 Representative Flo Fabrizio
 James Fatter
 Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Jill Fessler
 Sister Andre Feulner
in honor of the Diamond Jubilee 2010
 Dr. Denise Finazzo-Gaines and Mr.
 Michael Gaines
in honor of SSJ Associate Kathleen Anysz
 Evelyn Finnecy
 Marjorie Fischer
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox

Sister Nancy Fischer
in honor of the Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
in honor of the Sisters Moria Sullivan & Michele Healy
 James Fischer
 Debra Flaherty
 Forquer Technology Group

William and Janet Fowler
 Sister Margaret Frank
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
 Joseph Fries
 Sister Mary Fromknecht
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
in honor of the Sisters Moria Sullivan and Michele Healy
in honor of Ed and Lynn Metzger
in honor of Mary Jane Kidd
 Thomas and Charlene Fucci
 Alice Fuhrman
 Edward and Esther Gallagher
 James and Dolores Garvey
in memory of Rita Esser
 Dr. William Garvey
 GEEDC General Services
 James and Joan Gehrlein
 Richard Gensheimer
 Linda Gier
 Chester Giermak
 Atty. Paul Gitnik
in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday
 Giuseppe Mazzini Civic Association
 Brad Gleason

Robert and Mary Alice Glowacki
 Dr. Paul Gmuer
 Sister Josette Gocella
 Dr. Jack and Mrs. Maxine Gold
 Tina Gowen
 Yvonne Gralak
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
 Great Lakes Metal Finishing, Inc
 Rick and Frances Griffith
 Shirley Grobson
 Deborah Haibach
in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert
 Dorson Hamilton
in memory of Ann Hamilton Billak
 Janice Hamscher
 Alana Handman
 Dottie Hanna
 Mark Hasenhorl
 John and Judy Hauser
 Sister Michele Healy
in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday
 Jean Heintzel
 Nan Held
 Carol Hermann
 Sister Mary Herrmann
in honor of Ed and Lynn Metzger
in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday
 Sister Susan Herzing
in honor of Francis and Helen Herzing
 Brian and Kathie Hickey

Highmark
 The Hilbert Family Fund of the Erie
 Community Foundation
 John and Nancy Hilbert
 The John and Nancy Hilbert Fund of the
 Erie Community Foundation
 Joseph Hilbert
 The Joseph M. Hilbert Fund of the Erie
 Community Foundation – Helping Today
 Sister Phyllis Hilbert
in honor of the Diamond Jubilee 2010
in honor of the Diamond Jubilee 2011
 William and Rebecca Hilbert, Jr
 The William and Rebecca Hilbert Family
 Charitable Endowment of the Erie
 Community
 William and Martha Hilbert, Sr
Erie Community Foundation Edward C. Doll
Award 2010 honoring William Hilbert, Sr
 HANDS
 Kristina Huber
 John Huegel
in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday
 Mary Huff
 Ginny Hughes
 Jane Hume
 Dr. Floyd and Mrs. Rosanne Hyatt
 Fred and Bernadine Infield
 Innovative Revenue System, Inc
 Richard and Shirley Ireland

Italian American Women's Association
 Ann Joint
 Michael Kennedy
 Sister Mary Claire Kennedy
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
in honor of the Golden Jubilee 2011
 Thomas Kennedy
 Kennedy Catholic High School- Action Club
 Charlene Kerr-Piper and John Piper
 Daniel and Yasuko Klebes
 The Klebes Family Charitable Fund –
 Vanguard Endowment Program
 Midge Klebes
 Renee Kloecker
 Patricia Kuehl
 Dr. Richard and Mrs. Kay Kuhn
 William and Marti Kurtzhals
 Raymond and Dolores Kutzer
 Mary Kwiatkowski
 Dr. Albert Lamp
 H. Jack and Maria Langer
 Janice Larrey
 Larry's Central Market
 Dr. Paul and Mrs. Jane Layden
 Sister Emily Rose LeBoeuf
 B.J. and Barbara Lechner
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday
 LECOM
 Frank Leonard





John and Fran Letterio
 Dr. Howard and Mrs. Jane Levin
 Bill and Beth Lewis
 Barbara Lewis
 Lisa Locke
 Robert Loeffler
 Mary Lombardo
in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert
 Nancy Lombardo
in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert
 Laura Lombardozzi
 Lord Corporation
 Lyn Lord-Wolfe and Glen Wolfe
 Sister Joyce Lowrey
in honor of the Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
in honor of Ed and Lynn Metzger
 Paul Lukach
in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday
 James and Judith Lynch
 Mary Lyons
 MacDonald, Illig, Jones and Britton
 Andy Machuga
 Dr. Francis Mainzer
 Mark and Cheryl Majewski and Family
in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert
 John Maleno
 David Malone

Carol Mando
in honor of the Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
 Judge Paul Manzi
 Rachel Marcinko
in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert
 Marquette Savings and Loan
 Richard and Pat Marshall
 Rev. Dennis Martin
 Art and Helen Martinucci
in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday
 George Mason
 Dina Mason
 Patricia Mayer
 Rev. Msgr. Richard Mayer
 Don McCain
in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday
 Mary McCarthy
 Richard and Karin McCormick
 The McCormick Family Fund of the Erie
 Community Foundation
 Michael and Karen McElhinny
 Virginia McGarvey
 Joseph McGill
 Sister Rachel McGuire
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
in honor of Sisters Moria Sullivan & Michele Healy

Mechanical Contractors Association
designated to the Soup Kitchen
 Christina Mercer
in honor of George and Chrystal Deitrick
 Judy Miculandra
 Dr. Robert and Mrs. Gretchen Mikelonis
 Millcreek Community Hospital
 Ronald Miller
 Dr. John and Dr. Deborah Mingey
 Judith Minichelli
 Robert Minichelli
 Judy Minnaugh
 Sister Veronica Mittal
 Ann Moffett
 Robert and Connie Monahan
 Montenero Ladies Society
 Sister Carol Morehouse
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
in honor of Ed and Lynn Metzger
 Maradee Morrison
 Sister Marie Eileen Moyer
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
 Dr. James and Mrs. Carolyn Mraz
 John and Mary Ida Mussato
 Mary Narus
 Mary Nelson
 Donna Nicholas
 Janet Nicolia
 Northwest Savings Bank
 Linda Nyberg
 Denis and Patty O'Brien
in honor of Angela Bontempo
 Sister Margaret O'Brien
in honor of Diamond Jubilee & 60 year Anniversary 2011
 Sister Rosemary O'Brien
in honor of Ed and Lynn Metzger
 Sister Maria Onuffer
in honor of the Diamond Jubilee 2010
 Christine Opron
 Q. Gregory Orlando
 Alice Orr
 Nellie Orr-Cyr
 Our Lady of Mount Carmel School
 Our Lady of Peace/Annette Kane
 Jason and Jane Owen

Sister Colette Palmer
in honor of Sisters Moria Sullivan & Michele Healy
 Partnership of Women Religious POWR
 Timothy and Loretta Patton
 PHB Industries – United Way Campaign
 Dean and Monica Piccirillo
 Poggemeyer Design Group
 Barbara Pollock
 Joseph Pomorski
 Port Harbor Company
 William and Carolyn Power
 Preferred Systems Inc
 Dr. Frank and Mrs. Jane Pregler
 Sister Nancy Prenatt
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
 Daniel Prischak
 Thomas and Mary Quinn
 John Quinn
 Quinn Buseck Leemhuis Toohey & Kroto
 Dr. Richard and Mrs. Willie Rahner
 The Bruce and K.D. Raimy Fund of the
 Erie Community Foundation
 Dr. Stephen Raj
 Raven Rental
 Reddog Industries - United Way
 Campaign Distribution
 Sister Mary Alice Reed
 Margaret Reinwald
 Marilyn Renkes
in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday
 J.D. and Carol Restifo
 Sister Martha Ann Rinderle
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox
 Donna Roberts
 Dr. John Roberts
 Roth Marz Partnership P.C.
 Theresa Rotunda
 Lynette Rotunda
 Jamie Rupp
 Robert and Ann Rutkowski
 James and Mary Rutkowski
 Lucille Ryan
 Dr. Ravinder Sabherwal
 Sacred Heart Usher's Society, Inc
 Saint Joseph's Society
designated to the Soup Kitchen

Saint Mary's Home of Erie

in memory of Florence Hill James

Saint Mary's Home of Erie

Saint Vincent Community Service Fund

Saint Vincent Health Center

Saint Vincent Medical Group

Saint Vincent Quarter Century Club

Saint Vincent Surgery Center

Joseph and Anita Salvia

Lucia Salvia and John Faulkner

Mary Sbarra

in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert

Jay and Darby Scalise

in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday

Debbie Scalise

in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert

Catherine Schaaf

in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday

Mary Schaaf

in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday

William Schaaf

Joseph and Rhonda Schember

Ben Schneider

Dr. Peter and Mrs. Ellie Scibetta

The Scibetta Family Fund of the Erie

Community Foundation

Mary Lou Scottino

Dr. Dennis Scully

Marlene Scully

Sister Mary Julia Scully

Ron and Emily Sertz

Sister Angela Servidea

Raymond and Martha Showman

Antonia Siggia

Cathy Simmons

Mary Schaaf

in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert

Ernie Simpson

Dr. Kripa Singh

Charlene Sisson

Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern PA

in honor of Graham Lund

in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann and Carol Wilcox

Peter Lyons gift

designated for Emergency Utility Assistance

designated for Christmas gifts

designated to the Soup Kitchen

Lucille Sitzler

Beth Sivak

Ray Snead

Dr. R. Tony and Mrs. Kathy Snow

Olivia Soccoccio

Sons of Italy

Greg and Susan Sorce

South One Supply & Home Center, Inc

Mary Spadacene

Dave Spadacene

Adelaide Sperduto



Ruth Spiece

St. Jude Church

Parish Lenten Project

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
Church

Dave and Assunta Stadler

James and Maggie Stolley

Mary Strenio

Frank and Lucille Strobel

The William and Kathleen Stroh Family

Fund of the Erie Community Foundation

Christine Strub

in memory of Bill and Louise Strub

Sister Mary Ann Stuckert

in honor of the Sisters Mary Herrmann & Carol Wilcox

in honor of the Sisters Maria Sullivan & Michele Healy

Jacqueline Swanson

David and Deborah Swatelle

in memory of Mary Vincent

Norman Sweet

Don and Ann Swift

Mary Tellers

in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday

Michael and Alicia Tellers

Daniel Tempestini

Jane Theuerkauf

Antonia Tinti

in honor of George and Chrystal Deitrick

M.S. Tkach

in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday

Laura Todd-Brown and Steve Brown

Atty. James and Mrs. Mary Ann Toohey

Dr. Jerome Troncone

Timothy and Susan Trott and Family

in memory of Mary Ann Teubert-Reppert

Robert Tullio

in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday

UPMC

Tammy VanBuren

Pamela Verity

in honor of Chuck Scalise's 50th Birthday

Bettie Veshecco

in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann and Carol Wilcox



Mary Veshecco
 Villa Maria Academy
 Villa Maria Convent
in honor of the jubilarians
 Villa Maria Elementary School/Student Activity
 Villa Maria School of Nursing
 Sister Ricarda Vincent
in honor of the Diamond Jubilee 2010
in honor of the Diamond Jubilee 2011
 George and Columbia Vlahos
 Bernie and Doris Warzynak
in memory of an Aunt who cooked at St. Joe's Orphanage
 Norma Webb
 Wedgewood Investors Inc
 Welders Supply
 Dr. Scott and Mrs. Linda Whalen
 Mary Ann White
 Sister Mary Ann White
 Sister Carol Wilcox
in honor of Diamond Jubilee & 60 year Anniversary 2011
 Betsy Williams
 Ken and Lori Wisniewski
 Richard and Sue Ann Wisniewski
in honor of Sisters Mary Herrmann and Carol Wilcox
 Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Annette Wittman
 Ted Wright
 Edwin Wright
designated to the Soup Kitchen
 John and Maryann Young
 Robert and Jane Zawadzki
in honor of the jubilarians
 Sister Marilyn Zimmerman

GRANTS...

City of Erie
 Erie Community Foundation
 Erie Community Foundation
 Women's Club
 Erie School District
 GECAC-ECBC
 Highmark



PNC Bank
 Power of Women Religious POWR
 Saint Vincent Health Center
 Women in Action

GIFTS IN KIND...

Rebecca Acuna
 Larry Adiutori
 Allburn Florist
 Ambridge Rose
 Jack and Marian Armstrong
 Arrowhead Wine Cellars
 Avalon Hotel
 Sue Bello
 Barbara Bettwy
 Bianchi Honda/Lou & Debbie Porreco
 Wally and Shelly Brown
 Cabot Creamery
 Donna Carlino
 Craig and Julie Corsi
 Czarnecki Galleries
 Kathleen Dahlkemper
 Dahlkemper Jewelry Connection
 DeSantis Signs
 Ron and Ann DiVecchio
 Steve and Susan Drabant
 Steve and Susan Erhartic

Erie Bayhawks
 Erie Beer
 Erie County Farms
 Sister Andre Feulner
 Gannon Small Business Department
 James Gehrlein
 Sister Margaret Ann Hardner
 Harley Davidson of Erie/Susan Lapping
 Sister Mary Herrmann
 Joseph Hilbert
 Martha Hilbert
 William and Rebecca Hilbert, Jr
 William and Martha Hilbert, Sr
 Thomas Horvath
 International Bakery
 Charlene Kerr-Piper and John Piper
 Midge Klebes
 H. Jack Langer
 Larese Floral Design
 Renee Laube
 Matt and Abby Lechner
 Loesel-Schaaf Insurance Agency
 Mary Lyons
 Catilda Madonia
 Michael and Karen McElhinny
 Gary McEnery
 Atty James & Mrs. Barbara McNamara

Harry Miller
 North American Gallery
 Sister Margaret O'Brien
 Our Lady of Mount Carmel School/
 Mission Club
 Parker Gallery
 Joe Pilliteri
 Robert and Vickie Pirrello
 Sam Pirrello
 Potratz Floral Shop
 Pulakos 926 Chocolates
 Dale and Diane Rapela
 Donna Roberts
 David Rupert
 Jamie Rupp
 James Sabol
 Saint Mary's Home of Erie
 Saint Vincent Health Center
 Auxiliary
 Saint Vincent Health Center
 Ben Schneider
 Marlene Scully
 Evelyn Seyboldt
 Sherwin-Williams Co
 Sisters of St. Joseph of NW PA
 Sparrow Pond Campground
 St. Jude Church
 St. Julia Church
 St. Paul's Holy Name Society
 St. Peter's Elementary School
 St. Stanislaus Church
 Philip Templeton
 The Remnant Store
 Tipperary West
 Tops Market
 Michael Vincent
 Elizabeth Way
 Wegmans
 Sister Mary Ann White
 Sister Carol Wilcox
 Besty Williams
 Rich and Sue Ann Wisniewski



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

During the 2010 to 2011 fiscal year the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network offered 60 unduplicated children various programs that included:

Mentoring	Tutoring/Reading
Sewing	Cooking
Keyboard	Photography
Art	Woodworking
Board Games with Villa Students	
A Thousandaire Club - a saving program for children	
Ophelia project including Girl Talk, Boy Talk, and Ophelia 1-2-3	
LEA Earthforce 2010	
Gardening	

Penn State Ext, Penn State Ext. Co-op, Ophelia, LEA Earthforce, Villa Maria Academy, the Junior League of Women and many more volunteers make all these programs possible.

The volunteers also assist with the various fieldtrips the children take during the year, including Barnes & Nobel, the Erie Zoo, various cultural and educational activities along with sporting events.

Learning Camp

Twelve of our children enjoyed coming to our third Learning Camp. The children were divided into three groups and each group rotated so that they had the opportunity to cook each day with vegetables from our garden, play educational games on the computers and watch inspiring DVD's. With the help of Linda Rys, Josie McGrath and two high school students, Lydia and Izzy Laythe, the children had a great experience of learning many different skills and cooperation. On the fourth day, we took everyone to Waldameer and had a great time.



FREE HELP IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

We had a great year with help from all the volunteers and all the people sent to us by District Justice Thomas Carney and Adult Probation that needed to complete community service hours. Under the direction of Wally Brown, Housing Coordinator, many community work projects were done including painting over graffiti, cleaning up trash, lawn care for seniors, helping shovel snow and the list of needs never ends.

We also had help from juveniles from the Erie County Juvenile Probation Learn & Earn Program. With their help, we were able to help Erie Parks Department with manicuring and detailing Ruby Schaaf Park and Columbus Park with the flowers gardens, edging grass along the sidewalks and removal of weeds and vines along the fencing; plus they helped Erie Redevelopment Authority with their lots in the Little Italy area.

With all of our great volunteers throughout the year, including students from Cathedral Prep, Villa, Gannon and Mercyhurst along with a team of volunteers from **ServErie**, we were able to accomplish painting, yard clean up and picking up trash.

We would not be able to accomplish all these tasks without the help of our volunteers. Without the help of these volunteers our work would not be possible.



Gannon University

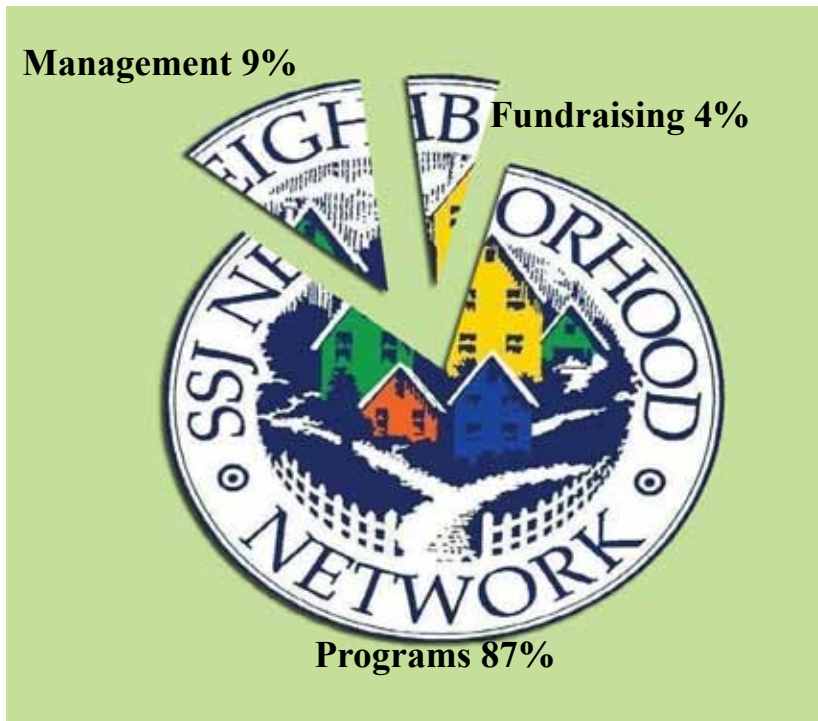


Mercyhurst College

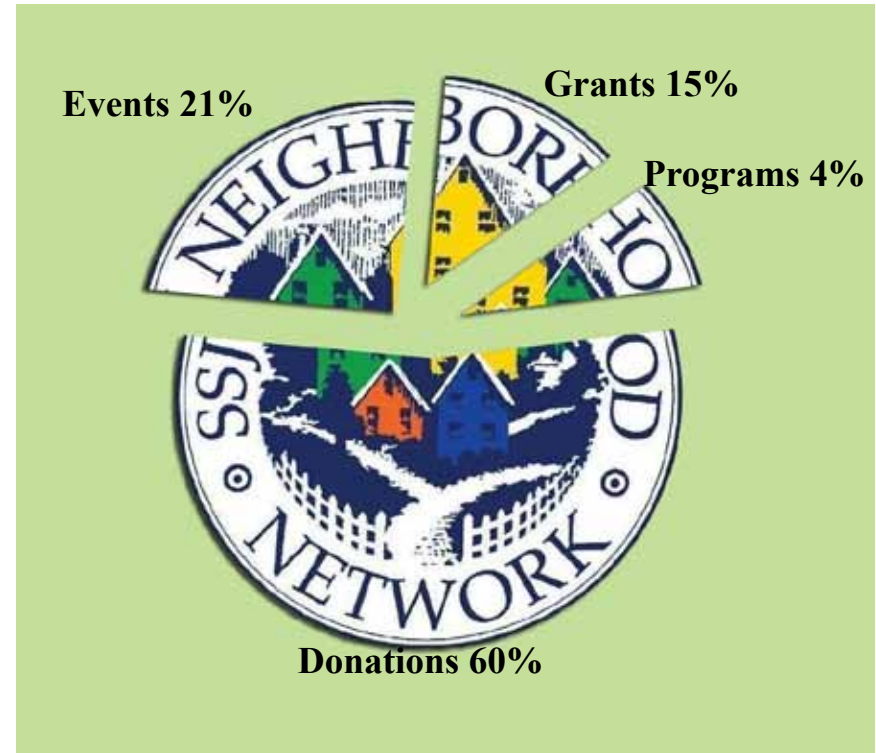


Cathedral Prep

Expenses



Revenue



Staff:

Rose Graham, Executive Director – rgraham@ssjnn.org

Sister Phyllis Hilbert, Neighborhood Advocate – philbert@ssjnn.org

Sister Carol Wilcox, Program Director – cwilcox@ssjnn.org

Wally Brown, SSJA - Housing Coordinator – wbrown@ssjnn.org

Sue Ann Wisniewski, SSJA - Development Director – swisniewski@ssjnn.org

Expenses:

Management	\$ 27,147
Fundraising	\$ 12,339
Programs	\$259,721

Revenue:

Donations	\$191,680
Fundraising	\$ 70,109
Grants	\$ 50,000
Programs	\$ 12,480

TIME OUT FOR MOM

Our moms combined their produce from the garden for two cooking sessions. Gary, the garden shepherd, introduced the moms to pesto. The moms went to our garden across the street and pulled the garlic, onions, and basil that were needed to make the pesto. The next week a Penn State Extension Nutritionist, Tina Saunders, had the moms pull parsley, onions and tomatoes from the garden to make spinach topped tomatoes. Combining the garden with nutritional talks has been a winning event for all involved.



Gary McEnery
with
Moms from the program.

This year's theme for the moms is just one word, **Believe**. We will have talks on belief in self, belief in others and belief in a higher power. The nine moms will be going on field trips to pick apples, to Claytopia and to the Erie Playhouse this year. Talks on the 40 Developmental Assets children need and a life coach will be a few of the educational opportunities offered to the moms.



Jim Martin of Highmark
with
Moms from the program.

CAMP NOTRE DAME

Eighteen children from our neighborhood were able to attend Camp Notre Dame this summer. Thanks to the wonderful generosity of Bill Hilbert Jr, the children had the experience of a lifetime. They participated in archery, canoeing, swimming, hiking, bonfire events and acting out short plays. Over the past six years, Mr. Hilbert has enabled many of our children to enjoy camping at Camp Notre Dame.

We know that it is a safe environment for the children and that they always come home refreshed and enriched by many experiences.

Some of their comments:

"I had so much fun, I hope I can go back again next year."

"This was the first summer of my whole life that I got to go camping."

"Archery and canoeing were my favorite times."

6th Annual Guess That Tune Gala



It's that time of the year again to SAVE THE DATE for the Guess That Tune Gala. The Gala will be held at the Bayfront Convention Center, Saturday, March 10, 2012.

Tim and Annalynn Shuttleworth will be the Honorary Chair-Couple, with Raychel (Vendetti) Adiutori and Dr. Gary Silko hosting as Emcees for the evening. Organize your teams, revive your musical libraries and mark your calendars for March 10th!!!

Volunteers are the Heart of the
Neighborhood Network
Thank you !!



I Am Woman, Hear Me Roar!

What does an increase to 42.2% mean? If we use this as a measurement for liquid it means that your glass is almost half full. If we look at it in terms of our investments, it means our funds grew a substantial amount. Both of these are great increases. Unfortunately, this number represents the number of single mother families living in poverty. Yes, nearly half of single mothers are living in poverty. Of this, 21% are in extreme poverty. To many single mothers, this would be a glass half empty. The stress of having to make ends meet, raise your family and not fall into the pitfalls of a neighborhood in crisis is a difficult task.

Valerie came to the SSJNN seven years ago to participate in our Time Out for Mom's program. Years of trying to support her family and dealing with the multitude of issues related to a life of poverty affected the mental and physical health of Valerie and her family. Low

self-esteem and obesity are two of the most common things we see resulting from extreme poverty. It is expensive to eat healthy and there is not a source for inexpensive food in Little Italy or even within walking distance. The mental strain of poverty not only affects parents, but children. Valerie's four children were having extreme behavioral issues due to life survival problems faced by children everyday who are trying to survive in blighted, poor neighborhoods.

Because of the Time Out For Mom facilitators encouragement and after spending time with Sister Carol in the program we began to see a rise in Valerie's self-esteem. Time Out for Mom's provides educational programming, activities, and a caring supportive environment to share frustrations and learn solutions. Valerie decided after hearing the empowering messages that she was going to take charge of her life. With Sister Carol's help, she enrolled all of her children in counseling. Her next plan was to lose weight. She sought out medical advice and a doctor suggested a medical procedure to help her lose weight. She had the procedure done and has lost over 100 pounds due to her perseverance with following her diet and exercise program.

Although Valerie had always worked, her low self-esteem prevented her from moving up in her company and at times keeping a job long term. Look out World – Valerie is not only now employed full time but has been promoted to Assistant Manager at McDonalds. Valerie and her story are just one example of the many people who have developed positive skills as a result of programming at the SSJNN. In addition to Valerie's success story, her children are also following in her positive glow! They are doing well emotionally have have set goals for themselves.

We will change the world, one person, one family, one neighborhood at a time!





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How You Can Help...

Contributions - for your convenience an envelope is enclosed or donations are accepted online at WWW.SSJNN.ORG

Volunteer - Tutor, mentor, Soup Kitchen, Assist with office duties, Participate with our other programs - contact Sister Carol Wilcox

Donate - Hygiene products, paper products, (i.e. **diapers**, toilet paper, tissues), non-perishable food items, paper products for the soup kitchen

Remember - Please consider making room in your long term financial plans for the future support of SSJNN

Please let us know if you have a change of address, if you would like to receive our newsletter; if you are receiving more than one newsletter; or if you would like to be taken off the mailing list.