

JLEC 2009-10 Volunteer Opportunities

“Women Building Better Communities”

September 19, 2009

Children’s Museum of Eau Claire’s Rubber Turtle River Race

The Children’s Museum of Eau Claire (CMEC) opened its doors in 2004 and has since welcomed over 200,000 kids and their grown-ups. From upstairs in the Bitty City to downstairs in Water Works, CMEC inspires imagination, discovery, creativity and the love of learning in all children – members, school groups and participants in the Access Fund (free admission for lower-income families). The Rubber Turtle River Race is one of CMEC’s signature fundraisers. Thousands of “adopted” rubber turtles are released and race down the Eau Claire River. The winners will receive prizes from many local businesses. For more information, visit www.cmec.cc.

October, 2009

Warm the Children with the Leader Telegram

Warm The Children is a program whose mission is to provide new, warm winter clothing for children of needy families. JLEC members will serve as volunteer shoppers, who will contact a needy family (names will be provided by the Leader Telegram), meet the family at a participating retailer, and purchase new winter clothing for them using money from the Leader Telegram’s Warm the Children Fund. Arrangements are made with local stores such as ShopKo, Kohl’s and Sears for the volunteer shoppers to receive discounts off regular priced merchandise, and for the Warm the Children Fund to be billed for all purchases. Needy children get nice, *new* winter clothing which is often times the first new coat or pair of boots the child has ever owned. We benefit as shoppers because we have a direct and immediate impact on making life a little better for those in need! For more information, visit www.warmthechildren.org.

November, 2009

Trinity Equestrian Center Donor Mailing

Saddle up! Trinity Equestrian Center uses their horses and center to inspire the lives of ALL people, but have a particular heart to serve the at-risk and underprivileged. Their philosophy and activities are Christian-based and rooted in their belief that the blessings they receive are to be shared with others to become blessings to them as well. A 503(c) nonprofit, all proceeds from Trinity’s service horse center offering boarding, training, lessons, therapeutic riding, horse leasing, day camps and Ranch Care (summer care program) go to fund their mission of connecting people, horses and God. Through the use of their horses and facility, Trinity has created activities and programs that help develop a person’s

confidence, self-worth and grow their valued relationships. They teach creative thinking, communications skills, problem-solving, leadership, responsibility and self-confidence. These services have become a resource to the Chippewa Valley's many non-profits, schools, churches, social agencies and ministries that Trinity partners with. Many of these organizations have little or no means to pay for these services. We will be assisting the folks at Trinity with a large donor mailing, helping them raise the funds they need to continue their unique programming! For more information, visit www.trinity-ec.com.

December 4, 2009

Toys for Tots at JLEC Holiday Party

Help needy children experience the joys of Christmas! The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign is conducted annually in approximately 500 communities covering all 50 states, D.C. and Puerto Rico. JLEC members are asked to bring a new, unwrapped gift to our holiday party on December 4. On Christmas day, your gift will be distributed to less fortunate children by local social welfare agencies, church groups and other local community agencies. The Toys for Tots program's goal is to deliver, through a shiny new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to needy youngsters that will motivate them to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens and community leaders. For more information, visit www.toysfortots.org.

January 12, 2010

Feed My People Food Bank Food Distribution

In west central Wisconsin, more than 12,000 individuals each month rely on food received from programs supplied by Feed My People Food Bank for their next meal. Approximately 40% are children. That's 4,800 hungry children. For 26 years, Feed My People has been providing food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters in our area with enough food so that thousands of people can be helped each month. Feed My People is the link between food manufacturers, suppliers, and the front-line agencies that provide direct service to the hungry. Their large warehouse, complete with freezer and cooler space, allows for storage of vast quantities of food which is then distributed to more than 60 hunger relief agencies. We will be working at the Feed My People Warehouse, sorting and packing food for distribution. For more information, visit www.fmpfoodbank.org.

February 20, 2010

"Passports," Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc.

Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes, Inc. serves nearly 20,000 girls and 6,000 adults in 58 counties in northern Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. GSNWGL provides opportunities for

girls to *Discover* their strengths, *Connect* with others and *Take Action* to improve their communities. Girl Scouts is the world's preeminent *Leadership Experience* for girls, building girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. During the school year, GSNWGL offers a variety of one-day programs to Girl Scouts of all ages. We will be assisting with their "Passports" program on Saturday, February 20. At Passports, girls will be taken on an exciting adventure around the world, making stops in places such as Germany, Malaysia and Hong Kong. They'll sample treats, learn the language and play games from different countries. Workshops will be led by UWEC students from the International Speakers Bureau. We will be running activity stations, helping with snacks, helping with check-in and registration, etc. For more information on GSNWGL, visit www.gwnwgl.org.

March 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2010

Junior Leagues' Kids in the Kitchen

Put on your aprons! In February 2006, more than 225 Junior Leagues across four countries launched an international initiative called Junior Leagues' Kids in the Kitchen, designed to help communities address the urgent issues surrounding childhood obesity and poor nutrition. Since the early 1970s the number of overweight children in our countries has increased dramatically, substantially increasing children's risks for health problems such as type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Kids in the Kitchen is held in March, during National Nutrition Month in the U.S. and Canada. JLEC has partnered with the Boys and Girls Club for our KIK program, which allows us to take advantage of their newly renovated kitchen and to make connections with other community programs with similar goals. For the past two years, JLEC has hosted a KIK event each Friday in the month of March, from cooking demonstrations to learning about honey bees to yoga instruction! This year's program information to come! For more information, visit www.juniorleague-ec.org/kidsinthekitchen.htm.

April 22, 2010

Literacy Volunteers' Scrabble Bee

Scrabble Bee puts a twist on Scrabble®! The Scrabble Bee is a team "competition" in which groups work together to quickly fill up their boards with as many high-value words as possible. We serve as Word Waiters – a game official for one team – overseeing play and scoring. This is Literacy Volunteers' signature fundraiser; all Scrabble Bee proceeds directly support their programs and services. More than 1 in 10 adults in the Chippewa Valley are unable to read. Many of them have children and want to break the intergenerational cycle of low literacy. Literacy Volunteers provides training and guidance to volunteer tutors who work with adult students to develop reading, writing and speaking skills. Goals often include: passing a driver's test, obtaining a GED, enhancing job qualifications, learning computer skills, reading to one's child, managing a checkbook, or understanding healthcare maintenance for a family member.

May 4-7, 2010

Big Brothers Big Sisters' Bowl for Kids' Sake

Have a ball supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters! Each year, for more than 40 years, Bowl For Kids' Sake has supported Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies throughout the country. BFKS is BBBSA's premier fundraising party! After a month(s) of raising awareness and funds, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Wisconsin's fundraising campaign concludes with a BFKS party. The real "strikes" each year are the kids who benefit from the annual Bowl for Kids' Sake events. Last year, the event raised over \$140,000. Big Brothers Big Sisters is a donor driven youth mentoring organization. It is the oldest, largest and most effective mentoring organization in the United States. BBBS been the leader in one-to-one youth service for more than a century, developing positive relationships that have a direct and lasting impact on the lives of young people. Big Brothers Big Sisters mentors children, ages 6 through 18, in communities across the country. For more information, visit www.bbbsnw.org.

Ongoing Projects

Eau Claire Regional Arts Center

Without volunteers at the State Theatre, the show could not go on! Volunteers help in numerous ways, but most frequently and essentially as ushers, ticket-takers and concession-workers at all performances held at the State Theatre. Your (and your family's and friends'!) volunteer hours will help us earn money towards the rent of our office space, which is located in the Eau Claire Regional Arts Center (ECRAC) building. In 2009-10, ECRAC and the State Theatre present:

Fri., Sept. 25	liveART2
Thurs., Oct. 1	Reduced Shakespeare Company: <i>Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)</i>
Fri., Oct. 30	The Blanks
Sat., Nov. 7	Forbidden Broadway
Wed., Nov. 11	Runt of the Litter
Sat., Nov. 28	An Intimate Christmas with Lorie Line: <i>The 20th Anniversary Show</i>
Sun., Nov. 29	Tonic Sol-FA
Tues., Dec. 1	History of the Word
Thurs., Dec. 10	Robert Robinson
Fri., Dec. 18	The Nylons
Thurs., Jan. 28	John Mueller's Winter Dance Party
Thurs., Feb. 4	iO Theatre: <i>Whirled News Tonight</i>
Thurs., Feb. 18	My First Time
Sat., Feb. 20	Sue Foley
Sat., March 20	Michael Feldman's Whad'Ya Know?
Fri., March 26	Harlem Gospel Choir
Sat., March 27	Jim Brickman & John Trones
Sat., May 1	Church Basement Ladies

Thurs., May 6 Mama's Night Out

TA-DA! Children's Series

Mon., Oct. 26 Andrew Clements' Frindle

Wed., Nov. 11 Runt of the Litter

Wed., March 17 Tomie dePaola's Strega Nona

Sealants Today for Smiles Tomorrow

Eau Claire County statistics indicate that 10% of children are living in poverty. These children have very limited access to dental care, which is why Junior League of Eau Claire has for many years been a partner in the Sealants Today for Smiles Tomorrow program. We help provide dental screening for underprivileged children, place dental sealants and educate parents and children about dental health to help prevent future disease. During the 2008-2009 school year, 923 children from 15 schools in Eau Claire County participated, which was an 8% increase over the previous year. More are anticipated this year due to economic downturn. Volunteers are needed to guide children from their classrooms to the sealant site and back. Most importantly, we interact with the students and help them feel comfortable as they wait their turn. Sealant days are:

Thursday, Sept. 24	Altoona
Friday, Sept. 25	Roosevelt
Friday, Oct. 23	Northwoods
Friday, Nov. 6	Lakeshore
Friday, Nov. 13	Meadowview
Friday, Nov. 20	Augusta
Friday, Dec. 4	Robbins
Friday, Jan. 22	Manz
Friday, Feb. 5	Putnam Heights
Friday, Feb. 19	Locust Lane
Friday, March 5	Flynn
Friday, April 9	Sam Davey
Friday, April 23	Longfellow
Friday, April 30	Sherman
Friday, May 14	Fall Creek

Chippewa Valley Free Clinic

The Chippewa Valley Free Clinic volunteer doctors and nurses provide free health care for those in the Chippewa Valley who have no health care alternative (it is estimated that over 48 million people in the United States lack adequate access to health care). The CVFC walk-in clinic is open on Tuesday nights, with patients often times waiting several hours in line to see a medical professional. We provide meals for the medical professionals who volunteer their time to provide this free care. 2009

Chippewa Valley Free Clinic dates are:

Tuesday, Oct. 6

Tuesday, Oct 27

Tuesday, Nov 3

Tuesday, Nov 10

Thursday, Nov 12

Tuesday, Dec 1

Tuesday, Dec 8

Tuesday, Dec 22

Tuesday, Dec 29

Mark Your Calendars!

Below are luncheons, lectures and black tie events that are hosted by or benefit community organizations we support. We encourage you to attend!

Toast for Literacy

November 19, 2009

6PM at the Eau Claire Golf & Country Club, \$50 per person

Wine tasting and silent auction.

Benefitting Literacy Volunteers-Chippewa Valley

HOLLYWOOD Event

March 7, 2009

A red carpet event that brings the Oscars to Eau Claire!

Benefitting the Children's Museum of Eau Claire

Children's Legacy Luncheon

April 22, 2010

Recognizes individuals in our community who have made lasting contributions to the well-being of children.

Hosted by the Eau Claire Community Foundation