



Padua Ponderings

Summer 2012

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Mission Statement

The Padua Center, sponsored by St. Martin de Porres parish, is a Christian community-based presence reaching out by empowering people at all stages of life to achieve their maximum potential through education, counseling, support and community involvement.

Vision

The Vision of the Padua Center is a neighborhood free of commercial sex trafficking, and drugs (use and supply), beautified by the people actively engaged in community and self-growth.

Principles

- Umoja—unity
- Imani—faith
- Kujichagulia—Self-determination
- Ujima—collective work
- Ujamaa—cooperative economics
- Nia—purpose
- Kuumba—creativity

The Padua Center
 1416 Nebraska
 Toledo, Ohio 43607
 (419) 241-6465
 www.paduacenter.org

Summer Camps start with Enthusiasm

Each summer children from Kwanzaa Park look forward to the free summer camps held at Padua Center. Each year we begin with what is most important to us, as a Catholic Christian-based Center, Vacation Bible School. This year our theme was, *No Friend Like Jesus*.



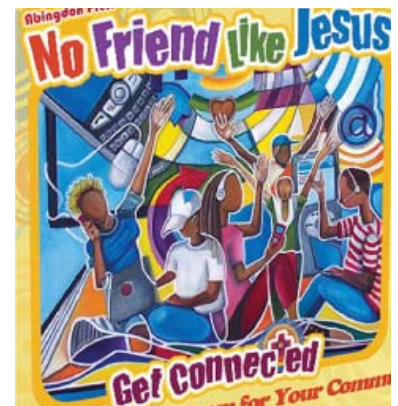
Smiles and great energy were evident during our Vacation Bible School. Here's the group gathered for a farewell picture.

The Emerging Young Ladies and Grooming Great Gentlemen camps followed the week of Vacation Bible School. Many volunteers and speakers came to share with the young camp participants.



But, before all the serious information youth spent an afternoon at a Mudhens game with complimentary tickets from Toledo Area Ministries. Maria Dvorak of Delta gave the youth information about relationships. Her interactive sessions addressed many concerns that young people face.

Once again, Catholic Heart Work Camp Volunteers assisted with the week. Learning songs, rap, dancing, crafts, and learning that Jesus is our best friend were themes explored during the week.



The youth viewed the locally produced film, *Losing Maria*; the film provided much ground for discussion. The final day the youth went to The Spaghetti Warehouse to celebrate their completion of a week of camp. The groups will continue to meet all year.

Chicken Fest - Another Success

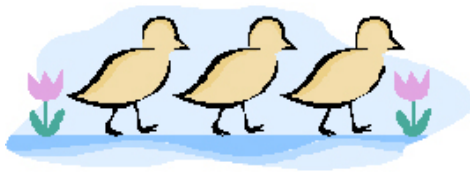


Martin's daughter, Marina, enjoys sitting on Mr. Chicken's lap.

The hot summer began with the Fourth Annual Urban Chicken Fest in June. Although the crowd was a little smaller, there was no end to the fun. Thanks to Dennis Jarrett there was plenty of line dancing. Children's games were a big hit. Thanks to the whole Padua Center Board for their efforts in getting donations, selling tickets, setting up and cleaning up!

The raffle winners were:

- TV - Rob and Cindy Downs
- DVD player - Warren and Kathy Welsh
- \$50 gift certificate - Martha Cotton
- \$50 gift certificate - Rose Hawkins
- \$50 gift certificate - Rose Newman



Martin Porter once again was the Chef Extraordinaire as he grilled chicken for our fest.

Recent Padua Potters Garden Club Activities

Since care of creation and understanding our environment is important concepts at Padua Center a Padua Potters Garden Club began last summer. After a winter hiatus, three students returned for our spring garden club. After the Padua Potters Camp more children will be part of the Garden Club.

Ms. Robin Kendrick volunteered each Wednesday in May to work with the children. The children helped prepare the soil, plant spring crops and also learn about the vertical garden system.

After the three weeks of meetings, the children put into an artistic format the application of gardening principles they learned. Through coloring they learned texture, techniques and how to look at things more closely.



Mark Henderson helps assemble the vertical hydroponic garden.



Rep. Marcy Kaptur with our Emerging Young Ladies at the 2011 Peaces of Art.

Please join Padua Center for Peaces of Art 2012

There will be a banquet, live music, silent and live auction, featuring Peace Art produced by Padua Center children, as well as music by Father Art and the Holy Notes

October 14, 2012

5:00 PM at the Sullivan Center at Gesu Parish
2049 Parkside Blvd, Toledo, Ohio.

Tickets: \$35 per individual / \$280 table for 8



Volunteers Work with Camp

During the 2012 Summer Camp season, Padua Center participated in the Summer Youth Employment Program. Three young women Shawnta Justice, Angelica Perry and Chourtnee Mack worked with Padua Center to help plan and run the camps. These young women involved themselves in various camp activities.

In addition to these summer helpers, Roni Flaggs, the 2011 Volunteer of the Year, continues to serve Padua Center by picking up and serving meals each day. Roni takes her responsibilities seriously, since hungry campers are always waiting when she arrives! Robin Kendrick also volunteered to lead the children in several artwork projects during the camps this year.



Chess Coach Brian Kendrick challenges Joshua Watkins to improve his skills. Brian donated chessboards and manuals to assist our youth.



Rayvon is all ready to paint during the Padua Potters Environment Camp.



Shawnta Justice, Angelica Perry, Brian Hayward (Mercy Ambassador) and Chourtnee Mack brought lots of fun, excitement and guidance to the summer camps.



Robin Kendrick facilitated a special Peaces of Art Clinic. The children prepared art for our October 14 fundraiser.



Medical Mutual Volunteers at Padua Center

On June 7, five Medical Mutual employee volunteers gave the Ujima Park and Garden a facelift! Mary Smith, Jackie Jones, Lisa Peterman, Debra Jones, and Dodi Schick endured the heat while helping to move a mound of mulch. The mulch controls weeds in the pathways through the garden. After lunch, Terry Crosby the Educational Director gave the volunteers information concerning Padua Center and specifically the Padua Possibilities Program.

Medical Mutual is one of the sponsors of Padua Center and underwrote two of the summer camps this year. We are most grateful for their assistance with the Hurray for Health and the Padua Potters Environmental Camps for grades K-4.



Kwanzaa Park Activities

Monthly meetings with members of the Kwanzaa Park have brought together neighbors to address some of the issues jeopardizing safety and beauty in Kwanzaa Park. Paula Hicks-Hudson, District 4 representative to City Council, was a guest at the July 12, 2012 meeting. Paula took many notes during the meeting; she is facilitating the removal of debris left from a house demolished on Junction Street. She is also working with the city sign department to have sign designations for Kwanzaa Park.



Signs will soon be going up on the major intersections in the Kwanzaa Park, specifically at the entrance into Kwanzaa Park, at Detroit and Nebraska, Junction and Dorr.

There will be a neighborhood clean up during the weekend of September 7-9, 2012 and a trash pickup on September 10, 2012. Residents should put their trash in the alley. Please call Padua Center at (419) 241-6465 to get your alley on the pickup route.



ProMedica staff provided health education for our campers during the Hurray for Health camp with blue light germ test for the children after they washed their hands.

Community Health Program at Padua Center

Padua Center once again received assistance this summer through Community Health Program. Medical student, Meghan Brown provided leadership and guidance for our camps. She was particularly helpful with the Hurray for Health camp. Thanks, Meghan!



Bowling Green Class Gives Assistance to Padua Center

The Bowling Green Executive Master of Organizational Development Class chose Padua Center for a capstone project. As a result, seventeen skilled and dedicated students gave extensive attention to many details of the development of the center. The class focused on:

- 1) Padua Center Board and board development
- 2) A succession plan for the executive director
- 3) Community outreach, specifically Brighten Up
- 4) The Padua Possibilities Program

Sister Virginia met with the class on June 23 and introduced them to Padua Center, its mission, vision, principles, accomplishments and challenges. The students probed for clarity and then produced a letter of engagement. On July 23, Terry Crosby, Educational Director and John Moran, Board member, met with the class and heard the preliminary findings, conclusions and recommendations. The students will submit the final document in mid-August. The Padua Board will then be responsible for implementing the recommendations. Anyone who wishes to see the document, please email Sister Virginia and thepaduacenter@gmail.com, for an electronic copy.



Volunteers and Donors - January - June 2012

Catholic Heart Work Camp

Ben Abbott
Alex Bancroft
Caroline Cramey
Jeremiah Guernsey
Brooke Haag
Tasia Schmitz (Leader)
Leah Sharp

Community Members

Jacqueline Chaney
Roni Flaggs
Robin Kendrick
Brian Kendrick
John Moran
Tanea Osbourne

Padua Board of Directors

Jonathan Boyle, Owens Com.College
Weldon, Douthitt, EOPA
Jackie Ellis, Anne Grady Center
Lynne Hamer, University of Toledo
Dennis Jarrett, Chair
Jewell Lightner, ProMedica
John Moran, St. Martin de Porres
Joseph Reeves, Treasurer
Oscar Shaheer, Brighten Up chair
Cherie Spino, Secretary

Donors

Ed and Sharon Ahlfors
Sharon Ahrens
Coleena Ali
Jason T. Askins

Patricia Besner
Bev Bingle
Marge and Bill Blackwell
Bishop Leonard Blair
Chuck Boyle
Edna Brown
Kenneth Cappelletty
Jacqueline Chaney
Curtis and Martha Cotton
Judith Crandall
Daniel Dawson
Buzz and Ellen Ditto
Robert and Martin Donnelly
Weldon Douthitt
Robert and Cynthia Downs
Jacqueline Ellis
Joseph Extejt
Dr. Kristine Fauver
Moreatha Flaggs
Harry and Annita Flanagan
Tim and Laura Galvin
Ann Hall
Lynne Hamer
Donald L Harbaugh
Bobby and Clara Hartman
Rose Marie Hawkins
Dorothy and Douglas Heinlen
Rochelle and Thomas Hite
Rev. Kenneth Lill
Master Chemical
Ellen and Jack McComis
Ronald McCullough
John Moore
Domenic Montalto

Annette Miller
John Moran
Rose Marie Newman
Fr. Richard Notter
Oasis Mediterranean Cuisine
Thomas Paine
Rose Marie Parker
James Powell
Paige Price
Candace Renner
Rosary Altar Society
Odessa and Charles Rowan
Irma Rutkowski
Tim and Joan Sacksteder
Kate Savage
Matthew and Carol Scheiber
Evelyn Shordt
Sisters of the Precious Blood
Sisters of St. Francis
Kay Shrewsbury
Ray and Christine Soto
Cherie Spino
Sisters of St. Joseph
Glen and Joyce Stubblefield
Mary Thebo
Lucretia Thomas
Ron Todd
James Turissini
Larry and Sarah Twitchell
Mark and Carol Tyson
Bob and Debbie Welsh
Greg and Cynthia Welsh
Warren and Kathy Welsh
Janice Wenck

Michael & Vasilike Yakumithis
CJ Yeager
Jeanne Zurat