



Padua Ponderings

Summer 2013

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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

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Padua Possibilities Reaches More Students

The Padua Possibilities Program has developed throughout this past school year. With a steady reimbursement from Toledo Public Schools and a renewed contract with Lucas County Children Service, we were able to hire a part-time teacher to provide oversight to the educational component of the program.

CaLera DeCembly and Beatrice Daniels conduct the ‘coaching conversations’ with each child who comes into the program. In addition, Daniels a certified instructor works with the Sylvansync program and gives individual iPad based tutoring to specific students.

Brian Hayward, Valerie Evans-Tyldesley, and Beatrice Daniels conduct the Peace Education, while Terry Crosby oversees the program and substitutes as the need arises.

Because of the unpredictability of the number of students who will be participating on any day, the Padua Center always has a full complement of adults to service up to 12 children. As of December 31, 2012, forty children have participated in the program for 102 days.

After School Programs Engaging Students

Sister Janice Ann Brown of Ohio State University donated her guitar skill to the youth in our after school program. She brought six guitars and taught



weekly for four weeks. Looking at the picture one can see that students were intent and determined to learn.

Martha Cotton taught a number of young girls to crochet. They worked on creating some lovely scarves together. Padua plans future crocheting sessions in the future.

Volunteers such as Sister Janice, Martha and Brian

Kendrick enhance the Padua Center Programs by giving of themselves and offering new experiences to the children.

Kwanzaa Park Neighbors Adopt Logo

For the past several years, the original Polish Neighborhood of Kuschwanz has been evolving into Kwanzaa Park. The neighborhood organization began meeting in 2008 and became known as “Brighten Up” because of a desire to work on lighting and brightening up the neighborhood. Monthly meetings with neighbors brought forth a desire to choose a name that is more reflective of the predominately African-American population who now lives here.

In 2011, Padua Center held a contest to rename the neighborhood it is now Kwanzaa Park. At a recent Brighten Up meeting, the residents decided to change their organization the Kwanzaa Park Neighbors. The group chose a logo for Kwanzaa Park and signs will assure that all who enter the area bordered by Dorr, Brown, Campbell/ Klondike, and Hawley Streets recognize the transformation of the neighborhood.



Congratulations to Monica Hartman for submitting the winning entry for the Kwanzaa Park logo.

The Padua Center Places Third in the Chuck Boyk Challenge

Chuck Boyk (left) presented a \$500 check to The Padua Center for placing third in the Chuck Boyk Challenge. Mr. Terry Crosby and Sister Virginia happily accept the check. Thanks all those who went on-line and voted for The Padua Center.



Volunteer Hannah Kessler Receives Soroptimist Scholarship

Hannah Kessler volunteered at The Padua Center’s “Emerging Young Ladies” program. On an application for a scholarship from the Soroptimist of Monroe County, she wrote of her experience. She not only received the scholarship, but the Soroptimist donated \$500 to The Padua Center. Thanks Hannah!

What follows is a portion of her essay.

“My role was to be a role model for these young women. I was someone who was closer to their age than the other volunteers. The girls felt that they could connect easily with me and often shared their personal experiences and questions with me. I was able to help the girls as someone who had recently gone through similar situations and experiences. I could share these times with them and how I handled it. Volunteering with this program has really impacted me. I realized that I can help these girls reach their full potential by being a positive influence and role model. This camp, I believe, has changed me as a person. I am more appreciative of the life I have and go out of my way to help those in need. I do still keep in contact with some of the girls and they talk about how the camp has helped them go through these crucial times and given them the tools to succeed.”



Hannah Kessler will graduate from Bedford High School in June 2013.

Summer Camps Highlight Math and Reading

Although the grass is yet to return with the warming of Spring, Padua Center is already planning Summer Camp Activities. Once again, there will be six weeks of free, themed camps, for varied ages. New this year will be an integration of math and reading during the camps and during a special tutoring time.

- June 10-14** Vacation Bible School for grades K-8
- June 17-21** Happy and Healthy for grades K-4
- June 23-28** Happy and Healthy for grades 5-8
- July 8-12** Green is for Gardening for grades K-4
- July 15-19** Sports for grades 5-8
- July 22-26** Emerging Young Ladies and Grooming Great Gentlemen



Registration forms are available on-line or stop by Padua Center.

The EYL and GGG Program Students Enjoy Valentine Theater Performances

Through the generosity of Mark Edelman and the Theater League of Kansas City, Missouri and Jori Jex of the Valentine Theater in Toledo, the Emerging Young Ladies (EYL) and the Grooming Great Gentleman (GGG) had the opportunity to attend several musical performances at the Valentine Theater.

The three programs that the students enjoyed provided dance, music and various cultural presentations. The students were excited to get autographs from some of the Celtic Nights singers and to visit with the dancers.



The EYL and GGG groups would not have such opportunities without the generosity of many individuals. Special thanks to Veronica Flaggs who chaperoned three events. In addition, Padua Center held a Spring Break session of EYL and GGG. The week concluded with lunch sponsored by Pastor Cedrick Brock at the Del Sol Café, pictured above.

College Students Serve Padua Center on Martin Luther King Day

College students brought smiles, energy and giving hearts to Padua Center on two recent occasions. Martin Luther King Day is a "A Day On, Not Off" for students from Bowling Green State University as they spent the day performing some needed work at Padua Center.

Likewise, the Big Event brought about 25 students from the University of Toledo who spent a Saturday washing windows. During Spring Break, Rob Downs of St. Martin de Porres, Otha Carr and two volunteers stripped and refinished the living room floor. St. Mary Parish in Bluffton, Ohio will be donating and installing flooring for the dining room.



Two students tear up the carpet in the dining room.



Engineers Without Borders were among the volunteers.

Donors from July 1, 2012—December 31, 2012, including *Peaces of Art*

Sharon Ahrens
Coleena Ali
Alice Arnzen
Dr. George Baibak
Sara and Tim Best
Sr. Christine Bielenda
Bev Bingle
Marge and Bill Blackwell
Bishop Leonard Blair
Michael, Renee Bruno
Catholic Health Partners
Catholic Youth Organization
Marge Dell
Jacqueline Chaney
Chuck Childers
David and Denise Coyle
Judith Crandall
Terry Crosby
Buzz and Ellen Ditto
Sandra Donnell
Weldon Douthitt
Rob and Cindy Downs
Mary Edwards
Jackie Ellis
Tom McDonald- Facey
Morethea Flaggs
Diane Flaggs
Mary Jane Flores
Sr. Dorothy Forman
Rev.F. Anthony Gallagher
Tim and Laura Galvin
Stephen Goldman

Maria Gonzalez
Lynne Hamer
C.M. Handwork
Bobby and Clara Hartman
Monica Hartman
Noela Haughton
Dorothy and Douglas Heinlen
Historic Church of St. Patrick
Rochelle and Tom Hite
Holy Trinity Parish
Huntzinger and Thetford, DDS
Carol Jackson
Rev. Joseph Jaros
Dennis and Karen Jarrett
Kathleen Jeffery
Paul and Deb Johnson
Marcy Kaptur
James, Cynthia Knechtges
Karen Krause
Mary Jane Kunz
Robin Lanz
Yvonne Lear
Rev. Kenneth Lill
Rodney Lockwood
Michael Martaus
Catherine and Leslie Martin
Master Chemical Corp.
Jack and Ellen McComis
Richard McCray
Hiram McFarlin
Domenic Montalto
Bradene Moore

John Moore
Christine Nelms
Rev. Richard Notter
Cynthia Nowak
Sisters of St. Francis of Tiffin, Ohio
Kaye Patten-Wallace
Walter Pauly
Jeffrey and Barbara Pedigo
John Polofka
Joseph Reeves
Sr. Toni Rode
Odessa Rowan
James and Jane Ruvolo
Irma Santiago and Jerome Ceille
Bob and Sue Savage
Kathleen Savord
Matthew and Carol Scheiber
Linda Schlachter
Sr. Lucy Schmitmeyer
Oscar Shaheer
Elaine Sheehan
Kay Shrewsbury and Sue Nowak
Sr. Elizabeth Siebenaler
Dale Snauwaert
Cherie Spino
St. Joseph Church
St. Martin Social Concern
Cynthia Steele
Marion and Ellen Steiner
Susanna Supperman-Hapgood
Valerie Evans Tyldesley
Stephen and Julie Taylor
Mary Thebo
Lucretia Thomas
Larry and Sarah Twitchell
Paul and Stephanie Tyson
University of Toledo
Sr. Grace Ellen Urban
Lynne Vonderwell
Sharan and Bill Welsh
Sr. Ginny Welsh
Timothy Welsh
Warren and Kathy Welsh
Bradley and Rosemary Wietholter
Nancy Young
Jeanne Zurat



Darius Harold (left) and Deiondré Harold offered a total of 25 hours to sanding and cleaning the floor. Thanks!

Save the Dates

Chicken Fest—June 1, 2013
Peaces of Art—October 13, 2013



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