



unity, self-determination, collective work, cooperative economics, faith, purpose and creativity

Hoop House Frame Erected

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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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After 18 months of negotiating with the City of Toledo, the Planning Commission, and various departments, Padua Center received the building permit for Hoop House on April 18. In a burst of activity, the community erected the frame. Representative Marcy Kaptur and Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson joined in the celebration. Thanks to all of the volunteers, especially Jason Askins PE, Kyle Blossner of Engineers Without Borders, Consultant Wade Smith, and various community members.

In preparation for the permits, Brian Retar of FWB, Inc, donated the engineering, the site plans, and various drawings necessary for the permit. Sr. Marya Czech assisted in delivering and tracking the site plans. Mr. Otha Carr, the gardener, attended several workshops and is preparing to use the Hoop House to plant crops in the fall. The Hoop House will allow for season extension and also for harvesting crops throughout the winter. The Hoop House is an integral part of the expansion of the Ujima Urban Agriculture project.



Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson visits with Sister Virginia and Otha Carr at the Hoop House.



Marcy Kaptur and the volunteers pose for a picture in front of the Hoop House frame.



Volunteers, young and old, participated in this neighborhood event. St. Joseph Parish in Sylvania sent volunteers for their Day of Service.



Jim Etzel Uses the New Ramp First

The Toledo Rotary has been very helpful in the development of Padua Center with their latest gift; a wheelchair accessible ramp. Padua Center dedicated the ramp on April 21, 2015. Since opening, Padua Center needed a ramp and thanks to the Toledo Rotary we are now accessible!

Jim Etzel performed the ribbon cutting and battled a strong head wind to ascend the aluminum ramp, move across the porch and then ascend the small ramp built by Mercy Ambassadors to enter Padua Center. Jim is the first person using a wheelchair to enter Padua Center independently. We hope this ramp will assist many persons in coming into Padua Center.



Jim Etzel helps cut the ribbon to open the ramp at Padua Center.

Board Strategic Planning Begins

Under the direction of Board Member Chris Harben, the Padua Board has begun a process of strategic planning. Financial issues, changes in the funding sources and growth of new programs are issues that the Board is tackling. Using a familiar method, the board members have done a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis of Padua Center. The Board welcomes comments from our friends, benefactors and funders. If you wish to submit any feedback the Board will gladly welcome it.



Ms Nancy Young, retired TPS teacher, instructs a child in the Restoring Possibilities Program.

Introducing Restoring Possibilities Program

Since 2007, Padua Center has assisted children under the risk of suspension from several local public schools. This program, Padua Possibilities, services over 600 children with thousands of days of assistance. With the success of the Padua Possibilities program, Padua Center decided to address another need in the school system- expelled children. Grants from the Maria Anna Brunner Fund of the Sisters of the Precious Blood and from Toledo Community Foundation fund the Restoring Possibilities program for expelled children.

In January 2015, Padua Center began to receive referrals for students. The program works one-on-one with expelled children and includes professional counseling; it also encourages parent involvement. Program participants interact with Padua Possibilities students during Peace Education, lunch, and recess times. Since January, Padua Center provided services to six children who would otherwise spend their days out of school with no academic progress noted. Five of the students returned to their respective schools with no further incidents.

Padua Possibilities Update



Ms. Caldwell-Simmons and two of the children in the Padua Possibilities Program.

The Padua Possibilities Program continues to grow strong each year. During the 2014-15 school year thus far we have serviced 139 different children for a total of 415 days. Each day children come from Robinson, Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy for Boys, and Sherman Schools. Mr. Terry Crosby picks them up in our van and they enter a day of learning, fun, wisdom building, and directed behavior modification.

Program staff consists of Mr. Terry Crosby and Ms. Mary Elizabeth Caldwell-Simmons. Many

volunteers and participants assist them with several programs, including Experience Works, Lourdes University Interns, and Face Forward workers. The children who participate in the Padua Possibilities Program would otherwise be out of school for the day(s) they are with us. If they stayed home students would not receive homework and would miss out on a day of learning. Since 2007, the Padua Possibilities program provided services to over 700 children.



Shaundrea from the Face Forward Program helps a student.

Volunteers and Partners

Padua Center relies on the generosity of many volunteers. There are groups that adopt the center and other who work with the center on a regular basis. Christ Child Society provides seasonal parties for our children. In addition, they provide Halloween and Spring parties. The After School children enjoy the generosity of the Christ Child Society. The Toledo Symphony, through a grant, provides free weekly piano lessons to six students at Padua Center. Padua Center appreciates the ongoing support of these groups.



Board member, Laila Ariss, and some students from Maumee Valley Country Day School paint animals on the walls ascending to second floor.



Imani Hinton is one of three Notre Dame Students who volunteer regularly in the After School program.



Day of Service volunteers from BGSU!

Donations: July 1, 2014 - April 30, 2015

Lucy and Samir Abu-Absi	F. Anthony Gallagher	Mary Kate Savage
Edward and Sharon Ahlfors	Tim and Laura Galvin	Matthew and Carol Scheiber
Sharon Ahrens	Anastasia Grant	Michael and Christine Schwieterman
Val Algee	Charlotte Halloran	Oscar Shaheer
Coleena Ali	Lynne Hamer	Constance Shaw
Mary Jo Anderson	Richard and Patricia Hanusz	Thomas and Mary Sheffler
The Andersons (<i>donation for Van</i>)	Dorothy and Douglas Haverbusch	Evelyn Shordt
Sonny and Laila Ariss	Rose Marie Hawkins	Kay Shrewsbery
Jason Askins	Dorothy and Douglas Heinlen	Sue Nowak
Joe and Pat Balderas	Eleanor and Louis Hibbs	Sisters of St. Francis-Tiffin
Thomas Bebley	Thomas and Rochelle Hite	Sisters of Sr. Francis-Sylvania
Cecile Bennett	Jay and Susan Koester	St. Joseph Parish-Sylvania
Patricia Besner	LouAnn and Thomas Kress	Tony Schumacher
Bishop Hoffman Catholic School	Mary Jane Kunz	Diane and Kenneth Stein
Marge and Bill Blackwell	Knights of Columbus #386	J.B. Tewell
Rosemary and Reynold Boezi	June Landry	Lucretia Thomas
June Boyd	Jane Larsen	Ron Todd
Charles Boyle	Ralph Lauser	Richard and Georgianne Torchia
Wilma Brown	Yvonne Lear	Mark and Carol Tyson
C. Brown Funeral Home	Rev. Kenneth Lill	Ursuline Convent
Brown Honda (Van)	Local Union No. 8-IBEW	*Warren and Kathleen Welsh
Juanita Cargille	Kathleen Maidlow	Sharan and Bill Welsh
William and Catherine Carroll	Donald and Valerie Malinowski	Greg and Cynthia Welsh
Connie Shaw	George Marsh and Mary Ann Rickus	Kandann Williams
Catholic Health Partners (Mercy)	Master Chemical Corporation	Steve Wirzylo
Christ Child Society	Pat and Marcella McCabe	David and Lynne Wolf
City of Toledo	Jack and Ellen McComis	Clancy Yaeger
Joseph and Mary Clark	Tom McDonald and Liz Facey	Jeanne Zurat
Thomas and Barbara Colvin	Hiram McFarlin	
Martha Cotton	D.J. and S. L. McKernan	
Judith Crandall	Theresa Mohler	
Thomas Dibling	John C. Moore	
Buzz and Ellen Ditto	John and Cathleen Nelson	
Charles and Eleanor Dombrowski	Rec. Richard Notter	
Fr. P. Martin Donnelly	Cynthia Nowak	
Renee Dougherty	Sally O'Connell	
Cynthia and Robert Downs	Sheila Otto	
Barbara Eikost	Walter Pauly	
Rhonda and Noel Eldridge	Paige Price	
Lucas County Farm Bureau	St. Martin de Porres-RAS	
Carleton Finkbeiner	K. LaVerne Redden	
Moreatha Flaggs	Patricia Regan	
Mary Jane Flores	Raymond and Stacy Rellinger	
*Jack Ford	Bruno and Suzanne Rosa	
Theresa Gabriel	Odessa Rowan	
	Marian and Jerry Russell	
	Joan Rutherford	

Padua Offers Condolences...

Padua Center expresses condolences to the families of our benefactors who recently died:

Dr. Warren Welsh

brother of Sister Virginia Welsh

Jack Ford

Padua Center Board Member

Jim Savage and Nancy Amato

friends of Padua Center