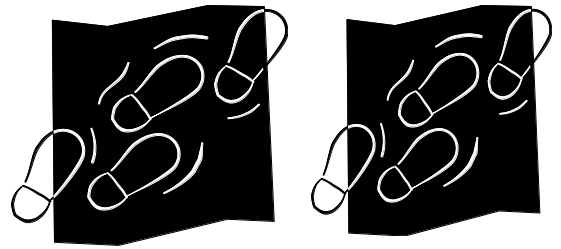


Franciscan Footsteps

Mount Alvernia High School



Dear Parents,

Lent is a wonderful time in the Church year when we are encouraged to focus our efforts on loving God better through prayer, almsgiving and fasting. Like Lent, Community Service challenges our students and each of us to love God better by using some of our time to reach out in love to those in need. In this newsletter I will highlight some places students who are still looking for a worthy cause to help out might find their niche. I do hope your daughter has almost completed her 30 hour community service requirement. Please call me at extension 15 if I can assist you further. May God bless you and your family always, and especially during this time of Lent!

Sincerely,

Sr. Julie Franchi, mfc
Coordinator of Community Service

Volunteers are needed at the following:

Winter Walk in Newton on Sunday, March 14. This 5 mile walk from United Parish of Aurburndale to the Lutheran Church of the Newtons will raise funds to benefit HomeStart, a non-profit whose mission is to end and prevent homelessness in Greater Boston. Participate with other students from Newton. For more information contact Paula Kramer, Director of Development, HomeStart, Inc., 105 Chauncy Street, Suite 502, Boston, MA 02111, (p) 617-542-0338 x 264 or www.homestart.org

Saturday Play Group in Norwood: This is a great opportunity for students to gain valuable experience working one on one with children with special needs while, at the same time, earning community service hours! Help is needed every Saturday, March 6-April 10, 1:45-2:45 p.m at 68 Vanderbilt Avenue, Norwood (off Rt. 1 North in Norwood). To sign up to volunteer, please contact Nancy Borr at 781-762-4001, x412 or NBorr@sncarc.org.

Hebrew Rehabilitation Center in Roslindale is starting a new program for residents with Alzheimer's. Training will be provided. This involves a 2 hour commitment every week. For more information call Jodie Portman at 617-363-8459 or check the website: www.hebrewseniorlife.org

NewtonServes Day of Community Service on Sunday, April 25. NewtonServes brings together over 1,000 volunteers of all ages who do all kinds of work throughout the city. Pre-registration is necessary. Questions? Call 617-796-1290 or 617-796-1289. See photos of NewtonServes 2009 at: www.ci.newton.ma.us/newtonservices

Room to Grow, located at 142 Berkeley St., Boston, is a non-profit organization which provides customized parenting support and essential baby items to families in need throughout their child's critical first three years of life. They need volunteers in 3 hour shifts March 25-30 for "Seasonal Switch" to help change all of the Fall/Winter clothing and replace it with Spring/Summer items. They also need volunteers to sort and prepare community donations of baby clothing, toys, books and equipment for the families they serve on a regular basis in 2 hour increments. To set up a volunteer orientation, please call 617-859-4545 or e-mail infoboston@roomtogrow.org or check the web at www.roomtogrow.org.

City Year Boston will have a program for children during the April vacation. Learn more about City Year and these opportunities by visiting the Web Site. <http://www.cityyear.org/boston.aspx> or call 617-927-2500.

Cradles to Crayons provides great quality kids' essentials to homeless and low-income children, from infancy to age 12. It is located in Quincy, near the Neponset River Bridge. Applications to volunteer must be done electronically in advance. Minors must be accompanied by an adult. For more information call: 617-471-8417, or check the website: www.Cradlestocrayons.org

Project Bread's Walk for Hunger Many of our students participate in the annual Walk for Hunger, to be held Sunday, May 2. Students raise money for the hungry and homeless of Boston and vicinity along with thousands of other wonderful people. Students who do the entire 20 mile walk and raise \$50 can earn 10 hours of community service. For more information: 617-723-5000, www.projectbread.org/walk or come to Sr. Julie's office.

Brigham and Women's Hospital is a place where our students have volunteered in various capacities for several years. For more information about volunteering call 617-732-5998.

Saint Francis House is a day shelter for the homeless on Boylston St. in the heart of downtown Boston. It is open every day, including weekends. Help is needed preparing and serving a meal 9:00 am-1:30 pm. Volunteers must be at least 17 years old. For more information call Lynn Campbell at: 617-654-1212. Check out the web: <http://www.stfranchouse.org>

Artists for Humanity's mission is to bridge economic, racial and social divisions among young people through art. Young people, especially in urban neighborhoods, engage in hands-on experiences in creativity, business, teamwork, and self-governance. Activities include projects that promote social justice and environmental responsibility. It is located at 100 W. 2nd St., South Boston. Information: 617-268-7620 or web: www.AFHboston.com

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Fulfilling your community service requirement involves donating your service AND submitting the evaluation forms.

- Seniors should have ALL their 30 hours of service complete by April 1.
- All students, grades 8-12 should have at least 15 hours complete by now.
- Students, grades 8-12 should have ALL 30 hours complete by May 15.