


HOLIDAY VOLUNTEER GUIDE 2009



 **Volunteer Center For Anne Arundel County, Inc.**
2666 Riva Rd. Suite 130
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-897-9207(phone)
www.volunteerannearundel.org

 **Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County**

Holiday Volunteer Opportunities Table of Contents:

Annapolis Jaycees	3
Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services	3
Anne Arundel County Food Bank	3
Arc of the Chesapeake Region	3
Arthritis Foundation	3
Assistance League of the Chesapeake	3
Bello Machre	3
Books for International Good Will	3
Caring Collection	4
Chrysalis House	4
Fouse Center	4
Giving Back's Backpack Program	4
Happy Helpers	4
Historic Annapolis Foundation	5
Holiday Homeless Drive	5
H.O.P.E.	5
Hospice of the Chesapeake	5
Junior League of Annapolis	6
Light House Shelter	6
Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland	6
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)	6
My Brother's Pantry	6
Our Daily Bread	7
Partners in Care	7
Pets on Wheels	7
Providence Center	7
Rude Ranch Animal Rescue	7
Salvation Army	7
Sarah's House	8
Severna Park Assistance Network (SPAN)	8
The Sharing Foundation	8
South County Assistance Network (SoCan)	8
Toys for Tots Campaign	9
Winter Relief Program	9
Wreaths Across America	9
YWCA	9-10

Holiday Volunteer Opportunities:

Annapolis Jaycees – Annual Holiday Hanging of the Greens Project (Annapolis)

Volunteers are needed for Hanging of the Greens in downtown Annapolis from 8 am–3 pm on Sat., **Dec. 5 2009**. Volunteers will work in teams of 5-10 on assigned sections of buildings to wrap Christmas lights around greenery and hang the greens/lights along with wreaths and ribbons. Volunteers are encouraged to bring wire cutters, ladders, and pickup trucks. Breakfast and a mid-day lunch will be provided. The Jaycees will also light the city of Annapolis Christmas Tree on Sun., Nov. 29th at 6 pm. Setup starts at 3pm Concession sales start around 5:30pm, program starts at 6pm with tree lighting sometime between 6:45pm-7:00pm. See Web site: www.annapolisjaycees.org.

Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services (Throughout County)

Holiday Sharing Program, now until end of December: This program matches donors with recipients, making it possible to serve over 5,000 families/seniors during the holidays each year. Become a donor for seniors and families in need; make a cash donation which is used to purchase food/clothing/toy gift certificates; sort toys or match donors with needy families and seniors. Donors contribute Thanksgiving and/or Christmas dinner, plus toys or clothing. Delivery is made in person. Families, clubs, businesses, schools and individuals can help the needy and celebrate the holidays in the true spirit of the season. Volunteers are also needed to help by entering data and working with client/donor matches each holiday season. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and have a basic knowledge of computers. For more information call 410-269-4461 or Email: mhuguley@dhr.state.md.us.

Anne Arundel County Food and Resource Bank (Annapolis/Central County)

Founded in 1988 their mission is to fight hunger by assuring that all county citizens in need have access to food and other necessities. Volunteers are needed to sort food for distribution Saturdays or occasional evenings in Crownsville. Especially needed: volunteers with pick-up trucks during the day and help with phones, copying, other office duties (8:30 am – 2:30 pm), data base, computers, webmaster. Call Bruce at 410-923-4255 or Bruce@aafoodbank.org. Website: www.aafoodbank.org.

Arc of the Central Chesapeake Region (Annapolis/Central County)

The Arc advocates for and supports County citizens with developmental disabilities/mental retardation. During the holidays, donations of food, clothing, gift and household items and gift cards makes a huge difference in the life of the children and families the Arc supports. For more information, please call the Arc at (410) 268-8085 or (410) 269-1883. See web site www.thearcccr.org.

Assistance League of the Chesapeake (Central & West County)

Volunteer carolers are invited to participate in the "sing-a-longs " for seniors program at several locations before the holidays as follows:

- 10:30 am, Wed., Dec. 2, 2009, Future Care Nursing Home, College Pkwy, Arnold.
- 6:30pm, Mon., Dec. 14, 2009, Sunrise Assisted Living, Severna Park
- 10:30am, Wed., Dec. 16, 2009, Regency Park Assisted Living, Rte 3, Gambrills

Anyone interested in participating should e-mail info@ALChesapeake.org or bsysko@verizon.net to sign up or obtain further information.

Bello Machre (North County)

This nonprofit provides loving homes for adults and children with developmental disabilities. Contact Evette Watson at 443-702-3064 or ewatson@bellomachre.org. See web site: www.Bellomachre.org

- **Holiday Opportunities:** Volunteers needed to assist with decorating, making cookies, making crafts, playing games or simply being a friend to our individuals.
- **Holiday Donations Needed:** Men's and Women's winter coats, non-perishable food, and complete sets of dishes and pans can be dropped off Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm at 7765 Freetown Rd. Pasadena MD.

Books for International Goodwill (B.I.G) Project (Annapolis and South County)

Thousands of books gather dust in storage rooms and attics, while thousands of students and adults in developing countries lack both textbooks and recreational reading. Volunteers drop off good used books and/or help sort **8:00 am–12:00 noon on the second and fourth Saturdays each month (volunteers should call to verify)** at the B.I.G.

warehouse in the Triangle Tobacco Warehouse in Wayson's Corner (1325 Mt. Zion-Marlboro Rd. near Upper Marlboro, about 18 mi. from Annapolis) where B.I.G. operates and has a drop off. Individuals, high school age and older, are welcome on a "drop-in" basis. There is also a drop off at Extra Space Self Storage, 2107 West Street, just west of the Annapolis Mall next to Toys R Us. Both drop offs are open 24 hrs. a day and directions to both are on the website below. Special times may be arranged for groups. Groups should schedule with Steve Frantzich at 410-293-6865 or frantzich@comcast.net. Website: www.big-books.org. Volunteer & book sale dates:

- **8 am–12 Noon, Sat., Dec. 12, 2009: Book Sorting and Packing.**
- **8 am–2 pm, Dec. 12, 2009: Book Sales:** Select volunteers are welcomed Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to sort and shelve books for future Book Sales. Please contact Joyce at 703-919-0069 if you are interested in helping get books ready for a BIG Sale.

Caring Collection, Inc. (Annapolis)

The Caring Collection, Inc. creates stained glass artwork to benefit cancer patients at the Johns Hopkins Oncology Center in Baltimore and the Anne Arundel Oncology Center in Annapolis. Contact Bobbie Burnett at (410) 849-5333, caringcollection@att.net, or visit www.caringcollection.org.

Upcoming holiday activity: Volunteers are needed to assist at the Annapolis workshop Mon.–Fri., 9am–5pm to tell about the Caring Collection, help visitors select holiday gifts and help on our holiday angel assembly line. The studio will also be open evenings and weekends by special appointment. Also, volunteers are needed to go with us to Johns Hopkins and Anne Arundel Hospitals to sell our artwork.

Chrysalis House (Annapolis/Central County)

Chrysalis House, in Crownsville, provides addiction treatment services for women and women with children in a residential setting. Volunteer assistance is needed to help collect and wrap Christmas gifts for Chrysalis House residents. Donations of food, clothing, household items, bedding, gift cards, and more are also needed. Contact Patty Shreve at pshreve@chrysalishouse.org or Lorene Lake at LLake@chrysalishouses.org or call 410-974-6829.

Fouse Center (North County)

This Glen Burnie nonprofit provides transitional housing for homeless men in Northern Anne Arundel County. Its goal is to assist men with the transition from homelessness to independent and stable living. Contact Mario at 410-609-1224 or info@thefousecenter.com

- **Holiday donations** needed such as: food items, including drink mixes, prepared foods, nonperishable, frozen foods and fresh foods such as milk, eggs, fruits and vegetables; toiletry items such as deodorant, toothbrushes, shampoo, etc; new or gently used men's clothing, including suits, ties, shirts, dress shoes pants, jackets, hats, gloves, new socks and underwear; cleaning supplies, paper products, cookware; new or gently used linens, such as twin sheet sets, pillows, pillow cases and bath towels. For more specific information and for drop-off directions contact Mario at 410-609-1224.

Giving Back's Backpack Program November-December Collection Drive

Over the past few years, Giving Back has developed a program to provide backpacks, coats and boots to the people directly on the streets of Baltimore and DC. Each backpack will include a heavy sweatshirt, thermal underwear (top and bottom), a hat, warm gloves, and a warm pair of socks. Last year we distributed nearly 2000 of these backpacks, and sadly, there was not enough. We are looking for organizations/neighborhoods/individuals to help us fill these backpacks for the 2009 drive. Giving Back will purchase the backpack, and provide them to groups willing to collect the materials to fill and return them. We are also looking for volunteers to assist with everything from publicity, working at the collection site in Annapolis from **Dec 20-23**, and helping with the deliveries on **Dec 24**. If you want to help in any way, please contact us. For more information, contact Steve Anstett (director) at homelessdrive@usa.com or 410-295-0889.

Happy Helpers for the Homeless (North County and Baltimore), Saturdays and Sundays

This organization was created by a 10 year old whose vision was to provide, food, toiletries, and clothing with compassion and a smile to the hungry and homeless. Contact Bobbi Coffman at 410-766-4973 for more information.

Upcoming Holiday Volunteer Activities:

- **9:00 am–5:00 pm, Sat., Dec. 12, 2009, Eleventh Annual Christmas Party for Guatemalan Families in Maryland:** Refreshments, craft-making, clothing & grocery giveaways, a visit from Santa, and distribution of lots of Christmas presents will all be a part of this big and wonderful event.

- **10:00 am–4:00 pm, Sat., Dec. 19, 2009, 17th Annual Christmas Party for AA County's Homeless:** Entertainment, lunch, presents, and fellowship will make this party heartwarming; It is being held at Grace Point Presbyterian Church, 615 Donaldson Ave, Severn.
- **9:30 am–4:00 pm, Sun., Dec. 20, 2009 Huge Distribution of 2,000 Christmas Presents:** Christmas presents will be distributed directly to homeless men, women, and children in Baltimore by an army of volunteers. Lunch, Christmas cards, and candy will also be distributed. Meet at the Happy Helpers Baltimore Headquarters, 1550 Caton Center Dr., #L.
- **Holiday Donations:** Clothing (all sizes and ages), Food (especially turkeys or hams and trimmings), Christmas presents: backpacks, hats, gloves, socks, McDonald's meal certificates, toys, books, thermal underwear, and sweatshirts, toiletries. Can pick and drop off after 4 pm, seven days a week. Contact Bobbi as above.

Historic Annapolis Foundation (Annapolis)

Historic Annapolis Foundation is sponsoring and seeking entries from the public of one-of-a kind Gingerbread Houses for its contest to benefit the Eastport Girls Club and the Foundation. The deadline for registration of entries is Nov. 20, 2009, and entries will be on exhibit throughout downtown Annapolis from **Dec. 3-19, 2009**. There will be an Awards Ceremony on Dec. 19 to announce winners. For more information, visit the web site at www.annapolis.org or call 410-267-8146.

Holiday Homeless Drive, December 20–23, 2009

This annual event sponsored by the nonprofit organization, Giving Back, Inc., needs volunteers to collect and sort donations from 11 am to 5 pm on Dec. 20- 23rd at the farmers Market on Riva Rd. at Truman Pkwy in Annapolis and distribute to shelters in Anne Arundel County and Baltimore City on Dec. 24th. Volunteers needed to collect and sort blankets, winter coats, sweaters, baby clothing, non-perishable food, toys (new), bag lunches, and more at trucks. Volunteers are also needed to load & distribute gifts on Christmas Eve from 11 am to 3 pm. On Dec. 24th, specific volunteers are needed as doctors, nurses, carolers, musicians and people to dress up in costumes to go with the trucks which will be leaving from the Farmers Market on Riva Road at Truman Parkway. Volunteers also needed now to distribute fliers and assist with administrative tasks. For more information, contact Steve Anstett (director) at homelessdrive@usa.com or 410-295-0889.

H.O.P.E., Inc. (He Opens the Path to Everyone)(North County)

H.O.P.E., Inc. is an all volunteer non-profit Christian ministry serving families in need in the north AA County, Baltimore City areas and also the Appalachian region by collecting and distributing donated school supplies, household goods and furniture, and clothing. H.O.P.E. is currently looking for some assistance with processing (sorting, testing, reconditioning, pricing) yard sale items at the warehouse and to help with warehouse cleanup. We are also seeking church or civic groups to sort donated clothing at their facilities. Pick up and delivery help for donated items is also needed. Grant researcher/writers are also needed to help with fundraising. Help is also needed in seeking closed facilities for possible rental as well as donated retail space for a thrift shop. Donations of furniture, infant and children's clothing as well as financial donations are needed For more information about current donation needs and to inquire about volunteer opportunities, contact Leo Zerhusen at 410-859-1297 or E-mail lzerhusen@peoplepc.com.

Hospice of the Chesapeake (Annapolis, Throughout County)

The Santa Claus raffle is being held through **December 5, 2009** at the Chesapeake Treasures Resale Shop in the Park Plaza, the Hospice of the Chesapeake Annapolis office on Defense Highway, the Creston G. Tate & Betty Jane Tate Foundation Chesapeake Hospice House in Linthicum or at the James & Arloine Mandrin Chesapeake Hospice House in Harwood. The drawing will be held at **5 p.m., December 6, 2009**, during the Holiday Open House. Tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for six. For the 14th year, Chesapeake Treasures volunteer Virginia McConnell of Severna Park has donated a hand-made traditional Santa Claus doll to the shop for the annual holiday raffle. Ms. McConnell is the owner of Crafty Grannies – Yes Mrs. Claus, there is a Virginia. All proceeds benefit Hospice of the Chesapeake. For more information, call the Shop at 410-384-9260. Web site: www.hospicechesapeake.org.

- **Hospice of the Chesapeake's Holiday Wish List:** 1) Gently used goods to sell at Chesapeake Treasures in Severna Park including clothing, jewelry, quality furniture and household items; 2) In-kind donations of services such as printing, catering and event support; 2) Gifts of time — become a Hospice of the Chesapeake volunteer; and 3) Monetary contributions of any value — every gift helps! This holiday season please consider Hospice of the

Chesapeake during your gift giving celebrations. For more information on additional ways to support the organization, please contact 410.987.2003.

Junior League of Annapolis

This organization reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who share an interest in and commitment to volunteerism and community service. Volunteers needed to work on projects supporting children and families, including the Teen Empowerment and Mentoring Program (TEAM) in conjunction with the Anne Arundel Medical Center's Women's and Children's Division, the September Back to School Book Bag project, to assist with fundraising, serve on Board of Directors and support other programs and services. Call 410-224-8984 or e-mail: admin@jlanapolis.org. Website: www.jlanapolis.org

- **10:00 am–1:00 pm, Dec. 2–24, 2009, Gift Wrapping:** Volunteers are needed to staff gift wrapping shifts at the "Wrap It Up!" store located in front of the Crate and Barrel in the west atrium at Westfield Annapolis Mall. Proceeds will benefit community outreach programs of the Junior League. Call 410-224-8984 for more information.

Light House Shelter (Annapolis/Central County)

This Annapolis emergency shelter facility provides shelter for single men and women and families and runs a transitional housing program. Volunteers, 18 and over, are needed for a variety of duties associated with the food program, children's programs, facilities cleaning & maintenance, office and administration, and adult education programs. The hours are flexible for many tasks and training is provided. In addition to volunteers, the shelter has an immediate need for pantry food items because of a greatly increased demand for lunches. To volunteer, contact Volunteer Coordinator Holly Mallonee at (410)349-5056 or mallonee@AnnapolisLightHouse.org. Call 410-263-1835. Web: www.annapolislighthouse.org

- **8-10 a.m., Sat., Dec. 19, 2009, Applebee's Breakfast w/ Santa to Benefit the Light House Shelter:** We need volunteers to help greet, seat, serve and clean up at our Applebee's "Breakfast with Santa" Flapjack Fundraiser. Tickets are \$7 of which \$5.50 will go Light House. Tickets will be available at the door for those that would like to attend. Contact Holly Mallonee at (410)349-5056 or mallonee@annapolislighthouse.org.

- **9:00am–1:00pm, Sun., Dec. 20, 2009, Delivery of Food Baskets to Lighthouse Shelter, 206 West St., Annapolis:** We are looking for volunteers to provide a portable Christmas meal to families in need. If you are interested in supplying a full Christmas meal please email volunteer@annapolislighthouse.org. If you are not able to contribute a full basket, we welcome food items and grocery gift cards at any time. Each Basket should contain enough of the following for 6 people: Canned Sweet Potatoes and Canned Green Beans; Potatoes and Sauerkraut; Stuffing and Dinner Rolls; Sugar, Flour and Gravy Mix; Fruit; Cranberry and Apple Sauce; Bacon, Eggs, Pancake Mix, and Syrup; Pie or Ingredients to Make a Pie; Turkey (Gift Card to purchase a turkey this makes the bags-a lot easier to carry); Milk; Coffee, tea, hot chocolate.

Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland (Throughout County)

Individuals and groups can assist the homebound. Volunteer as little as two hours a month to make a world of difference. Drivers needed to deliver meals Monday through Friday (**holidays included**) between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Volunteers also needed to accompany drivers, and pack meals. Many opportunities are flexible. Locations in Glen Burnie (Pascal Senior Center), Annapolis (St. Martin's Lutheran on Forest Dr.), and Severna Park (Woods Church). Drivers are especially needed for Glen Burnie Call Terry Lehr at 410-431-5257 or lehr@mowcm.org. See www.mealsonwheelsmd.org.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), Chesapeake Region (Throughout Region)

The mission of MADD is to stop drunk driving, support victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking. As a means of saying thank you to law enforcement officers for the life saving work that they do, MADD Maryland is planning to continue its annual Cookies for Cops campaign this holiday season. With the help of volunteers, MADD will bake and deliver some homemade goodies to each and every law enforcement agency in the state. This opportunity runs from **November 24th - December 31st** and help is needed across the state. If interested in baking, delivering or both please contact Lisa Spicknall at lisa.spicknall@madd.org or 410-964-5757.

My Brother's Pantry (Central County)

This nonprofit, located on the grounds of College Parkway Baptist Church in Arnold is supported by nine area congregations to provide food for families in crisis because of unemployment or disabilities. Volunteers are needed to work in the food pantry and donate food and other items. Call 410-757-5190.

Upcoming Activities: Now through December 25th, sponsors needed for Christmas food baskets, gifts and gift certificates. Sponsors are needed who can provide Christmas food baskets and/or holiday gifts for children of local families in need.

Our Daily Bread (Baltimore)

The largest soup kitchen in Maryland is located in downtown Baltimore and serves a 780+ hot lunches 365 days a year and breakfast on weekday mornings. Volunteers as young as 14 are needed to assist in serving lunch from 9 am–1 pm daily. Donations of casseroles, cookies, desserts, canned foods, baby food, diapers, and seasonal decorations are needed. Contact 410-659-4016 or visit: www.catholiccharities-md.org.

Partners in Care (Throughout County)

What if you were too old or too frail to decorate your home for the holidays or unable to drive yourself to the store to buy holiday goodies? Partners In Care has ongoing needs for small handyman repairs and needs for drivers to transport elderly individuals to the doctor, the grocery store, holiday shopping, etc. All these activities support Partners In Care's mission to help older individuals remain independent in their homes. During the holidays Partners In Care would like to hear from individuals who would like to assist in wrapping presents and delivering them to older adults. Partners In Care is also very much in need of the donation of a truck and/or van in good condition. Again, these activities are ongoing so please phone Partners In Care at 410-544-4800 for details.

Pets on Wheels/Life Enrichment Program/Mom & Me (Throughout County)

Volunteers for all these programs visit one-on-one or with their pets or children at homeless shelters, nursing homes, hospitals, assisted living facilities, adult day-care centers or other sites where people lack visits from family and friends. Volunteers are asked to share at least one hour each week at the facility of your choice. With more than 76 facilities to choose from throughout the county, there are many opportunities to brighten someone's day close to your home. Minimum age of 13 if visiting one-on-one with own pet, under 13 must be accompanied by an adult. Call 410-222-0738 or e-mail info@powlemm.org for more information. See website: www.powlemm.org.

- **6:30 pm, Wed., Dec. 9, 2009, Volunteer Orientations:** Call 410-222-0738 or e-mail info@powlemm.org to enroll.

Providence Center

Providence Center is a nonprofit that provides employment, vocational training, recreational, retirement, medical day care, and transportation services to developmentally disabled adults.

- **9am-4pm, Sat., Dec. 5, 2009, "Gathering of the Greens":** Volunteers are needed to help with selling fresh Christmas trees, Poinsettia, roping, food, and more; pottery crafts and wood working products made by our participants will be sold. There will be workshops where people can make a birdhouse or decorate a wreath, for example. We will also have our Art Gallery open and Carolers with Holiday songs. There will be a dance performance by our newly formed dance troupe. For information and to volunteer, contact Caroline at cmillett@providencecenter.com or 443-336-0556. See Website: www.providencecenter.com.

Rude Ranch Animal Rescue (throughout County)

Rude Ranch animal rescue is located just outside of Annapolis, Maryland. The mission of Rude Ranch is to find loving, permanent homes for any adoptable placed under their care; to provide a safe haven and rehabilitation to feral and neglected cats rescued from abusive situations and to put an end to needless euthanasia because of pet overpopulation.

Holiday Project: During the holidays volunteers are needed to help with fundraising, being Santa's helper and helping with photos with Santa at their Harwood location. They also need help with gift wrapping. They accept group and youth volunteers (minimum age 16) and family volunteers (as long as parent is present). They need donated canned cat food and dog food. For more info contact Katherine Rude at 410-798-9559 or at rrar@ruderanch.org or on the web at www.ruderanch.org.

Salvation Army (throughout County)

Volunteers are needed for the Salvation Army's 2009 Christmas Programs. Donations of meals for sorters of Angel Tree gifts, sponsorship of Angel Trees, and donations of non-perishable food are also being sought. Contact Captains Richard and/or Ruth New at 410-263-4091 for more information and to volunteer.

Now and continuing – Annapolis Food Pantry on Hilltop Lane: Donations of nonperishable food items are needed.

Now through Dec. 11, Toy Drive: Assist with toy drive by bringing new toys to the Salvation Army office in Annapolis or call to arrange a pickup. The toys will be distributed to holiday families.

Nov. 13 – Dec. 24th, 10 am – 8 pm, Kettle Sites: Stand at a kettle site ringing a bell in shifts of one hour or more. All supplies are provided. You will be relieved by the next scheduled person.

Nov. 22 – Dec. 13, 2008 - Help with Angel Tree at Westfield Mall (Annapolis Mall): Volunteers needed for 2 hour shifts during mall hours to sign-out angel tags as they are taken from the tree and log in gifts as they are returned.

Now until Dec. 18, 9am–noon, and 1–4pm. Volunteers are needed to help sort the Angel Tree gifts and get them ready for the families to pick up.

Dec. 21 & 22, 9am–12 noon & 1–4 pm Angel Tree Distribution: Distribution of gifts to families at the Salvation Army's Annapolis office on Hilltop Lane; Spanish speaking volunteers needed for both days.

Sarah's House Volunteer Orientations –Every Friday (West County)

Sarah's House is a supportive housing program for homeless women, children, and men in Anne Arundel County providing case management, childcare, transportation and employment services at Ft. Meade. Volunteer orientations are offered most Friday evenings 7:00pm-8:30pm at Sarah's House. Volunteers can work directly with guests or behind the scenes. We have a variety of volunteer opportunities for individuals, families, businesses and groups of all faiths and ages. We work with volunteers to find opportunities that match your skills, talents and interests. Specifically, volunteers are needed to prepare breakfast, lunch or dinner for shelter guests; Sell raffle tickets at your workplace, church, or other locations; Sell 'House Pins' at your workplace, church, or other locations; Host an evening event for children (ice cream social, movie night, etc.); Assist with front desk/clerical duties (urgent need for evening hours); Data entry; Assist with School-Age Summer Program (excellent opportunity for high school students); Transport guests to work and other appointments; and Organize a 'Wish List' drive. There is an ongoing need for donation of items such as large diapers, baby wipes, general cleaning supplies, bathroom tissue and more. Volunteers 14 and under must have adult supervision. Please RSVP to Bruce Clopein at 410-519-5085, or bclopein@catholiccharities-md.org.

• **11:30 am–3:30 pm, Sat., Dec. 12, 2009, Christmas Open House:** Tour Sarah's House, enjoy refreshments, drop off your holiday donations, and meet our guests, staff and childcare professionals. Visit the web site at: www.catholiccharities-md.org/sarahs-house/ to see wish list and volunteer opportunities.

Severna Park Assistance Network (SPAN) (Central County)

SPAN in cooperation with area churches help persons in their community in need of crisis assistance because of evictions, utility turn-off notices, emergency medical or prescription needs, food pantry or other services. SPAN is located behind Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, 400 Benfield Road. Contact 410-647-0889 or E-mail:

SPANhelps@yahoo.com. Web Site: www.spanhelps.org

Through December 25, 2009 – Holiday Caring Program: Registering Sponsors

SPAN invites individuals, families and groups to sponsor a family in crisis by doing any or all of the following: provide a Thanksgiving and/or Christmas food basket; donate a grocery gift certificate; provide Christmas gifts for children; or donate a department store gift certificate. A sponsor may select a family from the pool according to size of family and ages/genders of children. Names of families and sponsors remain confidential. Contact 410-647-0889 for information.

The Sharing Foundation (Throughout County)

This local nonprofit assists the families of the working needy and special situation families in Anne Arundel County. Volunteers assist with programs such as Santa's Share Your Christmas, Books for Kids, Children's Winter Coats, fundraising and special events. Contact 443-603-1560 or e-mail email@thesharingfoundation.org, Website: www.thesharingfoundation.org.

South County Assistance Network (SoCan), Lothian

SoCan and area churches help persons in their community with emergency needs, food pantry or other services. SoCan needs volunteers at their facility at St. James' Church in Lothian on Thursdays and Saturdays, from 9 am to Noon, to stock shelves, bag food and donate food and other items for the pantry. Call Dottie Fender at 301-261-5265.

Toys for Tots Campaign—U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (Throughout County)

The local Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots is a toy drive for the underprivileged children in Anne Arundel (and Howard) Counties. With many Marines serving on foreign shores, now more than ever, the Toys for Tots program needs the assistance of members of the community to help make this year's campaign better than ever. Along with BankAnnapolis, a substantial number of other businesses have already committed to being a drop-off location. For more information on the program and a list of sponsoring businesses across the county, go to <http://anne-arundel-md.toysfortots.org/>, E-mail Pete Pervi at papervi@verizon.net, or call 410-987-3811.

Winter Relief Program, mid-November through early-April – Rotating Locations

Churches in Annapolis, Ferndale, Glen Burnie, Linthicum, Odenton, Arnold, Millersville, Pasadena and Severna Park support a shelter program until April. For one week at a time, each participating church hosts men (and some can also accommodate women) in need of a hot meal and shelter for the night and breakfast the next morning. The Winter Relief shelter needs volunteers to assist at Intake at the Salvation Army in Glen Burnie and to be transportation escorts for showers for our guests. For additional information, or to volunteer your time and services to Winter Relief, please contact Phil Bailey at 410-863-4888 ext. 13 or pbailey@arundelhoh.org.

Wreaths Across America, Dec. 12, 2009

Wreaths Across America, a non profit 501(c)(3) organization, was formed as an extension of the Arlington Wreath Project started at Arlington Cemetery in 1992 with the donation and laying of 5,000 Christmas wreaths. This year, over 350 locations will hold wreath laying ceremonies in every state, Puerto Rico, and 24 overseas cemeteries simultaneously. Over 100,000 wreaths will be placed on veterans graves with over 60,000 volunteers participating. Annapolis National Cemetery, the final resting place of 2,996 brave veterans and their families dating back to the Civil War, will participate for the first time in Wreaths Across America on **December 12, 2009 at 12 noon**. Wreath donations are being sought: Visit web site: www.wreathscrossamerica.org to sponsor a wreath for \$15; designate the wreath to the Annapolis National Cemetery by entering location ID code MDANCM. The deadline for wreath donation to be placed this holiday season is **November 25, 2009**. To learn more and to help initiate this program at Annapolis National Cemetery, E-mail Kristina Seidel at seidelclan@verizon.net.

YWCA

The YWCA Annapolis and Anne Arundel County provides comprehensive integrated services for individuals and families through domestic violence shelter and hotline; sexual assault services including a hotline, counseling, support groups and hospital accompaniment for rape victims, legal, career, counseling and family services; childcare; adult educational programs including GED, ABE and ESOL, a mentoring program for emotionally challenged children and youth and an after-school program for high-risk middle school students. Volunteer opportunities for teens exist in our after-school Star Academy program at Annapolis, Lindale, and Chesapeake Middle Schools. Volunteers would be working with middle school students as tutors, mentors and engaging with the students during their recreation time. There is also an ongoing need for childcare aides who are adults over age 21 for the Moms and Tots programs. Contact Tracey Cherry at 410-626-7800 x 129 or tcherry@ywcaaac.org for information or to request a volunteer application.

- **Nov. 18–Dec. 22, 2009, “Be An Angel” Holiday Sharing Program:** “Be an Angel” and adopt a family from our holiday Angel Tree. Beginning on Nov. 18, we invite the public to adopt less fortunate families and provide personalized gifts and necessities to those who would otherwise receive very little or nothing during the holiday season. Angels can be selected at our Arnold location at 1517 Ritchie Hwy. Donors can be confident that their gifts go directly, and without excessive overhead, to those who are truly needy. Requested donations include new clothing, toys, diapers, formula, coats, gloves and hats and will be accepted until Dec. 22. For more information please contact the YWCA at 410-626-7800 x129 or tcherry@ywcaaac.org.

- **Holiday Wish List:** Donations needed for the program that assists women and children. Items needed include: baby clothes, gift cards, hats/gloves, jackets for middle school students, laundry detergent, new car seats, blankets, towels, sheets for twin/full beds, and more. Items can be dropped off at the Ritchie Highway location by December 14th. Need donations of bus tokens, gift cards for Giant/Safeway, diapers, ready to wear women's professional clothing, toys, baby food, nonperishable food, cleaning items, detergent, wash clothes, toys & clothes for toddlers, gas cards, queen/king bed sheets, gift cards to Wal-Mart or Target, and board games. Contact the YWCA at tcherry@ywcaaac.org or 410-626-7800 ext.129.



Volunteer Center For Anne Arundel County

2666 Riva Road, Suite 130, Annapolis, MD 21401

Phone: (410) 897-9207, Fax: (410) 222-4589

E-Mail: info@volunteerannearundel.org;

Website: www.VolunteerAnnearundel.org

Rev. 12/08/09