



# Project URGE Spring 2011 News

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Fairport, NY 14450

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585.223.8340

## An URGEnt Weekend

Events featuring Rev. Wayne "Coach" Gordon were both an Inspiration and Success

Concert of Praise, URGEnt Presentation and Tour, URGEncy Collection, Community Forum, and Family Conversation

It was one weekend with one message that resonated loud and clear for several hundred greater Rochester residents, nonprofit agency representatives and officials. On November 5-6, four events sponsored by Project URGE drove home the need — and the solutions — for bringing lasting change to the lives and futures of under-resourced and at-risk urban Rochester community.

From the first notes of the Friday night Concert of Praise, it became clear that this was a weekend of crossing racial, social, economic and denominational barriers. People from all backgrounds and perspectives raised their voices in praise to one God — through music, dance, and spoken word. Flag teams, worship teams, and PUSH Physical Theatre all pointed toward the message of the night, and of the weekend.

Featured guest speaker at all four events, Pastor Wayne (Coach) Gordon, challenged Christians to “get into the cages” with the community’s problems and lead the troubled out into more hopeful lives. Coach Gordon, who has 35 years of experience as an effective change agent, is the pastor of Lawndale Community Church in Chicago, Illinois. During that time his church has successfully provided 69,000 impoverished residents with spiritual care, medical and dental services, job and housing development, youth, educational and legal services.

The first and last words of his book, “Real Hope in Chicago,” said it all — “I love living in Lawndale.” An unlikely transplant in an impoverished, black community, Gordon has stood the test of time and been an example for all who want to be true catalysts for change. Throughout the weekend Gordon shared a high-energy message of how Christ taught him that he belonged in Lawndale and needed to listen to the communities’ needs, pray about them, and follow God’s direction. This became his ministry model — and one he promotes wherever he goes. It’s also the message of the Christian Community Development Association (CCDA), which he helped found, whose mission is to inspire, train and connect Christians who seek to bear



*Pastor Wayne Gordon*

witness to the Kingdom of God by reclaiming and restoring under-resourced communities.

Gordon said that although Lawndale and Rochester have a dramatically different economic status, the need for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and hope to hopeless is the same. Among Rochester’s woes are a violent crime rate almost twice the state rate, increasing homelessness in the same city that serves as headquarters for three worldwide companies: Kodak, Xerox, Baush and Lomb, and a city school district with a graduation rate of just over 50 percent in 2010.

*Continued on page 2*



*Community forum*

## An URGEnt Weekend Continued

URGE affiliate member organizations and ministries like Foodlink, which serves a food bank for food cupboards and shelters, Gerhardt Ministry Center, and Grace Community Village which offers medical services and youth activities, and Recovery House of Rochester for those recovering from addictions and in need of housing, are addressing Rochester's hopelessness. Dozens of ministries and services like these were featured during the URGEnt Presentation and Tour which gave a face-to-face opportunity for nearly 100 residents to volunteer and support urban ministries and agencies, including after-school programs and summer camps for at-risk youth, soup kitchens, clothing ministries, entrepreneurial education, drug and alcohol rehab, food pantries, health/wellness and more. A Place of Hope, Embracing Options, Salvation Army, Outreach Temple Home Mission, Youth for Christ, MINO - Mothers In Need of Others, Community Lutheran Ministry, and Project URGE.

Teresa Caldwell and her son Alex Ruhland of Henrietta heard about the tour from a co-member at church. They said "they were looking to serve beyond their church."

One dedicated and ten-year ministry example is Amy, a newlywed who directs the Demitri House, a homeless shelter. Even Amy's children have grown up helping around the shelter and her initially reluctant husband, Scott, testified that he has grown to respect and find satisfaction in helping the homeless men of the house. Demitri House has volunteers who sleep overnight as overseers throughout the week. With examples and involvement opportunities presented during the URGE weekend, many visitors left with clear ways that they can help improve their community.



URGEncy  
Collection



*"Family Conversation" with Rev. Wayne Gordon, which included Project URGE volunteers and affiliated collaborative members, held in the afternoon after the conclusion of the URGEnt Presentation and Tour.*

Besides funding, the most requested need of the URGE ministries was for servants. Maggie Harris, who has served in The Community Lutheran Outreach on Joseph Avenue since 1990 told tour visitors, "Our greatest need is for volunteers" in such activities as their Angel to Angel friendship program.

While the URGEnt Presentation and Tour were underway, The URGEncy Collection received donations of over 400 gently used coats, 10 large bags of gloves, hats and towels, as well as over 70 pounds of canned goods and non-perishables, which were distributed to homeless shelters, soup kitchens and other organizations serving the under-served in the Rochester area. This was made possible in part by the generosity of area churches and ministries mobilized to receive donations.

A Community Forum was also held during the URGEnt Presentation and Tour. Area officials and agency representatives gathered with Coach Gordon and event organizer, Garry Manuel, to outline collaboration opportunities and eliminate potential barriers.

Wrapping up the whole weekend was a luncheon and debrief for partnering agencies and ministries with Gordon and Manuel to recap the weekend and look ahead toward future collaboration.

The result? Project URGE facilitated individuals, agencies and ministries to take the next step toward affecting lasting change in the Rochester community. And hopefully, Coach Gordon's legacy — and mission — extends far beyond Chicago into our own Rochester neighborhoods.

How amazing is that?



## City Vision Presents: A CCDA Regional Conference "GOING BEYOND CHARITY TOGETHER"

Buffalo Christian Center 512 Pearl St. Buffalo, NY 14202

### Friday, April 29, 7pm–9pm

Free and open to all – please pre-register online.

6:00 Exhibits and Check-in for Saturday Conference Open

7:00 Worship and Featured Speakers Dr. Ted Travis and Jim Swearingen

### Saturday, April 30, 9am–5pm

8:00 Registration Opens

9:00 Worship/Morning Session featuring Dr. John Perkins

10:45 Breakout Session 1

Noon Exhibit Hall/Free Time

12:30 Networking Lunch

2:00 Breakout Session 2

3:30 Afternoon Session featuring Dr. John Perkins and Jim Swearingen

### Breakout Sessions 1 & 2

- Eight Key Components of Christian Community Development
- Unleashing Leadership Potential in Youth
- Loving Neighbors Across Race, Class and Culture
- You Are CCDA: Being Part of this Movement of God in WNY!
- You Can Make Disciples: Mentoring in the Context of CCD Community Development From the Inside Out and more!

### Networking Lunch Topics

- Middle/High School Ministries
- Children's Ministry and Education Suburban Church
- Going Beyond Charity
- Jobs, Economic Development, and Housing
- Ministry with Internationals, Immigrants, Refugees
- Community Collaborating
- Loving My Neighbor – Community Life

### Register Online Now! at [www.city-vision.org](http://www.city-vision.org)

or call 614-309-1549 for more information or to register.

\$20 Student and Volunteer Rate (must volunteer more than 2 hours)

\$35 Early Bird Rate

\$40 After April 4

Please pre-register online even if you choose to pay at the door for either or both dates.

**SAVE NOW!** A point person can register a group of **10 people for just \$250!** Names of participants are not required at the time of online registration. Names and contact information due April 15. **Project URGE has 4 spots remaining for anyone wishing to register for the Regional CCDA Conference in our block of 10.** Contact Project URGE at 223-8340.



# ++Project URGE "Love Train"

+++We have all these different parts of the engine w/the Holy Spirit laying down the track, providing for us a path to the destination that Jesus has pointed us toward++++++

+++Sometimes we move fast, slow, somewhere in between++

+++There are all these different cars, yet still we have the direction and desire to make an impact on poverty and race+

+++we see the map+++

+++we know which direction to head –we need to gain momentum, with all heading in that same direction++

+++We stop at different intervals along the way bringing on new passengers - taking time out to refresh and socialize, as well as bringing on new volunteers and replenishing our supplies+++

+++On the journey we confer and share ideas, pray for others and find better ways to connect and collaborate+++

+++Each car (which are our organizations/ministries/churches) has unique cargo that it carries, to be used in ways for what is necessary. When we're coupled together we have more power and can deliver more to the final destination. But it requires each car to contribute to the mission+++

+++Along the way we take the time necessary to build trust and eliminate division by building sustainable bridges to our various groups+++

+++This common concern creates unity – we become the symbol of unity that reflects the Kingdom of God – love our neighbor as ourselves (Luke 10:25-37)+++

+++When the caboose puts on the breaks, or one car needs repair or can't carry it's weight, it becomes a burden to the others. The truth is, no single car can do it all – we are to work together, help one another to the destination. And along the way we'll stop to celebrate and give thanks+++

+++This is the Project URGE "Love Train". We're making a stop for you right now, because the Lord has made our list of stations. No ticket required, you just have to know what the final destination will be.+++

+++++All aboard!

Garry E. Manuel  
Project URGE, Inc.  
Founder/Co-Director



+++++

# Project URGE Upcoming Special Events and Meetings

Project URGE Upcoming Events – Mark your calendar!

April 17<sup>th</sup> - Sunday – Bowling for Beds  
*See article on page 12*

April 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> - Friday & Saturday  
Regional CCDA Conference in Buffalo  
*See article on page 3*



May 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday – Project URGE General Meeting  
at Foodlink, 6:30 pm

May 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday – Project URGE Board Meeting  
time TBD



July 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday – Project URGE Picnic  
For Volunteers and Affiliates  
Ellison Park - Island Shelter 1:30 – 6pm.

For more information about Project URGE  
visit our website: [www.projecturge.org](http://www.projecturge.org)

## FOODLINK TO PARTNER WITH eSCRAP RECYCLING COMPANY

Foodlink will host recycled electronics collection days with Sunnking Inc..

Foodlink is pleased to announce a new partnership with electronics recycling company and asset management, Sunnking. Sunnking specializes in recycling and refurbishing end of life electronic products from residential and commercial suppliers. Founded in 2000, Sunnking has collected over tens of millions of pounds of electronic scrap from businesses and residents in Western New York. Sunnking's processing facility located in Brockport, NY strives for zero waste production and has the ability to recycle or reuse approximately 97% of all materials donated, significantly reducing the amount of harmful waste that reaches our landfills.

Corporate partners of Foodlink, their employees, and the community at large are encouraged to participate in collection days that will be all over Monroe County in the coming months. Sunnking will allocate a monetary donation per pound of recycled material to Foodlink and its mission to provide hunger relief. Foodlink serves over 125,000 people in its 10-county service area by redistributing millions of pounds of food annually to agencies that provide food assistance. The partnership with Sunnking is yet another green initiative of Foodlink.

Tom Ferraro, Executive Director and Founder of Foodlink states, "The people we serve are the beneficiaries of every new partnership. Sunnking is committed to the same sense of social responsibility that Foodlink is – it's a perfect fit."

## Brighton Food Cupboard, 2035 Monroe Avenue

*The Brighton Food Cupboard is committed to the prevention and reduction of hunger and food insecurity for individuals and families living in Brighton and surrounding communities through the provision of whole person, client centered case management services.*

The Brighton Food Cupboard is a program of Jewish Family Service of Rochester in cooperation with, the Brighton Central School District, Foodlink and other community organizations and volunteers. •Food insecurity goes hand in hand with other issues as many are just a paycheck away from hunger. •The Brighton Food Cupboard follows a case management model. The model provides for client confidentiality as case managers shops for their clients and deliver the food to their home. When clients face issues beyond hunger and food insecurity, the case manager helps them connect to community resources that can help address and/or resolve the problem.

### How the Brighton Food Cupboard Works

Individuals in the community who are in need of food should call, 271- 5355 and ask to speak with the Brighton Food Cupboard case manager. •The case manager will meet with the individual and arrange for food to be provided and make any other necessary referrals.

### Volunteer Opportunities

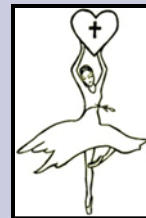
There are many volunteer opportunities available for unpacking food deliveries, stocking shelves, assembling food baskets, organizing and participating in food drives, and delivering food. • Individuals who are interested in volunteering should call Jewish Family Service at 461-0110 and ask for the Volunteer Coordinator.

### Brighton Food Cupboard Fast Facts

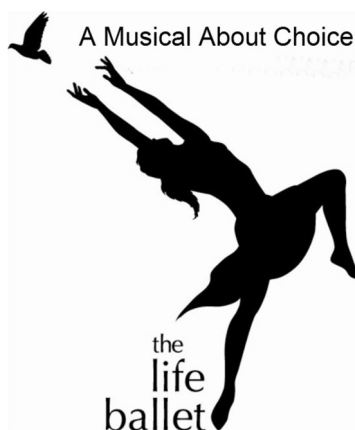
425 individuals were served between the opening date of November 16, 2010 and December 31, 2010. 212 individuals were served in January 2011 In addition to food, the case manager assisted clients with applications for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Food Stamps and Medicaid.

*The Brighton Food Cupboard thanks The Harold and Joan Feinbloom Family Foundation for their generous funding support.*

**Amanda Rose Belmont School of Ballet**  
 Home of the Yahweh Ballet Christian Ballet Company  
 4 Elton Street, Rochester, NY 14607



The Yahweh Ballet Christian ballet company will perform two full-length, original productions in the spring including **The Life Ballet: A Musical About Choice** on Saturday, April 30 at 4 pm (doors open at 3:30 pm) and **Creation Ballet** on Saturday, June 4 at 2 pm (doors open at 1:30) and 7 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm). Both productions will take place at the Auditorium Center Cathedral Hall, 875 East Main Street, Rochester.



***The Life Ballet***  
**April 30—4pm**

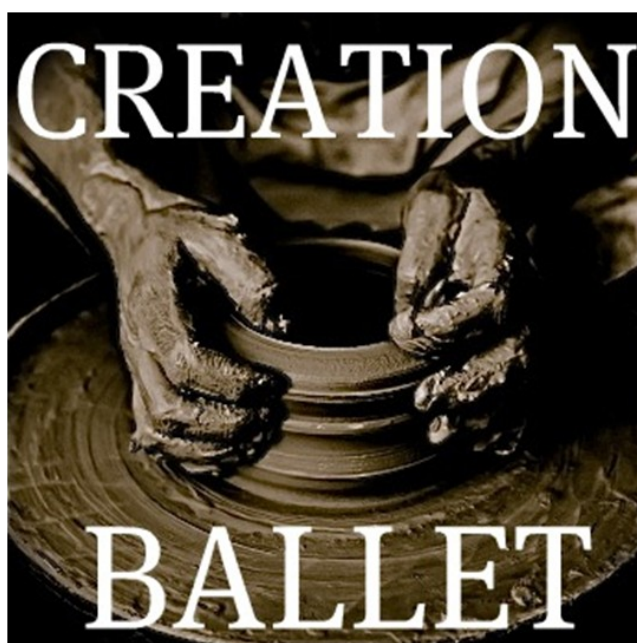
The Life Ballet is an original production, with all new songs and choreography, written and directed by Yahweh Ballet Founder Sandy Arena, age 45, and assisted-directed by her daughter Alexis Gaetano, age 18, both residents of

Pittsford. The production includes original music written by Arena and choreography by Gaetano, as well as other local choreographers including Sue Wollenhaupt and Telesta Featherstun-Rice. The show shares a story in song and dance of one woman's choice when faced with crisis pregnancy and is based on the real life experiences of Arena who regrettably had two abortions as a young adult woman. Many of the performers and contributing artists have had abortions or their parents have had abortions, as well, making this a collaboration of men and women devoted to telling the truth of abortion to the generation behind. If abortion is still available legally, our fight is to make it unthinkable."

*"The Life Ballet is a beautiful and very modern way to bring across the message of Life and abortion. The story presented by this group is heart changing and breaks down the walls of shame, guilt and hate by being a personal story of love and forgiveness,"*

Pastor Ralph Molyneux of Victory Church  
 Lethbridge, Canada.

Excerpts from The Life Ballet can be performed throughout the country at high schools, college campuses and other community venues. A professionally filmed version of the show is downloadable and free to view in full, online at [www.vimeo.com/thelifeballet](http://www.vimeo.com/thelifeballet). Visit <http://www.thelifeballet.org/THE-LIFE-BALLET.html>.



***Creation Ballet***  
**June 4—2pm & 7pm**

Yahweh Ballet's original production, **Creation**, is written and directed by Gaetano. "**Creation** shows through original song narration and choreography the story of how God created the earth and all that is in it. The costuming, song selection and choreography is highly creative and offers a visual impact of this incredible story of how God, the master Creator, made our world," said Gaetano.

The Creation cast includes 50 trained ballet dancers from throughout Monroe County. Other choreographers include Michelle Pauly of Gates-Chili, Sue Wollenhaupt, of Greece, and Jill Reclin-Collins of Penfield. The show is approximately two-hours long.



## Amanda Rose Belmont School of Ballet Continued

Alexis Gaetano was recently named the new executive and creative director of the Amanda Rose Belmont School of Ballet and the Yahweh Ballet Company. Gaetano is working under the guidance and leadership of the school's Board of Directors including Sandy and Sam Arena, and Tracy Belmont, mother of Amanda Rose Belmont, after whom the school is named. The school is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. The Arenas opened the Amanda Rose Belmont School of Ballet and Yahweh Ballet in 2006 for Gaetano, age 13 at the time.

Sponsors of The Life Ballet include The Frederick Douglass Foundation of New York; Rochester Area Right to Life; Lora Ann Photography, Roc City Hoopdance and Jeremy Sniatecki of Bull Creek Studios. Yahweh Ballet studios are located at the Amanda Rose Belmont School of Ballet, 4 Elton Street, Rochester, NY 14607. Tickets for both performances are available online at [www.yahwehballet.org](http://www.yahwehballet.org) or at the door. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for children/students and seniors. Email [info@dfjballet.com](mailto:info@dfjballet.com) for information or call (585) 489-8757.

Note from Sandy Arena:

We need help with our show (backstage crew). If there are any folks who would be interested in volunteering, we will train! Dress rehearsal is April 28 at 5 pm and the Show is April 30th. There will be a few other practices for backstage crew on Saturdays and possibly Wednesdays. Folks can call me directly at 585.350-9012 or email (better) at [sam@dfjballet.com](mailto:sam@dfjballet.com) if they can help. We need a few good men (have some large prop items that need to be carried on and off the stage quickly between scenes!) The show is at the Auditorium Center Cathedral Hall.



## Local Mental Wellness Group Funds Cultural and Educational Experiences for Students

Future Promise Partners, a mental wellness group that offers supportive friendships and volunteer opportunities to people living with mental health diagnoses, presented The Children's School with the proceeds of a recent craft sale fundraiser that will support educational field trips that help broaden the cultural experiences of a diverse student population. FPP was organized over a year ago by Lorrie Boyce, who works as a Supportive Partner at Compeer Rochester, Inc., a non-profit mentoring organization that serves youth and adults in mental health treatment and youth with incarcerated parents. With years of experience in the mental health field, Boyce observed first-hand the debilitating effects of the negative stigma surrounding mental illnesses on the people diagnosed with them, and endeavored to make raising community awareness a priority.

"When the group first started, many of the people said that they felt like damaged goods and were suffering from an extremely low sense of self-esteem and self-worth," Boyce explained. "They wanted to make a difference, and I wanted to help them realize their full potential." The group chose the name Future Promise Partners because they wanted to reach out to the next generation of children, offering them support and encouragement that many of the members did not receive growing up, and helping to proactively address mental or emotional challenges they are encountering at an early stage of development.

Past community service projects have included building and delivering gingerbread houses and beanie babies to children in the hospital, participating in the Box Tops for Education program, and hosting craft sales that benefit local youth-serving organizations like The Children's School. FPP hopes to organize future projects on a monthly basis, and is currently in the process of collecting donations for a local food cupboard.

Engaging in these opportunities empowers members to learn new skills and engage with others in a positive way. "They're going to be able to live better in society because they're going to feel better about themselves," said Boyce. "That's what gets them through." The organizations on the receiving end of the group's efforts benefit as well.

To learn more about Compeer Rochester and ways to become involved with volunteer opportunities, please visit the website at <http://www.rochester.compeer.org>, or call 585-546-8280.

# Saturday Sunshine News

The Saturday Sunshine Program is springing into gear once again!

The Saturday Sunshine Program commenced in December of 2008 and well over one hundred children and youth have experienced new adventures, exercise and learning. We mix field trips, life skills Bible teaching and relationship building to produce in an education, entertaining and edifying time for these kids, who range in age from 6 to 16.

This new 2011 season we have already journeyed to the Gonondagan Winter Celebration in Victor, where the kids got to play snow snake, hear storytelling in the longhouse and see demonstrations of dog sledding and take a glimpse back to what life was like for tribes many moons ago (sorry, I had to do that).



While we try to be outdoors as much as possible, sometimes the weather does not cooperate and we are forced to go with an alternative indoor plan. February 19<sup>th</sup> we needed to shelve our plans for a trip to Mendon Ponds and instead visited Mud About You in Penfield, where the kids selected pottery items and painted them.

In addition, a few weeks later we got to visit the Moonlight Creamery, which is an ice cream parlor in Fairport. Pam and Mark Renfro described

what it takes to organize and run an ice cream parlor. The kids had a chance to take part in making ice cream and selecting the ingredients that they wished to add. It was a fun and tasty trip!

Soon, the Sunshine Program will be headed to the Church of Assumption gym, and after lunch, they'll get to eat the ice cream they created. We can't wait!

The Project URGE Saturday Sunshine Program collaborates with Grace Community Village's Many Cultures One Community and others to give the kids (primarily in 14613 and 14621) new opportunities.

The dates for future adventures are:

- March 26<sup>th</sup> – Cummings Nature Center
- April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Church of Assumption Gym
- April 16<sup>th</sup> – Letchworth or Mendon Ponds Park
- May 7<sup>th</sup> – Taughannock Falls
- May 21 – Farm visit
- June 4 – Grimes Glen



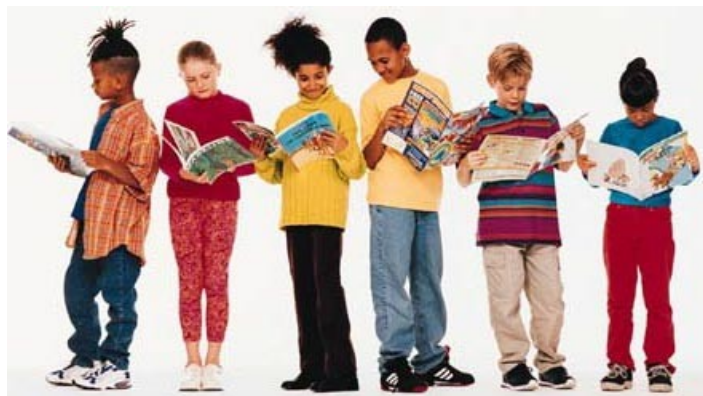
**If you wish to volunteer or help with transportation please e-mail us or phone Garry Manuel at 585.223.8340.**

**Shining Light in the darkness – providing direction and helping to find meaning in God's Word  
= the Saturday Sunshine Program – Please consider joining us!**

**Go to our website for more information: [www.projecturge.org](http://www.projecturge.org) (click on Sat. Sunshine program)**



**Community Lutheran  
Ministry**  
 942 Joseph Avenue, Rochester NY 14621  
 (585) 338-2420  
 Ms. Maggie Harris - Ms. Kate Stilz



**Volunteers Needed:  
Heart for the City of Rochester  
Ryan Center Reading Program**

It was an exciting start to the new year for Community Lutheran Ministry, Inc. On February 6<sup>th</sup> we celebrated with a party at Reformation Lutheran Church for two wonderful events: first our Deaconess Maggie Harris was awarded the “Alumni Achievement” award from her college, Valparaiso University and Community Lutheran Ministry celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their ministry on Joseph Avenue. Over 160 people joined us for the celebrations.



Looking for Volunteers who want to relate with young city kids and help improve their literacy at the same time.

When – Monday thru Thursday 3:30 -5:30

Where – at the Ryan Community Center at 530 Webster Avenue

What is involved?

- Showing up on time on the day(s) committed
- Willing to learn the basics of the Accelerated Reading system

Taking time to relate to each child as you spend 15 to 20 minutes with them

The day after the thank-you letters went in the mail, the planning for the 2011 CLM Summer Traveling Day Camp began. There is always a lot of preliminary work to do each year that is so vital for having a successful camp. The theme this year is “Gospel in the City” and activities are being developed around that theme. We are looking for a host(s) in the city who will sponsor the children for a day or two. Our plans are for the six week camp to start July 5<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>. We are asking our friends and supporters for their help. All gifts are gratefully appreciated. Please help our children have a memorable summer experience.

In January we also began a Saturday Program. It has been very successful both with attracting new volunteers and the attendance of lots of neighborhood children. The children play games, do crafts, read and have something to eat. The kids really seem to love it.

Contact

Burt and Joanna Tornstrom

[burtjoanna@frontiernet.net](mailto:burtjoanna@frontiernet.net)

Phone 585-223-1919



## Project URGE thanks our volunteers!

Without our dedicated volunteers Project URGE could not serve the community with the variety of initiatives offered in the manner that we do. Our heartfelt thanks and continued blessings are with you.

Kate Alden  
Jane Ames  
Bryan & Kristin Babcock  
Chris & Laura Boss  
Elizabeth Boss  
Nelson Bowen  
Pamela Brown  
Melody Burri  
Linda Conklin  
I Geena Cruz  
Eva Irene Daughtery  
Prof. Leonard Erb  
Mary Ewanehko  
Mike Furlong  
Illeana Graves  
David Hanlon  
Paul & Brenda Heilman  
Rev. Aaron James  
David Johnson  
Katie Kreutter  
Joony Lomenzo  
Garry & Mary Manuel  
Joe Marchiony  
Bill Mosich  
Rev. George & Daun Nicholas  
Carol Pezzolezzi  
Persephone Modeste  
Kathryn Pridey  
Pam Renfro  
JoAnne Rosato  
Karen Salaczynskyi  
Velma Scott  
Geoff Smith  
Greg Stevens  
Mary Stevens  
Kate Stilz  
Fred & Kim Stresing

Bonita Tenzie  
Ron & Cathy Tocci  
Burt & Joanna Tornstrom  
The Elvin Weaver Family  
Maria Wehrle  
Sheila Williams  
Williamson High School (Tracy O'Hara)

\*Special thanks to Rev. Wayne "Coach" Gordon and CCDA for their service to, for and with us!

We apologize for any names of volunteers that we may have inadvertently omitted from this list.

## Bread Run—Help Needed

Project URGE is in need of Bread Run volunteers who live in or near to Rochester.

The majority of our Bread Run volunteers live in Ontario County and the bread and baked goods are located at Tops on Lake Ave.

Bread Run volunteers pick up the donated items and deliver to homeless shelters and soup kitchens, mostly along what is termed, "the Poverty Crescent" of Rochester.

If you are interested in learning more or volunteering please contact Linda Conklin - Email: [linda\\_conklin@msn.com](mailto:linda_conklin@msn.com), or phone 585.223.8340



## Become A Mentor For Many Cultures-One Community

Few bonds in life are more influential than those between a young person and an adult. A new family who has arrived to us through the Refugee Resettlement program is a great way to share and teach people about different cultures and how they affect our lives.

As you begin your journey toward becoming a mentor, you will need to thoroughly understand the role of mentoring. Look at a role you are already familiar with. Most of us have had a supervisor, a boss or coach who has made a positive difference in our lives. Those people wore many hats. They acted as, delegators, role models, cheerleaders, policy enforcers, advocates, and friends. As a mentor you will wear these same hats.

Mentors understand the need to assume a number of different roles during the course of a mentoring relationship, but successful mentors also share the same basic qualities:

- A sincere desire to be involved with a young person.
- Respect for young people.
- Active listener.
- Empathy.
- See solutions and opportunities.
- Be flexible and open.
- Doing activities with them not for them

As you and your mentee begin your relationship; exploring values, interests and goals, you will find yourself making a difference and having a positive effect on their life. What you may also be surprised to see is that you will be learning more about yourself, too. Mentoring doesn't just affect the young person. Mentoring is a shared opportunity for learning and growth. Many mentors say that the rewards they gain are as substantial as those for their mentees. Being a mentor enables them to:



- Have fun.
- Achieve personal growth, learn more about themselves.
- Improve their self-esteem and feel they are making a difference.
- Gain a better understanding of other cultures and develop a greater appreciation for diversity.
- Feel more productive and have a better attitude at work.
- Enhance their relationships with their own children.

Good mentors are willing to take time to get to know their mentees, to learn new things that are important to the young person and their families, and even to be changed by their relationship. Accept the challenges and rewards of mentoring a young person and their families and experience the benefits that will last each of you a lifetime.

Call us today at 585-690-6800

[www.ManyCulturesOneCommunity.org](http://www.ManyCulturesOneCommunity.org)  
[www.NewCitizensFoundation.org](http://www.NewCitizensFoundation.org)

### *Many Cultures One Community*

*Cultural communities resettlement outreach of Grace Community Village*







## Bowling Fundraiser

It's hard to believe, but April is almost here! Which means that our "Bowling for Beds" fundraiser is just a couple of weeks away!!! For those of you who are still trying to decide whether or not you can fit another activity into your already busy week-ends, maybe this will help! Mothers in Need of Others ("MINO"-pronounced "minnow"), is a ministry under the Project URGE corporation, a non-profit collaborative organization who brings ministries and social service organizations together for the sole purpose of bringing dignity and the Light of Christ to the poor of the city of Rochester.

Our main objective is to try to ease the burden of single mothers (and fathers!) who are raising their children in the midst of crisis. In addition to praying with and encouraging young mothers, our ministry helps parents provide for their children with the collection and redistribution of gently used children's clothing, furniture, appliances, and other household items to those who need them most.

Over time, we in the MINO ministry, noticed that more and more our clients were without beds. Parents and their children were falling asleep each night on cold, hard floors that many times were covered in roaches and rodent droppings! Something needed to be done about this all-too-common, yet disturbing and unacceptable, scenario! Thus the idea of "Bowling for Beds" was born! On Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:30pm to 5:00pm MINO is hosting a benefit at the Fairview Bowling Lanes in Fairport, NY. We are hoping to raise enough money from donations and ticket sales to be able to get a volume discount on the purchase of the needed beds so we can get as many people up off of the floor as we can and give them a clean comfortable place to sleep!

### **We hope that we have touched your heart with this letter and that you that you will:**

- 1) Call (585) 348-8596 TODAY to make your reservations! Write out your check (\$25 per ticket x number of tickets). The \$25 includes bowling, shoe rental, pizza, and soda.
- 2) Make checks payable to: Project URGE, Inc. and write "MINO ministry" on the memo line
- 3) Address your envelope to:

Project URGE, Inc.  
MINO's Bowling for Beds Benefit  
31 W. Church St  
Fairport, NY 14450

- 4) Be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope in with your check so that your tickets can be mailed back to you!
- 5) If you do not choose to bowl that day or you can not make it to the event, but would still like to make a donation, please feel free to do so.

Questions? Concerns? Please call Maria Wehrle-MINO ministry at (585)348-8596 or call Mary Stevens-Project URGE, Inc. at (585) 750-3762

May God's love continue to be a blessing to you so that you may be a blessing to others!

In His Love,  
Maria Wehrle



MOTHERS IN NEED OF OTHERS  
*Serving Mothers with the light of Christ's Love*

## *~ Bowling for Beds ~*



*Sunday, April, 17  
2:30-5:00 PM*

**Fairview Lanes  
1407 Fairport Road,  
Fairport, NY**

**For Tickets call (585) 348-8596**

**\$25 Donation includes Bowling, Shoes, Pizza, Soda**

# Project URGE: What it is NOT

By Mary Stevens, Co-Director

I have been in the co-director role with Project URGE for a little over eight months now and sense that some churches and organizations are reluctant to partner with Project URGE because of some misconceptions about our organization. This article is my attempt to clarify why Project URGE is interested in building collaborative, working relationships among individuals, churches and organizations.

Our organization's mission is based on the following passage of scripture: Matthew 25: 34-40 - Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' [NKJV]

Although many churches and organizations would like to provide service ministry programs to 'the least of these My brethren,' not every church or organization is big enough to be able to provide all the services needed on their own. Project URGE doesn't believe that every organization needs to be starting its own programs. Project URGE is about recruiting individuals as well as teams of people from different churches and organizations to work together and support established urban ministries that are already serving people in need.

Project URGE is not trying to attract people and resources away from any organization. Project URGE is trying to recruit volunteers and funding from multiple area churches and organizations so that together, we can do much more than any one group could do alone.

Project URGE is not suggesting that members of the Project URGE "team" will somehow reach doctrinal unity. We are a Christian, faith-based organization but we also know that we live in a world with many divergent faith traditions even within a single denomination. Although our personal religious beliefs are very important to us, we are not interested in doctrinal debates and are more than content to leave judgment up to the Lord. As 1 Corinthians 4:5 states: Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God. [NKJV] Project URGE is committed to loving respect toward all people and all faith traditions, not doctrinal agreement with all people and all faith traditions.

The focus of Project URGE is on loving and serving people in need at the grassroots level: giving food to the hungry, clothing to the naked, friendship for those who are lonely, healing for the sick and deliverance for those in bondage. Do these types of ministries fit with the mission of your church or organization? Are there people in your church or organization who feel called to work in urban ministry?

If you or your organization have felt God's call to serve those less fortunate, let Project URGE help you find a place to serve. We are looking for individuals and teams who want to answer God's call in their lives by loving and serving others in tangible ways. As 1 John 3:18 states: My little children, let us not love in word or tongue, but in deed and in truth. [NJKV]





# Many thanks...

Project URGE would like to express gratitude to our donors who financially support our organization throughout the year, allowing us to continue our programs and furthering our mission and goals. Heartfelt thanks to the following people for their support in 2010:

Bloomfield Rotary	Church of Assumption
Crosswinds Wesleyan Church	Fairport United Methodist Church
Gerhardt Neighborhood Outreach Center	Outreach Temple (C.O.G.I.C.U.)
Chris & Laura Boss	Eva Irene Daughtery
Dr. Leonard Erb	Susan Golembeski
Marie Gibson	Marlena Graves
David & Deborah Honness	Garry & Mary Manuel
Mildred Manuel	Diane & Neil Parry
Kathryn Pridey	Graham & Debra Smith
Daisie Stanley	Mary Stevens
Ron and Cathy Tocci	Elvira Velasquez

Your financial support helps us continue our ministry efforts of:

- **Bread Run Team:** Delivering bread and baked goods to homeless shelters and soup kitchens each Saturday and every other Sunday
- **Jacob's Ladder Team:** Repair, refurbish and renovating the facilities of non-profit organizations that serve the under-resourced
- **Volunteer Coordination:** Helping to coordinate service projects and plugging in volunteers of church groups, schools and individuals to the many organizations who are Affiliated Collaborative members of Project URGE, as well as others
- **Training:** Hosting CCDA workshops, contributing to the CUPP (Community University Partnership Training) and more throughout the year
- **Publicity:** Creating awareness of what our affiliated member organizations do, communicate needs, events, trainings, personal stories through our newsletter, E-brief communications and website. We also sponsor the **URGEnt Presentation and Tour** annually, where people meet with representatives of our Affiliated Collaborative Member Organizations and tour some of their facilities.
- **Concert of Praise:** People from various churches and organizations come together for worship and praise. This event typically includes praise and worship, prayer, dance, youth involvement and a guest speaker.
- **Prayer Team:** Prays for the initiatives, organizations and people involved in serving with and around Project URGE.
- **Saturday Sunshine Program:** This program serves children/youth between the ages of 6-16 approximately twice a month on Saturdays throughout the school year. Kids get to journey on field trips, exercise and experience new learning environments, such as parks, farms, hiking, gyms, designing pottery, art galleries, museums, the zoo and more
- **US (Urban/suburban) Youth Group:** Youth from various urban and suburban churches serve the community, build relationships and have some fun together.
- **Social Events:** While we work together and do ministry, we also take time to get acquainted and celebrate our work together through the annual July picnic, annual dinner and team meetings.
- **Community Development:** Our general meetings provide opportunities for organizations, churches and individuals to network, collaborate and share information, creating relationships that behind the scenes are positively impacting the community.

\***Syracuse branch of Project URGE:** For the past two years people in Syracuse have been following a similar path as those in Rochester, sharing information and becoming acquainted with the work of organizations serving the under-resourced. This effort continues to grow in its connections.

**Project URGE Board of Directors:** Chris Boss, Eva Irene Daughtery, Prof. Leonard Erb, David Johnson, Joony Lomenzo, Garry Manuel and Mary Stevens

## Williamson High School Continues to Serve Rochester!

Williamson High School is about to make their 12<sup>th</sup> visit to Rochester in six years to assist organizations and ministries that serve the under-resourced! On Friday May 6<sup>th</sup>, students, along with some faculty and administrators, will once again be involved in cleaning, painting, organizing supplies, sorting food and clothing and various other tasks. Each visit has provided a mutually beneficial experience for both students and our affiliated organizations. Other high schools and colleges should be encouraged to provide similar opportunities as well.



Students in the past have served at: Cameron Ministries, Community Lutheran Ministry, Foodlink, Grace Community Village, Eastern Service Workers, His Branches, Just Friends Senior Center (CFC), Mercy Residential Services, Risego Inc. and SWAN, Sanctuary House (CFC), RAIHN, Recovery Houses of Rochester, Rochester Family Mission, Volunteers of America, Women's Place (CFC) and others! We are grateful and appreciate the six years of service Williamson High School has provided to the organizations in the City of Rochester!

### Project URGE Continues with Volunteer Coordination

Williamson High School is one example of how relationships cultivated through Project URGE can begin to connect churches, schools and individuals to ministries and organizations in need of service help with various tasks. This both creates an awareness of what organizations are doing to alleviate or lessen the burden of poverty and paints a more vivid picture of the struggles of people in poverty. Our hope in URGE is that future leaders will be raised and that these opportunities to serve will serve as the catalyst to more in depth involvement in the years to come.

If your school or church group would like us to set-up a service opportunity, please call Garry Manuel at Project URGE (585) 223-8340 or e-mail us at [ProUrge@aol.com](mailto:ProUrge@aol.com)

## Project URGE

31 West Church Street  
Fairport, NY 14450

Visit us at [www.projecturge.org](http://www.projecturge.org)