

METRO LUTHERAN MINISTRY

3031 HOLMES KCMO 64109

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### PAID

PERMIT NO. 224 KANSAS CITY, MO

### **SAVE THE DATE**

7/1 – 7/31 Christmas in July

8/14
School Supply Handout

9/25
MLM's 50th Annual Gala

12/5 — 12/11 Christmas Store MLM Car



Our Vision: To be a community that acts justly, loves mercy, and walks humbly with God.

**SUMMER 2021** 

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## Minor Home Repair Leads Wanted!

Handy volunteers needed. Are you handy? Know how to repair stuff? Want to help a grandma stay in her house? Come lead a group of volunteers on a repair project!

For more information or to lead a group contact Scott Cooper at scottcooper@mlmkc.org

### **LAUREN ROSNER**

About three years ago, I was assaulted. After that, I was given opioid pain killers to help deal with the injuries I sustained. The problem was, I became addicted. I didn't realize how far I had fallen because it happened so fast.

I lost my job, my apartment, and I lost my son. I moved into a tent surrounded by a group of other homeless people. I was scared constantly. I smelled bad, looked bad, and felt even worse on the inside. I was scared and in a very dark place. My life had spiraled downhill and I needed a miracle to save it!

That miracle happened the day Maggie told me she wanted to help me! I now have my own place, clean belongings, and most importantly, my son back in my life! I am learning how to be independent again and regaining my self worth. My parents are happy to have me back.

This time last year and the year



before, I was homeless and freezing. Now everyday, I wake up and look around my very own place and at all of the things I now have and I always smile. Sometimes, I cry because I feel so blessed and thankful for everything that Maggie and MLM have done for me and my son.

MLM blessed everyone in my life, not just me. I cannot thank them enough!

- Lauren Rosner

# THEY NEED A HAND VOLUNTEER YOURS

blessings abound

100% of Blessings Abound's net proceeds benefit MLM and other local non-profits dedicated to poverty relief. Contact Maryann Grace, Volunteer Coordinator, at 913-648-0700 or maryann.blessings@gmail.com to learn how you can help!

### **MLM's Christmas In July**

Support MLM's 2021 Christmas Store by picking up a gift and dropping it off at MLM or by visiting our Amazon Wish List:

https://a.co/iuirdMI

### **Top Needed Items:**

Small Kitchen Appliances
Blankets (King or Queen Only Please)
Adult Unisex Sweatpants & Sweatshirts
Coats - Kids & Adults, New or Gently Used
Multipack of Socks & Underwear (Kids &
Adults/Male & Female)



Questions? Contact Rebecka at rebeckanoel@mlmkc.org

### **Sharing the Abundance of Our Blessings**

My shout out to an awesome staff at MLM! Can you really believe all they got done in 2020?

- 56,690 at-risk and homeless individuals received assistance this year.
- 10,260 households received food assistance from our pantries in KCMO, KCK, and NKC.
- 1,469 households received gifts from the annual Christmas Store.
- \$1.6M was provided in emergency rent, mortgage, and utility assistance.
- \$1M in PPE was distributed by MLM over 230 metro area non-profits in response to COVID pandemic.

I am truly thankful to have an abundance of talent, wisdom, and thoughtfulness in my fellow board members. This year marks 50 years of ministry of MLM. We will celebrate 50 years of making an impact on Kansas City's most vulnerable population.

Psalms 107 says "Let us give thanks to the Lord because he satisfied the longing soul and filled the hungry soul with good things."

Are you satisfied? I mean are you truly satisfied in your life?

I have never found where God or His son, Jesus, speak of scarcity. I only hear them speak of abundance! I admit I have heard Him say he may withhold but that is not because he does not have it.

Whenever you put your mind and heart to the plight of our brothers who truly suffer under the human invention of scarcity, you are doing His will! This last year, your response



has shown the loving light of God to so many in need!

Sharing the abundance of our blessings is what MLM is all about!

David Anderson MLM President

### **GROWING AND LEARNING WITH MLM**

For over 15 years, Dan and Ann Barnhart with their 4 children have served alongside MLM in helping individuals and families in need. It all began when their oldest daughter was 8 years old. They did not want their children being raised with an entitled mentality. Instead, they wanted them to remember that we are all God's children and that as you serve those in need, you serve God.

After calling and volunteering at several organizations, Dan and his family found MLM and fell in love with the dynamic duo - Norma and Eileen from the Christmas Store and the rest was history.

Over the years, they have volunteered with many of our programs including: the Christmas Store, orchard and garden,

Saturday breakfast, packing parties, and second Saturday.

When asked what his most memorable experience has been with MLM, Dan responded, "Appreciative people turning down something so someone else might benefit even though they needed the help."

Having volunteered for so many years, the Barnhart family has learned many great life lessons. They are reminded that we cannot and should not pass judgement on others because we don't know what circumstances have impacted their lives; and that kindness goes a long way.

For the Barnhart's, 15 years of service through MLM has greatly shaped their lives. Dan reflects, "I joke that MLM has helped raise our children, but it's true. We have

volunteered so many hours with MLM that our experiences have literally shaped us and made us better people."

MLM thanks all of our amazing volunteers for their dedication and commitment to MLM and the community.



The day has finally come... Eileen's Place is open! Eileen's Place is our brand new campus of 60 apartments in Kansas City, Kansas for families and singles. It will offer multi-

### **Eileen's Place is Open!**

disciplinary, housing oriented services aimed to help tenants remain stably housed while addressing individual household needs.

Services that MLM will be offering tenants include:

- Case Management
- Life Skills (nutrition, time management, housekeeping, parenting)
- Financial and Employment Coaching
- Community Garden
- Computer Lab
- Referrals and Linkages to

- Community-Based Programs
- Basic Needs (household goods, transportation assistance, emergency financial assistance)
- Medical/Dental Assistance
- Child and Adult Educational Support
- Little Free Library
- Community Events and Classes (holiday gatherings and meals, tutoring, holiday adoption program)
- Volunteer Led Classes