

Caring Compassionate Services for Those In Need

Issue #25 – July 2018

Logo Designed by Volunteer Graphic Designer Janet Ochs

SETTLING INTO OUR NEW DIGS!

We are now in our new facility at 226 East Lincoln Avenue, Emmitsburg! Founded in 1969, Seton Center was established in the former Mother Seton School by the Daughters of Charity at the request of the three mothers in the Emmitsburg area. These hard-working women faced a need for quality day care, which could enable them to work and support their families while their children received safe, adequate care, and developmental enrichment. In 1970, the licensed Seton Day Care was opened. The Thrift Store also opened in 1970, which is now called Seton Family Store.

The original building at 16840 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg MD, was constructed in 1956. It has long outlasted its predicted life span of 10 years. We are excited to be in this beautiful new facility; an environmentally- and user-friendly space from which we may continue to serve northern Frederick County.

The Daughters of Charity and Seton Center are grateful for all the firms and trades who worked to complete construction of the new building in record time: MSB Architects of Hagerstown, MD and their interior designer, Raquel Orsini; Morgan-Keller Construction; CJL Engineering; and Frederick, Seibert & Associates, Inc. The project produced a new 13,000 square foot building that houses our Outreach Office, Seton Family Store, and a large meeting room for presentations of all kinds. All those visiting Seton Center now enter through one main front entrance.

Our Outreach Office continues to offer hope to under-resourced neighbors by offering a wide range of services and programs; from short-term assistance with financial needs to life-changing programs for long-term success. Emergency material assistance, referrals, Build Your Resource workshops, and the



Getting Ahead and DePaul Dental programs offer temporary relief and opportunities for systemic change.

The Outreach Office hours remain the same: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., closing for lunch daily from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Seton Family Store continues to offer a reputable place to donate pre-loved items that are then sold at low-cost to the community. In our new location, the Family Store will no longer be separated into multiple rooms, but now offers one bright, open and updated space to shop for bargains. Their schedule for retail sales also remains the same, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The community is encouraged to bring donations of good, clean clothing, household goods and collectibles to the new 226 Lincoln Avenue site, Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. When coming to donate items, donors may enter our new driveway, following the signs to bear right in front of the building, then around to the back of the building. Donors now have a covered drop-off area in which to park while unloading items. There is a drive-over bell and a doorbell to alert us of a donor's arrival.

On July 10, we'll officially celebrate with a Ribbon Cutting and Dedication ceremony. Pictures to come!

Sister Martha Beaudoin, D. C., LSW
Administrator

PROGRAM UPDATES

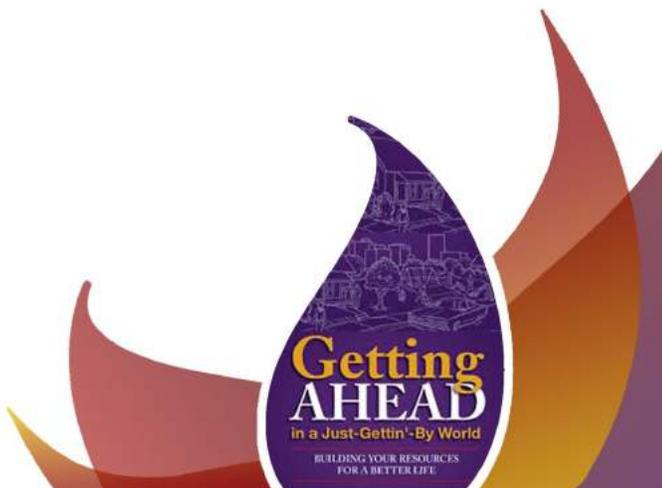
Getting Ahead Program



The need for and effectiveness of the Getting Ahead program at Seton Center continues to grow and empower people to change their lives. There are currently 14 Investigators within two groups meeting each Monday!

In their journey to date, the Investigators have done extensive research into topics such as the causes of poverty, predatory lending, how change happens and time management.

All Investigators have worked hard and are on track to graduate from the program on August 13. This life-altering program could not be possible without the help, prayers and support from a caring community. Seton Center, the Getting Ahead Investigators and graduates thank you for your generosity!



An Investment in Changed Lives!

Want your giving dollars to really make a difference? Getting Ahead program offers graduates the chance and resources to realize their dreams and recognize the power they hold to make significant changes in their lives.

As we begin this new fiscal year, we are in urgent need of funding to continue with the Fall sessions of Getting Ahead.

Here are ways you may invest in the future lives of individuals and our community:

- Incentives—donations of incentive gift cards in increments of \$30.
- Investigator Sponsorships—\$600 provides for the curriculum books and graduation materials.
- Home-cooked or take-out meals for morning and evening sessions.

For more information, please contact Kelly Mays at 301.447.6102 x 17 or kelly.mays@doc.org.

Staying Ahead

Graduates of the Getting Ahead program continue to stay in touch with Seton Center and work on their goals through the monthly Staying Ahead Program.

During Staying Ahead, graduates share a meal and peer support, receive support for working towards their goals, and

learn new resources from a community guest. Graduates also build their networking and social capital resources. The most recent Staying Ahead on June 20, included community guest Melanie Cox from The League of Women Voters. Melanie and the group brainstormed ways that graduates can get involved with their lawmakers and create change in their community.

For more information, please call Program Facilitator Kelly Mays at 301.447.6102 x 17 or kelly.mays@doc.org.





Your Resources Workshops

The Build Your Resources Workshops program took a temporary hiatus through the transition to our new location. More workshops will be scheduled in the Fall, so continue to follow us on Facebook or check out the programs tab on our web site for updates.

For more information, contact Kelly Mays at 301.447.6102 x 17 or kelly.mays@doc.org.



Seton Center will coordinate our second annual Job Fair for Northern Frederick County on Monday, October 8 from 1-3 p.m. at Mother Seton School.

Local schools, training centers and employers will be invited to register and participate to offer job, education and training opportunities needed for job seekers to succeed. To provide for Mother Seton School's staffing and operational costs to host this event, a modest \$30 registration fee is requested from vendors.

Job seekers are also invited, but no registration is required. They are encouraged to bring a fresh resume and can-do attitude as they meet and talk with employers and educators.

For more information or to add your business, school or training center to our contact list, please contact Missy Miller at 301.447.6102 x 18 or melissa.miller@doc.org.

The Struggle is Real

A young mother of two boys came to Seton Center, requesting help to pay for a rent eviction. She has held a part time job in Frederick for over a year which brings in a small but steady income. Although her budget is tight she has been able to keep up with her rent, household, travel expenses and daycare payments. She is receiving food stamp benefits and a housing subsidy which helps to support stability for her two little boys. Mom was doing all she could to give her children a stable, loving home. Recently she received a phone call that changed her and her sons lives forever. The 23 year old father of her sons had died. Not only did she have to tell her sons this heart-breaking news, take off time from work and deal with her own grief, but the bills still needed to be paid. She applied for Survivors benefits for her sons but was denied because "The deceased parent must have earned at least six credits within 3 years of his death for his children to receive monthly survivor benefits". A friend told her about Seton Center's emergency financial assistance program. We were able to provide her with enough funds to stop the eviction, referrals for grief counseling and a job search which might provide more income for the household. Her grateful words "I don't know what would have happened if you couldn't help, I was at the end of my rope" were heartfelt and sincere.

We are grateful to all who support our programs here at Seton Center. You are part of our community becoming a place where compassion and hope are available to those in need. Thank you for your continued efforts to keep our community a place where all residents have opportunities to work towards a healthy, safe and stable life.



The DePaul Dental Difference

Seton Center's DePaul Dental Program was added to our services in 2006. Initially, the focus was only on addressing urgent dental issues for adults who were uninsured. In the Vincentian spirit of our ministry, we recently added a feature to the DePaul Dental Program to stress the importance of maintenance and prevention, to avoid the crisis of urgent dental problems. The DePaul Dental Health Club offers FREE monthly oral health education workshops that cover a variety of topics throughout the year.

Since the fiscal year of 2016, the DePaul Dental program has gone from 27 to 48 completed treatment plans! Our ability to help more adults with life-altering dental health issues has nearly doubled in 2 years!

In March of 2017, Sr. Roberta Treppa became the first staff person solely dedicated to the management and growth of the DePaul Dental Program. At that time, there were 45 persons on our waiting list. That number is now zero. Because of our grantors and individual donors - Frederick County Community Foundation, Raskob Foundation, Community Partnership, Women's Giving Circle of Frederick County, Delaplaine Foundation, AHEC-West – there is no need for a waiting list any longer.



Before

After



“Annie” came to the DePaul Dental program in pain and unable to eat properly because of various dental issues. To top it off, her front tooth had to be extracted, which deeply affected her self-esteem. Though she had been a very cheerful and talkative person, she realized that she was always covering her mouth when she spoke, being self-conscious of the decay showing on her teeth.



Thanks to a one of our partnering dental care providers, Dr. Bringardner, DDS, “Annie’s” care plan was approved and she persevered through an extensive treatment plan to relieve her pain and restore her oral health.

During her exit interview “Annie” shared, “Well, I could not chew right and had a lot of pain. I used to always smile but didn’t with that icky looking black stuff on my teeth. I felt like people were looking at me and wondering why I had that. I just felt really so self-conscious. I tried to avoid people, which is not me, I am usually very talkative. I felt really, really down about it all of the time. I asked my daughter for a Sonic toothbrush for Christmas. So I am trying very hard to brush my teeth and trying to remember to floss them. I have learned, so I am trying to take better care of them. You people are wonderful. I am just so thankful for the DePaul Dental Program. I think it is wonderful. I really thank God for you people and the dentists and people who support the program.”

Annie’s before and after pictures to the left are proof of the improvement. “Annie” just glows with better health, is more relaxed and is back to her happy self.

To find out how you can support this life-changing program, become a professional dental partner, facilitate a DePaul Dental Health Club workshop or get the schedule for DePaul Dental Health Club sessions, go to www.SetonCenter.org, “Like” the Seton Center Outreach Facebook page or contact Sister Roberta at 301.447.6102 x 20.

SETON FAMILY STORE



The Seton Family Store staff and volunteers are super-excited to share their new, beautiful, bright and welcoming space! Everything you donate or purchase inspires change in our local communities.

Shoppers enter in the main front door and the interior Family Store entrance is straight ahead.



Staff: Tim Kennedy, Sister Dorothy Folmer, Paula Stouter and Kenny Droneburg.

Supporting Education

Stuff the Bus

Each year, generous Frederick County businesses and citizens help students start school with the necessary supplies that some families cannot provide. This year is no exception. The tenth annual Stuff the Bus school supply drive begins July 5 and runs through August 15. This is the second year Seton Family Store will serve as a drop-off site to collect backpacks and school supplies.



Summer of Wonder Reading Program

Thru August 31, we're excited to be a Summer Challenge Partner with Frederick County Public Library again this year! Summer reading is especially important for children. Through encouraging children to participate, parents and caregivers can help avoid the "summer slide," in which students tend to lose some of the academic achievements they gained during the school year. Studies show that children who engage in reading and learning over the summer are more likely to return to school at grade level in the Fall. Families can read, visit local sites, discover secret passwords and win prizes!

HOURS OF OPERATION

Outreach Office

Mon—Fri 10 a.m.—4 p.m.
(closed daily noon to 1 p.m. for lunch)

Seton Family Store

Tue—Sat 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

Family Store Donations

Tue—Sat 9:30 a.m.—4 p.m.

Seton Center will be closed:

Independence Day (July 4)

Labor Day (September 3)

EVENTS AND SALES

August 17

National Thrift Shop Day

15% off Sale

August 31 & September 1

Back To School Sale

Seasonal Change Sale

Stay tuned to our web site and Facebook page for updates



VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DREAM WORK!

Our Super Hero Volunteers

We shared lots of laughs and gratitude with our volunteers at our April 17 Super Hero volunteer appreciation dinner at Mountain Gate Family Restaurant. Thank you to all who could attend.

Our Recent Move

Packing, unpacking and setting up the Family Store and Outreach Office was a HUGE undertaking. It was only made possible through help from the Daughters of Charity Maintenance and Grounds crews and dedicated, hard working volunteers who have asked to remain anonymous. We are deeply grateful for all these humble servants for their Super Hero efforts!

Want to be part of this amazing team? Contact us at 301.447.6102 x 18 or melissa.miller@doc.org.



Above is the dedicated, but fun-loving team of ladies who bakes cookies and purchases items for quarterly visits to Odyssey Assisted Living.

First Row: Esther Hayes and Kathleen Lane

Second Row: Suzanne Treis, Jean Wiley, Harriet Maull,

Idelsa Garnett, Ann Fitzsimmons, Anne Jones

Back Row: Connie Maas.

YES! I WANT TO BE A PART OF HOPE IN THE FUTURE!

The affects of generational poverty, unaffordable housing, lack of living-wage employment, transportation and health insurance continue to burden our under-resourced neighbors with debt, pain, illness, doubt and hopelessness. While our current programs will continue, OUR hope is to plant new seeds for even more creative and collaborative opportunities for systemic change.

To partner with us to build stronger individuals and communities, please consider offering a donation by:

- ◆ sending a check in the enclosed giving envelope
- ◆ visiting our web site's Donate page
- ◆ shopping on-line at Amazon Smile and naming Seton Center as your charity of choice
- ◆ volunteering your time and talents
- ◆ donating quality, no-longer-needed items to Seton Family Store



Thank you for your past, present and future support of all God is calling on us to do. Only through your generosity are we able to stand in the gap for our neighbors. Thank you.

To be added to or removed from our mailing and/or e-mail lists, please contact us at 301.447.6102 x 13 or setoncenterinc@doc.org. Thank you for helping us be faithful stewards of your gifts.