

Fletcher Flashes

Spring Has Sprung!



1 in 5 families in Indianapolis lacks reliable access to nutritious affordable food

The closing of Bud's supermarket last year left over 50% of FPCC families without access to fresh fruits and veggies. According to a neighborhood health study compiled by Amber Broughton, NEP Community Wellness Coordinator for Purdue Extension, the food desert in our neighborhood virtually starves local residents of fresh food. This is why we love our garden - **Seeds of Hope!** It brings affordable, accessible, healthy food options and a little outdoor living to our community.

GET INVOLVED!

Garden

Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon starting March 18

Staff the Veggie Stand

Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon starting May 6

Grow A Row for Fletcher

(more info to the right)

For more information, please contact Holly at 317.636.3466 ext. 1 or holly@fletcherplacecc.org

Grow a Row for Fletcher!



Our neighbors are in a food desert. This means that they have no fresh, affordable produce within a mile distance. We need your help to keep individuals, families, and children healthy. Please consider growing a row in your garden that is specifically designated to Fletcher Place Community Center. The donations of produce can be dropped off on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The produce will then be passed out for free on Saturdays at our garden stand to those in need.

Help us make a difference in our community!

Save the Date for Culinary Collage!

The 8th Annual Culinary Collage is taking place **Sunday, July 16, 2017** at the University of Indianapolis Schwitzer Student Center. The event is Fletcher Place Community Center's annual fundraiser providing much needed support in our efforts to "take a bite out of poverty" in our community. Come out for the tastings from local restaurants, entertainment, silent auction and more at this family-friendly event!



Get Involved!

Be a sponsor, donate a silent auction item, or be a restaurant sponsor.

For more information, please contact Robin Heldman at 317.694.5096 or robin@directconnectprinting.net

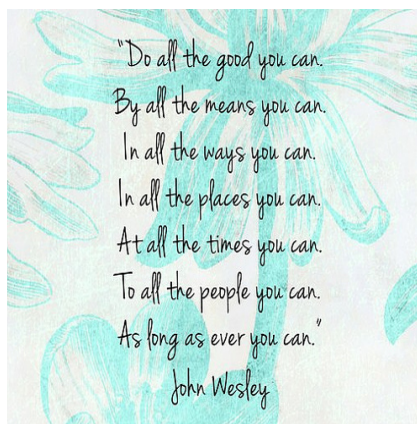
Meet the New Director

Melissa Drew started in January as the new Executive Director of Fletcher Place Community Center. Melissa brings 20 years of experience in non-profits with her to the position and she hit the ground running. Thanks to her efforts FPCC is making wonderful progress in several areas including partnerships, fund development, data management, accountability, facility maintenance and upgrades. We are excited to have Melissa on board and look forward to the future of Fletcher Place. As Melissa stated, **"our goal is to make FPCC one of the best community centers around"**.

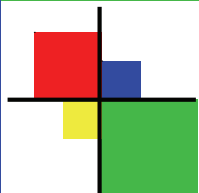


Melissa Drew

TAX BREAK: Consider Investing those HUGE Stock Gains in Breaking the Cycle of Poverty



Has your investment portfolio followed the general market and appreciated nicely? A wonderful way to take advantage of those nice gains without tax consequences is by "gifting" those stocks to your favorite non-profit - Fletcher Place! The process is simple, helps you avoid federal gains tax and would certainly help support FPCC's mission. Another great vehicle is a Donor Advisory Fund that can offer immediate tax benefits for those large gains. Please call for information and we will happily work with your advisor. Whether you have donated in the past or are new to FPCC, all donations are appreciated and needed to keep the lights on, pay staff and the other necessities that allow us to serve over 25,000 meals and operate our Pre-K.



A Great Year 2016 Outcomes

Through your support in 2016 Fletcher Place Community Center provided support to over **10,000** individuals.

- 25,755 breakfast and dinner hot meals were served
- 3,761 individuals received over 39,000 meals through the Food Pantry
- 1,643 shoppers made 6,917 visits to the Thrift Store
- 141 families and their children received Christmas gifts
- 4,229 volunteers provided 11,497 hours of volunteer service
- 31 students participated in Art in the City
- Over 600 pounds of food was harvested from the Community Garden
- 26 students were enrolled in Preschool programming



Fischer Farms donated 600 lbs of meat to Fletcher!

Preschool at Fletcher Place



Education is key in the future of our youth. Fletcher Place Preschool is currently working to expand the number of seats available for children in our community and transition to a full day program. As a level 3 Paths to Quality Program, Fletcher Place Preschool will be accepting On My Way Pre-K Vouchers, CCDF, and self pay in the Fall. Scholarships will also be available.

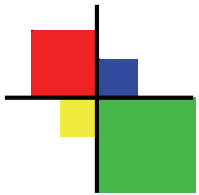
For more information about preschool or to enroll your 3 or 4 year student for Fall 2017, please contact Netta Williams-Erby at 317.636.3466 ext. 3 or by e-mail at netta@fletcherplacecc.org



Christopher Nunn, Southeast Community Services, leading Preschool Parent Night fun!



Iowa State students planting seeds with Preschool for their indoor garden.



Fletcher Place Community Center: Breaking the cycle of poverty through hope, compassion and renewal

Fletcher Place Community Center has been serving our most vulnerable neighbors since 1872. Our roots are in the United Methodist Church as we began as part of a local Methodist Church's outreach. Today we continue to reach out "to the least" in ways that help alleviate the pain of poverty. Current outreach includes hot meals served Monday - Friday, Food Pantry, Community Garden, Free Thrift Store, Preschool, Art in the City, Senior Luncheons and Christmas Assistance.

Location:

1637 Prospect Street
Indianapolis, IN 46206

Mailing Address:

PO BOX 825
Indianapolis, IN 46206

Website: www.fletcherplacecc.org

Phone: (317) 636-3466

Email: holly@fletcherplacecc.org



For more information about Fletcher Place check out our website, "Like Us" on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter!

Current Needs

Monetary Donations:

Money is always needed to maintain our programming, maintain our building, and pay our staff. Please consider going to our website and making a donation to support FPCC today!

Volunteer:

Go to our website and register for **Volunteer Matters** then check out our amazing calendar of volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

Food Pantry Needs:

Fresh or canned veggies and fruit, 1 lb bags of white and brown rice, toilet paper, and pads/tampons. We also need instant oatmeal, ramen noodles, cracker packs, granola bars, fruit cups, pudding cups, pop top soup and tuna for homeless snack packs.

Free Thrift Store Needs:

Gently used spring/summer clothing (all ages and sizes), school uniforms, men's jeans, ladies dresses, socks, underwear, shoes/boots, gently used towels, wash cloths (all sizes and types), blankets, and household items including water bottles.

Still some Hot Meal Serving Dates available for 2017, sign up today!