

Dialogue

A reflective journal about faith and action
from Madison-area Urban Ministry

FALL 2012

Momma, where are all of those people right now?

When the thunder and lightening began around 6:00 a.m. on August 16th our 7 year old daughter Minna padded into our room and climbed in bed to snuggle. She was so quiet that I thought she had fallen back to sleep, but as another clap of thunder sounded she took my hand and quietly said "momma, you know how you talk about people who don't have houses or anyplace to live? Where are all of those people right now?" The best I could do was to tell her that I didn't know but that I hoped they were all safe and dry. Of course I knew better.

When the doors opened for school in Madison on September 4th the Transitional Education Program, a program that works with children in who are homeless, had already identified 120 children who were homeless. As of the first week in October the number was 496. That does not count children who are homeless but have not identified themselves as such to social workers, or children and families living doubled up, sleeping on couches and floors, or in their cars.

One year ago this month Occupy Madison took up residency in a vacant car lot on East Washington Avenue. What began as a political protest evolved over the winter months to a

makeshift homeless shelter/tent city. The site drew individuals who were newly homeless and living in their cars, people who had been banned from the shelter system and others who chose not to use the shelter system. As time went on a community grew, individuals looked out for one another, helping with food, getting people medical attention. What also became obvious over time was that

The average age of someone who is homeless in Dane County is 9 years old. Does it matter to you whether a child who is homeless is from Madison?

our current system has gaps: holes that contribute to the stress and barriers that people who are homeless face.*

The Occupy Madison site was closed on April 30th. In the months since April we have watched as the question of how to address the growing rate of homelessness in our community became a political ping pong match between the city and county. There is disagreement about how many of the men, women and children who are homeless are actually from Madison. As people of faith our shared traditions tell us that it doesn't matter who is "from Madison." They are here now and we are called to welcome the

stranger. And of course there is a little issue of privilege to consider in this discussion. Madison is a City full of people who are not "from Madison." I am not "from Madison" but I was welcomed.

Over the last several months in Madison and Dane County we have witnessed a debate about whether our resources should be spent on shelter or increased support for Housing First, a program model that puts people in stable housing and then supports them as they put the other pieces in place. We would suggest that both are important. Certainly stable housing is the solution to homelessness, and yet we cannot and should not ignore the immediate suffering of the people who are on waiting lists for Housing First; we cannot and should not ignore the immediate risk faced by people turned away from a shelter system that is full, or who have reached their annual limit in the shelter system. We need both shelter and an expansion of Housing First.

Shelter and Housing First are necessary. They are charity. But charity is not enough. What neither our shelter system nor Housing First address is justice. We need economic justice to

Continued on Page 2

* In April MUM was asked to convene an interim committee to explore alternative sites for Occupy Madison. Our committee (comprised of community members, clergy, people who had lived at Occupy and agency representatives) presented our report to the County Board on July 12th. Among the recommendations: creation of a Day Shelter and increased access to bathrooms, showers and storage for people who are homeless. You can access our full report and recommendations at our website: www.emum.org.

Where are all those people...?

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really decrease the need for both shelter and Housing First. Justice is increased access to affordable and fair housing. Justice is legislation that supports tenant rights, many of which were obliterated by Senate Bill 107 in last fall's legislative session. Justice holds financial institutions that discriminate or exploit vulnerable individuals and families accountable through the courts. To work for justice we must be able to connect the dots, to understand that quality education for all children helps break the cycle of poverty, that jobs with a living wage and affordable benefits to employees are a pathway out of poverty and into stable housing. It can be so tempting to compartmentalize homelessness as an issue, as if it exists in a vacuum. It does not, and our response must be one that focuses both on charity and justice.

William Sloane Coffin wrote "The word 'homeless' is devastating, suggesting neither comfort nor companionship, dignity nor grace, and precious little identity. To have no place is to be no place. Homelessness is nowhere-whether you're one of the world's 14 million refugees, a boat person from Indochina, one of Calcutta's 400,000 semi-starved side-

walk dwellers, or one of the 36,000 who in New York City spend so much of their time huddled in doorways, wrapping themselves in the Daily News." There are people in our City and County right now who are wrapping themselves in the State Journal for warmth, there are children going to school after sleeping in a car all night, there are people losing their homes due to medical bills they cannot afford, or to corporate practices that drive local business out and then drive down wages to maximize profits for shareholders. It doesn't matter where people are from, it matters that there is pain and suffering we can play a part in ending. It matters that they are here now and we have a responsibility to care for our neighbors and not just the ones we feel comfortable with.

"Where are all those people right now?" It's a haunting question and the answer is that they are everywhere. They are here, living on the streets of our community. The reason that is not acceptable is because homelessness and economic injustice are not acceptable.

In faith,
Linda Ketcham

Greater Isthmus Group (G.I.G.)

Meets 3rd Thursdays at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Madison (8:30 to 10 a.m.)

GIG is a roundtable work group of MUM that meets monthly to address critical issues around housing stability for all persons. Representatives from faith communities and other groups come together to work on common concerns that impact affordable housing for all. *For more information contact:* Barbara McKinney, Associate Director, MUM: barbara@emum.org or phone 608-256-0906.

MUM to Open Satellite Office in Sun Prairie

It's official! On November 7th MUM will open a satellite re-entry office in Sun Prairie. Thanks to the Sun Prairie United Methodist Church who is hosting the office, we will have staff available in Sun Prairie every Wednesday to work with the men and women there who are returning to the community from prison. We are very excited about the expansion. In preparation, we have met with the Police Chief, the Mayor, contacted the Zoning Department and met with the Probation and Parole Units for Sun Prairie, as well as Dane County Human Services, to put the pieces in place. So if you know of anyone in the Sun Prairie area who could use assistance rebuilding his or her life after prison, have them call Mark at MUM: 608-256-0906.



MUM is proud to be a member of the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice



Dialogue is a reflective journal of faith and action printed by Madison-area

Urban Ministry staff. The positions expressed here are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily the board of directors or funding sources of MUM. All individual members and all faith communities in Dane County receive a copy. Individual membership in MUM is encouraged. Give online or mail gifts to MUM.



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Recommendations Offered in MUM Report on Occupy Advance in Committee

A number of the recommendations contained in MUM's report to the County Board regarding Alternative Occupy Sites are moving forward through the county process, including:

- ✓ Creation of a day center for people who are homeless;
- ✓ Expansion of available storage for people who are homeless to store their personal property;
- ✓ Expand access to bathrooms and showers for people who are homeless.

These proposals are moving for-

ward through the county committee process. There is push back from the City regarding the proposed Day Center revolving around city funding for operations as proposed. Hopefully this can be resolved. To its credit, the County is making operating funds available, at least for the short-term, so that the interim day shelter can operate this winter.

These recommendations are what we might call the immediate remedies. They address the immediate stress and struggles faced by people in our community who are homeless. The report also includes long-term

recommendations that include: the purchase of multi-family and larger foreclosed-on homes throughout the county to co-ops for affordable housing; the creation of a more permanent day center; expansion of medical shelter facilities; provision of shelter space for people who work second and third shift so that they have somewhere to sleep during the day; and the development and implementation of an Abandoned and Vacant Building Registration fee. Such a fee would serve to protect surrounding property values, hold land owners accountable and generate revenue to expand the Housing First programs in Dane County.

Proposed Bus Fare Increase Will Hit Seniors and People with Disabilities Hard

Madison's Mayor has proposed a fare increase of .25 for an individual adult fare ticket (a 12.5% increase), Multi-ride passes would go up 17% for an adult ten-ride card, and a senior/disabled 31 day pass would go up \$12.50 or 45%. The proposed rate increases would raise \$686,600 in revenue for 2013, assuming of course that ridership stays the same. There is some concern that as rates increase some individuals who have cars and can afford to pay for parking will stop riding the buses and opt for driving themselves – leaving lower income individuals, seniors and people with disabilities to pay the increased fares. The proposals would cost seniors and people with disabilities an additional \$150 per year and for others riding the bus daily it could mean as much as \$180 more per year. Those are significant increases for people making minimum wage or on a fixed income.

When fares were increased in 2009, the increase went through only after a proposal was approved that provides 300 monthly passes at half price to people who make less than 150% of the federal poverty level. Those pass-

A public hearing on the proposal will be held Nov. 7th at 6:00 p.m. City County Building (Rm. 201) 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Madison

es are sold out by the first week of each month. In addition, many non-profits provide bus tickets to help their program participants with job hunts, getting to appointments, get to and from work, etc... The proposed fare increase will affect their budgets because there is no discount for tickets

purchased by non-profits. That means their purchasing power is diminished, so for example if an agency currently spends \$100 per week on bus tickets to buy 50 tickets, after the rate increase it will buy 44 tickets. (Multiply that out and it's 312 fewer tickets per year available to some of our most vulnerable neighbors for one agency. Then multiply it out by the number of programs that help with bus tickets, and we start to see a significant problem that ripples out.

The positive side of the proposal is that it plans for an expansion of services to the challenged Owl Creek neighborhood, which is relatively isolated.

A public hearing on the proposal will be held Nov. 7th at 6:00 p.m. in Room 201 of the City-County Building, 210 Martin Luther King Blvd., Madison.

In Memory

Fred Reames

Our beloved friend and colleague Fred Reames died on July 19, 2012. Fred joined the MUM board in 2006. He retired from our Board on June 19th, 2012. In thinking of Fred, this poem by Marge Percy came to mind:

From the day he joined the Board Fred was a part of MUM. He submerged in the task. He knew that his gifts were to be used.

As a Board member he took on the often thankless task of treasurer. Fred submerged himself in the details of agency finances, wanting to understand the contracts, the accounting system, revenue streams and all the minutiae.

At a Board meeting one evening Fred shared that he had been a victim of a crime and that the experience had helped him understand the importance of Restorative Justice, the idea that we must repair the harm. He began volunteering with our Returning Prisoner Simulations in the community, and with our Re-entry Simulations within the prisons that help men and women prepare for their release. At the simulations Fred shared his story and his insights about the young man who



Fred enjoyed his role as mentor in MUM's Mentoring Connections program.

robbed him. He spoke of the young man with compassion, kindness and forgiveness. Fred spoke of the need for us to take better care of all our children.

Fred submerged in the task. We at MUM are richer for having worked with Fred. We are so deeply grateful

*"I want to be with people who submerge in the task,
Who go into the fields to harvest and work in a row and pass the
bags along,
Who stand in the line and haul in their places,
Who are not parlor generals and field deserters but move in a com-
mon rhythm when the food must come in or the fire be put out.
The work of work is common as mud. Botched it smears the hands,
crumbles to dust.
But the thing worth doing well done has a shape that satisfies, clean
and evident.
Greek amphoras for wine or oil, Hopi vases that held corn, are put in
museums but you know they were made to be used.
The pitcher cries for water to carry and a person for work that is
real."*

By Marge Percy

Fred was a mentor in our Mentoring Connections Program, volunteering as a mentor to a young man who has a parent in prison. Fred always smiled

but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

Fred did all three.

when he spoke of his match—he enjoyed the time they spent together very much. But Fred's commitment to the program and the children it serves went beyond mentoring. Fred donated hours of time working with a consultant on PR materials and fund development for Mentoring Connections.

that he shared so much with us: his time, his talents, his enthusiasm, and most of all his kindness. We thank his family for sharing him with us, too. At our Annual meeting we gave Fred a plaque, on it a Scripture quote that his wife Sherry had suggested from Micah, Chapter 6, verse 8:

"And what does the Lord require of you

Wheat Ridge Ministries Holds Prison Ministry Convening

MUM was honored to participate in Wheat Ridge Ministries Prison Ministry Convening in St. Louis in September. Wheat Ridge brought together six prison ministry and re-entry programs to talk about our ministries, lessons learned, and to share ideas for the future. It was a powerful two days of sharing and fellowship.

It was a busy summer for our children's programs. We have had eighty kids involved in the Mentoring and Family Connections programs this year and many more moms and kids in Reading Connections. Fifty of the kids participated in the United Way's Middleton Day of Caring in August. The kids had a wonderful time playing and fishing, received their own fishing poles and back to school backpacks filled with school supplies.

We have seen an increase in the number of our Mentoring and Family Connections families who have needed help with eviction prevention and accessing our on site food pantry. As winter approaches we know that the need will grow. That kind of support is one of the things that

Mentoring/Family/Reading Connections

makes Mentoring and Family Connections unique; we provide a wrap around support for the children



Youngsters with the Mentoring Connections group share a creative moment as they wait for bus to Middleton Day of Caring sponsored by United Way in August.

and caregivers. These programs are not funded by the United Way. We

rely on local foundations like Alliant, Madison Rotary, Endres Foundation, Capital Kids Fund, Evjue Foundation and St.

Dunstan's to support the programs, and we rely on your donations, too.

We are in the process of planning our holiday party for the kids and families. We will be working with the Madison Police Department's toy giveaway program, TDS, Madison Links, and many volunteers to make it a fun evening.

If you would like to help brighten the holidays for a child who has an incarcerated, parent please contact Linda Ketcham linda@emum.org or Jackie Austin jackie@emum.org.

We can always use donations of \$25.00 gift cards to Woodman's and \$15.00 gift cards from stores like Target to include in the holiday baskets for the families.

In Memory

Eddie Quinn

Eddie Quinn, a COS graduate and friend of MUM, died on March 26, 2012 of natural causes. Many of you may remember Eddie and his band playing at our 2007 Beat the Winter Blues event, or you might remember him playing his guitar and singing at our 2008 Annual Meeting. Eddie was born June 5, 1943 in St. Louis. His family moved to Kenosha during his childhood. Eddie was a gentle, soft spoken man who had an infectious smile and laugh. His music brought joy to us at MUM, to his church and the members of Covenant Presbyterian Church where he was a frequent musical guest. Much of the music Eddie played he had composed. Gospel music was his first passion, followed by the blues, and his music had a recurring theme: his gratitude to God and Jesus for the love and forgiveness he had received after turning his life around. Shortly before his death Eddie had contacted MUM to offer to play music for next year's Annual Meeting. That was Eddie. He loved his family, his community and his church and he made it a point to use his gifts to give back to the community some of what he believed he had received.



Eddie Quinn (right) & his band "Fair Play" perform at Beat the Winter Blues in 2007

You may remember that in 2007 MUM stood with the families who resided and owned homes in the Hickory Lanes Mobile Home Park in Monona. These were families who sought the American Dream, who purchased homes they could afford, paid their property taxes (yes, mobile homes are taxed on their value) and paid their rent for the land upon which their homes sat. But when the owners of the park decided that they wanted to close the park, they did not disclose the information. They continued to sell homes in the park, knowing full well that the people who purchased them would likely be unable to move them when the park closed. There are very few protections for mobile home owners. In fact, about the only protection that exists is one that says that once your home is in a park you cannot be evicted because of the age of the home. However, should you try to move your home, any other park may refuse to rent land to you based on the age of the home. And so it was that save one or two individuals who were able to move their homes to new parks, all of the other homeowners lost their homes. To add insult to injury, they were given eviction notices because they could not move their homes, and so then they had that on their housing record. In addition, the City of Monona turned its back on those families, essentially saying, "Too bad, why don't you call some social service agencies and see if they can help you?" The City of Monona had done the same thing eighteen years earlier to homeowners of the Happy Acres mobile home park in Monona.

Somewhat ironically, at the same time Monona was ignoring the plight of the families in Hickory Lanes, Monona had an Ad Hoc Family Attraction Committee. The committee was charged with trying to figure out

why the City had lost approximately 1,000 residents in the past 10-15 years. The committee wanted to attract young families with children to Monona. About one hundred Hickory Lane residents, including parents and children, lost their housing in Monona to make room for a proposed retail and condo development. At the same time the city was debating more development off Owens Road in Monona, more low income families living in the Garden Circle and Anthony Lane apartments

Former Residents of Hickory Lanes Mobile Home Park Still Seek Justice...

found themselves dislocated (as Monona took over those properties and evicted many of the residents). To many of us, it didn't seem too hard to figure out why young, moderate income families might not feel attracted to Monona.

Once the owner of the Hickory Lanes Park made public their intent to close and sell the park, a developer came forward proposing a mixed use condo development. The City began considering creation of a TIF district. In order to create a TIF District at least 51% of the proposed district had to be found to be blighted, as defined by statute. In Monona the recommendation to declare the proposed district blighted relied on code violations and overall conditions in the Hickory Lanes Mobile Home Park. The code violations used to justify a finding of blight had been long-term violations willingly ignored by the City. Only when the violations proved beneficial to a major development project did the city express any concern. Through records obtained by MUM via a Freedom of Information Act request it became clear that Monona had not followed its own ordinance requiring annual inspections of mobile home parks. In

fact, it had been years since the city had done an inspection. The last inspection completed waived all of the violations that were in 2007 being used to justify a finding of blight to create a Tax Incremental District (TID) for the purposes of grant Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) to the developer.

Since 2007 Monona's former Mayor Rob Kahl has left the Mayor's office and is running for State Assembly. If he wins we will be asking for a meeting to talk about state legislation to protect mobile homeowners. Since 2007 all but two of the alders from that time have left office. With a

majority of new council members, maybe the City of Monona could be moved to do the right thing.

The former Hickory Lanes property appears to have been sold to a developer and the City is once again considering creation of a TID. We are asking the Monona Council to look into whether they can compensate the former homeowners from Hickory Lanes using TIF money. TIF financing can legally be used for purchase and demolition of existing buildings on the property if deemed to benefit the development project; unfortunately the homes are now gone, demolished. Sadly, many of the older residents who had lived at Hickory Lanes have since died. Some were sick and undergoing chemo in 2007 as all of this was unfolding — others have moved from the area and we don't know where they are. But MUM is still in contact with several of the residents and they still could use some help in recovering from the loss of their home and investment. We don't know if such compensation could be made now, but if it can we encourage the Monona Council to *vote for justice for the former residents of Hickory Lanes.*

County Human Services Budget holds line

In what passes for good news these days regarding the human services front, the proposed Dane County Human Services budget for 2013 holds funding at the 2012 level. After ten consecutive years of funding cuts, no increase is a challenge for our local non-profits because their costs continue to increase. Still, no cut *is* preferable to a cut.

MUM has coordinated two meetings between County Executive Joe Parisi and clergy from Dane County. MUM and local clergy expressed concern about the fact that from 2000-2010 the Human Services budget had ended each year with a surplus, but instead of reinvesting those dollars in the safety net, the County had quietly pulled the surplus human services revenue and used it to plug budget holes elsewhere in the budget, rather than restoring the funding cuts made to the non-profits providing services. This is important to note because the reason for the surplus was that those very agencies that had been cut also were responsible for helping create the surplus by working incredibly hard to leverage more money from other funders to bring into the County to support the safety net. Only about 24% of the Dane County Human

Services budget is actually County General Purpose Revenue (tax money). The remaining 76% is money that comes into the county as pass through money accessed with help by the private non-profit sector.

years or to fund new initiatives (rather than taking funding from existing programs to create new programs). The second ask is the creation of an Abandoned and Vacant Property Registration Fee. This strategy is being used across the country as a way to help protect property values around foreclosed on properties. Fees are paid by the owner of the vacant or abandoned building (if it has been vacant for 6 months or more – excludes vacation homes and snow birds). Owners are required to pay a registration fee for every six months

the property remains vacant. The fees jump considerably if the vacant property is not kept up to code, thereby encouraging banks to sell the properties rather than hold onto them as write offs. Revenue raised by the fee would be used to expand housing programs in Dane County, specifically Housing First.

There is still a lot of work to do to preserve the safety net, but your voices on this issue made a difference in changing a long-standing practice of cutting human services and less than forthright budgeting practices.

**“There’s a hole in the bucket and the people fall out
There’s money underground but you can’t get it out
When you stand at the statehouse, smile and say “please?”
There’s a crack in the floor and the people fall through
And they wind up coming back to you
From a place it seems like they can never leave.
There’s a hole in the system for the people in need.”**

Hole in the Bucket, by Catie Curtis

This year the County Executive and Director of Human Services have presented a budget that reflects the reality of the last ten years and as a result they have not proposed any cuts to human services.

In the meetings with Executive Parisi we also highlighted two additional initiatives we would like the County to consider. First, development of a human services reserve fund that would come from any human services budget surplus and could be used to offset cuts in leaner

Thank You!

MUM thanks the following for their contributions toward MUM’s social justice work:

Alliant Energy Foundation
Capital Kids Fund
Endres Foundation
EPIC
Evjue Foundation, Inc.
Madison Rotary
Ristad Foundation

Update on Current MUM Programs

The Journey Home

Started in 2005, the Journey Home is a Signature Initiative of the United Way of Dane County. The program links individuals returning from prison with community resources, provides employability training, and support in securing housing, employment, support and treatment.

Circles of Support

Started in 2002, Circles of Support matches formerly incarcerated men and women with trained volunteers who meet regularly with the returnee to support their successful re-entry to the community.

Phoenix Initiative

Developed in 2010, The Phoenix Initiative is a mutual support organization for formerly incarcerated individuals. The group meets weekly and focuses on leadership development and personal responsibility.

Breaking Barriers

Our newest program, Breaking Barriers, started in June 2012. Breaking Barriers is a recovery support group designed to support a substance free lifestyle.

Windows 2 Work

MUM has been providing this program since November 2010. Windows 2 Work is a pre and post-release case management program focused on educational and vocational training and employment. Case management begins 6-9 months prior to release and continues for up to 12 months post-release.

Communities Against Violence

MUM provides the case management/coordination for men participating in the Focused Deterrence program with the Madison Police Department.

Re-entry Service Fairs

Part of the Journey Home, the fairs are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month (January–November). Fairs create a one-stop-shop for men and women returning to the community from prison. Agencies, landlords, employers, faith community members, police—all come together under one roof to support a positive transition back to the community.



Re-entry Service Fairs are a “one-stop-shop” where exhibitors link returnees to community resources. Each fair focuses on a basic need like housing, education or employment. MUM’s fairs are part of the Journey Home, a United Way initiative

Returning Prisoner Simulations

These workshops educate the community about re-entry; and provide re-entry planning and information to incarcerated individuals who are close to release. Our first Simulation was held in 1999.

Mentoring Connections

Since 2003, Mentoring Connections has been providing community based mentoring to children ages 4-17 that have an incarcerated parent. The program recruits, screens and trains volunteer mentors who make a one year commitment.

Family Connections

Originally spun off by MUM in 2004, and brought back under our roof in 2010, Family Connections provides transportation for children to visit their mom incarcerated at Taycheedah Correctional Institution. Volunteers accompany the children on the bus. Breakfast and lunch are provided.



Children prepare their breakfast as the Mentoring Connections group gathered at the Villager prior to departure for the Middleton Day of Caring, hosted by United Way

landlord, being a good neighbor and other topics. We most recently trained 12 trainers from the Allied Wellness Center Welcomer's Club. The trainers will provide the workshop for residents in the Allied Drive community. Rent Smart is a curriculum developed by the UW Extension and MUM's Greater Isthmus Group (GIG) is providing it in our community.

Food Pantry

MUM operates a small, non-perishable food pantry on site. The pantry is certified by Second Harvest Food Pantry.

Micro-loan

Re-entry program participants may apply for a small micro-loan for assistance with education, work related expenses or housing expenses. Individuals must apply and sign a loan agreement with MUM. Based loosely on the Grameen model, borrowers pay a flat interest rate and make small weekly payments toward the loan. Individuals who are current with their payments may also use MUM as a credit reference for housing or bank loans. This program was made possible by a gift from First Baptist church, has been funded through additional congregational support, and has been operating since 2007.



This year's Mentoring Connections cook-out was a big success thanks in no small part to a bike giveaway by Dream Bikes

Reading Connections

Volunteers help incarcerated moms select a book for their child(ren) and then record the mothers reading the book on DVD. The book, DVD and a letter from mom are then sent to the child.

Ready to Rent

A workshop for incarcerated individuals; covers budgeting and how to become a successful tenant.

Rent Smart

A community organizing and training program that addresses tenant rights, landlord rights, being a good tenant, budgeting, communicating with your



Allied Welcomers who completed the Rent Smart curriculum are shown with Barbara McKinney, MUM's Assoc. Director (standing, 4th from right) and Antonio Williams, AmeriCorps Member for 2011-2012 (right front)

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Current MUM Programs

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Advocacy

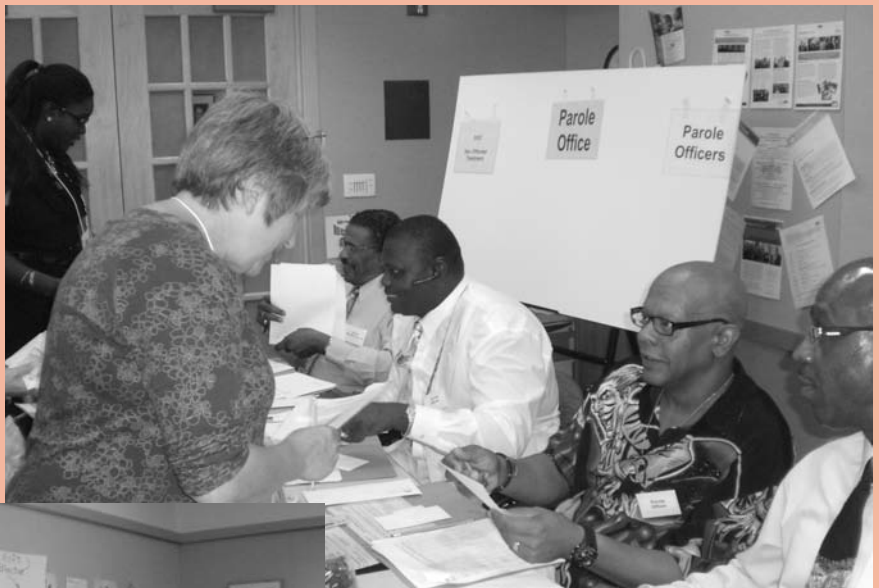
MUM continues to work on issues related to criminal justice system reform, economic justice, homelessness and poverty, including focusing on state, county and city budgets.

Incubator

MUM has served as an incubator and fiscal agent for over 30 projects including: Project Home, ICWJ, North East Side Senior Coalition, Family Enhancement, Transitional Housing, Inc. (merged with another agency to become Porchlight), the Allied Wellness Center. We currently serve as the fiscal agent and incubator for: the Allied Dunn's Marsh Neighborhood Association, Allied Partners, Street Pulse Homeless Cooperative, Vogel Brothers School Supplies for Kids, and WI Faith Voices for Justice.

Returning Prisoner Simulations offer opportunity to participate in a Restorative Justice process

At right, MUM staff and volunteers fill the roles of "Parole Officers" during the role-play at a Returning Prisoner Simulation conducted for Loaned Executives of the United Way. MUM holds simulations for professional groups, congregations, community agencies, students and the general public.



At left, participants from MUM's re-entry programs tell their personal stories while serving on a speaker panel after the simulation role-play. The simulation workshop concludes with a facilitated discussion and questions from participants. Through their participation formerly incarcerated individuals develop leadership skills and make a positive contribution to the community.

LONGEST NIGHT NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY

*Homeless people die from illnesses that affect everyone,
frequently without health care.*

*Homeless people die
from exposure, unprotected
from the heat and cold.*

*Homeless people die from
violence, often in unprovoked
hate crimes*



DECEMBER 21

The first day of winter, the longest night of the year.

*On December 21, 2012, a memorial service will be held
for our neighbors who have died, and who were homeless.*

*The Service begins at 4:00 p.m. on the Capital Square, at the first marble bench at the intersection of East Main St.,
South Pinckney and King Street, near the bench where Dwayne Warren, a member of our community died in 2009.*

*The service will conclude at 4:45 so that people attending who are homeless are able to enter the shelter at Grace
Episcopal Church when it opens its doors at 5:00.*

*If your congregation would like to get involved or if you have names of individuals you would like remembered at the
service please contact linda@emum.org*

**For more information please call:
Linda at Madison-area Urban Ministry**

608-256-0906

Or email at linda@emum.org

This event sponsored by Community Action Coalition, Lakeview Lutheran Church, Lake Edge United Church of Christ,
Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church, First Congregational United Church of Christ and MUM.

Social Action Connection

Wednesday, November 7 (6 p.m.)

Public Hearing on Proposed Bus Fare Increase

City-County Building (Room 201), 210 Martin Luther King Blvd., Madison

Saturday, November 10 (9 a.m. to Noon)

Returning Prisoner Simulation

Host: First United Methodist, 203 Wisconsin Ave., Madison-area Urban Ministry

Open to public - Light breakfast included - No fee (free will donations welcome at door)

Details: Jackie Austin jackie@emum.org or Register online:

<http://www.firstunitedmethodistmadison.org/event/360897-2012-11-10-returning-prisoner-simulation-event-9-am/>

Sunday, November 11 (1:30 to 4 p.m.)

Interfaith Women's Gathering

Sponsors: Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice (ICWJ), Muslim Women of Madison, and MUM.

Topic: "Unveiling the Myth of Muslim Women" Location: TBO. Details: Linda Ketcham linda@emum.org

Friday, December 21 (4 p.m.)

Longest Night - National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day

Gather at marble bench near Capitol Building at intersection of E. Main, S. Pinckney and King Streets

Sponsors: Community Action Coalition, Lakeview Lutheran Church, Lake edge United Church of Christ, Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church, First Congregational United Church of Christ, and MUM

Details: Linda Ketcham linda@emum.org (see page 11)

2013 marks 40 years since MUM was officially incorporated as a non-profit social justice organization. Please save the date! Join us May 18, 2013 to help us celebrate our 40th anniversary. Guest speakers include Rev. Everett Mitchell and Rabbi Renee Bauer. The event will be held at Governor's Club at the Madison Concourse Hotel. Look for more details in January. If you would like to serve on the event planning committee or for information about becoming an event sponsor, please contact linda@emum.org.

Save the date!

**MUM IS TURNING 40!
CELEBRATE WITH US.**



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