



Odessa Project Connect

July 23 2016

Results

A huge thank you to everyone who made the first Odessa Project Connect a huge success! This is a good faith effort of the Summary of Services provided.

Results for Odessa Project Connect: A one-day, one-stop-shop to meet MANY needs of people in the Odessa area took place on Saturday, July 23, 2016 to provide many free services to those in need. 65 nonprofit and service organizations, churches, businesses, and many other individuals coming together from the community and caring people in the area to serve and meet needs such as free haircuts, birth certificates, flu and tetanus shots, medical and dental services and MUCH more. . . We cooperated and collaborated with Odessans to serve with ALL, totally FREE services! The one-day Event--Saturday, July 23rd, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Odessa High School, met many needs. Here's a good faith effort at Summary of Services provided:

- 72 Volunteers and 91 Service Providers from 41 different Agencies/groups serving (includes doctors, RNs, etc.).
- 93 Guest Entrance Surveys completed—42% were accompanied by a friend, spouse, or children—180 people total.
- About 1,500 hours' worth of "time" effort and tens of thousands of dollars' worth of services given ALL in a single day!
- The value of services provided in community impact exceeded \$50,000.
- The value of Volunteer Time in community impact is over \$32,520 (see www.independentsector.org)!
- The value of in-kind goods provided in community impact exceeded \$25,000.

Services provided FREE of charge to Guests included:

- 40 teeth extracted and many others received Dental Clinic vouchers.
- 15% of the Guests were provided Birth Certificates from the Lafayette County Health Department.
- Lafayette Regional provided stroke information to 24 people.
- 22 Chiropractic adjustments were made.
- Several people were registered to vote.
- 21 Veterans received "meaningful interaction" with a representative from one of Missouri Veteran's organizations.
- 18 families were registered for involvement in SNAP or other food assistance programs.
- 36 people presented for blood donation and 25 successfully gave a unit.
- 50 people received food nutrition education materials.
- 17 people with disabilities received relevant assistance from W-I.L.S.
- 25 people had intervention with Diabetes personnel and assistance.
- \$30,000 worth of other household products distributed at 3 to 5 items per person for each family member.
- 48 served with recipes and simple dishes for preparing healthier meals and eating healthier.
- Approximately 42 or 43 haircuts were given.
- More than 14 people served/resolved DMV-related issues through provided vouchers.
- 22 photographs taken and in process of delivery.
- Provided 160 hamburgers and 380 hot dogs, hundreds of chips and more than 445 cans/bottles of water/sodas for lunch.
- 7 people assisted with resolving various legal issues.
- 87 Exit Bags given out containing items NOT purchasable with Food Stamps (toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrush or paste, laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, deodorant, etc. Retail value of about \$15 per Exit Bag).
- 20 Children's backpacks given to parents and 98 bags of snacks/meals sent home for children under 18.
- Thousands of items in addition to Exit Bags including shampoo, deodorant, laundry detergent, razors, dishwashing liquid, toothbrushes/toothpaste, sheets, pillowcases, towels, etc.
- Had people present, helping, learning, experiencing, observing AND documenting to do similar events in other cities.
- Much-MUCH-MUCH more with very FEW incidents and/or issues.

Some of the subjective/qualitative comments we have received already via Exit form, card or Facebook:

- "What an amazing day!" "An incredible day!" "A life-changing day!" "Thanks for being here for us poor people."
- "I had NO IDEA this many people in Odessa were concerned about people like me who are struggling so much!"
- "Thank you for allowing me to Volunteer today—me and a friend volunteered. Seeing the impact made it worth it."
- "Thanks for providing an avenue by which people can serve."
- "I had NO IDEA so many people had this much need. We MUST do something MORE to help people!"