

Lafayette County Project Connect Results for Higginsville 2016!

Early Results for Project Connect in Higginsville on November 5, 2016: A one-day, one-stop-shop to meet MANY needs of people in the area took place on Saturday, November 5, 2016 to provide many free services to those in need. More than 55 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, manicures, medical and dental services and MUCH more. . . We cooperated and collaborated to serve with ALL, totally **FREE** services! The one-day Event met many needs. This is a good faith effort at Summary of Services provided by looking at the information that we received that day:

- 104 Volunteers and 98 Service Providers from 57 different Agencies/groups serving (includes doctors, RNs, etc.).
- 31 Youth from local High Schools volunteered and were a HUGE breath of fresh energy and assistance.
- 124 Guest Entrance Surveys completed—31% accompanied by a friend, spouse, or children—201 people served total.
- About 1,650 hours' worth of "time" effort and thousands of dollars' worth of services given **ALL** in a single day!
- Value of services provided in community impact exceeded \$65,000.
- Value of Volunteer Time in community impact is over \$43,950 (see www.independentsector.org)!
- Value of in-kind goods provided in community impact exceeded \$32,000.

Services provided FREE of charge to Guests included:

- People attended from Higginsville, Lexington, Odessa, Knob Noster, Slater, Corder, Waverly, Mayview, Alma, Independence, Blue Springs, Warrensburg and Carrollton. The majority were from about a 10 –mile radius around Higginsville.
- More than 1,762 incidents of service were provided in the one day event!
- 54 teeth extracted and many others received Dental Clinic vouchers.
- 31 Guests were provided vouchers for Birth Certificates, Flu Shots, etc. from Lafayette County Health Department.
- Lafayette Regional provided stroke information to 32 people.
- 44 Chiropractic adjustments were made.
- 42 Women had meaningful interactions with the Women's Resource Center and various appointments were made.
- 37 Veterans received "meaningful interaction" with a representative from one of Missouri Veteran's organizations.
- Several families got registered for SNAP or other food assistance programs and another 35-plus people met with local Food Pantry folks.
- Salvation Army had meaningful interaction with 65 attendees.
- 26 people with disabilities received relevant assistance from W-ILS or another provider.
- \$30,000 worth of other household products distributed at 3 to 5 items per person for each family member.
- Approximately 56 haircuts were given and more than 35 received manicures.
- More than 19 people served/resolved DMV-related issues through provided vouchers.
- 23 Guests had photographs taken and in process of delivery.
- There were 480 hot dogs, hundreds of chips and more than 475 bottles of water provided **FREE** for lunch.
- 124 Exit Bags given out containing items NOT purchasable with Food Stamps (toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrush or toothpaste, laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, deodorant, etc. Retail value of about \$15 per Exit Bag).
- Other items that were available for people to take along with their exit bag included shampoo, deodorant, laundry detergent, razors, dishwashing liquid, toothbrushes/toothpaste, sheets, pillowcases, towels, etc.
- We had others present, helping, learning, observing AND documenting to do similar events in other cities.
- **Much-MUCH-MUCH** more!

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

- "An amazing day—a great event!" "Incredible!" "A life-changing day!" "Thanks to everyone for a wonderful day."
- "I had **NO IDEA** this many people in Higginsville were in need--struggling so much!"
- "Thank you for allowing me to volunteer today—these people needed simple things that I have taken for granted."
- "Thanks for providing an opportunity for me to serve."
- "I had **NO IDEA** so many people had this much need. We **MUST** do something **MORE** to help people!"

For more information or questions, contact: Bob Vickers, Health Care Collaborative of Rural Missouri, (660) 251-0523. Thank you! **Also, a HUGE THANK YOU to all our Donors, Service Providers, Volunteers and supporters!**