



Buckner Project Connect Results

A one-day, one-stop-shop to meet MANY needs of people in the Buckner area took place on Saturday, April 29, 2017. More than 56 nonprofit and service organizations were there, the local Ministerial Alliance, many Pastors and church members, businesses, and many individual caring for people in the area came together to serve and meet needs, free haircuts, birth certificates, manicures, medical screenings, dental screenings/extractions and MUCH more. . . We cooperated and collaborated to serve with ALL, totally FREE services!

The one-day event met many needs. Here's a good faith effort at Summary of Services provided by looking at early reports:

- 156 Volunteers and 98 Service Providers from 56 different Agencies/groups serving (includes doctors, RNs, etc.).
- 26 local Youth volunteered and were a HUGE breath of fresh energy and assistance.
- 104 Guest Entrance Surveys completed and approximately 14 people were served but not registered—36% of these 118 were accompanied by a friend, spouse, or children—between 275 and 300 people served total.
- About 2,362 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 \$76,000.
- Value of Volunteer Time in community impact is over \$55,625 (see www.independentsector.org)!
- Value of in-kind goods provided in community impact exceeded \$21,000.
- Jackson County Sheriff and Buckner Police gathered 50 pounds of "drugs" during the National Drug Take-Back Day.
- It rained more than 3.7 inches between 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and yet people still came to the event. Although it is not yet confirmed, rumor has it that the Ministerial Alliance has started building an Ark at The Community of Christ on the hill!!

Services provided FREE of charge to Guests included:

- People attended from Buckner, Sibley, Independence, Grain Valley, Oak Grove, Lexington, Kansas City and more. Most were from about a 5-mile radius around Buckner. Thanks to First Baptist/ Buckner United Methodist Churches for hosting!
- More than 1,620 incidents of service and meaningful interactions were provided in the one day event!
- \$21,000 worth of other household products distributed at 3 to 5 items per person for each family member.
- 25 people completed A1C tests and 6 clinic appointments were made for them.
- 20 dental patients were seen with 30 dental extractions being done.
- Approximately 56 haircuts were given and more than 26 received manicures.
- More than 19 people were served/resolved DMV-related issues through provided vouchers.
- 23 Guests had photographs taken and will be mailed.
- 14 beds were requested by guests and are in the process of delivery.
- 420 hot dogs consumed, hundreds of chips and 490 bottles of water for lunch. Thanks Heart of God Fellowship.
- 109 Exit Bags given out containing items NOT purchasable with Food Stamps (toilet paper, paper towels, toothbrush or paste, Oxyclean, laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, deodorant, etc. Retail value of about \$15 per Exit Bag).
- MANY items in addition to Exit Bags--shampoo, deodorant, laundry detergent, razors, sheets, pillowcases, towels, etc.
- Buckner Pharmacy helped 40 people with 340B, CLAIM helped 55 people, 27 Chiropractic adjustments were made.
- 86 Women had meaningful interactions with the Women's Resource Center and various appointments were made.
- 26 Veterans received "meaningful interaction" with a representative from one of Missouri Veteran's organizations.
- Guests registered for involvement in SNAP or other food assistance programs and another 30-plus people met with local Food Pantry volunteers.
- 41 people with disabilities received relevant assistance from W-I.L.S or another provider.
- We had people present, helping, learning, experiencing, observing AND documenting to do similar events in other cities including Harrisonville, Independence and Lee's Summit.
- Much-MUCH-MUCH more with very FEW incidents and/or issues.

Some of the comments we have received already via Exit Survey or Evaluations:

- A local Pastor after this, his 2nd event, "Our church was glad to help and have opportunity to exercise our ministry mind-set. Events like this not only open our eyes but help us *BE* and *DO* Matthew 10:42, as well as count our blessings! "if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."
- "I had NO IDEA this many people were struggling this much! We MUST do more to help people!"
- "An amazing day!" "WOW!" "Life-changing!" "The Mayor was there! Awesome!" "Thanks, a wonderful day."
- "Thank you for allowing me to volunteer today—these people needed simple things that I have taken for granted."

A HUGE THANK YOU to the Ministerial Alliance, our Donors, Service Providers, Volunteers and Supporters! For more information or questions, contact: Bob Vickers, Health Care Collaborative of Rural Missouri, (660) 251-0523, or, e-mail bob.vickers@hccnetwork.org. Thank you! **Odessa Project Connect is July 22, 2017 and Higginsville is November 4, 2017.** These annual Project Connect events will be held approximately the same time each year. Call or e-mail to help!