

## 12 Months of Community

Patchwork's programming is made up of thousands of small, individualized interactions. We're here for our neighbors, whoever they may be. We try to help where we can, and often it is in small ways: a cup of coffee served along with care and support.

These moments add up over a year. Below you will find a summary of our accomplishments within each of our major programming areas. It is a small way to measure our overall impact on the larger community. We are grateful to our staff and volunteers who make all of these moments possible and to our donors who understand the value of the services they fund.

**ARTS & SMARTS** It's hard to be a leader sometimes, especially when you're in middle school. It's a time when everything is changing, and for the first time you are old enough to share some responsibilities.

At Patchwork, we spend a lot of time working with our participants in grades 6-8 who are Junior Leaders and our participants in grade 5 who are Junior Leaders in Training. They get extra Leadership Training at the beginning of every year to go over the characteristics of good leaders and the expectations we have for them as role models.



This fall, our staff have been proud to see one particular young man step up to be a great Junior Leader and role model. He's relatively new to the Arts & Smarts Program, so there has been a lot for him to learn. Like any pre-teen, he can sometimes be a little flip or impatient. Like any pre-teen, he sometimes forgets to follow the Creed Official (the kids' code of conduct), and he sometimes would rather talk to his friends about pre-teen things than include the younger children.

But, Patchwork's staff and volunteers have high expect-

tations for him and all the rest of our Junior Leaders. With our staff's guidance and his own perseverance, he has been able to show his leadership potential. One day, Jane was teaching the group to make jewelry using wire and beads. The boy wasn't entirely enthusiastic about the project, but he went along with the group and learned the process. The next day, some of our youngest participants joined in the project and needed extra help to figure out how to carefully wrap wire around a ring sizer, tuck in the loose ends, and tap it with a hammer to make everything snug and strong.

"Pull up a chair!" the older boy told the younger ones, enthusiastically taking charge without being asked. "Right here. I'll help you!" They sat next to him, and he became their teacher. As their rings began to take shape, the little boys got excited. Their excitement was infectious. The older boy got excited, too. The Patchwork staff looked over and witnessed a wonderful moment of joy.

In our most recently completed school year (Fall 2018 through Summer 2019), 86 children and youth in grades K-8 attended at least one day of Arts & Smarts activities. A total of 131 days of activities were offered in that time, resulting in 1682 individual afternoons of creativity, learning, and growth. During the school year, average daily attendance was 12.4 children. Of those children, 91% belonged to low income families.

All of this programming was offered at no cost to the children's families. Daily activities included one-on-one tutoring, visual arts, gardening, cooking, leadership training, substance abuse prevention, and reading. Through these activities, children gained important skills for life. Our program evaluation indicated that they built relationships within a supportive community of adults and fellow participants who encouraged them to explore their interests and to do better, which are indicators of future success.

**BIKE SHOP** A man rolled into the Patchwork Bike Shop and asked Paul, a Bike Shop volunteer, to fix his bike's front tire. It wasn't an unusual request. Our Bike Shop volunteers see a lot of busted tires, bent rims, and leaky tubes. A lot can happen to a tire that's rolling along for miles and miles, getting its owner all across town and wherever they need to go.

## 12 Months of Community (Continued)

Things got a little more unusual when Paul looked more closely at the bad tire. It wasn't quite round and it felt much too hard. Paul slid a tire lever into the bead of the tire in order to remove the faulty tube. Nothing happened. He used more force, and suddenly a dirty piece of fabric popped out from where the tube should have been.



Paul started to pull and pull and pull. Like a magician pulling an endless string of scarves out of his hat, Paul pulled a long rope of clothing out of the bike tire. Clearly, the man had tried his best to fix his bike using the materials he had on hand. He had rolled and stuffed an assortment of clothing inside the tire in the hope that it would function enough like an air-filled tube for the bike to roll. It didn't.

Many of us enjoy the luxury of owning a car. We might have a bicycle in our garage that we ride for fun or for exercise. If one of our bike tubes needs to be replaced, we hop in our car and drive 20 minutes to get the parts and tools we need. Sure, it takes a little time, and the construction on the Lloyd Expressway might slow us down, but we're done with it relatively soon and are on with our day.

Our Bike Shop customers do not enjoy that luxury. The other side of town is so distant it might as well be two states away, especially when their only form of transportation, their bike, is broken. And, not everyone who rides a bike actually knows how to repair it.

Having a Bike Shop staffed by trustworthy mechanics is essential in helping our guests keep their primary transportation in safe, working condition. The Bike Shop is open Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30-noon. It provides refurbished bikes to people who need them for transportation and completes repairs that allow existing bike owners to keep their means of transportation roadworthy. Last year we provided 94 refurbished adult bikes to new owners. We gave away 10 bikes as rewards in the Arts & Smarts program. We did 364 repairs for walk in clients. Our Bike Shop volunteers contributed 550 hours of their time.

**FOOD PANTRY** For many people, a trip to Patchwork's food pantry begins in our main office. That's where we'll make a phone call to check their eligibility (each family can get a food order every 30 days) and is-

sue a referral. While a few families receive their referrals through another organization, on average every month our main office issues referrals for 109 of the 124 households who visit our food pantry.

Some of the people coming to get referrals are quiet. They don't want to ask for help, but this month things aren't going to stretch quite far enough. Some apologize and say they've never had to ask for food before, but they were laid off or they just moved to town and are trying to get set up. Some are regulars. They greet us with a smile of familiarity. They're retired or on disability. They have very limited, fixed incomes. Food from us fits into their monthly budget as they patch together the resources they need to get by.

Some are among our homeless guests. They hear there is food available that they can take with them, and all they have to do is get an official referral. Our food pantry volunteers work with them to choose only the items that will work for someone camping outside. If they need one, we have can openers as well.



Whatever the reason, all have decided that an emergency food order will help them out. Once they have their referral, our food pantry volunteers greet them and start putting together bags of food. Our guests get items for breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and snacks. Most of the time, there is also a wide variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, and bread available outside the food pantry for them to take. While at Patchwork, the families may get a cup of coffee, chat with some friends they happen to see, talk to our main office staff, or sign their children up for the children's program. There's more to their visit than simply getting food.

Almost everyone tells the food pantry volunteers thank you for the food they receive. They tell the volunteers that they appreciate them and Patchwork for being here. They tell the volunteers, "You don't know how much this will help." Sometimes they give the volunteers a hug of gratitude.

## 12 Months of Community (Continued)

From October 2018 through September 2019, our food pantry served 2636 individuals from 1487 households by distributing over 29 tons of food. The Pantry is open Monday-Thursday mornings and is one of seven that make up Evansville's Emergency Food Pantry Consortium. Last year our main office wrote referrals for 1304 households at Patchwork rather than asking those in need to make an extra trip to another agency. Each food order includes 3-4 days' worth of food, meaning we distributed approximately 31,000 meals-worth of food. We provided 204 can openers for individuals who would not have been able to utilize their food without one. Our food pantry also distributed 705 pounds of pet food from the Tuly Fund so recipients would not have to choose between feeding themselves or their pets.

**HOSPITALITY** We strive to be a place that recognizes the humanity of each of our guests.

One Tuesday a man came up to the window from which we serve coffee and snacks. Gail, the day's Hospitality Hostess, noticed that he was holding back tears. The man told Gail, "You don't realize how different you are from other places. Some people say Patchwork just gives you coffee and a donut, not a real meal like other places. But Patchwork gives us more. You give us love."

During the spring of 2019, we asked a group of MPA students from the University of Southern Indiana to complete an evaluation of our Neighborhood Hospitality program. Their observations provide additional insight into what we do and what makes us different. Among other things, the evaluators wanted to know why guests chose to come to Patchwork's Neighborhood Hospitality Program for its services rather than going to other organizations.

They found that most respondents cited the quality of services provided and the quality of staff at Patchwork. Nearly as many reported the convenience of the Patchwork's downtown location. Guests also noted the warm, caring environment they felt at Patchwork. When asked what Patchwork does to make them feel welcome, a large number of respondents mentioned the staff,



their kindness, and helpfulness. One client stated that they appreciated the "freedom to move around freely," as their reason for feeling welcome at this agency. Other clients used words such as "warmth," "caring," and "happy."

From a simple numbers standpoint, in our most recently completed fiscal year (October 2018-September 2019), we logged approximately 11,200 instances of hospitality. These included information shared, phone use, bread, fresh vegetables, and referrals to other local agencies better equipped to assist the specific needs. It also included 1364 showers for individuals who, for various reasons, had no other access to shower facilities. We also brewed approximately 1500 pots of coffee.

**SOZO HEALTH MINISTRY** It's getting to be cold and flu season again. A man comes in with a hacking cough and feeling like there's something in his lungs that he just can't expel. He's afraid he has pneumonia or maybe something even worse. Nurse John listens to the man's lungs with a stethoscope. His lungs are clear; it's just a nasty chest cold. The Health Ministry gives the man some medicine to break up the mucus in his lungs and cough it up so he can breathe easier, literally and emotionally. Something as simple as a dose of cough medicine can be out of reach for many of our neighbors. Even generic brands of cold medicine can be pricey, so we provide basic over-the-counter health supplies to our guests free of charge.



Nurse John is driving a client to an extremely important appointment. The client has been discharged from multiple doctors, especially mental health providers, for inappropriate behavior. This appointment is with a psychiatrist, possibly the last one in a 50-mile radius who will agree to see this client. John accompanies her into the session. Mostly, he doesn't say much. However, when the client starts raising her voice and gesticulating vigorously, John intervenes with a brief, calming word to keep her behavior from escalating into something inappropriate. The session concludes and as they are walking out to the car, the client says to John, "I like this doctor. I think this will work out."

## 12 Months of Community (Continued)

A man sheepishly peeks around the door frame and looks into the office. He sees John inside and says in a soft, almost apologetic voice, “Hey, pastor. Do you have a minute?” John sits down with the man in a private corner of the main room, and they start talking. The man is having some mental health issues that are connected to his employment situation. He is feeling incredible guilt and shame. He thinks that God may be punishing him or “teaching” him a lesson. A company just hired the man for a good job, but now he is wondering if he is really worthy of it and wondering if maybe God is somehow telling him to quit. John listens intently to the man, asks questions, and tries gently to lead the man’s thoughts away from guilt and punishment and toward God’s love and acceptance. The conversation comes to a close. The man tells John that even though he is still feeling a lot of those negative emotions, he will try to keep the job. He says he will also try to remember that God loves him and wants the best for him.

Healing is holistic. It takes a tapestry of small things—of listening with a stethoscope and reassuring a fearful

man that it’s just a chest cold, of one little pill to break up the mucus, of driving someone to an appointment of last hope, of being present to make sure a client doesn’t get discharged for inappropriate behavior, of reminding a man of how much God loves him so he keeps his job and keeps trying to get better—to truly heal. These are the small threads that we strive to weave together in the Sozo Health Ministry to help our neighbors create health and wholeness for themselves.

The Sozo Health Ministry promotes health and wholeness through weekly health screenings, education, advocacy, non-emergency medical transportation, and spiritual care. It is coordinated by Rev. John Rich, RN. Last year, it provided 758 total health encounters for 331 total clients. Services included 71 instances of transporting clients to medical appointments, 479 checks of blood pressure, and 139 instances of medical supplies distributed. They also included 8 occasions in which staff identified emergency health situations in clients, and 911 was called or the client was transported to an ER.

## THANK YOU!

### INDIVIDUALS

Leola Ahrens	Charlie & Debbie Butler	Rita Durnin	Annie Gregg	Diane Igleheart	Joyce Anne Lewis
Pat & Salim Akrabawi	Andrea Byers	John & Leah Eads	Phyllis Grimm	Barbara Jacobson	Mary Macgregor & Phil Lieberman
Martha Alldredge	George & Rita Caddick	Joseph & Patricia Easley	June Gross	Ronald & Charles Ann Jarvis	Daniel Linthicum
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Dennis & Marcia Au	Angela Cayne	Gary English	Amanda Hall	Allison Pendell Jones	Mary Macgregor
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Dick & Diana Busby	Vashira Dunbar	Janice Greene	Thomas & Jean Hunsberger		

# THANK YOU! (CONTINUED)

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## BUSINESSES, FOUNDATIONS, & ORGANIZATIONS

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Berry Global  
Bob's Gym & Fitness Center  
Bosse Title Corp.  
Bristol Myers Squibb Employee Match  
CDBG Provided by the City of Evansville, Indiana  
Crescent-Cresline-Wabash Plastics  
Deaconess Hospital Foundation  
Dilegge's Restaurant  
Empty Bowls Evansville  
Episcopal Fund for Human Need  
Evansville Audubon Society  
Evansville Bicycle Club  
Evansville Downtown Optimist Foundation  
Evansville Garage Doors  
Eye-Mart  
Familia Dental Evansville  
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FC Tucker Emge Realtors  
First Federal Savings Bank  
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Mead Johnson Nutrition Employee Matching Gift Program  
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Trinity United Methodist Church Fund for Service to Others  
Tri-State Medical Alliance  
West Side Nut Club  
Whole Sun Designs  
Wildflower Boutique  
Woodward Commercial Realty  
Youth Resources of Southwestern Indiana  
Zip's Equipment Service

## CHURCHES

Aldersgate UMC  
Baker Chapel UMC  
Bethel UCC  
Blue Grass UMC  
East Side Christian  
Eastminster Presbyterian  
Fairlawn UMC  
First Ebenezer Baptist  
First Presbyterian  
McCutchanville Community  
Methodist Temple  
Salem UMC  
St. Matthews UCC  
Trinity Rockport UMC  
Women  
Trinity UMC

## IN HONOR AND IN MEMORY

*In Honor of Alan Winslow:*  
Roland & Carolyn Reed  
Mike Winslow  
Patricia Hoffman  
*In Memory of Elizabeth Ward:*  
Janet Griffin  
Scott Ward  
Laura Weaver  
Pamela Wessel  
*In Memory of Judi Jacobson:*  
Pam Cahoon  
Linda Gannon  
Silver Jacobson  
*In Memory of Paula Vincini:*  
Peg Ehlen  
Pamela Hinkebein  
Dolores Kase  
Beverly Knox  
Anitra O'Brien  
Jean Silliman  
Corinne Smith  
Jeremy & Charlene Swett  
John Vincini  
Laura Weaver  
Jobila Williams  
Priscilla Wolf  
*Others:*  
Nelia & Calvin Kimbrough in honor of Darlene Blagg

Paul & Mary Ann Hinderlither in honor of Dee Russell  
Bruce & Rebecca Wells in honor of Dee Russell  
CE Schmidt in honor of Jane Vickers  
Mary Beckman in honor of Jean Beckman & Helen Templeton  
Cheryl Kuchna in honor of Joyse & Nelson Rivers  
Patricia Wilson in honor of Joyse & Nelson Rivers  
Joseph Neth & June Miller in honor of Mary Miller  
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John & Margaret Culp in honor of Phil Amerson  
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Jerry Cheadle in memory of Carna Manthey  
Sherianne Standley in memory of Barry Standley  
Anne Asbury in memory of Bill Asbury  
Gail & Bill LaFief in memory of Denny McChesney  
Susan Dungan in memory of Jazz Staton  
Ann Kautzmann in memory of John Gordon Kautzmann  
Nancy Hodges & Family in memory of John Riddle  
Jack & Martha Vanstone in memory of Marc Craddock  
Brian & Susan Bohrnstedt in memory of Marcella Daugherty

## IN KIND

Cheryl Seymour  
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Marilane & Larry Becker  
Berry Global  
Jane & Steve Best  
Steve & Janet Best  
Bethany Christian  
Darlene Blagg  
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Fairlawn UMC  
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Brooklyn Cater  
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## THANK YOU! (CONTINUED)

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Meg Connolly  
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Haley Cortez  
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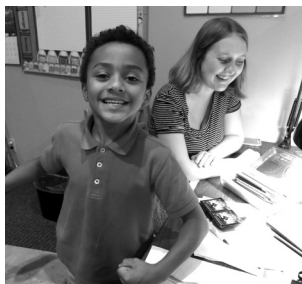
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Katie Schultz  
Kayla Seifert  
Leigh Anne Seitz  
Fred Shaffstein  
Lori Sherman  
Kaitlyn Small  
David Smith  
Muhammad Sohail  
Jane Sohonsen  
Kountiala Some  
Demi Spalding  
Jane Staton  
Jordan Stein Blocker

Jerriah Stewart  
Gloria Strickland  
Charles Sutton  
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Veltri Taylor  
Michael Thurstan  
RaAnna Tucker  
William Twymon, II  
Haley Van Horn  
Tiffany Volk  
Cailan Walters  
Kennedy Ward  
Aerika Wardrip  
Carol Watson  
Emma Weigel  
Kayla Weinzapfel  
Mary Helen Weldy  
Samantha Wildhaber  
Carson Williams  
Madilyn Williamson  
DeAndre Wilson  
Matilda Wininger  
Alan Winslow  
Micheala Wobler  
Dawn Wright  
Fatin Yano  
Angela Zeller



## NAP Tax Credits Available

Do you owe taxes to the State of Indiana? Does your business? Would you like to reduce the amount you owe the State while strengthening Patchwork's award winning Arts & Smarts Children's Program?

Donate to Patchwork through the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP)!

As an NAP donor, you receive 50% of your donation as a credit (subtracted from your tax liability) on your Indiana State tax return plus you can deduct the full contribution on your federal income tax form if you itemize deductions.

Patchwork has a limited number of NAP tax credits allotted to us, and we distribute these on a first come, first served basis until they are all claimed. We currently have a little over \$2300 NAP credits remaining, meaning that we can accept \$4600 in donations.

NAP donations may be made in cash or in appreciated stock. The minimum donation to qualify for NAP credits is \$100. All donations that Patchwork receives as part of the NAP program are used to support our Arts & Smarts Children's program.

If you would like to donate to Patchwork through NAP or if you would like more information about NAP, please contact John Rich at (812) 424-2735 or [JohnRich@Patchwork.org](mailto:JohnRich@Patchwork.org).

(Be sure to consult your own tax professional to understand exactly how your donations and NAP credits will affect your taxes.)

## E-NEWSLETTER

### MORE STORIES! MORE PHOTOS! MORE NEWS!

Sign up for our bi-weekly e-newsletter! You will receive email updates highlighting the most recent happenings at Patchwork.

Simply visit our website, [www.Patchwork.org](http://www.Patchwork.org), and click the "join our mailing list" link!

## BEQUESTS

The next time you update your will, please consider adding Patchwork Central, Inc. as a beneficiary. As a 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization, Patchwork is eligible to receive donations from bequests. Any size of gift makes a big difference in providing for our programming and contributing to our long-term stability.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

The Patchwork Community meets for worship  
**every Sunday at 5:15 p.m.**  
at the Meetinghouse, 100 Washington Ave,  
followed by a covered dish supper.

***All are welcome!***



## Patchwork Central, Inc.

100 Washington Ave.  
Evansville, IN 47713-1521  
(812) 424-2735  
[www.patchwork.org](http://www.patchwork.org)

### MISSION STATEMENT

Patchwork Central creates community, honors personal dignity, empowers people, and encourages spiritual and social growth through its programs and hospitality, its opportunities for learning, its creative atmosphere and cultivation of the arts, and its work toward reconciliation and a more peaceful and just world.

### -S-T-I-T-C-H-E-S- STAFF

<b>Amy Rich</b>	Editor and Photos
<b>Laura Weaver</b>	Proofreader
<b>Mooney Printing</b>	Layout & Printing

### PATCHWORK CENTRAL STAFF

<b>John &amp; Amy Rich</b>	Co-Executive Directors
<b>Shawn Craddock &amp; Dee Stein</b>	Main Office Coordinators
<b>Jane Case Vickers</b>	Director of Arts and Education Programs
<b>Dixie Wilsbacher</b>	Tutoring Coordinator
<b>Leslie Blackwell</b>	Program Assistant
<b>Rita Horne</b>	Program Assistant
<b>John Schaeffer</b>	Food Pantry Coordinator
<b>Pete Emery</b>	Bike Shop Coordinator

Please be generous as you consider sending your cash contribution in the envelopes provided for your convenience. Your generosity will help us to continue the Patchwork tradition of providing these many creative programs.





100 Washington Avenue  
Evansville, IN 47713-1521

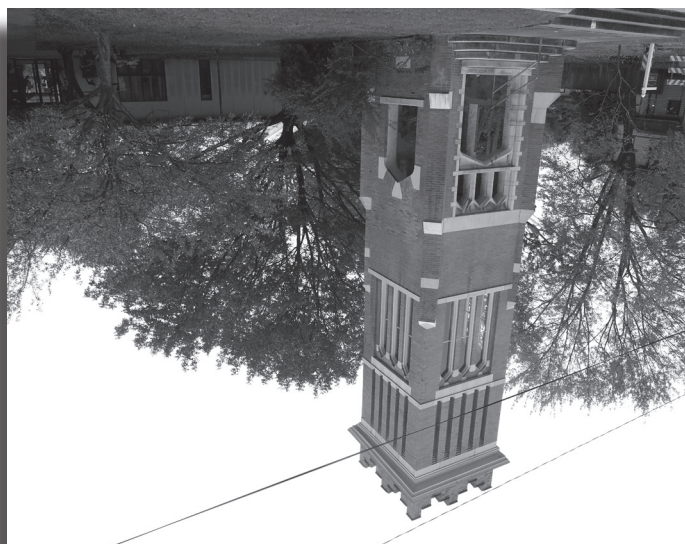
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Updated photos, useful information, newsletters, online giving, and more!



- NAP Tax Credits Available
- THANK YOU'S!
- 12 Months of Community

***IN THIS ISSUE...***

**PATCHWORK  
CENTRAL**