

Mary Sturdevant

From: Mary Sturdevant <sturdevant.mary@swbell.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 4:10 PM
Subject: June What's Happening at Tomball Emergency Assistance Ministries?

We want to be sure you continue to know what is happening at TEAM! Please feel free to share any sections of this newsletter with your organization or friends and to publish any portion(s) that you wish. Please also help us by forwarding this email to others who would be interested and let me know if this should go to others on an ongoing basis.



News from TEAM's Resale Shop:

Introducing Sandi Sollinger, TEAM's new Resale Shop Manager

TEAM is delighted to report that Sandi Sollinger joined TEAM's management team as the full-time Resale Shop Manager on June 5. She brings to TEAM a strong retail skill set in business operations, sales, merchandising, and customer service from over 37 years of retail experience in different retail corporations including CVS, Marshall's, Garden Ridge Pottery, Target, and Macy's. Please stop by and say hi to Sandi while you're shopping.



TEAM's Resale Shop will be open Mondays starting June 25

TEAM is expanding its shopping and donation days to include Mondays starting June 25! You can now find wonderful bargains and/or drop off your donations Mondays through Saturdays from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Merchandise is updated daily on the Shop floor so goods change out frequently. All proceeds from the Resale Shop are used to support TEAM's internal expenses so that donations can be used to meet TEAM's clients' needs.



Ministry Partners

One aspect of the TEAM's ministry that I love is the relationship we have with our "ministry partners." Our partnerships include churches, businesses, organizations, schools, individuals, and even the Chamber of Commerce. The relationships can take on many forms depending upon the circumstances. But there is one thing they all have in common: **they all** have a heartfelt desire to meet the needs of people within our community. Here is one example of the many ways in which our ministry partners demonstrate their caring spirit.

One of our ministry partners is Lone Star College in Tomball. Maggie Mendoza, the Director of Diversity & Inclusion at LSC, is working with TEAM to develop a program that will assist low income LSC students with food on a regular basis. Our goal is to implement the program by the fall semester. This is an innovative idea that we are both very excited about. However, I recently received a call from Maggie concerning a different issue. She shared with me her concern about Ed, a young man who works with her husband. Ed and his wife Abby, along with their 1 year old, had been well on the way to establishing a solid foundation for success. Ed is a hard worker with a good job, Abby was attending classes at LSC to become a medical assistant, and her parents were caring for their baby while they worked and attended school. Then their car broke down, which was a devastating blow because they couldn't afford the high cost of repairs. The only solution they could think of was to move close enough to Ed's work for him to walk. But moving meant that Abby, who had straight A's in her classes, had to drop out of school to take care of the baby at their new location across town. And to complicate matters, they hadn't been able to save quite enough money to pay for both a deposit *and* the first month's rent on an apartment, so they had to move to a hotel where they could pay rent on a weekly basis. Maggie Mendoza's husband, who worked with Ed, learned of their dilemma and was kind enough to provide Ed with transportation to and from work to the hotel so he didn't have to walk the three mile trek every morning and evening. But they were still stuck. Having to pay the high cost of a hotel made it virtually impossible for them to save enough money to get an apartment. That's when Maggie stepped in and called TEAM for advice and assistance to help them break free from this cycle of defeat. A few days after her call to me, Maggie picked up Abby and brought her to TEAM. We spent about two hours discussing options and possibilities and together we came up with a plan. Maggie will bring Abby to TEAM every two weeks and will receive enough food and toiletries to save their family about \$300 per month. Within 3-4 months, they will be able to save enough to pay for the first month's rent on an apartment. At that point TEAM will step in and provide funds for the deposit. We will also provide a list of low cost apartments in Tomball, so Abby will have one chosen when the time comes. Once they get into their new apartment, the \$300 or \$400 a month they will save by *not* paying hotel rent will allow them to cover other expenses...like cab fare to work, since Maggie's husband was promoted and is no longer in the same office as Ed. So the last big hurdle after settling into their new apartment will be securing transportation. But God works in amazing ways *and* with perfect timing, so I wouldn't be a bit surprised if some provision for transportation just miraculously happens. Perhaps a donated car? Or *perhaps* Ed will be chosen for the new outside sales position that should be opening soon. The one that comes with a car. J

Please pray for Ed and Abby, a responsible and sweet young couple who just need a hand UP.

Blessings

Becky Loving, Executive Director, TEAM

The Tomball Benevolence Network is growing!

Anyone speak Spanish? Thanks to Celia Hernandez, the newest TBN church liaison from Iglesia Taller del Alferaro in Hockley, TBN brochures and other documents are being translated into Spanish! We are so thankful for Celia's enthusiasm and willingness to assist TEAM and TBN in this way! She has truly been a Godsend and has such a heart for ministry. Celia and her husband lead the missions committee at their church and are promoting TBN right and left.

In addition, we welcome Graceview Baptist Church into TBN with Brenda Allen serving as their TBN church liaison! As churches continue to join this Network, our goal is to find eager volunteers from our churches who have a heart to serve in various ways. There's also plenty of room for volunteers at TEAM itself, both in the Resale Shop and the Benevolence Ministry. TEAM cannot function without the help of "warm blooded" bodies, so please spread the word and consider joining us as we serve together throughout Tomball.

TEAM/TBN sponsored the Chamber breakfast in May, which gave Karen Guiles an opportunity to briefly share about TEAM and its work. At these breakfasts, Karen had met Darrell Clapp, the Community Development Director at Houston Methodist Hospital/Willowbrook, who has now offered to shoot one-minute videos "free of charge" to promote TEAM. Darrell does this as a hobby and we certainly look forward to working with him.

As the TBN Community Liaison, it's always great to visit the churches and meet our brothers and sisters in Christ! On a recent visit the Windwood Church sent sacks of groceries back to TEAM, along with home grown tomatoes produced in their community garden. The children from grades Pre-K through 5th each planted a tomato plant, and TEAM has reaped the benefits. The children are proud of their gardening accomplishments and TEAM's clients appreciate the fresh tomatoes!



Dennis Samoska handing Karen a large batch of tomatoes

TBN continues to march forward with God leading the charge! What will happen this month?

Serving Together,
Karen Guiles, TBN Community Liaison

TEAM is grateful for support from these generous people:

- **Donors to the Good Eats program:** The Good Eats program (see the article on this a bit further in the newsletter) is off to a busy start. We've already provided food for 50 kids in its first two weeks! So TEAM very much appreciates the supporting churches and other organizations that are donating food designed to please young palates.
- **John Wesley Methodist Church's VBS:** Susan Hand, with John Wesley UMC in Houston, spearheaded the collection of snack bags for TEAM's Good Eats summer food program. Yesterday Susan delivered 350(!) bags to TEAM, each filled with a variety of snacks for kids. Susan has volunteered with TEAM through various programs for over 10 years. Thank you Susan and John Wesley UMC for helping with our Good Eats program!





- **Salem Lutheran's VBS:** Participants in Salem's VBS collected a huge number of food items and made 400 placemats to give to the kids along with their food in the Good Eats Program. What a great VBS project!
- **Junior Guild:** The Junior Guild recently held a garage sale and donated all the proceeds to the ministry; they brought TEAM a generous donation of \$2,600!
- **Rosehill Christian School:** Sherry Johnson and others from Rosehill Christian School donated an awesome pop-up display board to TEAM. It will be so helpful when TEAM or TBN makes presentations in the community or participates in large events. And it is easily portable! Here it is ready for transport:



- **NCL Chapters mother-daughter teams:** These mother-daughter teams from the National Charity League are frequently busy at TEAM throughout the summer, and TEAM is grateful! Here are two groups who were recently busy at TEAM: On the left are members of the Cypress Belles chapter, who were busy in the Resale Shop. On the right are members of the Wildflowers chapter who volunteered in our food pantry dividing bulk items, sorting donations, and stocking shelves. Thank you NCL for everything you do for TEAM!



GOOD EATS: SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM FOR KIDS

Since there are no free or reduced breakfasts or lunches during summer break for our Tomball children, TEAM and Tomball ISD have developed a program to support the children receiving these meals during the school year. Please help us keep our kids healthy and ready to learn when they return to school in the fall. School's not out until late May, but we need to stock the Food Pantry up now to be ready when it is. Thanks for your help!

LIST OF KID FRIENDLY FOOD Needed This Month:

JUICE BOXES

CANNED MEATS: Potted ham, tuna, Vienna sausage

CANNED OR MICROWAVE MEALS: Stew, Soup, ramen noodles

CEREAL OR MICROWAVE OATMEAL

HEALTHY SNACKS: Protein bars, juice boxes, Sunchips, peanut butter crackers



Note: we have plenty of jelly for right now

How about holding a TEAM food drive in your organization: Many churches and organizations deliver to TEAM non-perishable food collected during regular or occasional food drives. Please consider having **one** if you don't currently. Here are items TEAM particularly needs now: juice boxes and small packages of cookies for the Good Eats program supplying breakfast and lunch items for Tomball school kids in need; also crackers, soups, and ramen noodles, and always appreciated: paper and plastic grocery bags!

Volunteer Corner

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked extra hard to make it easier for me while I was a substitute manager at the Resale Shop. You all were so supportive and helpful. I was touched.

Remember to tell all your friends to donate, shop and volunteer at TEAM. Word of mouth is a free and fabulous way to increase donations, to add to our customer base, and to acquire new volunteers.



Lucy
409-673-1058 or harvelllucy@gmail.com

These Special Volunteers are still needed: TEAM is looking for individuals to fill these special volunteer leadership positions:

Public Relations Manager

This individual will be responsible for developing and maintaining the public image of TEAM. This will involve promoting and issuing press releases, overseeing digital marketing, coordinating fundraising initiatives,

attending community meetings and functions, and promoting TEAM's mission and programs within Tomball. Experience is preferred. Please contact Becky Loving at becky.loving@teamtomball.com or 832-221-6572.

Marketing Manager for Resale Operation

This individual will provide expertise in retail sales of clothing, furniture, housewares, and toys to support the TEAM Resale Shop.

Experience in pricing, display, promotions, etc. needed. Please contact Jim Gattis at retiredjim@earthlink.net or 713-248-4809

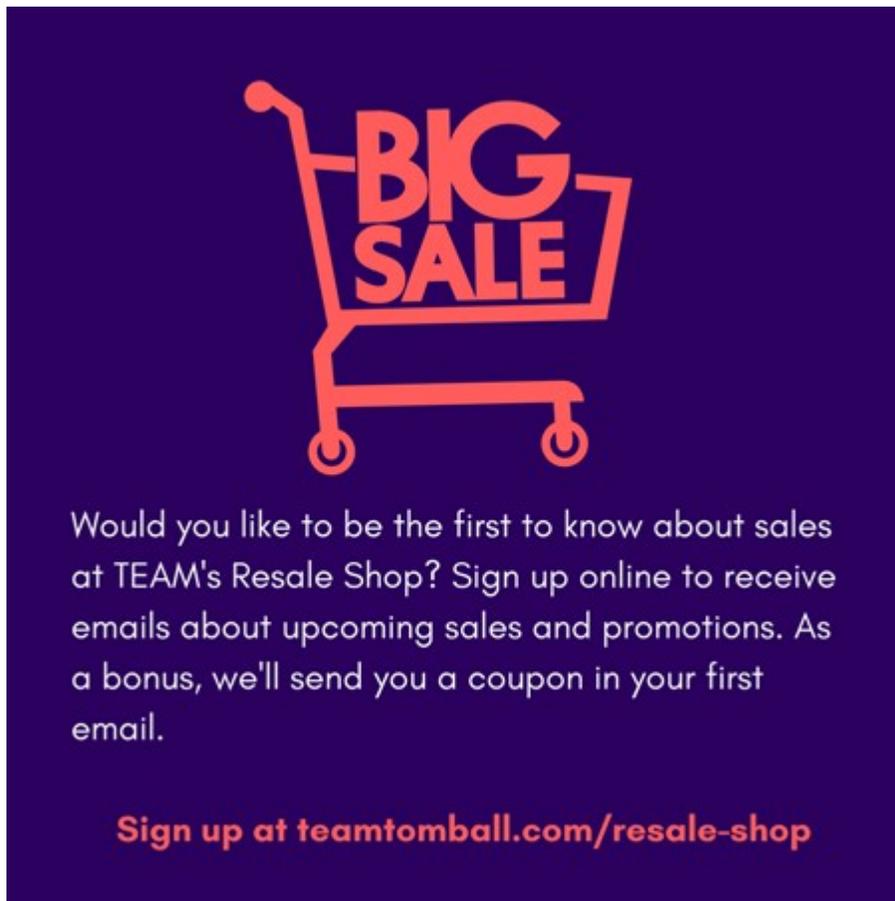
Fundraiser Specialist

This individual will plan and assist in the implementation of fundraising initiatives both large and small that can include one-time and annual events; will be able to develop good working relationships with other volunteers, staff, and board members; will be creative, dependable, adaptable, organized, and have the ability to think outside the box. Experience with social media preferred. Time requirement will vary depending upon project(s). Please contact Becky Loving at becky.loving@teamtomball.com or 832-221-6572.

Follow us on social media:    when you see posts from TEAM, please like and share! And check our recently revamped website: <http://www.teamtomball.com/>

How to save even more money at TEAM's Resale Shop!

There are always wonderful deals at TEAM's Resale Shop; but here is information on how to save even more money. You can sign-up online to get advance notice of sales and promotions!



Would you like to be the first to know about sales at TEAM's Resale Shop? Sign up online to receive emails about upcoming sales and promotions. As a bonus, we'll send you a coupon in your first email.

Sign up at teamtomball.com/resale-shop

Shop at Kroger and Amazon and help TEAM!

Please pass the word on: TEAM is a participant in The Kroger Community Rewards Program. You can support TEAM when you use your Kroger Plus Card. Visit www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com to register your Kroger Plus card, and select organization #73618 (Tomball Emergency Assistance Ministries) as your charity of choice. If you do not have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at any Kroger customer service desk, or you can create an account online here: <https://www.kroger.com/account/create/>.

You can also support TEAM by shopping Amazon's charity link, at no cost to you! *Amazon Smile* will give a portion of your purchases (some exclusions apply) back to TEAM, and it doesn't cost you a penny! Remember to always start your Amazon shopping through this special link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/76-0195526>. Thanks!

A big THANK YOU to every one of you! We appreciate your being one of TEAM's backers and for all you do to support TEAM in our community!

Please let us know at TEAM if you have questions about our ministry services or if you have needs we could support. You can contact TEAM at 281-255-6967 or visit our website at <http://www.teamtomball.com>.

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