



Dear Neighbor Ministries

eNews Update

February 2010

Dear Friends, It's time to update you on a few items. While it remains cold outside, there is no lack of work to be done. We appreciate your interest and your continued support.

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Agnes DeVasure (right) meets with our team of 10 IRS trained volunteers.

Tax filing saves time and money.

As of Tuesday February 23, our volunteer tax preparers had filed 345 electronic returns. This years effort is being managed by Agnes DeVasure a long time Dear Neighbor volunteer.

Last week the IRS conducted a surprise visit to observe our operations and Agnes reports we passed with flying colors. Some people we have helped with this free service report that some commercial tax preparers have quoted over \$300 to file their tax return.

Goals of the program include helping as many low-moderate income people as possible get their refunds fast and avoiding the high interest instant refund schemes.

If you or someone you know needs help with taxes, call 684-5120 to make an appointment.

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MORE

Sometimes we are called to do more...more than just providing a necessary service. That is what Sister Barbara Ramish and volunteer coordinator Kathy Gilmartin did recently for one of our payee clients.

A cleaning lady found "Opal" curled up on a pile of clothes on the floor outside her bathroom. She had been sick and unable to make it to the bathroom. No one knows how long she had been there, but she required hospitalization for severe dehydration and other medical treatment.

"Opal's" small apartment was full of bags of material scraps, shoes too big for her to wear and other items bought in yard sales. The kitchen was full of dirty dishes, pans and burnt and spoiled food.

Sister Barbara and Kathy spent the better part of a day removing the trash and bags of material scraps just so her apartment could be disinfected and cleaned. "Opal" was released to a rehabilitation facility following her hospital stay. Once she is able to return to her apartment, they have arranged for her to receive Homebound Care Based Services three times a week. Hopefully, this will keep "Opal" safe in her own apartment.



Kathy Gilmartin and Sister Barbara work to ready apartment for a payee client who was hospitalized.

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Volunteer Openings

Dear Neighbor Ministries is in need of another volunteer receptionist to work Thursday afternoons. Answer phones, make appointments and greet visitors.

To learn more contact Kathy at :
684-5120 or kgilmartin@csjoseph.org

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Volunteer receptionists work four

hour shifts once a week.

Lawnmower Needed

Despite the weather this week, it will soon be spring! That means our community garden will be opening.

We are looking for one or two lawn mowers in good condition that will help us care for the common areas of the garden. If you have a mower you would like to donate, please contact Pat at 689-4061.

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Can you help?

The economy has hit everyone hard. We know that by the increasing number of people who come to us for food, rent or utility assistance.

Your help is appreciated. You can click on the photo to the left and connect directly to our secure website donation portal. You can also [click here](#) to print



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**Anything you
can do is
appreciated.**

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