



## Dear Neighbor Ministries

*eNews Update*

*January 2010*

**Dear Friends,**

We hope your new year is off to a good start. We are most thankful for your continued interest and support. While there are many challenges in our work, it brings many blessings.

[New Year Challenges](#)

[Police Award helps  
StepStone](#)

[\\$30,000 Match](#)

[Free Tax Returns](#)



**Kit Lambertz, Executive Director  
Dear Neighbor Ministries**

[klambertz@csjoseph.org](mailto:klambertz@csjoseph.org)

### **2010 Thoughts from Kit Lambertz**

This is wonderful time to be a staff member at Dear Neighbor Ministries and StepStone. We have unlimited opportunities to serve others, to be a sign of hope in these challenging times. Our country's economic downturn has hit our clients hard.

Many of our Hilltop neighbors were among the early ones to lose their jobs and were not eligible for unemployment benefits; or those who were rapidly running out. The stimulus programs to assist in preventing homelessness require that before rental assistance can be given a home inspection must be done by a qualified inspector. Many of the residences in Hilltop would not pass that inspection, making that one more program which Hilltop families cannot access. Our limited rent and utility assistance funds are expended well before the middle of each month.

We find hope in the generous donations of food and household items to our food pantry from individuals and area businesses which come when they are most needed as well as the financial contributions.

Employment is the primary challenge for the StepStone women who are rebuilding their lives after exiting a domestic violence situation. The opportunity to begin a new life, regardless of the difficulties they face, provides the hope of new life for the women and their children.

[top](#)

### **Community Police Officer Honored by Three neighborhood associations.**

The leaders of three north Wichita neighborhoods came together to honor their community police officer, Paul Kimble. During a holiday dinner party the group collected household goods, kitchen supplies and cash to help the women and children of **StepStone**. Kimble, is a volunteer for our transitional housing program and has also helped the Salons of Hope. *Congratulations Paul!*



**Officer Paul Kimble (second from left) with leaders of three neighborhood associations.**

[top](#)

### ***\$30,000 Matching Gift Almost met!***

Last fall, a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, pledged a gift of \$30,000 if we could raise a like amount from other donors.

***As of January 18, 2010, we are only \$700 from reaching that goal.***

The \$60,000 in the matching grant will be invested along with earlier gifts designated for the start of an endowment to sustain the future of Dear Neighbor Ministries.

***If you can help us reach this goal, click on the photo at the left and make a donation at our online site or call Pat O'Donnell at 316-689-4061.***

[top](#)



Please help us reach our \$30,000 goal....we are only \$700 away! Click on the photo above.

## Free Tax Returns Start

Again this year staff and volunteers will help complete and electronically file 2009 tax returns for low-moderate income people. Last year we filed 557 federal returns. This free service is available at our Dear Neighbor offices at 1329 S. Bluffview. Our goal is to help people avoid the instant refund schemes and received their earned income and child care credits.

**An appointment is required and can be made by calling 684-5120.**

[top](#)



**Agnes DeVasure (right) will coordinate this years tax program. She gives last minute instructions to our team of dedicated volunteers. All have been certified by the IRS.**

*Sisters of St. Joseph Dear Neighbor Ministries  
Mission Advancement Office  
3700 E. Lincoln  
Wichita, KS 67218-2099  
316-689-4061*

This email was sent to [lisa@themultimediaroom.com](mailto:lisa@themultimediaroom.com). To ensure that you continue receiving our emails, please add us to your address book or safe list.

[manage](#) your preferences | [opt out](#) using TrueRemove®.

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

powered by  
**emma** 