

Discipleship Opportunities

Putting Your Faith in Action

Service and discipleship is a privilege to which we are all invited. There are many opportunities to serve within the church and outside our walls to our neighborhood, our city and beyond. Here, you are invited to explore some of the ways to serve, and if there is a ministry that speaks to your heart, faith, gifts and passions that is not listed here, please contact Rev. Mia Douglas at mdouglas@ahcc.org or 860.216.9834

FOOD

CENTER CHURCH COMMUNITY MEALS is a feeding program sponsored by the First Church of Christ in Hartford, also known as Center Church. Members of AHCC gather at Center Church to prepare food, cook, set up the dining room, serve and clean up. Volunteers are invited to select the dinner menu and donate items for the community meal. Teams of 8 to 10 are needed for each date and may sing up at the Faith in Action Table.

Discipleship Opportunities

4th Sunday of the month 2:45 – 6:45pm

Contact: Rev. Mia Douglas, mdouglas@ahcc.org, 860.216.9837

AHCC CRISIS FOOD SUPPORT PROGRAM (CFSP) works collaboratively with the CT Department of Children and Families and Covenant to Care to provide emergency food supplies to Hartford families in need. When a family is identified, CFSP coordinators contact volunteers, who then shop AHCC's food pantry for needed supplies. Remaining food items are purchased from local grocery stores. Volunteers deliver emergency food supplies to identified families and are promptly reimbursed by Covenant to Care.

Discipleship Opportunity

Two to three times per month. Time dependent upon volunteer's schedule. Food to be delivered within 24 hours of notification.

Contact: Wayne or Sandy Lobdell, sglobber@yahoo.com, 860.255.7290

HANDS ON HARTFORD serves neighbors in need in the area of food, housing and economic security.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Communications: write newsletter articles, photograph events or services, help to refine and implement the communications strategy to raise awareness of HOH, produce and edit videos.

- Marketing & Fundraising: raise awareness and funds for the new home/expanded services, assist with Faces of Homelessness speaking event promotion and outreach, help with fundraising/community event planning.
- Support outcomes committee's work in areas of process and impact measurement, sharing results
- Entertainment: perform (sing, play music, dance or act out skits) for guests at Community Meals or Senior Community Café or for residents of HOH housing.
- Training/Education: assist with life skills (i.e. cooking, grocery shopping, budgeting); help with employment training (résumé/cover letter writing, job searching, interview skills); build public speaking skills for Faces of Homelessness speakers; train clients on basic computer programs such as Excel or Outlook.
- Finance & Office Support
- Assist with delivery of packaged meals to guests at Senior Community Meals
- Help at the Community Pantry
- Cook & Serve Dinner at Community Meals
- Volunteer at Labor Day Celebration
- Become a Reading Mentor

Contact: Wanda Guzman, wguzman@handsonhartford.org, 860.706.1507

LOAVES & FISHES MINISTRIES is a local soup kitchen in the Asylum Hill Neighborhood providing food, clothing, and social services for individuals and families.

Discipleship Opportunity

A group/family/individual to make sandwiches of meat and cheese or peanut butter and jelly for the clients "take-home" program. This offering is welcomed on a one time basis or repeated schedule.

Contact: Alyce Hild, loavesap@sbcglobal.net, 860.524.1730

FOODSHARE is a food bank providing foodstuff to local charitable agencies for redistribution to the neediest within our communities. A part of a network of food banks associated with Feeding America, Foodshare's goal is to solve hunger. One hundred twenty to one hundred thirty volunteers are needed each day for their operation. Please visit <http://foodshare.volunteerhub.com/events/index> for further description of the opportunities listed below and to participate in their online registration process.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Food Sorting – Bloomfield
- Produce Repacking – Hartford
- Mobile Foodshare

- Gardening – Auer Farm
- Ambassadors
- Office Work
- Shopping Area – Bloomfield
- SNAP Outreach
- Retail Pick-Up
- Special Events

Contact: Liz Burton, lburton@foodshare.org, 860.286.9999 x148

SHELTER

IMMACARE strives to eliminate homelessness in the Hartford region, while building a more vibrant community, by creating safe and affordable housing options and increasing the skills, income and hope of those who struggle with housing crisis.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Shelter Capital Campaign Committee to raise monies for Shelter renovation.
Commitment: 2 to 3 years
- Join the Planning Committee for the annual Taste of the World event.
Committee members will gather Silent Auction items, sell ads for the program book, and solicit sponsorships.
- Individuals or groups to prepare dinner meals for 75 individuals or donations of hand held breakfast items.

Contact: Teresa Wierbicki, twierbicki@immacare.org, 860.724.4823 x103

INTERVAL HOUSE is dedicated to providing services to prevent and break the cycle of family and intimate partner abuse.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Direct Service – volunteers assist in Crisis and Hotline counseling; facilitate support groups; work with the children’s program; help in the safety and healing process. Following the interview process and successful background check, each direct service volunteer must complete five days of thorough training. Volunteers who complete the intensive training will then be certified as Battered Women’s Counselors.
- Speakers Bureau Training – After successfully completing this four-hour training session, volunteers are able to speak about domestic violence, Interval House and its history at selected public events and presentations. This program is under

the direction of the Community Educator and all speaking engagements must be approved by him/her.

- Community Fundraising Events – If you have an idea or plan for an event that will benefit Interval House please contact the Development Assistant at 860-246-9149 x337.
- Committee Participation – serve on a committee such as Development, Annual Gala, CRT/Interval House Women’s Golf, etc.
- Board Service – The Board of Directors is all volunteer and meets 6 times a year. They are involved in such vital agency as Governance, Finance and Fund Raising. For information on Board Service, contact the Interim Executive Director at 860-246-9149 x312

Contact: Donna Andrini, Donna.Andrini@intervalhousect.org, 860.246.9149

MERCY HOUSING & SHELTER provides affordable housing & supportive services for low income families, seniors & people with special needs.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Short Term – help prepare and serve a meal for the residents and visitors to the Soup Kitchen or a planned project that may include: indoor or outdoor work including painting or cleaning.
- Governance Committee – recruit new Board members and ensure that each is equipped with the proper tools and motivation to carry out his/her responsibilities.
- Finance Committee – responsible for the regular review of the fiscal affairs of the Corporation.
- Mission Integration Committee – responsible for keeping the mission a basis for planning, decision-making and action within the Board and the staff.
- Development Committee – help with planning, implementing, and monitoring fund-raising and endowment.

Contact: Colleen Corriveau, ccorriveau@mercyhousingct.org, 860.214.6804

MY SISTERS’ PLACE, INC. provides a safe and nurturing environment for those who find themselves without a home, through a unique combination of services and support, guidance and empowerment, encouragement and outreach.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Group Child Care, Wednesdays 6 to 7pm
- Apartment painting
- Furniture refinishing

- Various indoor activities
- Outdoor maintenance
- Secret Santa
- Children's field trips
- Children's pizza parties

Contact: Elise Johnson, ejohnson@sistersplacect.org, 860.895.6629

THE OPEN HEARTH'S primary goal is to help homeless men enhance their capacity for self-help, self-respect and dignity, and to achieve their full potential as responsible citizens of Greater Hartford and Connecticut.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Painting and patching in dormitories and recreational room
- Thanksgiving Holiday Meal
- Christmas Holiday Meal
- Clerical Support
- Special Event Support
- Annual Golf Tournament
- Annual Hearth and Home Gala

Contact: Marilyn Rossetti, mrossetti@theopenhearth.org, 860.257.5570

SOUTH PARK INN assists homeless people to improve their life situation by providing temporary and long-term housing, supportive services while advocating for solutions to homelessness.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Preparing and/or serving meals
- Performing maintenance, such as; painting, cleaning, organizing storage areas
- Landscaping and outside maintenance

****Teams of 8 to 10 volunteers needed****

Contact: Dick Lusso, DLusso@southparkinn.org, 860.724.0071

EDUCATION

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF HARTFORD, Incorporated is a youth development organization, working with young people from disadvantaged economic, social and family circumstances. The mission

of the BGCH is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Coaching/Reffing assistance – assisting Recreation Director with football & flag football.
- Help prepare healthy snack samples with produce from the Mobile Market – Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Club (BGC) parking lot on Thursdays from 4 - 5pm
- Stem Mentoring/homework help - 1 Hour each week entire school year at various Boys & Girls Club Hartford sites
- Sewing Club, Tuesdays 3 – 6pm at the Asylum Hill Club

Contact: Megan Duffy, mduffy@bgchartford.org, 860.929.7660

CONNECTIKIDS an educational nonprofit providing afterschool enrichment for third graders from West Middle Community School with a mission of inspiring Hartford's children to make positive choices, embrace high expectations and fulfill their potential by providing successful mentors, individualized tutoring, enriching activities and stimulating environments.

Discipleship Opportunities

- 1 on 1 Tutoring/Mentoring Program, Wednesdays 4:20 – 5:35pm. Training and resources provided.

Contact: E. Andrea Williams, awilliams@ct-kids.org, 860.522.8710 x12

HARTFORD CITY BALLET is a pre-professional program whose experienced staff strives to cultivate the skills of a unique group of diverse students, transforming them into poised young dancers.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Vacation Art Week - Arts & Crafts, Staging, and Costume Design

Contact: Dulcie Giadone, dulcie@hartfordcityballet.org, 860.233.8552

HARTFORD KNIGHTS is a community based youth organization providing mentoring services for at-risk students from diverse backgrounds.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Mentoring

Contact: Bernard Thomas, Thomas@hartfordknights.org, 860.756.5527

OPEN COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE is a civil rights non-profit working to undo the deep racial segregation that exists in Connecticut through bringing balance to where affordable housing is located and supporting partners revitalizing struggling communities.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Serving as ambassadors to your town to garner support for OCA's recommendations. This is especially needed in towns with a low level of affordable housing.
- Attorneys interested in providing pro bono assistance.
- Providing administrative assistance on projects at least two half-days a week.
- Assistance from individuals with social media, data, mapping, and community engagement expertise.
- Governance or Advisory Board representation, especially for those with non-profit financial, community engagement or fundraising experience.

Contact: Erin Boggs, erin@ctoca.org, 860.610.6040 x3511

SPECTRUM IN MOTION is a nonprofit dance and dance education cultural arts organization dedicated to people of color and the American Experience with the mission of raising dancers, building a repertoire of work that tells our stories, and building community.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Board of Directors
- Grant Writing
- Marketing Support
- Computer/Technical Support

Contact: Carol Terry, SpectrumInMotion@comcast.net, 860.508.4316

HUMAN RESOURCES

HARTFORD'S CAMP COURANT is the oldest and largest FREE summer day program in the nation. Their youth development program provides Hartford youth ages 5-12 with the opportunity to develop positive relationships, learn, and most importantly, HAVE FUN!

Discipleship Opportunities

- Camp Programming (June-August) – classroom assistance, recreational projects/activities, chaperones for camp-sponsored field trips

- Camp Beautification Projects (May – September) – painting, landscaping, general labor

Contact: Jessica Hinman, jhinman@campcourant.org, 860.241.3674

FAMILIES IN CRISIS helps offenders and their loved ones confront and overcome challenges.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Mentoring
- Office Support
- Fund Development
- Board of Directors
- Student Placements – casework, group work, community organization and public policy bachelor and master’s level academic internships

Contact: Joyce Betts, betts@familiesincrisis.org, 860.727.5800

GREATER HARTFORD LEGAL AID is a not-for-profit law firm whose attorneys provide clients living in poverty with free representation for civil legal issues. They advocate for equal justice for poor people, work with clients to promote social justice and use the law to address the effects and root causes of poverty.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Trained Attorneys and Legal Assistants

Contact: Kathy Tracy, ghla@ghla.org, 860.541.5000

MALTA HOUSE OF CARE Mobile Clinic provides free primary medical care to those with no health insurance, including free diagnostic tests (blood and radiology), as well as required pharmaceuticals at no cost to patients. Over the past eight years, over 30,000 free patient visits have been provided.

Discipleship Opportunities

Physicians, Primary Care—serving on the van

- Specialist Physicians—pro-bono services, either in the Malta office or your own
- Nurses
- APRNs
- Dieticians/Nutritionists
- Diabetic Counselors
- Pharmacists

Social Service Providers (MSW, LCSW)

- Referral Coordination
- Case Management

Information and Technology

- Database Management
- Website Design and Maintenance

Non-medical/Administrative/Experiential

- General Office Assistance
- Grant Writing
- Grant Research
- Special Event Planning
- Public Relations/Press Releases

Contact: Clinical Supervisor, mdetore@maltahouseofcare.org, 860.725.0171

REBUILDING TOGETHER HARTFORD brings volunteers and communities together to improve the homes and lives of low-income Hartford homeowners, creating a safe and healthy home for every person.

Discipleship Opportunities

- Annual National Rebuilding Day
- Rebuilding Together Board

Contact: 860.757.9425, info@rthartford.com