

Allied Partners Meeting Minutes for February 19, 2019

PRESENT: Wynn Davies, Marge Lyford, Ann Moffat, Rhea Schultz

Wynn Davies opened the meeting with prayer.

The January 15, 2019 Minutes were approved as written.

ALLIED PARTNERS MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES LIST: Wynn circulated a form to update the representative list for each congregation and their contact information. It will be circulated again at the March meeting.

THE IMPACT OF ALLIED PARTNERS: Wynn expressed the importance of representatives sharing with their congregations the impact that their participation and support is having in the Allied Drive community. To help facilitate the communication, Wynn drafted a 2018 report to his own church, First Baptist, which he titled "Because of You, First Baptist". Each representative is welcome to insert the name of their own church and use the document to inform their own congregation. Or they may opt for a different approach. With the information, however, it is hoped that congregations will be encouraged to continue their support of and participation in the community programs. A copy of Wynn's document is attached with the February minutes. Modify as appropriate for your own congregation.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Wynn reviewed the **Allied Partners Financial Report for 31 January 2019**. He highlighted funds received and use of funds for the Eviction Prevention Program, the Allied Scholarship Program, the Special Funds Project, and the Wellness Center Fund. (See attached copy.). Wynn reported that the end of January accounts are in balance with the bank statement.

Ann provided an update on the scholarship provided to Stela Braimillari, a resident of the neighborhood from Albania. \$350 is allocated for a phlebotomy course and \$150 is allocated for transportation expenses to and from the course. Receipts and documentation are maintained by Ryan Estrella.

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST: Marge shared that on March 10th Bethany's Adult Education will host a one hour panel discussion on the Allied Dunn's Marsh Neighborhood. Alice Howard will speak about the history of the neighborhood. Marge will discuss the history of Allied Partners. Wynn will discuss Allied Partners in terms of today and tomorrow. The speakers have offered to make the same presentation for other congregations. Marge shared that she plans to write a history of Allied Partners.

COMMUNITY MEALS: Alice Howard phoned in prior to the meeting. The Allied Dunn's Marsh Neighborhood Association will host the February community meal on the 22nd. She requested a congregation volunteer to host the March community meal. No

congregation is scheduled for the month of March. Wynn proposed, and those present approved, that \$250 be provided to the Association for the March meal.

ALLIED NEWS: Marge has recruited volunteers from Bethany United Methodist to translate ALLIED NEWS into Spanish. Wynn suggested that ALLIED NEWS provide information on what Allied Partners does. He proposed that Cynthia Bacon Hammer use the "Because of You..." document for an article in ALLIED NEWS.

Ryan Estrella was absent, so there was no report on the Eviction Prevention Program/Joining Forces for Families.

Gloria Manadier-Karl was absent, so there was no report on the Wellness Center.

NEXT MEETING: March 19, 2019 at 10:00am at the Boys & Girls Club

Respectfully submitted by Rhea Schultz

ATTACHMENTS:

- * Allied Partners Financial Report for 31 January 2019
- * "Because of You, First Baptist"

Because of You, First Baptist:

Because of you, First Baptist – and the other congregations that make up Allied Partners:

51 individuals and families in the Allied Drive Community in 2018 were able to avoid eviction or cut off of their utilities with funds from our “Eviction Prevention Fund” . Here are some examples of people we were able to help:

- A homeless woman with two children living in a car got a job and a landlord offered her an apartment. We helped her with her deposit
- A woman who provides day care as her means of income lost two families and fell behind in her rent
- A woman who fell behind on her rent when she was laid off from one of her jobs without notice. She has other jobs but fell short on her rent.
- A woman with four children has only disability insurance income to live on. She had to choose between paying rent and her utility bill. We intervened with Madison Gas and Electric and were able to keep electricity flowing to her apartment

Three residents of the Allied Drive Community received scholarships for post high school education or vocational training from our Allied Partners Scholarship Fund in 2018. We initiated this program several years ago and have been pleased to help young people from the community reach their career goals as well as others obtain the knowledge and skills to help them find living wage jobs. First Baptist provided the funding for one of those scholarships.

Allied Partners congregations , in 2018, provided \$1,900 to support the work of The Wellness Center which provides a variety of services aimed at improving health knowledge and good health practices for residents of the Allied Drive Community. Volunteers from our congregations are also involved in helping the Center plan and provide services to the Allied Community. On several occasions, we were able to help the Allied Wellness Center resupply its essentials pantry and provide bus passes to enable residents to shop for food and other essentials

We helped the Allied Neighborhood Association provide monthly “ Community Dinners” as well as other “community building” events. Some of our congregations prepared and served some of those monthly meals – as well as providing entertainment-- while others (including First Baptist) provided funding to enable the Association prepare the community meals and other community building events. One of our members, Pastor Cynthia Baker Hammer of Heritage Congregational , has been helping the Association to produce a monthly Allied Community newsletter. We also provided financial support to a group of young men called “The Brotherhood” and a similar group of young women called “Gems” who meet monthly to learn and act to make their community a better place.

The Allied Food Pantry served a total of 1,878 adults and 1,314 children during 2018. The pantry is open on Wednesdays from 10 AM to Noon and Wednesday evenings from 6 PM to 7:30 PM. Volunteers are always needed.

Allied Partners prepared and served more than 500 nutritious “Lunch Gap “ meals to kids of the Allied Community in 2018. “Lunch Gap” means that there is a week’s gap between when the School lunch programs end (in the spring) and the Boys and Girls Club lunch program begins. Volunteers from First Baptist prepared and served lunches during the spring and fall “Lunch Gaps” in 2018.

Thank you too for the volunteer efforts of Wynn Davies, your representative to our monthly meetings , who also serves as our Treasurer.

For all of your volunteer efforts and for the \$2,130 in financial contributions we received from you in 2018 :

Thank you , People of First Baptist!

From the members of Allied Partners:

Westminster Presbyterian
Glenwood Moravian
Friends Meeting
Prairie Unitarian
First Baptist
Good Shepherd Lutheran
Queen of Peace
Memorial United Church of Christ
Heritage Congregational
Midvale Lutheran
Bethany United Methodist
Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ
Fountain of Life