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Clarence Jordan

our board

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donations

You can make a donation by visiting www.mercy-works.org.

We take used cars.

Looking for other ways to give? Mercy Works also takes donations for used cars.

Remember us in your will.

Remembering us in your will is also a great way to give back to the community and make a lasting impact.

If you have questions please give us a call at 315-435-6934.

clarence's corner:



We have so many wonderful faithful monthly givers. We know we can count on receiving their check every month without fail. You can't believe how that lifts our spirits here at the Vision Center as we receive your gift to help these deserving young people get a vision for their lives. Last month we received a beautiful moving letter from Lois Carey who shared with us how she became a monthly giver. We need more dedicated monthly donors like Lois. Won't you consider becoming one like Lois? Please pray about it! I want each one of you to have a blessed Christmas and a beautiful healthy year in 2017.

We love you all!

Clarence Jordan

Donor Relations Manager

Dear Mr. Clarence Jordan,

Several months ago you sent me a letter thanking me for my monthly donation. At that time I thought I should write back and explain how I came about deciding on contributing to MercyWorks.



In the fall of 2013 God healed me of an ailment I had been suffering with for several years. I had been taking medication that cost \$30 monthly. So I thought I should take that money and offer it to a ministry of the Lord's. And we both know that thought didn't come from my little brain; but of course the Holy Spirit directed me to this thought. But I didn't know where to give my little offering and so just put it in the general fund at Abundant Life. Now as our Lord is so in tune to our desires, He had Pastor John send out a mailing the very next week requesting help for MercyWorks. I was sure it was just for me - instructing me where to place my offering.

The Lord healed me, I no longer had the expense of medication, and the Lord directed where I should place my savings to the ministry He wanted me to send it. We serve such a great God!

Thank you for all your work and service to our Mighty Lord, Jesus Christ.

A Letter From Our Executive Director



2016 has been quite a year! With twists and turns along the way and many that could not have been anticipated. If you are like me, you take time to reflect on what went well, looking for new goals and heights to soar. This becomes a sober reflection with the unanticipated lows and

where I inevitably fell short. I am sure we all have to shake off a few things as we move forward into 2017. There will always be things that creep up on us, drop out of the sky or are even noticed a long way off. I am confident that like so many others, I desire to prepare myself for the unknowns of life in this next year.

Preparing for what is next requires a few questions about what was: Are we willing to do the most important thing and remember? Will we choose to remember what caused us to leap with joy or weep like a babe? Or will we resign ourselves to what was or better yet avoid it all together? What we choose to remember from 2016 and how we choose to remember it will set the context and frame for our thinking and attitudes towards and in 2017. Our response to the journey of life often means more than the actual situations themselves. Our responses are often better when formulated out of the art of remembering.

Recently as I was engaged in a conversation and I was reminded of a sentiment that I carried with me from a long time ago. Its not "if" we will do something. It's a matter of "when" and "how" we will do that something. I hadn't thought on this in such a long time. It takes possibility and concretely places it in the reality. It leverages faith and waits upon it. Just deciding strategy, details and timing are necessary. There are so many instances in my own life where this sentiment showed up with greatness.

In this final newsletter of 2016 we here at MercyWorks wish to remember the students, progress and commitments made by so many to make a difference in our community. We choose to remember the many challenges that have happened outside our doors and the impact of great relationships inside our walls. Regardless of the times, we are committed to our community, the young people, their families and the remembering.

I encourage you to remember. I challenge you to think about how you will respond to 2017. Our world and community needs the very best of you! Your remembering will brighten the path for what is next. Your path is bound to be influential to so many. At MercyWorks we are grateful for you and all that has been accomplished in 2016.

We recognize the opportunity that lays ahead. Choose to visit us at the Clarence Jordan Vision Center on 2017. You will be amazed at how the transformation of our building is the fruit of the "when" and "how!"

We thank you for your support this year and look forward to partnering in 2017 to inspire vision, cultivate purpose and create opportunity to transform lives!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! The best is yet to come!

With great expectation,

Angela M. Douglas,

Executive Director



Look for our new eNewsletter coming this Winter!

Reflecting On 2016

In reflecting over 2016 we look back with great joy at the success we experienced in reaching, encouraging, training and mentoring 176 youths through the various programs we offered this year. We endeavored to reach youths from all walks of life with vision and we did. We endeavored to offer programming that would have academic impact and we did enhancing their knowledge in STEM, Software Applications, Entrepreneurism and Professional Development. We endeavored to build strong relationships with them opening doors to mentorship opportunities that aid in the navigation towards their overall success - we did and continue to do so. It is not about numbers at the Vision Center it is about lives and each life we touch brings us that much closer to healthy, well rounded youths who will grow up to revitalize our Syracuse Community!

While diligently serving the youth of our community we were also working behind the scenes to initiate enhancements and improvements to our facility as well. Some of these efforts include:

New Mailbox & Mailing Address

When you visit the Clarence Jordan Vision Center you will notice our new mailbox. This recently installed mailbox is where we now receive our mail. We are no longer receiving mail to the PO Box address. Please be sure to update our NEW MAILING ADDRESS on your records to reflect our physical address: 1221 S. Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13202.

New Garden In The Courtyard

Many thanks to the ALCC REACH team and MercyWorks Board President Rev. John Carter for the installation of the beautiful garden anchoring our courtyard area!! Thanks to their efforts and talents we can look forward to a colorful Spring and Summer! We can't wait!



Tree Installation

We are thankful to Onondaga Earth Corp. for their contribution to the beautification of the exterior of the Clarence Jordan Vision Center. Their team invested great time and energy in lifting and properly staking existing trees to a prevent root rot during the Fall and Winter as well as planting new trees around the property adding so much life and color to the exterior of the facility.

Mac Lab

The Mac Lab has gone through some significant transformation. Framing and sheetrock was installed and prepared for priming. Thank you to Purcell's Paints in DeWitt for their donation of 15 gallons of primer!

PC Lab

Improvements have been made to increase productivity during programming. IT specialists were brought in to assess the current computer set up. Four of the computers were repaired, upgrades are in progress to switch from cable to fiber which will significantly increases speed. We also increased access points expanding internet and wi-fi access throughout the facility.

Program Development

While our Fall Term of programming at the CJVC housed no students it did bring together great minds from our Syracuse community to form a STEM Think Tank. Participants reviewed existing STEM programs and discussed ways to improve on the service being provided to our students. We look forward to implementing and further developing.

E-Newsletter

We are excited to be working with a great team to produce an excellent and informative E-NEWLETTER that will begin in 2017 with our first issue coming out in March! We ask that you please contact our office at (315) 435-6934 and update your contact information with us to include an email address where you would like to receive the next VISION NEWSLETTER along with regular email updates!



Onondaga Community College SYNERGY Holiday Breakfast

On Monday, December 12 students from Onondaga Community College who participated in the Synergy Leadership Internship were invited by OCC Provost & Senior Vice President, Dr. Daria Willis to a special holiday breakfast! Students were recognized for their success in the Synergy program and were excited to share about their worksite placements and overall internship experience. MercyWorks congratulates all 19 students from Onondaga Community College that began and successfully completed the Synergy Leadership Internship. What a great accomplishment!

