



VENTURA VILLAGE

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New Volunteer Opportunity: Breakfast Drive for Shelter Guests! **By: Kala Hotakainen, Our Saviour's Community Services**

Did you know that the Emergency Shelter at Our Saviour's Housing, a program of Our Saviour's Community Services, provides meals 3 days a week, 365 days a year? That's a lot of meals! 1,095 to be exact.

Providing meals to our shelter guests is a community effort. We are so grateful for the volunteers and donors who make it possible for us to put healthy food on the table - and you can help, too!

We need your help to stock our shelter pantry with shelf-stable breakfast foods for our guests. Work together with your family, scout group, faith community, office, or other group to collect items such as cereal, shelf-stable milk, oatmeal, and more. We asked our guests what they like to eat and built our list from their requests. We gratefully welcome donations of items from our list, unexpired only please, that can be dropped off at our shelter by appointment.

Learn more and sign up to help by contacting us at Volunteer@oscs-mn.org. We'll provide you with a list of what to collect and a flyer to distribute to your group. Thank you for helping us provide care and support to our shelter guests as they take their next steps!

Ventura Village News

- Our general membership meeting for July will be Wednesday, July 12th, 7 PM at the ICCM Life Center, 1812 Park Avenue, and via Zoom. No committee meetings this month.
- Work has begun on projects our neighborhood asked for at Peavey Park. They include raised beds on the Park Avenue side of the park and an awning by the swimming pool.
- Gardening/produce events this month include:
 - Hope Community workdays every Tuesday at 4 PM (1900 Portland)
 - Hope Community produce giveaway every Wednesday at 4 PM.
 - Our Saviour's, (2215 Chicago), workday Thursday at 10 AM
 - Mashkiikii Gitagan produce giveaway Thursday at 11 AM (1314 E.24 S)
- Our neighborhood partnered with the 4 - H Club at the Franklin Library to plant these flowers at the front entrance.
- Go to our website venturavillage.org for information on more activities this month.



IPTF Elder Mentorship Program **By: Linda Eagle Speaker**

One of the most valuable resources of all cultures and societies is the wisdom passed down from generation to generation. Linda Eagle Speaker and her husband Rocky moved into an apartment in the Maynidoowahdak Odena Housing Complex within the past year.

The Indigenous People's Task Force operates Maynidoowahdak Odena Housing (which means "Place Where Ceremonies Happen") in Ventura Village. Linda and her husband are part of the IPTF Elder Mentorship program. They provide mentorship services to the residents in their community. They are viewed as Grandparents to their courtyard especially in the traditional way.

Mistrust of the non-native culture has continued to be a problem for their neighboring families. Relationships have blossomed gradually. Over the past few months elders, adults, and children have begun to approach Linda and Rocky as Grandparents with their questions and inquiries. They have found that their gentle indigenous approach can help lead to a positive lifeway.

Happenings at NACC

By: Ashlee Jallen

On Friday, May 19th, NACC hosted their 20th annual Open House event!

This year, the focus was on the grandfather teaching of "wisdom" as they reflected on 20 years in the community. The open house included community resource vendors, lung cancer screenings, activities, food trucks, raffles, swag bags and more! During the open house, NACC had an opportunity to honor the founders of the clinic and present renderings of the new clinic that will include affordable housing. More information on NACC's clinic expansion can be found on their website <https://nacc-healthcare.org/capital-campaign>

Why are there people lined up at NACC's back entrance every Monday?

Every Monday, NACC at 1213 E Franklin Ave offers HIV and Hep-C testing for the community from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm behind the NACC building. Questions call: Chyna at 651-238-1847

The event includes:

- HIV testing
- Hep A Vaccinations
- Syringe Exchange Services
- Gift cards
- Vouchers for further testing (if needed)
- Food to go option
- COVID Vaccines