

Welcome!

Welcome to the Fall/Winter issue of The Family Connection Times! In this newsletter, you will find resources and tips for your family!

If you find yourself needing further information on any resource or information on something not included, please call **Kim Downs, District Family Resource Specialist, at 816-532-3178 or downsk@smithville.k12.mo.us**! I am happy to help connect you to the places and things in our community and surrounding areas.

I am always willing to brainstorm with you on the needs of your family and help ensure that any barrier to your child's learning finds a solution. —Kim Downs, MSW, District Family Resource Specialist

HOLIDAYS 2012!



If your family, with students in the Smithville School District, is in need of Holiday assistance please contact Kim Downs by November 15, 2012.

If your family or group would like to assist with the District's Holiday Help efforts, please contact Kim Downs for information on how to participate!



Need a winter coat?

If your student is in need of a winter coat and/or clothing, please contact Kim Downs!

Gratitude

Three books that celebrate gifts of friendship and being grateful for what we already have!

The Gift of Nothing by Patrick McDonnell

Seasons of Thanks: Graces and Blessings for Every Home by Taz Tagore

Gratitude by Dan Zadra

Resources for Emergency Assistance:

Salvation Army	816-452-5663	Missouri Valley Community Action	816-776-6057
St. Therese	816-741-2800	United Services	816-858-5153
Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries	816-454-5295	Northland Assistance Center	816-421-2243

Are you raising a Grandchild....or other relative?

Support, information, and resources are available to you at the Grandparent and Relative Caregivers Northland Support Groups! Sponsored by Children's Mercy and University of Missouri Extension, all groups are confidential and free of charge. Call Christine Brunkow at 816-960-8430 or Diana Milne at 816-407-3490 for information, dates, and times.

Do you need health insurance?

Through the MO HealthNet for Kids program, children receive full, comprehensive coverage including primary, acute and preventative care, hospital care, dental and vision care as well as prescription coverage. There are income guidelines to qualify. For more information and/or an application, call 1-888-275-5908 or visit www.dss.mo.gov/mhk/ or contact Kim Downs at 532-3178.

Local Food Pantries!

Vineyard Church	M,W 9-11:30 and Sat 9-11	734-8100
First Christian Church	Open Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-Noon	532-0773
Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries		
1104 NE Vivion Road, Kansas City, MO	Call ahead for details, SS card(s) required	454-5295
St. Therese Catholic Church		
7207 NW Highway 9, Kansas City, MO 64152	Open M-F 9-Noon, ID required, Call ahead	741-2800

Is your family facing a serious illness or dealing with the loss of a loved one?

Below are resources to assist with some of life's most challenging obstacles.

Turning Point www.turningpointkc.org

Turning Point's mission is to empower and transform the mind, body, and spirit of individuals, families, and friends living with serious or chronic physical illness. We provide innovative education services and tools that inspire people to take charge of their illness and live life to its fullest.

Solace House <http://www.kansascityhospice.org/GriefSupport/Index.asp?Reference=SolaceHouse&~=>

Solace House is designed to be a caring place where children and their families can relax, listen, share, and heal. Support group rooms and group placement are determined according to the developmental stages of children and take into account the needs of the entire family.

Camp Erin <http://www.kansascityhospice.org/GriefSupport-Camp%20Erin/Index.htm>

Camp Erin is a free, weekend, overnight summer camp for children and teens, ages 6 to 17, who have experienced the death of someone close to them. It is a traditional, fun, high-energy camp combined with grief education and emotional support. 816-363-2600

List of Additional Resources

<http://www.kansascityhospice.org/GriefSupport-ResourcesLinks/Index.htm>



The Warrior Closet!

The Warrior Closet is a clothing center in the Smithville School District with donated, used clothing, available to all students who attend Smithville Schools! The center houses size 5 through young adult, appropriate for students in Kindergarten to High School.

The Warrior Closet is open on the first Tuesday of every month from 10-Noon and 5-7.

The Warrior Closet is located at The Primary Elementary, in a mobile classroom next to the playground. When you visit the center during school hours, please visit the Primary front office first to obtain a visitor's pass and get directions. After school hours, follow the signs in the circle drive.

When you visit the clothing center, please bring proof of attendance with you. Items such as a school ID, grade card, lunch receipt, note from your child's school principal or counselor, or school correspondence is appropriate.

Questions? Kim Downs 816-532-3178 x2053 or downsk@smithville.k12.mo.us