

Did You Know...

Did you know the 2013 Annual Conference passed a resolution to establish a Conference Advance Special? Per Annual Conference rules, any conference wide fundraising requires approval. The Advance Special Resolution creates an opportunity for approved United Methodist missional outreach organizations to appeal conference wide for financial support.

Did you know the Conference Advance Special criteria include the following?

- Faith Based and incarnational in the manner individuals are served;
- Support from multiple United Methodist congregations;
- United Methodist affiliate but include ecumenical support & services;
- By laws with an expectation of Board members who are United Methodist;
- Prohibited from utilizing funds received for brick & mortar;
- Ministries with GBGM Advance Special (denominational) designation will not qualify;
- While supported by the staff of the West Ohio Conference, each organization is responsible for their own promotional/appeal initiatives
- Received Advance Credit toward 2nd mile connectional giving similar to gifts approved by GBGM but approved by a Conference Advance Special Task Force.

Approved Conference Advance Special for 2014-2015 include the following:

Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio: www.charitablepharmacy.org

The mission of the Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio is to provide appropriate and patient-centered pharmacy services for low-income, uninsured, and underinsured individuals. Services are provided at no charge for those who cannot afford them, and include prescribed medicines, medication therapy management, coaching on proper use of medicines, monitoring of selected patient vital functions, health screenings and education, and related social program assistance. Pharmacy staff and volunteers work to provide pharmacy services, and referrals to other health and social services, to the more than 1,750 patients that come to the Charitable Pharmacy each year by modeling Christ's unconditional regard for all people and meeting their need for medicines and medication information without judgment. **WOCAS #WOC004**

Greater Hilltop Shalom Zone: www.hilltopshalomzone.org

The Greater Hilltop Area Shalom Zone (The Zone) is an energetic movement for justice, peacemaking and renewal of Columbus' Hilltop Community. Grown out of the Communities of Shalom instituted by the 1992 General Conference, The Zone is committed to finding shalom within the community by focusing on its assets and needs. Through sustained partnerships we are impacting the community through our Mediation & Peacemaking Center, Freedom Schools, a year-round teen drop-in center, a brief legal advice clinic, produce giveaways and many others. The Zone is working towards systemic change, positive youth development, community well-being, and spiritual renewal so that God's shalom can be experienced among all living in the neighborhood. **WOCAS #WOC002**

Horizon Prison Initiative: www.horizonprisoninitiative.org

Horizon Prison Initiative's mission is to transform prisoners who transform prisons and communities. We provide a yearlong program for incarcerated men with the primary goal of helping them realize a life driven by criminal thoughts and behaviors—both inside and outside of prison walls—is no longer an

option. Horizon specifically addresses the criminal mindset of the incarcerated which leads to cyclical incarceration and the impact it has on prisons and communities. **WOCAS #WOC001**

St. Paul United Methodist Church, Dayton: www.stpauldayton.org

At St. Paul each year with the help of over 30 partner churches in our district we serve: approximately 20,000 nutritious meals, groceries to over 11,000 individuals, 9,000 pieces of good used clothing and household goods, English as a second language classes, free tax preparation to over 450 individuals, Christ-centered after-school program/meal four days per week to 45 children, summer camp experiences at Camp Wesley for children (this year for 13 children with scholarships and transportation provided), back to school supplies, plus many other ministries and worship opportunities that improve the quality of life of the homeless and impoverished in our community. **WOCAS #WOC003**

United Methodist Church and Community Development for All People: www.4allpeople.org

In 1999, the United Methodist Free Store opened on the urban South side of Columbus, Ohio. Its atmosphere of unconditional love and hospitality fostered the dream of a church “for all people” that would be intentionally cross-class, multi-racial and diverse, with a new model of service and worship that was “with” the poor, not just “for” the poor. The United Methodist Church for All People was founded with the mission of being the church at the heart of both community renewal and personal transformation. Community Development for All People was founded the same year. From housing to health to music, its programs provide a model and inspiration for urban ministry and community development across the world, working to improve the quality of life for residents of the South side of Columbus, Ohio. **WOCAS #WOC005**

To assure your church receives Advance Credit for any gifts to these Conference Advance Specials, please be sure to include the West Ohio Conference Advance Special number included with the description. If you want more information about how your church can be supportive of any of these ministries or to request a presentation/program for a group in your local church, please contact them through the provided website and emphasize your inquiry is for an Advance Special.

Did you know this action by the Annual Conference, once again, reflects the generosity of the West Ohio Conference for missional giving?