UPCOMING EVENTS

ACS Convention Cruise - March 16-23, 2014

Join us for the Adventist Community Services Convention and enjoy an unforgettable Mexican Riviera Cruise.

The Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is pleased to host the 2014 Adventist Community Services (ACS) Convention. Individuals from all across North America will come together aboard the Norwegian Cruise Line’s Norwegian Star to learn how to better follow Christ’s example of meeting the needs of others.

For more information visit: [www.inspirationcruises.com/SDA](http://www.inspirationcruises.com/SDA)

STORIES & TIDBITS

SonBridge Community Center is awarded a $200,000 grant.

**LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL**

International institute of Christian Ministries (IICM) Community Services & Urban Ministries Certification Program

The IICM Community Services & Urban Ministries Certification Program provides a basic foundation and practical tools for equipping church members to be change agents in their communities. Jesus' method

Nonprofit Leadership Certification Program
Completing the puzzle of Community Development
Session I: June 2-5, 2014
Allegheny East Conference | Boyertown, PA
For more information click here.

ACS Newsletter ~ Adventist Community Services
North American Division
301-680-6438

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Adventist Community Services : 2014 Nonprofit Leadership Certification Program

Completing the puzzle of Community Development

Session I: June 2-5, 2014
Session II: September 22-25, 2014

REGISTRATION

Allegheny East Conference Center
767 Douglass Drive
Boyertown, PA 19512
Nonprofit Leadership Certification Program (NLCP) is designed to equip pastors, church administration and nonprofit leaders with strategies and professional skills to successfully lead. NLCP focuses on three major learning outcomes; a) leadership skills, b) improvement of management knowledge, and c) changes in attitude of social dimensions of evangelism.

This intensive two session program is taught by a group of professionals who teach participants how to operate and minister effectively.

This training is provided by North American Division (NAD) Adventist Community Services, in partnership with Washington Adventist University Center for Metropolitan Ministry, Andrews University, Philanthropic Services for Institutions, General Conference Sabbath School/Personal Ministries, Adventist World Radio and Adventist Risk Management.

Participants will learn:

Leadership:

- To improve participants' abilities to affect individual, organization, and community changes.

Management:

- To improve participants' abilities to effectively handle the administrative responsibilities of nonprofit management.

Social Dimensions of Evangelism:

- To improve participants' abilities through biblical concepts of holistic ministry to minister in dynamic environments.

"It was a pleasure to be involved in such a meaningful, useful and well planned training. I found that the Non-Profit Leadership Training is essential to church leaders and organizers and could be beneficial to many more in our congregations. I believe there are many who sit in the pews who are not motivated to use their leadership gifts from God. This is the type of preparation that will bump us up a few notches preparing us for more effective ministry. My plan is to use this in conjunction with my formal training to be a more effective servant leader. Again, thank you for your ministry." - Michele Gamble
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Participants will learn:

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- To improve participants’ abilities to affect individual, organization, and community changes.

**Management:**
- To improve participants’ abilities to effectively handle the administrative responsibilities of non-profit management.

**Social Dimensions of Evangelism:**
- To improve participants’ abilities through biblical concepts of holistic ministry to minister in dynamic environments.

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**Session I Workshops**
- Theological Concepts of Social Justice - Gaspar Colon
- Leadership and Team Development - Sung Kwon
- Resource Development: Fundraising Strategies - Lilya Wagner
- Board Development - A Guide to High Impact Governance - Lilya Wagner
- Grant Proposal Writing - A Valuable Tool for Fundraising - Lilya Wagner
- Community Needs Assessment and Program Development - Gaspar Colon
- Risk Management Challenges - Arthur Blinci
- Legal Issues & Conflict Resolution - Karnick Doukemetzian

**Session II Workshops**
- Urban Ministry: Understanding the City - Gary Krause
- Social Action from Relief to Public Policy - Zdravko Plantak
- Ministering and Managing Cross-Culturally - Erich Baumgartner
- Nonprofit Accounting and Budgeting - Dowell Chow
- Performance Measurement for Effective Ministries - Sung Kwon
- Managing in Your Platform - Kumar Dixit
- Human Resource Development - Nancy Kluge
- Volunteer Engagement - Nancy Kluge

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**Registration**
- Session I: $150/person Now through May 14, 2014
  $250/person On-site
- Session II: $150/person Now through September 3, 2014
  $250/person On-site

**Location**
- Allegheny East Conference
- 767 Douglass Drive
- Boyertown, PA 19512

**Time Schedule**
- Monday - Thursday
  - 8:30 am - 9:00 am Morning Session
  - 9:15 am - 12:15 pm Class Session
  - 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch
  - 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Class Session

**Travel Arrangements**
- Travel & Lodging arrangements on your own.
- Suggested Hotel: Comfort Inn & Suites Philadelphia Premium Outlets Area (PA100)
  - SR 100 & Shoemaker Rd.
  - Pottstown, PA 19464
  - Phone: (610) 326-5000
- Suggested Airport: Philadelphia International (PHL)

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"Developing Leadership, Knowledge, and Skills"

For more details, visit www.communityservices.org
Completing the puzzle of Community Development

Session I: June 2-5, 2014
Session II: September 22-25, 2014

Nonprofit Leadership Certification Program

Presenters

Erich Baumgartner, Professor
Andrews University
School of Education

Arthur Blinci, Vice President
Adventist Risk Management

Dowell Chow, President
Adventist World Radio

Gaspar Colon, Director/Professor
Center for Metropolitan Ministry
Washington Adventist University

Karnik Doukmetzian,
General Counsel
General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventist

Nancy Kluge, Former Professor
Washington Adventist University
of Business

Sung Kwon, Director
Adventist Community Services
North American Division

Zdravko Plantak,
Chairperson/Professor
Washington Adventist University
School of Theology

Gary Krause, Director
General Conference,
Office of Adventist Missions

Lilya Wagner, Director
Philanthropic Service for Institutions
North American Division

Rajkumar Dixit, Pastor
Professor of Religion and
Communication

May-Ellen Colon, Assistant Director
General Conference Sabbath School
& Personal Ministries
Director, Adventist Community
Services International

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Services International
SonBridge: Recipient of Murdock Grant

by Kathy Marson

A small portion of the new waiting room for the medical and dental clinics.

Kathy Marson, UCC Communication correspondent with June Christiansen, director of SonBridge on a tour of the facility.

The areas in pink with numbers 5 and 1 and above will be remodeled into the Education Center for Better Living. Other areas of interest: 4 - Blue Mountain Television, 2 - KLRF Radio, 6 - Medical and Dental, 8 - Thrift and Gift Store, 9 - Warehouse, 10 - current Education Center.

A look at the new dental clinic.

College Place, Wash., October 22, 2013 - Recently SonBridge Community Center in College Place, (Wash.,) was awarded a $200,000 grant by the MJ Murdock Charitable Trust. This will be used to expand the SonBridge facility.

The main goal of SonBridge, created in 2004, is to connect people with resources and to find gaps where there is no resource. Then they create programs to fill these gaps. One big need will be met with this grant.

These funds will help them complete their Education Center for Better Living, hopefully by mid-2015. There were 3,200 visits to educational classes during 2012. The classes range in topic from healthy choices, marriage enrichment, financial planning, and more.

As I toured the facility with June Christensen recently, I noted that many small rooms are used for more than one purpose. The walls have shelves holding the supplies for two different groups to utilize the space. Other rooms are used by community groups who need an office from which to operate. The current classroom space is in use nearly every evening and afternoon.

The Education Center will alleviate the congestion and will contain additional space to hold classes and meetings which will translate into more people being helped. The new assembly space will include a large hall with folding partitions, so it will be an expandable multipurpose space.

Having many options for meetings is important for a ministry like SonBridge because it is multi-faceted in that it does not just fill one niche. It houses the SOS medical clinic, the SonBridge Dental Clinic, Blue Mountain Television, KLRF radio and a large thrift and gift store. They partner with the YWCA, Helpline, Children’s Home Society, Red Cross and other agencies. There are more than 18 other nonprofits that partner with SonBridge.

Eight Seventh-day Adventist churches in the community are sponsors of SonBridge. So over and above all the ministries housed within the
building is the fact that SonBridge is the Adventist Community Services (ACS) for these churches.

The first phase of construction established a new wing, new parking and a more private waiting room for the medical and dental clinics. They upgraded the thrift store and doubled the parking so there is parking for both clients and shoppers.

The current renovations are to incorporate an emergency shelter with a kitchen and showers. Then the second phase of construction will build the new assembly space – The Educational Center for Better Living. And through all of this construction they are debt-free. The Thrift and Gift Store income covers their operating budget.

God's leading has been seen in many ways. Thanks to many volunteers, and to organizations who provide funding, SonBridge can continue to expand and fill in the gap for people of the Walla Walla Valley.
They say that time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself. -Andy Warhol

**LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL**

Every day across the country, after school programs are keeping kids safe, inspiring them to learn while helping families. It is important that we provide and sustain the quality of after school programs and safe havens. The fourteenth year of "Lights On After School" initiatives was celebrated on October 17, 2013 at many organizations. The Adventist Community Services (ACS) Department of Westbank United Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 2401 General Meyer Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70114 will open its doors to this new and innovative after school program for children. This church hosted an open house on October 17, 2013 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for this program. This program will be able to offer participants hands-on afterschool activities that will not only enhance learning, but will teach kids how to handle conflict and learn healthy outlets for anger, which has plagued our neighborhoods as evident in the crime rates of our cities of Louisiana. We are all responsible for our kids. We will be teaching the following courses; individual study, anger management and conflict resolution, basic sewing, grooming and manners, recreation and leisure time. The Afterschool Program officially began for students on Monday, October 21, 2013 and will continue until school closes for the summer. Afterschool program hours are 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Transportation is not available at this time.

For additional information and registration, please call Irene H. Williams, M.S.W., ACS Coordinator for Louisiana at (504) 330-3395.

*Lights On Afterschool* kicked off nationwide with the broadcast of afterschool documentary Brooklyn Castle on the PBS program. Brooklyn Castle tell the story of the national championship afterschool chess team at I.S. 318k, a NYC school that serves mostly minority students from families living below the poverty line. The film follow the struggles and triumphs of youth on the team.