



Nurturing Families...Inside and Out

3 YEAR ANNIVERSARY 1984 - 2014

CAMERON Chronicle

A Quarterly Newsletter For Cameron Supporters

Spring 2017

Cameron Community Ministries
Christopher T. Allen Memorial
Golf Tournament



Monday
June 5, 2017

Penfield Country Club

Join Cameron Community Ministries supporters and friends for a great day of golf at one of the area's premier country clubs.

This year's tournament format: scramble format with fun, add on options including skins.

Prizes awarded for winning foursome, men and women's longest drive and closest to the pin.

Interested in signing up or learning about sponsorship opportunities contact Jennifer Muniga, Executive Director, at (585) 254-2697 or jennifer.muniga@cameronministries.org

REGISTER ONLINE!
<http://conta.cc/2l4IGKb>

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR Cameron – Improving and Growing

As the history goes, in 1890, a little chapel was built at 48 Cameron Street that would be the Lyell Avenue Baptist Church for over 90 years. In 1984, the building became Cameron Community Ministries. As one can imagine, keeping up with the needs of this 127-year-old building is a challenge. There is always something that needs to be repaired or replaced. Sometimes I wish we could call in the HGTV *Fixer Upper* team and just start over, but part of what makes Cameron so special is the quirky, historic building that so many find comfort in. Cameron may be a little rough around the edges, but that roughness gives us character, and reflects the people we serve and the community we're a part of. Nevertheless, as we look to the future, we need to make changes and updates so Cameron can thrive and grow.

Over the past several months, we have made some exciting improvements. With help from generous volunteers and funders, we have repainted the kids' spaces as well as the main office, installed a new ceiling and lighting in our kids' space, and replaced the carpet in the main office. Soon, we will be updating the bathrooms in our kitchen, and resealing our driveway!

Spring is a time of newness and rejuvenation. Sometimes all that's

needed is a fresh coat of paint to bring some perspective and reinvigorate our spirits. The changes we've made have given us energy and motivation to ensure our services/ programs are improving and growing.



Jennifer Muniga,
Executive Director

All of us at Cameron are excited and grateful for the chance to tackle new challenges as the snow starts to melt and the sun comes out. We are grateful to all of our supporters who have worked so hard to make Cameron better and stronger. **Thank you to our sponsors who helped make all of these projects and upcoming projects possible: Davenport Hatch Family Foundation, The Kilian J. and Caroline F. Schmitt Foundation Inc., Canandaigua National Bank, Kammholz Law PLLC, Morrell Builders, and Fred R. Steele Inc.**

"Expect to have hope rekindled. Expect your prayers to be answered in wondrous ways. The dry seasons in life do not last. The spring rains will come again." – Sarah Ban Breathnach

Best,
Jennifer

Clothing House Corner

In anticipation of milder weather, I am preparing for a major spring-cleaning! It has been three years since the Clothing House was painted and reorganized and it's time for another overhaul! Over the next few months, I would like to clean out and freshen up, but I need help! As always, I am on a tight budget, so here is what I need to get things done:

- Paint and painting supplies
- Cleaning products
- Heavy duty rugs
- Mini-blinds

In May, I would like to have a few groups of volunteers to tackle the major projects: cleaning, painting/updating, and organizing. If you would be interested in getting involved, please contact me and we'll get busy!

Since January, we've had over 400 shoppers, distributed 147 emergency

hygiene bags and 916 diapers! We couldn't do what we do without your support, thank you for helping us help others!

CURRENT NEEDS:

- summer clothing for men, women and children
- toilet paper
- travel size hygiene products
- men's and women's underwear
- diapers (sizes 4-6)

Peace, love, and happiness to you all!

Sara Sorenson, Clothing House Coordinator

Volunteer Spotlight

Our programs are experiencing an exciting increase in volunteerism! This spring we would like to spotlight the wonderful men and women with the Warrior Salute Program through CDS Monarch. When soldiers return from active duty with trauma diagnosis such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI) and military sexual trauma (MST), reintegrating into civilian life can be difficult. Warrior Salute exists to help Veterans navigate this challenge. Various clinical services at Warrior Salute Veteran Services help our heroes regain their lives.

These Veterans have volunteered consistently at Cameron for the past several months. They have worked on painting projects, and helping with Mobile Pantry Day. We have learned so much from collaborating with these individuals. We serve many Veterans through our emergency programs and have Veterans on our staff. Veteran outreach is very important to Cameron, and is why this relationship continues to grow. We're grateful for their support!



-Lindsay Jewett – Volunteer Coordinator

Welcome New Americorps Member Craig Martin

I was born and raised in Rochester, graduating from Victor High School in 2011. I recently graduated with a BS degree in Business Administration and Finance from University at Buffalo. I have been at Cameron since September as a Rochester AmeriCorps service member.

Having an interest in the financial system, a major concern of mine has been economic equity. Working with those who are severely impoverished has been very eye opening, and will leave a lasting impression on my views of those struggling to make ends meet. It has been and continues to be a wonderful opportunity to serve at Cameron with the wonderful staff



and I feel blessed to have the chance to help out some incredibly gifted youth.

Looking ahead, I am interested in a career in retirement planning given the current status of social security or in sustainable energy development given the issues facing our planet due to climate change. Being at such an early phase of my career I am happy to say that Cameron has helped me to give back initially and has set a foundation for community engagement that I hope to follow as my career path continues to develop.

Please feel free to reach out to me via email at Craig.Martin@cameronministries.org.

Youth Program Update

The Cameron kids have had a lot of fun these past couple of months. To keep us busy inside during the cold, our Academic Coordinator came up with a fun project for the kids based off the hit TV show *Shark Tank*.

In “companies” of 8 students each, the kids invented their own products to sell. They had to come up with the cost to produce their products and figure out their expected profits. They also had to create their own design and advertisement. After many weeks of hard work, our five startup companies presented their products/services, business plans, and advertising campaigns to our three “sharks” who each had five million dollars to spend.

The presentations were impressive. The kids worked really hard in their groups and came up with some great ideas. In case you are wondering what the five clever and creative products are: a pencil that is also nail polish, glitter shampoo, “basket of love” (a gift basket you can order for a loved one) a crazy cocoa chocolate bar, and a robot kitchen (a robot that grocery shops, cooks, and cleans). The Robot Kitchen won the most money, but each company won at least a one-million-dollar investment!



We are looking forward to spring at Cameron, but this also means it is time for state testing soon. We have started review with our 3rd-6th graders, and have been collecting practice tests and review packets from their teachers at school. I want to thank our many loyal After School Program volunteers. You make homework time so much sweeter for the kids and the staff! We look forward to finishing out the school year with you.

Mercy & McQuaid Update:

All three of our students (Kaila & Jalisa at Mercy, and Adryan at McQuaid) continue to do well in school. We are so proud of them! Please consider giving to their school fund which includes: tuition, lunch money, and school supplies costs.

Katherine Sime, Youth Programs Director

Kitchen Update

Meet our new Kitchen Manager, Dakarai McBean. We are excited to have Dakarai on our team!

As a chubby little kid growing up I started making my own meals at the age of 15. Eventually my sister asked if I want to learn about the culinary



industry. This kept ringing in my ear when it came to deciding what high school to choose. East High had the best programs, ranging from food science, food & nutrition, and culinary art classes. This began my culinary career path, working at restaurants like Five Guys to the Hyatt cooking for celebrities who visit Rochester. This is my passion and calling, and I am excited to bring my skills and expertise to Cameron’s Kitchen.

Stop by Cameron to have a plate, I look forward to meeting you!

Finally, spring is here and it is long overdue. Surviving the unbalanced winter was not an easy task, however, our volunteers helped make it much easier to bear. They are nothing short of miracle workers in the kitchen! They assist with tasks ranging from organizing our food pantry to helping cook and serve lunch to our guests.

As we get ready for spring, many changes are coming to the kitchen. Our bathrooms are being renovated and will be wheelchair accessible by the end of spring. We hope to be able paint the dining room in the coming months as well. My goal as the new Kitchen Manager is to continually raise the standard of Cameron’s Hot Lunch Program and Food Pantry in order to provide great service and restaurant quality food to the Cameron community.

Dakarai McBean (Chef McBean)



Summer Safe Haven

Cameron’s Summer Safe Haven Program offers up to forty children a safe place to spend six weeks of their summer. The primary emphasis of the program is exposure to places and ideas outside of Cameron’s neighborhood. It is right around the corner and we are looking for volunteers to make this experience the best yet.

Please contact Lindsay directly at Lindsay.Jewett@cameronministries.org if you are interested or know someone who is!

CameronMinistries.org
585.254.2697

CCM Services

- Hot Lunch program
- Sunday Celebration meal
- Clothing House
- Produce Distribution
- Lunchtime Community Resources
- After School Program
- Kids Café Meals
- Summer Safe Haven
- Community Emergency and Office Services
- Bike Referrals & Repair Clinics

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Keep us posted

Please notify us if your name is misspelled or to make a correction to your address. Contact us at 585.254.2697.

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Cameron Peace Walk • Thursday, May 18 at 4:30 p.m.

Our Annual Peace Walk is a beautiful day that gives our kids a voice to be heard in their very own neighborhood. Please join us and march for peace in Rochester!

Consider sponsoring water bottles or refreshments for Cameron's Peace Walk. The rain date for the walk is Thursday, May 25th. We hope you can join us! Contact Katherine if you are interested: Katherine.Sime@cameronministries.org.

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