

{ THE MICAH INITIATIVE }

One Church | Three Hopes

Padlock Prevention Program

Program Update January, 2011

Padlock Program in the News!



Source: Gary O'Brien, Charlotte Observer

The Padlock Program was profiled in the Wednesday, January 19th edition of the *The Charlotte Observer*. To view the full article click [here](#).

Bridges Out of Poverty Training Coming Up

Christ Church will host a six hour Bridges Out of Poverty Training on February 21st and February 28th from 6:00 - 9:00 PM. To register email Sarah Brincefield at brincefields@christchurchcharlotte.org

To Volunteer



Once you have completed the 6 hour Bridges Out of Poverty training, you can sign-up to volunteer by contacting Trisha Fisher at Crisis Assistance Ministry at tfisher@crisisassistance.org

Dear Parishioner,

The Padlock Prevention Program began in July of 2010. Since then, Christ Church has had over 85 parishioners indicate an interest in the program. However, only about 15 parishioners have begun volunteering with the program. The program just accepted six new families and more volunteers are needed! If you'd like to learn more about the Padlock Program, or sign up to volunteer, please read on!

What is the Padlock Program?



The Padlock program began in July of 2010. Families in the program receive rental subsidies and social work services including assistance with food, budgeting, job-related needs, furniture, clothing, transportation, and

emotional support.

What Sorts of People Are in the Program?

Adults participating in the program have a range of education and work experience. About 50% of clients have completed some college. Clients work in sectors ranging from housekeeping to office work. The program currently has 32 families enrolled in it, 19 of which are active. Approximately, 70% of these families are single-parent families. Many families in the program have young children.

Why Do They Need My Help?

Clients face a multitude of challenges, including educational barriers, effects of substance abuse, childcare, medical conditions, domestic violence and poor credit from prior debt. Volunteers can offer

different kinds of help ranging from emotional support to transportation help.

What Can I Do?

Currently, there are more families in the program than there are volunteers. There are six new families in the program who need help in different ways, including:

- Cleaning, filing, meals, transportation and emotional support.
- Furniture for an apartment and legal advice
- Legal help regarding a misdemeanor
- Friendship and support
- Transportation and help finding a job

How Can I Get Involved?

To find out more about the program contact Tricia Fisher at Crisis Assistance Ministry. Tricia can be reached at tfisher@crisisassistance.org or 704-371-3001 x 186. Tricia's goal is to get to know volunteers and pair them with the family she thinks they are best suited to work with.

Is There Training?

All volunteers must complete the 6 hour Bridges Out of Poverty/ Class Matters training before they begin volunteering. Christ Church will host a training on **February 21st and 28th from 6-9:00 PM**. To register email Sarah Brincefield at brincefields@christchurchcharlotte.org. For more information about the training or for additional training dates available at other Charlotte area churches, go to www.christchurchcharlotte.org, click on "Micah," then click on "Upcoming Training Dates."

What if I'm Still Not Sure?

Interested in talking with current volunteers in the program? Contact Sarah Brincefield at Christ Church at brincefields@christchurchcharlotte.org and she will put you in touch with a Christ Church parishioner who is currently volunteering in the program. This person can tell you first-hand about their volunteer

experiences.

Sincerely,

Christ Church Charlotte