CEFM Network, Inc.

formerly Catonsville Emergency Food Ministries



25 Bloomsbury Avenue Catonsville, MD 21228 Hours: M-Th, 9am - 1pm and by appointment Phone: 410-747-HELP www.catonsvillehelp.org

Mark Your Calendar!

All are welcomed to our Saturday, April 11 breakfast including pancakes, sausage, eggs, and biscuits with beverage from 8 to 11:30 am. All you can eat at Catonsville United Methodist Social Hall. Contact Pat Smidt for reservations: 410-979-1721 or

psmidt@baltimorecountymd.gov

Please note: The pancake breakfast at Applebee's planned for February 7 has been replaced by this event.



CEFM Network NEWSLETTER

January 2015

"Sweetheart Dance"

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A Very Special Valentine's Evening to benefit the CEFM Network, Inc. will be held on *February 7, 2015* from *6:30 PM to 10:30 PM*. This elegant evening event at *Rolling Road Golf Club in Catonsville* will feature a full course *surf and turf dinner* and *dancing to the sounds of the band Five A M*. Attire is semi-formal, black tie is optional. *Tickets are \$80.00 per person*. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets should contact Bob Greenwalt, Chairman of the event, at 410-747-2821 or email <u>cefmdance@gmail.com</u>.

The Evening will feature a *raffle* and tickets for the raffle will only be sold at the event. The *Grand Prize will be two Round trip air tickets, hotel and rental car.* Numerous second prizes will be awarded. *Raffle tickets will be priced at* \$20, and 3 tickets may be purchased for \$50. *Winners must be present to claim their prize.*

All proceeds from the event will benefit the work of CEFM Network.



Executive Director's Message

HAPPY NEW YEAR! This has been an exciting last few weeks!

The *Toy Shop* in December was a huge success. With the help of more than 15 hardworking and very much appreciated volunteers, 113 children were provided toys, clothes, games, and more for the holidays. Tables were decorated and adorned with piles of stuffed animals, sports equipment, books, dolls, and holiday decor, at the Catonsville Community Foundation, which was graciously donated for use.

As each family came through the front door, they were greeted by our volunteers, who personally assisted each individual in choosing special items for their children ranging in ages from newborn to 17. Volunteers bagged the goodies and helped carry them to the cars. CEFM Network, Inc. received very positive feedback from the community, and smiles abounded throughout the day.

Thanks are also in order to **St. Mark Catholic Church** for their generous toy donations, as well as a very special corporate donation by **Stinger Ghaffarian Technologies** (SGT), all of which made the event possible. I am pleased to announce the first ever **money management class** hosted by our non-profit at the end of January. Multiple finance-related topics will be covered including budgeting, managing a bank account, paying loans, choosing a good mortgage, and much more. This is the first of many educational classes which will be offered, because CEFM is making self-sufficiency a priority for its Catonsville community.

We are making self-sufficiency a priority for our community because we want to see our clients succeed. To create long-lasting changes that lead to better lives, CEFM will be starting a **Financial Coaching program** staffed by volunteers *like you*! All volunteers will be trained by financial counseling professionals to provide moderate to long-term coaching in order to make a difference in people's lives. If you want to be a part of this new initiative to give our clients the tools they need to succeed, please call us at 410-747-4357.

With your help, we will continue to make a difference!

Megan Murduck CEFM Network Inc, Executive Director

CEFM'S GEEK SQUAD

CEFM Network Inc. has been very fortunate to have four talented information technology (IT) professionals volunteering their time and talents to CEFM. Kevin Carr, Jr., Network Engineer with IBM Global Business Solutions, donated a router and computer parts in order to provide an upgraded computer for the volunteer workstation and network all of CEFM's computers and printers. Darrian Cate, Retail Banker with Woodforest National Bank, has created electronic and postal mailing applications for our volunteer coordinator and assisted with other staff computers. Edgar Cohen, software developer and website designer, created and maintains an online volunteer database and continually updates CEFM's website, catonsvillehelp.org. Lindsey Reeder, Retail Banker with Woodforest National Bank, assists with our electronic and postal mailing lists and other computer applications as needed. Thank you Kevin, Darrian, Ed (not pictured), and Lindsey!





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VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS KEEP CEFM OPEN!

For thirty years this organization has been helping local underserved residents through the generous contributions of our churches, businesses and individuals. So we depend on continued dollar contributions as well as hundreds of hours of volunteers' efforts. Besides our team of volunteers who weigh, sort and pack the community's steady donations of foodstuff, we welcome 1 -2 more such helpers on Mondays from 9:15 - 11:15AM.

Also we need a Thursday volunteer from 11:15 - 1:15 who can take phone messages, then take left-over baked goods to a nearby food pantry. We need backup volunteers to pick up food at Mars in Ellicott City on Monday, Mars in Woodlawn on Wednesday and Bob Evans on Tuesdays. We need phone callers to help enlarge our Newsletters e-mail address lists.

AND, checks for any amount are appreciated and truly needed to keep our program going. Checks can be sent to: CEFM Network Inc., 25 Bloomsbury Ave, Catonsville, Md. 21228, or by Pay Pal and/or your credit card found in our website: <u>www.catonsvillehelp.org</u> ...just click "Donate"

Any way you choose to get involved will make a big difference. On behalf of our staff, our clients, our board members and your Catonsville neighbors, we thank you for your participation.

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