



Volume 8, Issue 1

January - March 2008



CHANGE, INC.
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

Seasons of CHANGE

Christians Helping Arrange New Growth Enterprises

Fourth Annual St. Paddy's Fest

CHANGE, Inc.'s Fourth Annual St. Paddy's Fest will be held on Friday, March 14, 2008 from 6:00pm to 11:00pm at Mountaineer Casino, Racetrack & Resort. The fundraiser benefits the programs and services of CHANGE, Inc. which help the communities of the Ohio Valley.

The night will include entertainment by Movin' & Groovin' Productions, the Macdonald Pipeband, Joe Lyons, and Legend, a delicious food buffet, shopping, and prizes.

Four sponsorship packages were created to help fund the event, and enable businesses and community members to show their support and generosity. Sponsorships can be made for businesses, individuals, groups, families, and in memory

Sponsorship Packages Are Available

See the Included Sponsorship Booklet or contact Lisa at (304) 797-7733



March 14, 2008
Mountaineer Casino
6:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Tickets: \$30.00

*Here's Cead Mile Failte
to friend and to rover
That's a greeting that's
Irish as Irish can be
It means you are welcome
A thousand times over
Wherever you come from,
Whosoever you be*



of a loved one. A Sponsorship Booklet explaining each package has been included with the newsletter.

Two sponsors have already pledged their support, and we would like to publicly thank them for their generosity. Waldorf Distributing, Inc. and Mountaineer Casino, Racetrack & Resort have sponsored the event's entertainment, and Waldorf has also provided their famous Budweiser for the night.

Tickets go on sale Jan. 2 and are available from CHANGE, Inc. staff, Board of Directors, and at all offices. The \$30 tickets include your meal, entertainment, and beer.

Help make the night a success by purchasing a ticket or sponsorship.

Entertainment

Joe Lyons

Movin' & Groovin' Productions

Macdonald PipeBand

Legend

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Upcoming Events

St. Paddy's Fest - March 14, 2008
VITA Site - February 8 & 22, 2008

Sign Up for CHANGE, Inc.'s Paperless Newsletter at www.changeinc.org

Family Medical Care Launches “Every Child Matters” Pilot Program

The Heinz Family Philanthropies, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufactures of America (PhRMA) and the WV Primary Care Association (WVPCA) launched the “Every Child Matters” pilot program to provide access to affordable health care for uninsured children in the state. The project is designed to offer parents and children an affordable solution for basic prevention and primary care services, which are essential to keeping West Virginia’s children strong and healthy.

The program will involve 16 community health centers around the state, including Family Medical Care, and will offer children’s health services for a fee of \$30-60 per visit. A fund established by Heinz and PhRMA will also be available to help cover the upfront fee for families unable to afford it.

“We are delighted Mountain State Blue Cross has joined as a financial contributor,” said

The coverage is available to all West Virginians who:

- Are 18 years of age or younger
- Are uninsured
- Don’t qualify for Medicaid or WVCHIP coverage
- Have no established medical home
- Have family incomes above 220% of the poverty level

Jeffrey R. Lewis, President of Heinz Family Philanthropies. “The goal is to offer children and their parents an affordable medical home focused on the care and well-being of uninsured children...We look forward to other contributions from corporation and organizations that care about improving financial access to healthcare for West Virginia children.”

In explaining its support, Billy Tauzin, president & CEO of PhRMA said, “Nothing is more important to parents than ensuring the health of their children. Recognizing that good health starts with access to quality healthcare coverage,

America’s pharmaceutical research companies support ‘Every Child Matters’ as a creative solution to addressing the medical needs of West Virginia’s children.”

Dave Sotak, WVPCA Board President, explained, that “launching ‘Every Child Matters’ will begin to help children whose parents are working, but not able to afford high premium costs for their children if the employer does not help cover them.”

Families will be screened at the health centers to identify those who qualify for Medicaid or WVCHIP. Those verified as not eligible will be able to receive care for an upfront \$30-60 fee.

Preventive well-child care and pediatric outpatient medical office visits are covered. Lab, x-ray, and medications are not covered, but Family Medical Care can assist families in obtaining those services. Call Family Medical Care for more information. (304) 748-2828

Police Distribute Unclaimed Bikes To Charities

From Story By Hugh Anderson Jr. for Moundsville Daily Echo



Moundsville Police, with help from the City’s Fire Department and Public Works

Department, distributed 500+ recovered bicycles to charities around Marshall County.

“These are bicycles that were reported stolen, but were left unclaimed after Police recovered them,” Police Chief Jim Kudlak explained.

For several years, Police selected bikes and members of Local 543 of the International Association of Firefighters cleaned and refurbished the bikes, before delivering them to the House of the Carpenter II in Moundsville. This year, the Moundsville Police Department was given clearance by the state Auditor’s office to donate the bicycles to various service organization throughout Marshall County.

Representatives of the House of the Carpenter, Salvation Army and CHANGE, Inc. were all

invited to select from the accumulated bicycles, which were then delivered to the agencies for distribution.

CHANGE, Inc.’s Moundsville Office received 26 bicycles to distribute to families during the month of December.

For more information about the program, please call Cindy at the CHANGE, Inc. Moundsville Office at 304-845-8269.

CHANGE, Inc. To Celebrate 25th Anniversary

CHANGE, Inc. is set to celebrate its 25th year of operation in 2008, and has already begun to plan an event to mark the accomplishment.

CHANGE, Inc. (Christians Arranging New Growth Enterprises) was established in March of 1983 by a handful of clergy members for the sole purpose of addressing the concerns of the workers laid-off from National Steel Corporation's Weirton plant, and their families.

Since that time, CHANGE, Inc. has evolved into a private, non-profit Community Action Agency that provides a variety of

programs to individuals and families residing within the Northern Panhandle of West Virginia, and the surrounding communities in Ohio and Pennsylvania. One thing that has remained unchanged over the last 25 years, however, is the agency's strong belief in empowering families.

CHANGE, Inc's programs range from housing and emergency assistance, to weatherization and renovation, to health care and domestic violence. Each

program was developed out of a need in the community, and each program continues to help those who wish to help themselves. CHANGE, Inc.'s programs and services are not hand outs, but programs designed to help lift families and individuals out of poverty and lead them on a path towards self-sufficiency.

As CHANGE, Inc. continues to move forward, programs will come and go, but its mission will remain; to encourage the integration of services, the building of partnerships, and the pulling of resources to empower families towards self-sufficiency.



Newsletter Goes Digital; Mailing List Updated

In order to reduce costs, and streamline the mailing list for the Agency Newsletter, CHANGE, Inc. is asking all recipients who still receive the paper version to "sign-up" for the newsletter.

The process is simple and fast, and will enable CHANGE, Inc. to delete out-of-date names and addresses from its list, eliminate duplicates, ensure that the newsletter is going to the correct person and agency, and better

To "sign-up" for the CHANGE, Inc. Newsletter, simply:

1. Go to www.changeinc.org
2. Click the "Signup for CHANGE, Inc.'s Newsletter" Link on the left side of the webpage.
3. If you wish to receive the newsletter via **email**, fill out the first form.
4. If you wish to remain on the **hard copy** mailing list, fill out the second form.
5. Press Submit.

track how many people the newsletter reaches each month.

Also, by switching to email newsletters, CHANGE, Inc. is able to produce higher quality, color newsletters, reduce the cost of producing the newsletter by eliminating paper, printing and postage expenses, and reduce production time.

Please help us in this endeavor, by completing the "sign-up" form before March 1, 2008.



COUPON

Take 10% off already low prices

Valid from Jan. 1, 2008 - March 1, 2008

This coupon is not valid with other sale prices and/or consignment items. See store for details.

EITC and VITA Sites Again Available to Northern Panhandle

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a special federal tax credit for low-and moderate income workers. The credit of up to \$4,716 is refundable, which means eligible workers get the EITC benefit as a refund even if they owe little or no income tax.

EITC INCOME ELIGIBILITY		
# of Children	Single	Married
0	< \$12,590	< \$14,590
1	< \$33,241	< \$35,241
2 or more	< \$37,783	< \$39,783

CHANGE, Inc. Community Action Agency is leading the Northern Panhandle EITC Coalition which will sponsor Volunteer Income Tax Sites (VITA) throughout the Northern Panhandle to help families prepare their tax returns for free and take advantage of the EITC and the Child Tax Credit (CTC).

VITA SITES

CHANGE, Inc.

3136 West St. Weirton, WV
February 8, 2008 &
February 22, 2008
10 AM - 3 PM

Panhandle Homes

State Route 2 Beech Bottom
By Appointment 304-394-5245

Center Valley Federal Credit Union

OVMC Complex Wheeling, WV
February 1 to April 7, 2008
M - F 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Ohio County Public Library

52-16th St. Wheeling, WV
January 22 to April 15, 2008
M - F 10 AM - 3 PM
M, T, Th 5 PM - 8 PM
Saturday By Appointment

CHANGE, Inc.

700 First St. Moundsville, WV
By Appointment 304-845-8269

The Child Tax Credit is a federal tax credit worth up to \$1,000 per child. Individuals and families may qualify if they have earned income above \$11,750 and can claim at least one dependent child under 17 years of age.

VITA Sites will be open throughout the tax season in all four counties. Services are free of charge to the family/individual and available to all low to moderate income residents of West Virginia.

For more information about the EITC or VITA sites, please call Jim Boniey at CHANGE, Inc. at 304-797-7733 or visit the EITC site at www.wveitc.org.



CHANGE, INC. COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

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Check us out on the Web

www.changeinc.org
www.lighthousedvs.org
www.familymc.org