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My Joyful Heart's mission is:

Nurturing disadvantaged children with the love of Jesus Christ by providing life's essentials so they thrive!

This Year's Dinner Dance is Just Around the Corner!

A Letter From The Founder & Executive Director

I am so excited about our annual dinner dance and auction - "All That Jazz." It's going to be a big event and there are new things in store for our guests. I'm usually not one to spoil surprises, but our volunteers have worked tirelessly to secure items for our silent auction, and I must say, the prizes are going to be amazing. We have items that will appeal to everyone from sports enthusiasts to theater goers to travel fanatics. Speaking of traveling...Disney tickets are an item up for auction!

Not only are our prizes going to be phenomenal, the way in which you bid at the auction will be easier and more fun too. This year, we are partnering with Gesture (formerly known as Auctions by Cellular) to bring you electronic



August 2015

Welcome New Sponsors!

We have added two new sponsors to My Joyful Heart during the month of August; thank you for making a difference in the life of a child.

If you or someone you know is interested in helping a child in need, please click [here](#) for more information about becoming a sponsor.

bidding. You can begin to bid on items a couple weeks before the event and throughout the evening of the event by using your smartphone. It's private, fast, safe, and if you don't have a smartphone, representatives from Gesture will provide you with one, or will do your bidding for you! Updates about early bidding will be posted on our website and Facebook page, so be sure to visit us online for details.

We are still accepting donations and sponsorships; if you are interested in supporting our biggest fundraiser of the year, please click [here](#) for more information.

Our invitations will be mailed soon, but save the date - October 23, 2015 - for a spectacular evening featuring a live jazz band, a delicious dinner, and the company of great friends. I look forward to seeing you at The Crystal Grand.



Diane Carroll
Founder & Executive Director



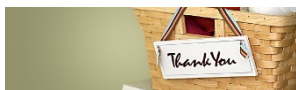
R.I.P.

Still in Need...

Our office refrigerator has kicked the bucket. Although staff members are okay with putting freezer packs in their lunch bags, we do like to have cold beverages and ice on hand for our hardworking volunteers.

We are seeking a donation for an 18 cubic foot refrigerator - we are not choosy about color, we just need one that runs! If you have a fridge you can donate, please contact us.

Thank you in advance for your help. If you have questions, [email](#) or call us at 815.806.1700.



We're in Need of Supplies

Will you help us? We need:

- **batteries - AA, AAA, and 9 volt**



Last month we mentioned our big request and although we had a couple of leads, we still need:

- **19 Palette Racks (42" - 48" wide)**
- **A Forklift**
- **A 10' Rolling Ladder**

These items can be used. We are not necessarily looking for brand new; a few bumps and bruises are okay!

If you can help us locate a potential donor for any or all of these items, we would appreciate hearing from you - please [email](#) or call Jeff at 815.806.1700.

Big Support for Back to School



- **copy paper - white and colored**
- **brown grocery bags**

You can drop off these items at our ministry center located at 9981 W. 190th Street, Suite I, Mokena.

Thank you in advance for your help. If you have questions, [email](#) or call us at 815.806.1700.



Sweet Dreams Pillow Drive Continues to Grow

We Are Almost Half Way There!

Earlier this year, we launched a pillow drive with the goal of receiving 1000 new pillows and pillowcases by November 1, 2015. We are thrilled to report that we're almost halfway there; our pillow count is 463!

The Back to School Gift Event was the first for this school year, the first at our new ministry center, and it ran smoothly. In fact, we completed it a little ahead of schedule. The reason for our promptness and efficiency, you ask? It's simple; we're blessed with support from volunteers. In addition to our regular volunteer staff coming out in full force to help with the event, our friends from the Mokena Chamber of Commerce also donated time to shop and pack backpacks for the kids enrolled in our program.

And our blessings continued. The Mokena Chamber and IBEW Local Union 21 both organized donation drives for us as well. Through their generosity our shelves have been restocked.

If you are interested in learning more about donation drives, My Joyful Heart's Gift Events, or becoming a volunteer, [email](#) or call us today!

Over 760 of Chicagoland's children in need have started this school year with new backpacks, paper, pens, folders, dictionaries, and more. To all of you who participated in this successful event, we thank you for bringing hope to a child.



Thank you IBEW Local Union 21 for restocking our shelves!

We want to give every child enrolled in My Joyful Heart a new pillow and pillowcase. If you would like to start a pillow drive, donate a pillow, or donate \$10 to help us purchase items we would be grateful.

Please note - we are collecting new, standard size bed pillows and pillowcases.

[Click here to donate!](#)



Worried About Credit Card Fraud?

Manna Express Gift Cards can take that worry away and participating in the program is easy! Just click [here](#) to download the form. You can choose from over 300 stores and choose the amount you want on each gift card. Place your order with My Joyful Heart today. You will have peace of mind and you will help the kids enrolled in our program. All orders are due on September



My Joyful Heart volunteers hard at work for the Back to School Gift Event.

28, 2015 and your cards will be available for pickup on October 1.

Volunteer Meeting Update:

If you are involved or would like to be involved in planning our annual Dinner Dance, please attend our Heartbeats Meeting on **Wednesday, September 9, at 6:45 p.m.**

This is our most important fundraiser of the year; be a part of planning this fun event! For more information, [email](#) or call us at 815.806.1700.



Shopping on Amazon? You could be helping My Joyful Heart!

If you shop on Amazon, you can now help Amazon send a



Mokena Chamber of Commerce members packing backpacks during our August 6 Business After Hours event.

We're Gearing Up for the Fall Gift



Event

donation of 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to My Joyful Heart. Simply go to smile.amazon.com and log in as usual to your Amazon account. You will then be able to select "My Joyful Heart Nfp" as your charity to support. Then shop away as you normally do on Amazon! That's it!!

The Fall Gift Event is the second gift event of the school year and we've started to sort through the donations we've received so far to assess our upcoming needs.

For this gift event, our kids get new socks, new underwear, uniform shirts, and a full pack of hygiene products. In addition, they get the items that will keep them warm in the winter!

We need your help and we're accepting donations for:

- **plain knit hats - please, no logos or lettering**
- **knit gloves - one size fits all**
- **new or gently used winter coats for boys and girls - all sizes are welcome**

If you can help, please [email](#) or call us at 815.806.1700.

My Joyful Heart
Ministry center located at
9981 West 190th Street, Suite I
Mokena, IL 60448
information@myjoyfulheart.org