



Beyond Welfare Leader Letter



September 14, 2006

IMPORTANT DATES

September 24, 2006	Ally Retreat from 2-5pm at the Beyond Welfare Office, 130 South Sheldon, Suite 302
October 6, 2006	Gospel Music Extravaganza at Iowa State
October 16, 2006	Immersion Training

Scheduled Events

September 24, 2006: Do you want to renew and refresh your commitment in becoming an ally? Attend an Ally Retreat! On Sunday, September 24, 2006, from 2pm-5pm at the BW office, please come and network with other allies! This is a great way to reconnect with everyone and share your experiences as an Ally. Please RSVP to Noumoua at 292-5992. **Please be aware that this retreat was rescheduled from September 10, 2006.**

October 6, 2006: New Birth Baptist Church will be hosting a gospel music extravaganza on Friday, October 6, at 7pm the Great Hall of the Memorial Union. There will be choirs singing from Ames, Des Moines, and Waterloo. A free will offering will be taken to support BW! Please make an effort to show your support and enjoy some great music at the same time!

October 16, 2006: The next Immersion Training will be held the week of October 16, 2006. Beyond Welfare is always looking for volunteers to donate food and their other gifts and talents! If you are interested, please contact the BW office at 292-5992.

October 19, 2006: The Affordable Housing Taskforce will meet on Thursday, October 19, from 4-5:30pm at Collegiate United Methodist Church. The purpose of this meeting is to have community members who are concerned about increasing affordable housing opportunities meet with and understand those who are in search of affordable housing. Community members are interested in hearing about your "story," including what affordable housing means to you, your need for affordable housing, the barriers you have encountered in securing affordable housing, and what would make your search easier to secure

affordable housing. If you need childcare, please call the office at 292-5992.

November 3-4, 2006: Beyond Welfare will be having its 2nd annual rummage sale at The Lighthouse (across the parking lot). There will also be a bake sale. Donations will be accepted on November 1-2. Look for more details in the next Leader Letter!

Important Dates

Beyond Welfare Board Meetings are held the last Monday of the month from 5:30-7pm in the BW office. These meetings are always open to allies and participants if you have questions, concerns, and/or suggestions. Please mark these dates on your calendar:

<p>September 25, 2006 October 30, 2006 November 27, 2006 December 18, 2006</p>

The BW staff has their weekly meeting from noon-4pm every Tuesday. During this time, please be patient and leave a message and someone will return your call.

Welcomes/New and Goods/Thank You(s)

Thank you to Mechelle W. for including Beyond Welfare in Operation Backpack. The event was a huge success!

Thank you to the following who donated money and/or supplies for Operation Backpack: Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Alissa S., Deb N., Nettie and Scott E., Carol P, and Patricia W.

Thank you to the childcare workers who involve our children in fun activities every Thursday night and during other BW functions. Your willingness to spend time with our children is greatly appreciated!

Phoenix Leadership Team in Nevada

The Phoenix Leadership Team in Nevada is still going strong on Tuesday nights. The group meets at Memorial Lutheran Church, 701-11th Street, from 6-8pm. A meal is provided at no cost and childcare is only available with advanced notice. Please call Noumoua at 292-5992 to make reservations for childcare the Friday before the meeting you are wanting to attend. Hope to see all Nevada and eastern Story County families there!

For Your Information...

Are you interested in obtaining your GED? Fall adult basic education (ABE)/GED preparation classes start Tuesday, August 29 from 6:30-8pm until Thursday, December 14. Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights. You do not need to attend both nights to be enrolled in the classes. There is also a possibility that classes could be available at other times.

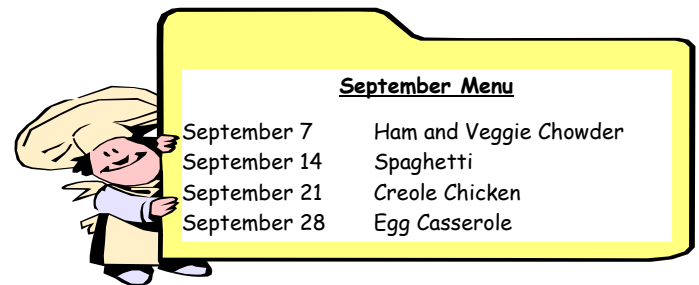
This is a non-credit class. The class time will consist of study time, a question and answer session, and group activities. People are asked to fill out an enrollment form, take a pre-test and post-test, which not only measures progress, but is how the program is funded. There is no charge for people to attend these classes. There will be a charge to take the actual GED test. The test can be taken in Ames, but is also available at the DMACC campuses in Boone, Ankeny, and Des Moines.

For more information, please contact Melinda Thach at mlthach@dmacc.edu

MOVING VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!

Beyond Welfare is creating a list of **volunteers** that would be willing to **help participants and/or allies** move. Helping someone move is a much-needed source of energy, and it also directly helps to eliminate isolation of individuals who may not have

anyone else to help with a big transition like this. If you have ever moved, you know a little help goes a long way! Please remember that this is a general notification, not a commitment. Call or e-mail Jessica with your contact information.



Thought of the Month

“When you think positive, happy, loving thoughts, there is a different chemistry that goes into your body than when you think depressing, negative, anguished thoughts. The way you decide to think has a dramatic effect on your chemistry and physiology.”

~Dr. Wayne W. Dyer

The *Beyond Welfare Leader Letter* is a free monthly publication of Beyond Welfare, a 501c3 non-profit corporation.

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Welcomes and New and Goods are written with the expressed consent of the person or people featured.

If you are interested in submitting something for the Leader Letter, please send to astoehr@iastate.edu by the 28th of each month. Submissions are always welcome!