

Catalina's Mission Outreach Report June, 2024

Market on the Move – We have completed our Market on the Move events for 2024. However, we plan to continue this outreach again, starting next January 2025. We serve neighbors and friends on a “drive thru” format. Food is priced at \$10.00 for up to 60 pounds. This is an excellent way to re-distribute tons of surplus food that might otherwise end up in the landfill.

Primavera Men's Shelter – We were short of volunteers for our May dinner at the Primavera Men's Shelter and we (desperately) need volunteers for our cooking team to cook, serve, and fellowship with the men residing at the Primavera Men's Shelter on Saturday afternoon, June 22nd. And we have a continuing need for volunteers every month thereafter. If you would like to volunteer, please notify Doug Wingert at dougwingert@gmail.com or contact the church office. What about asking your friends, neighbors, and co-workers? We cook and serve a great five course meal to men living with homelessness and they so appreciate our efforts. This outreach runs on the fourth Saturdays of each month, from approximately 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The menu is planned, and the grocery shopping is done by team leaders. New volunteers are always paired with experienced volunteers. The work involves standing and lifting, cooking, and serving. All volunteers who are vaccinated, gloved, and over the age of 12 are welcome.

Casa Maria Soup Kitchen – We will cook and serve our excellent chicken-vegetable soup again on Saturday morning, June 1st. We could still benefit from one more volunteer on that date. This is an early morning mission outreach where a team of 3 or 4 volunteers cook and serve more than 200 bowls of soup for our neighbors. We start very early, (approximately 6:30 am), and we finish by approximately 10:30 am. This work involves standing, lifting, cooking, and serving, using large commercial pots in a very small kitchen. All volunteers who are vaccinated, gloved, and over the age of 12 are welcome. Please notify Doug Wingert, at dougwingert@gmail.com or contact the church office, if you are interested in volunteering. Again, your friends, neighbors, and co-workers make excellent volunteers. Ask them.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Making – Are you available for a summertime Peanut Butter & Jelly sandwich making marathon? It looks like our next date will be on Friday afternoon, July 26th. This is an opportunity to sit in an air-conditioned room and have fellowship with others while making at least 500 sandwiches in just a few hours. These sandwiches are then delivered to the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen, where they will be added to sack lunches for those living with hunger. Stand by for more details.

Committee Members Needed – A committee zoom meeting was held on Thursday, May 23rd at 7:00 pm. We discussed what we have accomplished so far this year, and what challenges are upcoming for the remainder of 2024. We really could use a few more members. Our current outreach efforts are well defined for 2024, and our missions budget has been approved. This committee operates more like an ongoing “task force,” so potential committee members might anticipate no more than quarterly update meetings. Are you interested in knowing more? Please contact Doug Wingert at dougwingert@gmail.com.

TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV-AIDS Network) – TIHAN's major fundraising event, “Treasures for TIHAN,” will be held on Saturday afternoon, June 8th at Casino del Sol. Contact TIHAN for more information. Also, Catalina has been re-scheduled to help with TIHAN's July “Poz” Café instead of August, as had been done in previous years. At the Poz Café, we assist with food and fellowship for those CarePartners living and coping with HIV. Several volunteers will be needed for the July event. TIHAN has scheduled a planning meeting this week, so more information regarding the July Poz Café will be available to share with you soon.