

*“Compassionately challenging Zion residents to overcome hardships
and encourage positive life changes.”*

- Monthly Report Attached.
- Sharing four prescription cards that residents are finding very helpful in reducing their costs significantly. They are available at Zion Township.
- Pace Dial-A-Ride for all residents – call 1-800-201-6446
- We had a productive budget workshop on March 12th and the budget is available for review thru the Township/ City Clerk’s office., with a public hearing on April 16th.
- The Zion Elementary District Student Council Coalition met on March 14th. I have invited them to the May board meeting to honor them for their commitment to the group.
- Senior Resource Day has been set for Wednesday, April 24th from 8:30 – 12:30pm at the Zion Park District.
- Consumer Credit Counseling Services offers appointments at the Zion Benton Public Library. Appointments can be made by calling 815-338-5757.
- The Latino Task Force made up of the key stakeholders from the schools, library, police department and township, have prepared a community survey to determine what the needs are. We will be assimilating the information for the June 7th Coalition for Healthy Communities meeting.
- The ZB Run Squad first run “Mama’s Run” is scheduled for on May 11th, with proceeds going to the Coalition for Healthy Communities. Info is at www.zbrun.org.
- Also, under the Coalition, the Zion Benton Leadership Academy applications for 2013 will be available beginning April 1st at www.zbchc.com.
- I recently found out that David Northern, the Executive Director of the Lake County Housing Authority has transferred to Pennsylvania. His replacement is Jeneen Smith-Underwood, who I am working on meeting with.
- Happy to celebrate that Youth Build of Lake County is finally in Zion, thanks to Frank for not letting go of the idea all these years.
- Summer Work Program applications will be available beginning April 1.
- There have been some staff changes in the office. We are focusing on a process called **lean transformation**, often used to characterize a company moving from an old way of thinking to lean thinking. It requires a complete transformation on how a company conducts business. This takes a long-term perspective and perseverance. We have outsourced our accounting needs and are reorganizing the structure of our case management staff.
- Thanks to the Zion Benton Public Library, specifically Nann Blaine Hilyard and her staff, for hosting such a well run Candidate Forum. It was very well organized and informative for the community. Also Gibbie Buchholtz for taping, as well as George Foster from Northpointe Digital and Chris Szymanski from GoFlo.com for making the forums available for voters to watch at www.zbguide.com.