

Zion Township Updates 5/20/14

"Compassionately challenging Zion residents to overcome hardships and encourage positive life changes."

The role of Zion Township is to act as a linkage and referral network to residents of the Zion community, that are facing hardship.

- Monthly Report Attached.
- Character in the Community meeting set for June 5, 2014 at the Zion-Benton Public Library from 6:30-8pm. ALL interested residents are invited to attend.
- Affordable Housing of Lake County presented a workshop on Foreclosure Prevention on May 13, 2014 at the Zion-Benton Public Library. Two attended. The information is available on the library's website at www.zblibrary.info.
- Consumer Credit Counseling Services will be hosting a program at the ZB Library this summer. Details TBA. They are also available for one on one consultations at Zion Township each Thursday. To make an appointment, call 815-338-5757.
- Zion Township will be closed on Thursday, June 5th from 8:30-10:30am, while the township staff attend a training event at Catholic Charities to help assist us in linking our residents to their programs. We will be meeting with key organizations throughout the year to better:
 - Gain insight into all of their resources and how their funding works
 - Establish who is the best/appropriate contact for each resource
 - Best process to make referrals smooth and help our residents access those resources
 - Help connect our residents to their services
- Preliminary work is being done on implementing a bi-annual job fair in the ZB community thru the Community Partnerships Task Force of the Coalition for Healthy Communities, in partnership with Senator Melinda Bush's office, the Zion Park District, the Job Center of Lake County and Zion and Benton Townships. If anyone has any suggestions on what additional resources might assist residents, please email Cheri at cheri@ziontownship.org.
- Catholic Charities has hired Rozi Teser, the former Zion Township employee, to head up the Meals on Wheels Program at Zion Township. Anyone wishing to volunteer, please call 847-782-4126. Anyone needing meal assistance, please call 847-662-0085.
- We are working with the Job Center of Lake County to employ 35 fourteen and fifteen year olds this summer. Additionally, the Zion Park District will be compensating us for one of the supervisor's salaries and that supervisor will have his crews working on Park District projects. Orientation is on June 16th and will run thru July 25th.
- Senior Resource Day was a huge success with approximately 200 seniors attending. Each senior is given a resource guide sharing information on each of the vendors so that they may contact them year around.
- ZB Run Squad 1st run of the season is Mama's Run was a HUGE success with 275 runners, the most yet! Thanks to State Rep. JoAnn Osmond for always providing the water for the runs, New Balance at Gurnee Mills for providing the water station and CTCA for being a T-shirt Sponsor. The next run supports the Zion-Benton Public Library on June 14, 2014. Information is available at www.zbrun.org.