

Zion Township Updates 10/20/15

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

Zion Township is a people-centered local government agency that coordinates area resources and offers a variety of assistance programs to give our residents options to address their critical situations.

- Monthly report attached.
- Senator Melinda Bush has passed legislation to form a county-wide committee to investigate opportunities to consolidate government agencies as well as find ways to be more efficient and effective. There are 3 township representatives on the committee. Updates will be shared as progress is made. The group has not met yet.
- The Charmm'd Foundation has awarded Zion Township a grant to pay 50% of the costs for Cheri Neal and Gail Gloudemans to attend training on The Empowerment Dynamic, a program that has proven significant success with township clients. The training will take place the first week of December.
- The 4th Class of the Zion-Benton Leadership Academy Graduation will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2015 at The Inn at Market Square at 9am.

Participant	Mentor
Blake Hudson	Mike McDowell
Elena Arizmendi	Pat Goodwin
Kim Whiteside	Mary Carmody and Diana Gornick
Ronesha Franklin	Marilyn Krieger
Nancy Payan	Elsie Martinez
Linda Sandoval	Carmen Patlan
Cristina Rodriguez	Madeline Santana
Matthew Hutchinson	Sonolito Bronson
Richard Frierson	Mary Lockhart White

- ZB Community of Character is looking for nominations for people who are caught living out the character traits of respect, perseverance, responsibility, safety, integrity and kindness. Send nominations to zbcharacterclub@gmail.com.
- Elf Network is in full swing, providing assistance to families in need at Christmas. The collaboration includes Zion Township, who provides an appointment with each family to assist with a variety of needs, Santa for the Very Poor who provides gifts and groceries, Christ Community Church who helps to package and distribute the gifts as well as provide a dinner for the families and Love INC who provides a clothing distribution event working with Lake County churches and hosting at Grace Missionary Church. Zion area schools provide the referral to the program.
- LIHEAP appointments will be taken for seniors and disabled at Zion Township beginning Monday, October 26th.
- Mano a Mano is moving to Pearce Campus to assist residents with immigration issues as well as providing solutions for gaps in services. More to come!
- Special thanks to Chris Syzmanski and GoFlo.com for the creation of the ZB Guide monthly magazine. Beginning in the November Issue, there will be a community calendar to share the events taking place across the Zion, Winthrop Harbor and Beach Park Communities.