



November News

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Each year, Mission: St. Louis hosts [Affordable Christmas](#) events, which empower low-income families to provide Christmas for their children. We are in need of many volunteers to pull this event off and make it a success. Being a part of this is an unforgettable experience and we encourage you to find out how you can participate this year! Come serve as a family, Community Group or on your own - we'll find a place for you to plug in and help. [Click here](#) to find out more and get involved.

A MESSAGE FROM Director of Program Development, Joy Clark



WHAT YOUR MONEY DOES

Your donations fuel this organization, quite literally. Our brand new Toyota Truck allows us to transport materials to and from Community Loop job sites as well as give us more access to the neighborhoods in general. The cost of gassing up the Toyota just once is



4th Annual Night for the Town

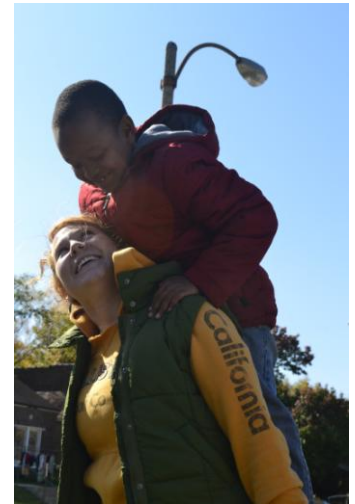
On October 15th, Mission: St. Louis hosted its annual fundraiser, Night for the Town. Now in its fourth year, the event was held at Grand Center's [Moto Museum](#) and once again provided a wide variety of silent auction items, great food, and dancing to the tunes of [Jake Gehret & the Brokedown Sound](#).

Amidst vintage motorcycles from all over the world, 350+ of our supporters gathered together for the cause. We started off the evening with a patron-level reception at which attendees could gain early entrance to mingle in the auction galleries and start their bids. At 7:00pm, the doors opened for general admission. Lined with Christmas lights and more motorcycles, the main event space quickly filled with the evening's attendees who were ready to have a good time.

During the live program, Karen Hylton, the Community Outreach Coordinator for St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS), gave an overview of SLPS and spoke into the work Mission: St. Louis is doing there. With 75 volunteers in the schools, we are able to work with more than 60 kids in our Morning Reading program each week and give 1400 hours of service in three schools each year. Last year, the students who attended our Morning Reading program at least 60% of the time improved their reading levels (fluency and comprehension) by almost one full grade level. Our Adopt-A-Classroom program is making strides as well. In particular, Adams Elementary in Forest Park Southeast has volunteers in almost every classroom at least once a week. Through our programs, students in St. Louis Public Schools are getting more of the academic help they need.

Another focus of the evening was our Jobs for Life program. As of March 2011, 130,000 people in the St. Louis area were unemployed. As a way to combat this alarming statistic, Jobs for Life assists men who have the desire to gain life skills and are willing to work become equipped for a career. Jobs for Life is finishing up its current session and is getting ready to host its first graduation ceremony. Through the live program at Night for the Town, our supporters helped us raise more than \$15,000 for Jobs for Life.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Hannah Wysong



Hannah Wysong is a nurse by night and an avid Mission: St. Louis volunteer by day. Thanks to her involvement, the kids at Sports Camp are covered in paint and foam stickers during craft time, her Adopt-a-Classroom sixth graders have a trustworthy mentor, and the children in the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood have a caring friend at Bible study every Saturday morning.

When she's not giving piggy back rides or pulling foam stickers from her hair, Hannah enjoys hiking, mountain biking, and rock climbing. She is also an experienced crafter-turning discarded recyclables into chic décor.

Next year, Hannah will be serving as a nurse aboard Mercy Ships, a charitable organization that provides healthcare to West African citizens via a traveling ship. Until then, she will continue serving the city she loves alongside

A WAY TO RAISE FUNDS

\$90! Thank you for your giving which allows us to make a significant impact in the neighborhoods and lives of people in St. Louis.

YOUR GENEROSITY MATTERS

Many of you donated time, talents, or objects of value to our Night for the Town auction fundraiser last month, and because of you the night was an enormous success! Thank you for supporting this event and for consistently making it one of the best evenings of the year!

Overall, the event brought in more than \$60,000 which will go towards all aspects of our organization. Thank you so much to all of the auction item donors, sponsors, volunteers, and attendees who helped to make this year's event a night to remember.

See you next fall for the 5th annual Night for the Town!

For more information on Morning Reading, Jobs for Life, or any of our other programs, please visit our [website](#).

Due to the generosity of Harsha Wines, \$1 from every bottle of Ludovicus wine (retail value ~\$12) purchased during the months of November and December will go directly to Mission: St. Louis. Ludovicus is a red blend from Spain and can be found at local retail stores ([see the list of stores here](#)). Get prepped for holiday parties and gifts by helping out Mission: St. Louis!

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