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Monroe County United Ministries



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For Immediate Release

MCUM Opens Self Sufficiency Center, New Hours Beginning September 6

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Thanks to the Jack Hopkins Social Services Funding Committee, the Raymond Foundation, and more than 100 generous individuals in the community, Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) has recently completed a total overhaul of its food pantry and program. The pantry, previously a labyrinth of 8 small rooms, is now one large, open space driven by household participation and choice.

MCUM’s former Emergency Services program has been renamed the Self Sufficiency Center to reflect its goal of coaching clients toward self-sufficiency in tandem with the agency’s mission to create lasting solutions to economic, educational, and social injustice through quality programs, collaboration, and innovation. The new program hours are as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Appointments	8 AM – 12 PM	8 AM – 12 PM	8 AM – 12 PM	8 AM – 12 PM
Food Pantry	12-5 PM	12-7 PM	12-5 PM	12-5 PM
Walk-Ins	12-5 PM	12-6 PM	12-5 PM	12-5 PM

First-time visitors to the Self Sufficiency Center will complete a brief intake form and meet with a MCUM coach to create a personal game plan directed at bringing the home to self-sufficiency. Game plans include the provision of resources MCUM can provide (food, hygiene/household items, financial assistance, etc.), referrals to other local agencies and support navigating and enrolling in social service options, and goals to create and measure progress until the household no longer needs MCUM’s services. Any household requiring follow-up services or referrals will meet with their coach as needed to evaluate their game plans.

Those only in need of food will receive a punch card for use in MCUM’s new, client-choice food pantry, allowing them to return to MCUM a set number of times during the three-month cycle to choose a set quantity of available items for their household, based on family size.

Please join us Sunday, September 25 from 3-6 pm for our free community open house to learn more and to see our new Self Sufficiency Center for yourself! Please RSVP online at www.mcum.org.

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