

# Monroe County United Ministries



March 2021



[Donate Now!](#)

[Upcoming Food Drive](#)

Greetings!

Hi there! You will be hearing from me over the next few months while Mary Jean is on maternity leave.

We've had a constant flow of things going on here at MCUM that we're very excited about. [We recently launched our Spring into Action Campaign that will take place from March 1st- April 30th](#). Our goal is to raise \$40,000 for our programs and 1,000 pounds of cleaning and hygiene items. In line with the campaign, our Self-Sufficiency Center launched its first-ever Spring Cleaning Challenge and we already have over 50 families participating.

I encourage you to follow us on Facebook so you can stay up-to-date on our activities and how you can get involved in helping your neighbors piece together this puzzle that we call life.

Please reach out if I can help you understand MCUM's role in the community or connect you with a way to get involved. I love to hear from our supporters.

Stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,  
Madison Silvers  
Development Associate and Volunteer Coordinator  
[msilvers@mcum.org](mailto:msilvers@mcum.org)

## Spring Cleaning Challenge

## Quick Links

[Donate](#)  
[Volunteer](#)  
[Visit Our Website](#)

## Donations:

You can donate [online](#) any time - we now accept PayPal!

From 12 PM - 4 PM  
Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, & Friday (or  
other times by  
appointment) MCUM is  
accepting food, cleaning,  
and hygiene item  
donations.

When you arrive, please  
ring the door bell!

## Current Needs

### Cleaning Closet

- Paper Towels
- All-purpose cleaners/wipes
- Razors
- Toilet Paper
- Dish Soap
- Diapers & Wipes



As the chill of winter thaws into memory, remains from months of holidays past come into focus. From messes as small as cluttered bedrooms with unmade beds to junk-packed garages and bathrooms that haven't been scrubbed since who-knows-when, there are many unsightly cues to remind us of that upcoming, age-old tradition: Spring Cleaning.

Even in better, pre-pandemic times, it could be difficult to find the motivation you need to tidy up your home and get every room spick-and-span for the season. To provide some encouragement, we at MCUM are inviting our clients to partake in this year's Spring Cleaning Challenge! From March 15 - 29, MCUM clients will complete 14 challenges to spruce up their living areas, kitchens, and bathrooms. Challenges include scrubbing the stove and microwave, wiping down baseboards, mopping floors, and more.

Once our participants have completed all fourteen days of the challenge, they can proudly present their task sheet to MCUM staff at the Self-Sufficiency Center to claim their prize before April 9. Participants are highly encouraged to share photos of a job well done!

Will you join us in supporting our clients? Households struggling to make ends meet face restricted options, often choosing between keeping their heat on, paying rent, eating, or being clean. Our cleaning and hygiene closet allows families full-size personal and home hygiene products, making sure they do not have to make those tough choices. We accept donations of any items you use to clean yourself or your home. Please bring cleaning and hygiene items to our office (address and hours listed on the side) or [donate money online](#).

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Laundry Detergent
- Trash Bags
- Kleenex

#### Food Pantry

- Canned Fruit
- Dried Pasta
- Peanut Butter
- Crackers
- Helper Meals
- Desserts

#### Childcare

- Grocery Bags
- Markers
- Dry Erase Markers
- Construction Paper
- Glue Sticks
- Batteries

Self-Sufficiency Center  
**We're here for you!**  
[www.mcum.org/ssc](http://www.mcum.org/ssc)

827 W. 14th Ct. • Next to Tri North Middle School • Closed Wednesdays

order online!  
**food**  
 We deliver!

**cleaning & hygiene**

**rent & utility bills**

**reach your goals!**

**Compass Early Learning Center**

licensed & high quality

Income based tuition

Ages 1-5 years

**Spots available!**  
[www.mcum.org/compass](http://www.mcum.org/compass)  
 812-339-3429 ext. 10

Have you seen our new yard signs across the community? MCUM is looking for more yard hosts for our signs, so please email [Madison](mailto:Madison) if you would give us the honor of putting a sign in your yard.



# Success Stories: Elaine



"Success means being able to save enough to set up a future for myself."

- Elaine, Your Path Client

Before coming to MCUM, Elaine was in dire straits; living in a shelter with little money or help to get herself back onto her feet. Thanks to MCUM's emergency services and Your Path program, Elaine found an affordable apartment and learned strategies to achieve and maintain financial stability. She is now in landscaping and has her own plant-potting business. She soon hopes to begin a career in welding, for which she recently earned certification.

Elaine even managed to purchase a plot of land after months of wise investments, thanks in part to the advice she received from MCUM's self-sufficiency coaches. On that land, she plans to realize a big dream: a tiny home to call her own.

Your Path allows our clients to create their own definition of success. When asked what success meant for her, Elaine said, "**Success means being able to save enough to set up a future for myself.**" Our hope is that we may continue to guide our clients down their path to a successful, sustainable life.

## Donate TODAY!

to our Spring into Action Campaign

From March-April, we're hosting our Spring into Action campaign, a community-wide challenge against poverty. Our goal is to raise \$40,000 to support our programs and 1,000 pounds of cleaning and hygiene items to restock our cleaning and hygiene closet.

Click [here](#) to donate and help us reach our goal!

## Monroe County United Ministries

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