

A Ministry of Faith, Health and Hope



OPEN M

Report to the Community

March 2009

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RadioOne and Tom Joyner's "Take a Loved one to the Doctor Day" coming to OPEN M!

Radio One, Inc., which operates 93.1 FM WZAK, Z107.9 WENZ, Praise 1300 WJMO, and Newstalk 1490 WERE, will bring Tom Joyner's "Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day" to OPEN M on Tuesday, April 7, 2009.

Tom Joyner is the most listened to African American radio host in America, and his "Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day" takes place every year in hundreds of cities across the United States. Now Akron will be added to that list! 93.1 WZAK will be at OPEN M beginning at 6 a.m. on the April 7 to kick off the event. Then join WZAK's own Kim Johnson as she broadcasts live from OPEN M from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event will feature health screenings, healthy snacks, celebrities, and much, much more!

"Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day" is a health initiative created by Tom Joyner to close the gap in health disparity that exists in the African American community. In previous years, they have conducted over 1,500 health screenings in just one day. These screenings include high blood pressure, heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, asthma, and HIV/AIDS. Lives have been saved as a direct result of this powerful event.

"This is truly a party with a purpose" says Chris Fargy, vice president and general manager of Radio One, Inc.

If you would like more information on how to get involved in this year's "Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day," please contact Haig Meguerditchian at (216) 579-1111.

Praise 1300
Cleveland's Inspiration Station

NEWTALK
1490
WERE AM
THE PEOPLE'S STATION
CLEVELAND

93.1 FM
WZAK
Cleveland's R&B Leader

Z107.9
Cleveland's **BLAZIN'**
Hip-Hop and R&B

A New Year And A Continued Opportunity

How many of you remember New Year's day in 2000? It was such a monumental time for this country and the entire world. It marked not only a new year, but a new millennium. All over the world, major celebrations broke out at midnight and depending on what TV station you watched, you could see many of the major ones just when they happened.

For many, it was also a time of concern. Businesses throughout the country during 1999 scrambled to make sure that their computer systems could handle the change to 2000 and all of the potential problems from Y2K. Fortunately, it proved to be of minor effect except for some small areas where checks were prepared showing January 1, 1900, rather than 2000. Perhaps you may remember where you were and what you were doing on that day.

It may seem for many of you that New Years 2000 was just yesterday. Yet here we are nine years later thinking about another new year and the challenges it will bring for all of us. The needs in our community are great as many face financial hardship in this tough economy. The reality of the new poor has been placed before all of us, as we continue to see many who were at one time donors come to OPEN M now needing our help. The challenges are great, but so are the opportunities to provide practical help for those who have need.

As mentioned last month, we are impressed by the words of James to the churches of his time: *"What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."* –James 4:14.

Our life is like a breath of fresh air on a cold winter day – we see the mist as we breathe, and watch it disappear so quickly. Given that life is so short, James asks us to consider what our life means. What was his answer?

"Instead you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." –James 4:15.

God tells us that we are to give our lives for the needs of people. He did that for us when He sent His son to die for us. We can do the same as we are investing our lives in the needs of people, since it is His will for us and how He would have us respond to the brevity of our life.

We thank you for your involvement with us in the many ways you help. We at OPEN M continue to commit ourselves to meeting needs in this community. But we cannot do what we are able to do without your help and involvement. We ask that you join us in the new year of 2009 to be a Beacon of Hope for the inner city of Akron and all of Summit County.

We invite you to join our Company of Concern by giving a monthly donation (any amount). If your church would like to join with us in covenant to minister to the poor, or if your business would like to partner by giving back to the community, we welcome your support and commend your obedience to follow our Lord's example. Please visit our Web site to see how to donate or contact our CEO, Dottie Achmoody, and she will personally advise you.

Thanks for your consideration to make a difference in the life of another human being.

Annual Beacon of Hope Benefit Dinner, Saturday, April 25, at the Martin Center

We invite all of you to come to the Annual Beacon of Hope Benefit Dinner on Saturday, April 25. This dinner is sponsored by the OPEN M Women's Board and will be an exciting evening of dinner and dancing.

The benefit dinner will be held at the Martin University Center with keynote speaker, Dr. Roger Chaffee, MD, FACC, medical director for OPEN M's Free Health Clinic. The evening begins at 6 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and music by pianist Dave Stofka. We are currently seeking donations from local artists for our silent auction.

This year the event will include dancing to the Mike Petrone Trio and a dance demonstration by In-flight Ballroom Dance Company. Mike Petrone has been performing in the Cleveland, Hudson, and Akron area for more than 25 years. Tickets are \$75. If you would like to attend, please email Doris Stewart at projects@openm.org, or visit our website, www.openm-ministry.org for more information.

Join us for the fifth annual OPEN M Walk for Kids – Saturday, May 2

Join us at OPEN M to enjoy the Fifth Annual Walk for Kids on Saturday, May 2. We are looking for walkers and team captains to participate in this exciting event for the benefit of our Friends of Children program. All walkers will start by parking at Canal Place, at the Spaghetti Warehouse's parking lot, located on 510 S. Main Street. Starting at 7:45 a.m., you will be shuttled in our OPEN M passenger vans from the Canal Place parking lot to the OPEN M Neighborhood Center. After enjoying a delicious pancake breakfast served by the Downtown Kiwanis and the Stow-Munroe Falls Kiwanis Clubs, live entertainment and tours, we will walk 1.5 miles to Canal Place starting at 10 a.m. Our walk is supervised by the Akron City Police Department.

Each team has a Team Captain who recruits other team members. Most teams average \$100 a walker (\$10.00 from ten different individuals).

Teams can consist of church members, youth groups, men's/women's groups, service organizations, co-workers, school organizations, sports teams, families, friends / neighbors along with many others.

So call or e-mail Doris Stewart today at 330-434-0110, Ext. 404, or projects@openm.org to register yourself and your team for the walk. Plan to join us and wear your organization or church's tee shirts to show your group's support for OPEN M on Saturday, May 2.



Thank you to our donors who help us be a Beacon of Hope in the Heart of the City.

OPEN M Donor List - January 16th to February 15th

AARP COVENTRY CHAPTER 3820
 Brian & Marci Achmoody
 Dottie & Lee Achmoody
 Aetna Foundation, Inc.
 Partners in Giving
 Akron Tool & Die Co Inc
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 *Church of the Good Shepherd
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 *First United Methodist Church,
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 Miday Host WONE 97.5
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 by
 Linda Vowles

In Honor of
 Beckwith Heating & Cooling
 by
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Sharnsky

In Memory of
 Joseph D. Bowers
 by
 Shirlee McMahan
 Tim & Colleen McMahan

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 Carol Brodbeck
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 Julie Ann Taylor
 Charles Wilkinson

In Memory of
 Bill Ghrist
 by
 Mrs. Zetta Pozarski

In Honor of
 Richard & Carolyn Hines
 by
 Kathleen Pronio

In Honor of
 Rich Williams' Birthday
 by
 Amy Indorf & Rich Williams

A Networking EXTRAVAGANZA

WHEN: Wednesday, March 25, 2009

TIME: 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

COST: FREE*

WHERE: **OPEN M**

941 Princeton Street • Akron, OH 44311

A Ministry of
Faith, Health & Hope

GET CONNECTED

BRING. . .business cards, brochures and samples to give to prospective customers!

Members of the following organizations are invited to attend:

Akron Boards of Trade
Fairlawn Area Chamber of Commerce
Stow-Munroe Falls Chamber of Commerce
Summit County Mayor's Association
and more. . .invite a friend or associate!**

Enjoy delicious samplings from the following local establishments:

APPLEBEES / Stow
CHICK-FIL-A / Chapel Hill
DIFEO'S ITALIAN CUCINA
MONICA'S OF NEW YORK
SAM'S CLUB
THE WINERY AT WOLF CREEK

Desserts by: a friend of OPEN M, Chef Dave Goshen
and the Hudson Mom's Club



****Please RSVP to Doris Stewart @ 330-434-0110 x404 or
email: projects@openm.org, by March 20th.**



Please visit www.openm-ministry.org, for directions.

It is a 15 minute drive from Graham Road, Stow & Rt. 8 entrance ramp. Parking attendants will be on site.



***Please bring a canned food item for the pantry
or a sealed over-the-counter medication
(i.e. Aspirin (adult and baby), Tylenol, Cough
Suppressant etc.) for the Free Clinic.**





Hot Lunch Headlines

Monday, March 16
Hudson UMC

Tuesday, March 17
Fairlawn Lutheran

Wednesday, March 18
Granger UMC

Thursday, March 19
Twin Falls UMC

Friday, March 20
Macedonia UMC

Monday, March 23
Manchester UMC

Tuesday, March 24
St. Barnabas Catholic Church

Wednesday, March 25
1st Congregational Church,
Hudson

Thursday, March 26
Green Valley UMC

Friday, March 27
Montrose Zion UMC

Monday, March 30
High Street Christian Church

Tuesday, March 31
Christ Church Episcopal

OPEN M welcomes a new member to its board of trustees Beverly Bokovitz, RN, MSN, NEA-BC

Beverly joined the Akron General Medical Center as senior vice president of nursing/patient services and chief nursing officer in 2007, and we are pleased to have her as a member of our board of trustees and our clinic committee.

Beverly received her associate or applied science degree at Cuyahoga Community College and her MS in nursing in two majors: adult and geriatric nurse practitioner from Case Western Reserve University. She earned a doctorate in organizational leadership from Nova Southeastern University. She is board certified from the Advanced Nursing Administration (ANCC) and has received training from the Institute of Hospital Emergency Incident Command System (HEICS), Wharton School of Business, and Advanced Cardiac Life Support.

Beverly began her career as a registered nurse in cardiology from Cleveland Clinic. She also served as the director of nursing services at Pearlview, Inc., and University Hospitals of Cleveland; administrative director of medical/surgical services at NCH Healthcare System; and vice president patient care services, then COO at Affinity Medical Center. Overall, Beverly has almost 20 years of experience in hospital and healthcare systems environments.

In addition to her healthcare experience, Beverly is active in many community organizations including Rotary International, Toastmasters International, Akron-Canton Regional Organization of Nurse Executives, American Organization of Nurse Executives, Content Expert Panel of the ANCC. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau Society of Nursing.

We welcome Beverly to our board of trustees. Her counsel and experience will enhance the board as they provide oversight and guidance to the staff at OPEN M, as we work to serve the inner city of Akron and all of Summit County.



Mark your calendars for our Volunteer Dinner

We at OPEN M are blessed to have such amazing volunteers! We can't even begin to thank them for all the services and love they provide for OPEN M and our clients. On Sunday, June 14, 2009, we want to honor them by showing our appreciation and letting them know how proud we are that they are a significant part of our ministry. OPEN M is a ministry of faith, health, and hope, and our volunteers give hope to everyone who comes through our doors.

Please mark your calendars and join us on June 14 for our 41st annual volunteer dinner. Father Norm Douglas, co-founder of Heart to Heart Ministry and past OPEN M trustee is our guest speaker for the evening. Chef David Goshen is preparing a delectable dinner served by our Diamond Ladies. Our volunteers will be recognized with "Volunteer Choice Awards" to celebrate everything they do for us throughout the year. It will be a great night full of food, fun, and fellowship to show them how much they mean to us.

The cost is \$15 per person; the deadline to get your tickets is June 1, 2009. We encourage everyone to purchase your tickets early. **We look forward to seeing you there!**

OPEN M is located in the Neighborhood Center, 941 Princeton Street in Akron, Ohio.

(330) 434-0110 FAX: (330) 434-6661

www.openm-ministry.org

Dottie Achmoody – CEO, Ext. 407

Betty Eberly – Executive Assistant, Ext. 405

Bobbie Boyer – Food Service Manager, Ext. 416

Dave King – Operations Manager, Ext. 419

Sheila Sims – Family Development, Ext. 403

Felicia Bronner – Education Coordinator, Ext. 410

Lisa Fazenbaker – Clinic Manager, Ext. 413

Dan Bricker – Building Manager, Ext. 422

Colleen McMahon – Secretary, Ext. 402

Marla Oddo – Nursing Administrator, Ext. 414

Pat Adolphson – Financial Assistant, Ext. 428

Tiffany Stahl – Volunteer Manager, Ext. 409

Doris Stewart – Events & Marketing Manager, Ext. 404

Don't miss an opportunity to enjoy some great food and benefit OPEN M

If you like to eat out, here are three opportunities to enjoy a great meal and benefit OPEN M at the same time!

1. **2009 Enjoy The City Coupon Books are still available through OPEN M. These books include coupons to several local restaurants as well as discounts on Cleveland Indians tickets, rounds of golf, roller skating, ice cream, and various retail businesses. The cost of the book is \$20 of which \$8 will go to OPEN M. These books must be sold by March 31st, so don't delay.**
2. **Beef O'Brady's, located at 3975 Cascades Blvd. in Brimfield (off Rt. 18 near Wal-mart) will be donating 20% of their food sales to OPEN M between noon and 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 29. Be sure when you join us that you mention you are there to support OPEN M.**
3. **The two Applebee's locations in Stow (3528 Hudson Drive and 4296 Kent Road) will be donating 15 percent of their food sales to OPEN M between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Thursday, April 2. This would be for eat-in or carside to go orders. Be sure when you join us that you mention that you are there to support OPEN M. Check the OPEN M website at www.openm-ministry.org to get a brochure for this event.**

Contact Doris Stewart, our marketing manager, at 330-434-0110, Ext. 404, if you are interested in any of these opportunities or need more information.

Get the OPEN M newsletter electronically

If you would like to receive the OPEN M newsletter as an e-mail attachment, please contact Dave King at 330-434-0110, Ext. 419, or e-mail at operations@openm.org. Please provide your name and e-mail address and we would be pleased to do so. This would save OPEN M some postage costs and enable you to get the newsletter more quickly.

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Akron, OH 44311

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OPEN M

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, Mar. 25, 5-7:30 p.m.
Business after hours at OPEN M

Saturday, Apr. 4, 9 a.m.
Membership Meeting at the
Neighborhood Center.

Saturday, Apr. 25, 6 p.m.
Beacon of Hope benefit dinner
at the Martin Center

Saturday, May 2, 8:30 a.m.
Walk For Kids

Project Homeless Connect

Once again, OPEN M will be participating in the second annual Project Homeless Connect event, which will be held at the Chapel.

The goal this year is to assist up to a thousand homeless people. OPEN M is looking for donations of socks for men, women and children, and hand sanitizers. We will be collecting items up until April 27th. Watch future issues of the newsletter for updates.



Reminder: Feinstein Challenge continues through April

The Feinstein Food Challenge continues through March and April. Help OPEN M fight hunger in Akron. Make a monetary donation in March or April to OPEN M placing the word "food" in the memo portion of your check, or make a donation of non-perishable food items to the OPEN M Food Pantry, and we will receive a portion of the \$1 million that the Feinstein Foundation will match.

Thank you for helping to alleviate hunger right here in Akron.



Need information about planned giving?

Call to learn how you can support our mission and achieve your financial goals at the same time through planned giving. Call Dottie Achmoody at (330) 434-0110, Ext. 407, for more information.