# Heart to Heart



The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the hiring of Sara Noblet as Center Director, replacing Martha Buckman who has retired. Sara comes to GSC from Jackson County Children's Division where she served as a foster care case manager, and later as a permanency specialist. In the latter position she was responsible for finding resources for making children more permanently secure, so her experience includes wide knowledge of resources available.

Sara has a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Human Services from Colorado Technical

# Sara Noblet is new center director

University. She lived as a child in Florida, in Germany, then Overland Park, Kansas. She has lived in Excelsior Springs since 2002. She is married to Dustin Noblet who works for the City of Excelsior Springs in the Public Works Department.

Sara and Dustin have two children, Jadyn who is at the high school here and loves choir, and Spencer at the middle school where he participates in nearly all sports.

For 10 years the family has been involved at ES First Church, and very active in their outreach activities City Love and Second Mile, providing hot meals, groceries, and other necessities to needing persons.

For R&R the Noblets spend time at Dustin's mother's farm in Ray County, enjoying nature and riding on their big toys.

Where those in need find hope; the Good Samaritan Center is dedicated to preventing homelessness and hunger by providing basic life needs and access to life skills.

#### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



I am so delighted to be able to give service in this capacity, to those who are searching for light in the dark. Hope is on the horizon, and I am honored to be able to be a part of it! As a child I knew I wanted to serve others, so being able to do this on a daily basis for me is a dream come true. Spending this last month with Martha has been such a pleasure, and I look forward for the things to come!

Sara

#### AND FROM THE RETIRING DIRECTOR'S DESK

For the past thirty years I have had the pleasure and honor of working at GSC. Beginning in the small store front with the Center only open a few hours a week to the current location of GSC, I have served with and for the best of the best people

throughout this community. From my co-workers, to the board of directors, to the donors and most of all those who came seeking guidance; there are too many to name without the fear of missing someone. As I look forward to retirement I recognize that these last 30 years have been a time of spiritual growth, and walking through the doors to come to work has always been something which I looked forward to. I am leaving with the confidence that with our Lord's guidance, the board of directors made a wonderful choice in selecting Sara to take over as executive director to continue the work of Good Samaritan Center.



Martha

### Jennifer Chappel named Emergency Assistance Coordinator



Beginning her twelfth year as a caseworker at GSC, Jennifer is officially coordinating emergency assistance. Jennifer, Caseworker Michelle Vasquez, and Senior Case Manager Gayle Geiger meet with and work with people who need help with food, housing, or other necessities. Maintaining relationships with outside sources is the key element of the role she fills. Harvesters, Happy Bottoms, Kansas City Medicine Cabinet, United Services Community Action Agency are just some of the organizations that Jennifer reports to monthly, assuring GSC's compliance with their requirements. She has been a leader in the Excelsior Springs Community Connect effort to address homelessness.

Asked why she obviously loves her job so much, Jennifer replied, "Well, God says I have to!"

### **GSC Staff**

Sara Noblet, Executive Director
Pam Hanser, Broadway Bargains Store Manager
Jennifer Chappel, Emergency Assistance Coordinator
Michelle Vasquez, Caseworker
Leslie Brewer, Social Services Assistant
Jacinda Weise, Volunteer Coordinator
Crystal Canfield, Custodian
Dan Paige, Senior Home Repair Director
Gayle Geiger, Senior Advocate
Courtney Cole, Grant Writer

#### **Directors**

Dan Paige, President
Ann Case, Vice-President
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Robert Hart, Treasurer
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Martin Conrad, Heather Gross,
Don Ledford, Misti Ledford, John McGovern,
Linda Pasalich, Kelli Rice, Glen Smith,
Eartha Taylor, Larry Tesar

### Martha Buckman retires after 30 years of service to people in need

Martha started at GSC as a caseworker, and has worn many different hats in her journey of service. At one point during her tenure Martha served for four years as the Transitional Housing Director. During the past seven years as executive director, she has been instrumental in getting the Center back to a solid foundation. The community has been blessed by the years of Martha's warm relationships with clients, co-workers and supporters.

Martha is an active member of St. Ann's Catholic Church, where she sings in the choir. She is a member of the Excelsior Springs Optimist Club. She has served on the Missouri Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee, SAFE Committee, Downtown Excelsior Partnership, and is a board member of the Excelsior Springs Area Chamber of Commerce. Based on her extensive service to the community, she was awarded "Citizen of the Years" award by the Excelsior Springs Chamber of Commerce.



## Annual Tortoise & Hare event hosts 377 participants in April 6 Walk/Run, funds emergency assistance

The 377 participants included 198 5K runners, 156 2-mile walkers, and 23 kids in the Fun Run. Overall first place winners received a \$100 gift card from The Running Well Store. Age group winners (male & female) received a \$15 gift card from Dubious Claims Brewing Co. Overall first place finishers: Ethan Weilant (18:57) & Abbey Brackenburry (20:27).



Many thanks for support from: Nancy & Bill O'Brien, Maynard Moore, Red Cross Pharmacy, Loretta Ledford, Smith Elder & Business Law, Molly Roberts, Holly Spencer @FeatherMillStudio, Fishing River Running Club, Woods Memorial Christian Church, Bill Hightower Team, Reece & Nichols, Paccor Packaging Solutions, Dubious Claims Brewing Co., Wharton Agency, Pete & Nancy Rucker, Mill Inn, Geri Hosticka, The Elms Hotel & Spa, The Running Well Store, Beatz DJ Service, Opaa!, Platte-Clay Electric Coop, REC Midwest magazine, Precision Chiropractic, Wabash BBQ, Lake Maurer Retreat Center, The City of Excelsion Springs, ES Police Department, and ES Fire Department. (Photo from Linda Pasalich)

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Good Samaritan Center of Excelsior Springs MO Inc 108 Thompson Street Excelsior Springs MO 64024 Non-profit U.S. Postage **PAID** Permit # 31 Excelsior Springs MO 64024

### GSC Golf Tournament is Friday, May 3

The golf tournament committee is happy to invite you to a new Excelsior Springs Golf Course clubhouse on the always beautiful course! Team entry fee is still \$125 for four, and includes fees, lunch, beverages, games and contests. Consider a sponsorship which minimizes your expenses while giving more aid to needy families. To register a team call 816-630-2718, ext. 28.

### NAP Tax Credits Available

The Good Samaritan Center has been awarded \$130,675 in tax credits over the next three years. Missouri's Neighborhood Assistance program allows eligible donors to designate a portion of their state tax obligation to a local project. 50% of a donor's tax bill can go to a specified project. Eligible donors are business owners, corporations, banks, farmers, and other entities. For information about eligibility and application forms, call Sara at 816-630-2718, ext. 28.

We are a



Community Partner

### Volunteers are needed!

A very rewarding way to spend your free time: various jobs, various times.

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is published by The Good Samaritan Center of Excelsior Springs MO 64024 Editor: Roberta Hammer Photos: Kevin Morgan