



Edwardsville Township
Frank Miles, Supervisor
300 West Park Street
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025
618.656.0292

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Frank Miles

Tel: 618-656-0292

Cell: 618-406-9585

Email: fomiles@edwardsilletownship.com

Lunch and Learn Workshop Preps Local Agencies on Assisting Homeless Clients

Edwardsville Township Partners with Glen-Ed Ministerial Alliance, offers workshop as follow up to Social Service Safety Net Forum

PHOTO CAPTION: Edwardsville Township Supervisor Frank Miles welcomes guests to the first Lunch and Learn.

Edwardsville, Illinois – August 28, 2015. Representatives from more than 25 organizations attended the first Lunch and Learn Workshop presented by Edwardsville Township and the Glen-Ed Ministerial Alliance on Thursday August 27. The event, held at Edison’s Entertainment Complex, was a follow up from the Social Services Safety Net Forum held on June 5 and focused on providing information on how to assist homeless clients.

In June, Edwardsville Township, in partnership with the Glen Ed Ministerial Alliance, held a Social Services Safety Net Forum to bring together area social service agencies, organizations, and churches that provide services to residents of Edwardsville Community School District 7. Edwardsville Township offers two assistance programs to residents, General Assistance and Emergency Assistance. These program assist residents with little to know income with shelter, utilities, food, and personal items.

Presenters Janice Donaldson, Executive Director of the Good Samaritan House of Granite City; Dave Harrison, Planner with Madison County Community Development; and Margarett Trushel, Executive Director of the Oasis Women’s Center have assisted homeless individuals and families in our community for decades. Supervisor Miles said, “Organizations want to learn from one another. They want to establish working groups with individuals who are passionate about collaboration. We want to develop a way to share resources effectively and efficiently to help those in need.”

After the presentations a Q&A was held in which representatives could express their concerns with providing services to their clients as well as finding additional resources. The workshop uncovered the often looked over issues of transportation and child care services for individuals and families that are homeless. “Sometimes having a place to sleep is not enough,” said Supervisor Miles, “In order to get back on their feet they need a job, and a job requires transportation to work and childcare if you have children. It may seem like an easy fix, but the reality is a serious obstacle.”

On September 17, the partnership is hosting an After Hours Networking Event from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Eden Church. The focus of the event will be Senior Care. “More than 12 organizations will be on hand to share with us the services they provide to seniors. This is a great opportunity for agencies to again learn from each other and share resources,” said Supervisor Miles. The event is free and light refreshments will be served.

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For more information about the Social Services Safety Net Forum or to register for the event, please contact Edwardsville Township at 656-0292.

Edwardsville Township is comprised of the City of Edwardsville, Village of Glen Carbon and unincorporated areas just outside of these two municipalities. The Township Supervisor's office is located at 300 West Park in Edwardsville and is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday and Friday and from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Learn more about Edwardsville Township online at www.edwardsvilletownship.com or contact the Township Offices by phone at 618-656-0292.

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