Fall Solicitation Under Way!

Final touches are being put on our fall solicitation. We anticipate the mailing to go out on October 1, 2013. Our 2013 goal is $75,000. We are a little over halfway there! There are many ways you can gift Greene Education Services.

1. If you are a federal employee, please take a few minutes and acknowledge us as part of your Combined Federal Campaign Gift.
2. If you are employed by a Greene County School, payroll deductions are available.
3. Think about a weekly, monthly or quarterly pledge to Greene Education Services.
4. Log onto our website (www.greeneeducationservices.org) and give a gift online using PayPal.
5. Mail a gift or stop by the office in Switz City.

As always, your gift is tax deductible. Invest in the future of our county by donating today!

Stop by the office or call to set up a meeting with us. We would love to give you a tour of our facility, share with you all the positive things happening and discuss how we can partner together for continued success and positive outcomes.

School and Federal Employee Payroll Deduction Opportunity

Did you know that if you are a federal employee or an employee of a school corporation in Greene County that you can set up a scheduled gift for Greene Education Services? We are pleased to join the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) for this year. If you are a federal employee you can pledge donations to Greene Education Services using our five digit code: 59978.

The Greene County Literacy Coalition is part of the CFC too. This organization was highlighted in our August newsletter. They provide literacy support for those in need. Their five digit code is: 63499.

In addition, Greene Education Services now offers payroll deduction gift opportunities for any employee of a school in Greene County. Executive Director Sophie Haywood will be meeting with area schools over the next month to provide information about this opportunity. If you are interested in gifting Greene Education Services through a payroll deduction please contact us or check with your local school superintendent. Brochures are available for anyone interested. By donating $10 or $20 each pay, you are making a substantial investment into the youth and families of our communities and to education and workforce development. Don’t Forget: 59978 Greene Education Services and 63499 Literacy Coalition of Greene County!!
Indiana Youth Institute (www.iyi.org) is a state-wide organization that promotes the healthy development of Indiana children and youth by serving the people, institutions and communities that impact their well-being. As part of their mission, they partner with communities to provide professional development opportunities in the form of a working lunch. The Greene County Alliance for Networking and Growth (GCA) will be hosting three Youth Worker Café’s during the 2013-14 school year. The first one is October 17, 2013 at Monical’s Pizza in Linton from 11:30 - 1:00. The keynote topic is: “Youth Worker Renewal: The Imperative to Keep Ourselves Vital for Young People.”

Tom Plake and Janet Wakefield from The Journey will be presenting. The Journey is home to a variety of programs that seek to support the renewal and professionalization of current and prospective youth workers in Indiana and around the country. Please join us for this FREE event. This lunch is open to anyone interested but you must RSVP so we can confirm numbers with the restaurant. Please RSVP at our office and let Bethany Scott know you are coming: 812-659-1300. Deadline for reservations is Monday, October 14, 2013 at 4:00 PM.

Indiana Girls Collaborative Project Offers Mini Grants

Through support from the National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP), Indiana Girls Collaborative Project (INGCP) will soon offer mini grants to support girl-serving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) projects in Indiana. Mini-Grants are intended to be seed funding; they are not intended to fully fund entire projects. The maximum mini-grant award is $1000.

Mini-grants are awarded to any girl-serving, STEM focused collaborative. If you are interested in applying for one of these mini-grants check out their website at: www.ngcproject.org. The grant opportunity closes on October 18, 2013 and all decisions will be made by November 15, 2013.

This is a great way to fund that special class Problem Based Learning Project or start an after school girls STEM club! If you would like to apply but are worried about writing a mini-grant, call our office and let us know how we can support you!

Operation Medicine Cabinet

Unused and/or expired drugs and medications can be a challenging task to get rid of. Operation Medicine Cabinet is an annual event that helps keep these unused medications off the street and out of our landfills and water. Greene Education Services is proud to partner with our County Soil and Water conservation, Sherriff’s Department, Health Department, Local Coordinating Council, Churches, Baxter Comics and JR Billboards to host Operation Medicine Cabinet on October 12, 2013 from 10 AM to 1 PM. You can drop off unused medications at Wright Township Fire Department in Midland, Center Township Fire Department in Little Cincinnati, Stockton Township Fire Department in Linton or Richland Township Fire Department in Bloomfield. All collected medications will be properly disposed of to keep our environment clean, your cabinets empty of unwanted drugs and reduce the risk of having illegal prescription medications on the street. Thank you for helping to keep drugs where they belong.
Regional Education and Workforce Development

Radius Indiana and the Education Workforce Innovation Network were recently awarded a $75,000 grant from the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) to help improve education and workforce development in the eleven county region that makes up the I-69 Corridor. As part of this initiative, Radius hosted county input sessions for each of the eight counties they work with. This information was used to help develop a regional workforce and education snapshot.

An input session was hosted in Greene County on August 23rd at the Greene County Fairgrounds. Discussion revolved around resources currently available, challenges that the county faces related to workforce development and education, and available opportunities. Radius has identified a point of contact from each county who will represent their county on this Regional Advisory Council. This representative will be responsible for keeping their county informed, gathering input from their county and representing their county at regional meetings.

Greene Education Services will continue to be present at all of these county sessions and advocate for cradle to career and post career education.

Greene Education Services Welcomes Heather Harris

Greene Education Services is pleased to welcome Mrs. Heather Harris who replaces Mr. Mike Hennie as the new Director of Greene Academy and Greene Alternative to Suspension Program (ATS). Mrs. Harris grew up in a rural county in Illinois, much like Greene County. She graduated from Indiana State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in 2004 and began her career with the Debra Corn Agency in Bloomfield. From there Mrs. Harris went to work for the Division of Child Services from 2007 - 2013. Mrs. Harris began her tenure here at Greene Education Services this past August when she accepted the position of Director for Greene Academy and the Greene ATS.

Mrs. Harris is enjoying the opportunity to continue her work with youth and families and looks forward to expanding her career goals to focus on education. Mrs. Harris is married and has a three year old daughter. She and her family live in western Greene County.

Featured Program: Greene ATS

Many individuals struggle to understand the various programs and services Greene Education Services (GES) supports. We felt it important to highlight different programs and curriculum each month to help you as a partner of GES better understand who we are and what we do.

Our featured program this month is the Greene Alternative to Suspension Program or “Greene ATS”. In the past, students who were suspended from school ended up being penalized twice - once through disciplinary actions and a second time through missing important coursework and tests. Students then fell further behind academically which set them up for academic failure. Thus the reason Greene ATS was established. Instead of sitting at home while suspended, students must report to the ATS program. Each school corporation transports students to/from Greene ATS. While here, students have an opportunity to complete coursework and tests which will help them stay current in their classes. If a student fails to follow rules at Greene ATS, they must appear in court.

Last year, 2,309 assignments were completed and 291 tests administered. A total of 523 students served 1,154 days.
There were two more youth suicides in Greene County in September. Did you realize that over the past year SIX young people in our county have taken their own lives? Did you also realize that our youth continue to reach out in un-healthy ways to deal with stress and life issues?

How do we support those students who come to school with heavy burdens on their shoulders? What about the student who faces adult-sized problems at home with little or no positive role model in their life to offer up sound advice and a listening ear? There is an URGENCY in our county to provide "Helping Hands and Open Hearts".

Greene Education Services continues to seek funding to allow us the luxury of providing social workers in the school setting again. Your donation can support this effort. It is costly to maintain, but vital to the health and wellbeing of our future generation. Additionally, research proves to us that learning will not occur when an individual is worried or fearful and preoccupied.

We cannot sit around and wait for funding before moving forward. We must continually seek answers. If you are interested in becoming part of the solution, contact our office today! We are searching for individuals willing to help establish a mentor program. Life is hard and it is important that we, as a community, do all we can to support education and the youth of our region. It takes both relationships and education to help turn negative statistics into positive ones. Each one of those statistics represents a life that is saved and a bright future.

Vision: Greene Education Services envisions thriving, diverse, accepting communities which ensure the health and well-being of persons so that they may be prepared for life.

Mission: The mission of Greene Education Services is to provide access to training and education in safe and supportive environments.

Core Values: All persons have the right to:
- A safe and secure environment
- Be active participants in their community
- An education that allows them to compete in the 21st century workforce
- Be supportive, caring individuals of moral character