



SGFMC Action for Justice News

This is a limited compilation of **CURRENT** opportunities for action. **Additional suggestions are welcomed at:** marynpaul@comcast.net We will make every effort to share them as quickly as possible.

"Thus says the Lord GOD: Cry out full-throated and unsparingly, lift up your voice like a trumpet blast." -Isaiah 58: 1

Week of November 16, 2025

PEACEMAKERS:

**** Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence – Saturday, November 28th, following the 5PM Mass – in the North transept of ST. EDMUND CHURCH, 188 S. Oak Park ****

**** Monthly TAIZE Prayer for Peace – Friday, December 5th -7:30PM at Ascension Church, 808 S. East Ave****



4-Day Restorative Justice Training – Mon. Nov. 17 @ 9:00 am – Thurs. Nov. 20 @ 4:00 pm –

BUILD/Chicago 5100 W. Harrison

What to expect:

- Deep dives into Restorative Justice philosophy and practices
- Hands-on practicums and circle process training
- Exploration of trauma, ACES, and the root causes of violence
- Space to reflect, share, and build community

For registration and payment information, please email Edwina Hamilton at edwinahamilton@buildchicago.org

TAKE ACTION:

11/13/25: "A federal judge in Chicago ordered the release of over 600 people from an ICE detention center because of alleged violations of a 2022 consent decree regarding warrantless arrests. [US District Judge Jeffrey Cummings](#) ordered that those who are not a high public safety risk be released on bond or placed in alternative-to-detention programs by November 21, 2025, citing the Department of Homeland Security's 'repeated, material violations'."

These two organizations are accepting donations to assist with immigration bonds:

OCAD (Organized Communities Against Deportation) <https://www.organizedcommunities.org/>

MIBF (Midwest Immigration Bond Fund) <https://www.mibfc.org/>

the Neighborhood



Become an Advocate at The Neighborhood Bridge!

"We are recruiting volunteers to serve as Advocates - trained companions who walk alongside families as they navigate services and pursue their goals. This unique role provides meaningful one-on-one support and connection.

To learn more, we invite you to attend our next **Bridge Breakfast on Saturday, December 6 at 8:30 AM in the Tutoring Center at Maguire Hall."** Learn more at theneighborhoodbridge.org or contact Jeanne Gallo at jeanne.gallo@theneighborhoodbridge.org.

FOOD and SHELTER:



COMMUNITY FRIDGE PROJECT Locations: Boulevard Presbyterian Church, 607 Harvard Street, and 124 N. Kenilworth (on the porch). Coming soon: Fridge #3, at Grace Episcopal Church,

924 Lake Street and Fridge #4 will be part of a renovation at The Oak Park Art League, 720 Chicago Ave. Donations are always welcome! No raw meat, leftovers, open packages, expired food or pet food. Please consider picking up a few things next time you go shopping or if you are in need, take what you wish!

Monetary gifts can be sent to [this link](https://www.communityofcongregations.org/give/). Please denote Community Fridge Project on the memo line!
<https://www.communityofcongregations.org/give/>



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the new 40-bed emergency overnight shelter (112 S. Humphrey)

- **Dinner Providers** - Prepare hot dinner meal for 40 to be dropped off by 7:00 PM. Dinner providers can also volunteer for evening hosting if they want to stay and serve.
- **Breakfast Providers** - Donate breakfast supplies for 40 (cereal, fruit, juice, yogurt, etc.).
- **Lunch Providers** - Donate bagged lunches for 40 (sandwiches, chips, fruit, cookies, etc.) for guests to take with them when leaving the shelter the next day.
- **Evening Hosting - 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM (shift can be split)** - Interact with guests, set up, and clean up.
- **Morning Hosting - 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM** - Assist with breakfast and clean-up.

Contact Cherrell Jackson at cjackson@housingforward.org or via phone at (708) 338-1724 ext. 201

Help stock the shelter - Emergency Shelter House2Home List:

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/1BWAPIGR7ICM3>



WE ARE NOT STOPPING. WE ARE NOT GIVING IN NOR GIVING UP. STAY TUNED!

We are pausing all but financial donations now, and will alert you when we can accept donations again. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Migrant Ministry.

For more information, email immigrantministry@gmail.com.

To donate online through GiveCentral use the link <https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/444/event/36149> OR send donations to Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish,

1025 Columbian, Oak Park, IL 60302. Include a note that the donation is for the "Migrant Ministry".

Thank you for your generous hearts!



"On November 1st, Beyond Hunger served a record 422 households, our highest single-day total in 47 years... This November and December we anticipate a 50% increase in pantry clients compared to this time last year."

Most needed items:

Canned Chicken, Salmon, Tuna

Canned Soups (low sodium preferred)

Cheerios' cereal (generic brand accepted)

Canned Vegetables: Mixed, corn, green beans

Canned Peaches or Pineapple rings (in natural juices)

Gluten-free pasta

Jelly (plastic containers)

Peanut butter (small and medium sizes)

Vegetable oil (12 – 16 oz)

Dry Beans (all varieties)

Canned Cranberry sauce

Gravy mix

Jiffy cornbread mix

Drop-Off hours at the Food Pantry: 848 Lake St., Oak Park, IL) 9am-4pm Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday. <https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/donatefood>

DONATE HERE: <https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/donate>

CREATION CARE:



**SIERRA
CLUB**

CLEAN ENERGY TAX CREDITS ARE EXPIRING SOON!

- EV Charger Credit: Looking to install a home charger? Get up to **\$1,000** back on your taxes until **June 30, 2026**.
- Residential Clean Energy Credits: Claim **30% of the total cost** of solar panels, battery storage, and geothermal systems if you **buy by December 31, 2025**.
- Energy Efficient Home Upgrade Credits: Make home energy upgrades, like insulation, windows, or efficient electric appliances, by **December 31, 2025** to claim the credit.

SAVE THESE DATES/SIGN UP NOW!

Community Fridge Project

A Gift for You, Me & the Tree

A Holiday Crafting & Fundraising Celebration

DATE: Saturday December 6, 2025 TIME: 10:30 AM - Noon

LOCATION: Oak Park Art League, 720 Chicago Ave

Your Ticket Includes:

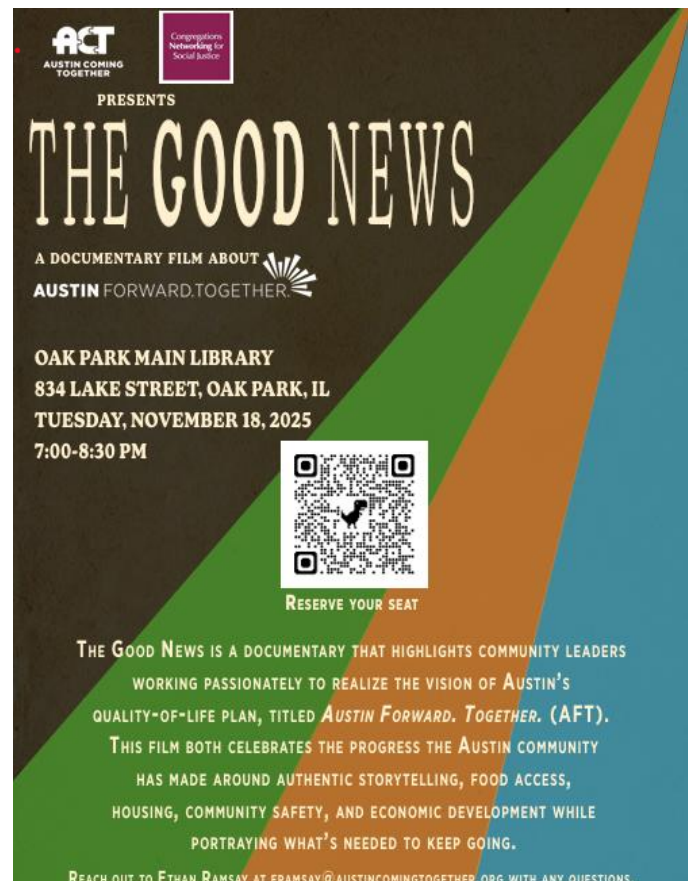
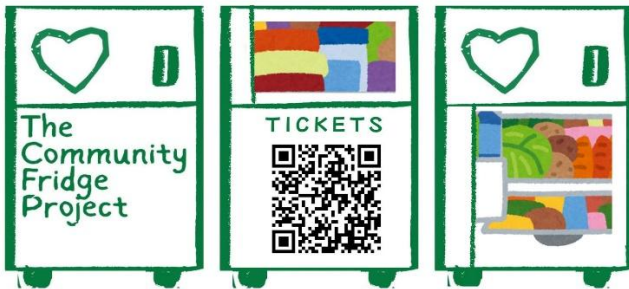
Decoupage Ornament - Create a beautiful glass ball ornament with decorative napkins and Mod Podge

Aromatic Pomander - Craft a traditional orange studded with cloves and wrapped in velvet ribbon

Festive Flavors Garland - String together popcorn and cranberries for a classic holiday decoration

Coffee, Tea & Pastries - Enjoy refreshments while you create

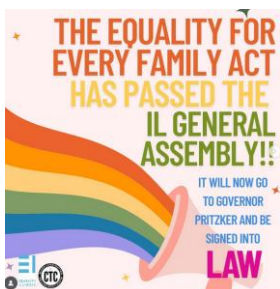
\$35. per person - ALL AGES WELCOME!
seats are limited



Walk the Talk "*Lights in the Darkness*"



In these difficult times, the world around us often looks cold and bleak. Now more than ever, we need to search for, and lift up, those people, businesses, groups, and organizations whose work is a light of **hope** in the darkness. Here's just one - **send yours** to marynpaul@comcast.net



Thank you, Sen. DON HARMON, for your support!

ILLINOIS [passes the Equality for Every Family Act](#), which will ensure that all families, including LGBTQ+ families and those expanded through assisted reproduction and surrogacy, will be legally recognized.



THANK YOU, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops!

During their plenary session in Baltimore last week, the USCCB voted overwhelmingly to issue a "Special Message" on immigration. (216/5 and 3 abstentions). Their message was released on Nov. 12th. **Full text is HERE:** <https://www.usccb.org/news/2025/us-bishops-issue-special-message-immigration-plenary-assembly-baltimore>
