

## Press Release

### Open Arms Mission and Lakes Community High School Announce Partnership

Open Arms Mission and Lakes Community High School are entering a community service partnership that integrates LCHS administration, staff, students and school organizations into OAM's programs that serve Antioch and Lake Villa Township residents in need.

LCHS will take the leadership of certain programs sponsored by the mission and integrate some of the components of these programs into the curriculum of LCHS.

Students and staff on Saturday will assemble 2,500 Easter baskets to include candy and small gifts and then begin delivering them to recipients, including Open Arms Mission, other area food pantries, Winchester House, Nicasa, Garden Quarter day care center, Staben House, A Safe Place, Vista and Condell Hospitals' children's units, Victory Lakes Nursing Home, Avon Township and Rolling Hills Senior Center.

Students will assemble from 11 am to approximately 2 pm in the school cafeteria. Call Lisa Ronzio at 847-406-0819 or Kirsten Santorelli.

"This community service partnership creates many opportunities for our students at LCHS to not only generally volunteer at OAM but have a voice in the creation and implementation of programs," said Rev. Scott Keenan, OAM director.

"This is a tremendous learning opportunity for our students and community," said LCHS Principal James McKay. "I see this as a win-win relationship. Lakes Community High School has developed a school goal of reaching out to our local community. Our students have the opportunity to help give back to the less fortunate in their very own community. Community service is an important facet to a well rounded education."

Besides a food pantry that is open to the public three days every week, Open Arms Mission and LCHS will focus attention on this year's Easter Basket Program, Adopt-a-Family program during the Christmas holidays and the creation and implementation of the Milk Jug Program and the Food Pantry University (FPU) for younger children to learn about the mission.

"We are especially excited that the LCHS students and staff will create, develop, implement and manage the Milk Jug and FPU programs that have been a vision of

outreach for the past few years. We can't wait to see what the students come up with." said Rev. Keenan

***For more information contact Rev. Keenan at Open Arms Mission, 847-395-0309.***