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A faith-based Community Center ministry empowering children, youth, adults and families in the Española Valley to succeed in school and in life

June 2017

McCurdy Ministries is changing our name to McCurdy Ministries Community Center

As McCurdy Ministries begins expanding our ministries and programming to adults, youth, children and families in the Española Valley it became important to adapt the McCurdy Ministries name to reflect our new reality. With the start of our new fiscal year on Aug. 1, 2017, McCurdy Ministries' will begin using the trade name McCurdy Ministries Community Center. Rev. Diana Loomis, director of development/church relations, says, "Since the start of McCurdy Charter School five years ago folks in our community, McCurdy graduates and United Methodists from across the country have been confused about McCurdy Ministries mission and how we are making God's difference since we are no longer a mission school. With McCurdy Charter School moving out of McCurdy Ministries' buildings and onto their own campus on the west side of our irrigation ditch in July, McCurdy Ministries had a unique opportunity to ask, "What is God calling us to do in this time and place?" Over the last three years McCurdy Ministries board and staff worked together to create a new vision for our ministries based on demographics, community leader input, needs assessment, McCurdy traditions and most importantly inspiration from God." The result of that visioning process was the decision for McCurdy Ministries to become a Community Center. McCurdy Ministries mission is to be "a faith-based

Community Center ministry that empowers children, youth, adults and families in the Española Valley to succeed in school and in life" and we define a community center as a "group of buildings used for a community's faith, educational, cultural, social and recreational activities." Patricia Alvarado, the McCurdy Ministries executive director says, "During my 24 years at McCurdy I have realized that sometimes a student's struggles at school are rooted in struggles at home. By providing High School Equivalency, literacy classes and parenting support for adults as well as programming for children and youth, and faith based opportunities for the entire family we will be helping families succeed in school and in life."

Rev. Loomis adds, "While we will be using the trade name McCurdy Ministries Community Center our legal name will remain McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico so our donors who have remembered us in their estate plans do not need to worry about changing our name in their plans. For more information on the new mission for the McCurdy Ministries Community Center see the article about Cole Adult Education Center, formerly the high school, on page 2. For information about remembering McCurdy Ministries Community Center in your estate plan please contact Rev. Loomis at dloomis@mccurdy.org or by calling her at 505-753-7221, ext. 352.

McCurdy Ministries Community Center adult education programs with childcare is planned to launch next September

During work on a new vision for the McCurdy Ministries Community Center adult education issues were brought up by community leaders, other nonprofits and by a study of the demographics of the Española Valley. Current statistics from the U.S. Census shows that 22% of adults 25 and over in the Española Valley have not received a high school diploma or completed a High School Equivalency program. We know the need is actually much higher because it does not include the hidden immigrant population in our community which will not report to the census. In addition, to providing a High School Equivalency Program (formerly called GED) some clients will need reading and math literacy and English as a Second Language coaching as well as training in computer literacy to achieve their educational goals.

Over the last several months McCurdy Ministries has been in conversation with Northern New Mexico College and the Rio Arriba Adult Literacy Program to discuss cooperative partnerships with these organizations to provide a variety of Adult Education programs in Cole Adult Education Center which was formerly Cole High School. An additional need that was first expressed by First Born, a nonprofit that supports first time parents and their children in Rio Arriba County, was quality childcare while Adult Education Classes are being conducted. This spring McCurdy Ministries applied for and received a two year \$20,000 per year grant from United Way of Northern New Mexico to help fund our Adult Education with quality childcare program. The plan is for the west wing of Cole

Adult Education Center to house a computer lab, a traditional classroom and a classroom dedicated to one on one coaching and several other areas of the



building will be prepared for childcare so that the childcare is in the same building as the Adult Education Classes.

Final conversations with Northern New Mexico College and McCurdy are occurring in July to set up a partnership agreement with the college. The goal will be for the college to provide the High School Equivalency and Adult Education classes to be launched after Labor Day in September and McCurdy will provide the building, classroom space and quality childcare. This partnership will mean that together Northern New Mexico and McCurdy will provide an evening Adult Education Program for the first time in several years. Once McCurdy Charter School has moved out of the Cole building in mid-July our United Methodist Volunteers in Mission and our staff will prepare the new computer lab and make changes to the building to start these programs funded by a bequest from beloved McCurdy missionary, Irene Cole, and a technology grant by the United Methodist Women National Office.

Cole High School to become Cole Adult Education Center

In the March 2017 McCurdy Message we introduced the new Master Plan for the McCurdy Ministries Community Center created by FBT Architects as a pro bono gift to our ministry. In that issue we highlighted the Children's Education Center formerly known as Hovermale Elementary School If you missed reading about the Children's Education Center please go to our website at

http://mccurdy.org/McM Message March 2017 pdf.pdf

In this issue we are highlighting our plans for Cole Adult Education Center. Below find the architectural rendering for the Adult Education Center and the overall map of the proposed campus for the McCurdy Ministries Community Center. In addition, on page one see the article about the launch of several Adult Education programs on our campus this fall.

From our start in 1912 McCurdy has not only been a school, we have been a force for good for the entire family. We started the first medical clinic, nursing program, hospital, GED program, fire department and community recreation program in the Española Valley. Doing ministries that support the entire family are part of our DNA! Our plans for Cole High School to become an Adult Education Center fit in with our tradition, our Christian values and God's call for our future.

The Adult Education Center will provide math, reading, computer and financial literacy, parenting and grand parenting support groups and High School Equivalency programs with quality child care provided in the same building at the same time as scheduled adult classes. McCurdy Ministries' administrative offices will be located in the Adult Education Center. In addition, McCurdy Ministries has designated six buildings on campus as a Nonprofit Hub. These buildings will be available for rent by nonprofits, service providers and government agencies consistent with our purpose. The library will be turned into a Community Room for use by the Nonprofit Hub and community organizations. In the Community Room flat screen as well as white board technology will be installed for use for community meetings, adult classes and Nonprofit Hub activities. The west end of the library will be sectioned with window walls to create the McCurdy History Room which will house all the artifacts and memoriabilia of McCurdy's mission school days. The window wall will make these artifacts visible to those using the

Community Room. To honor our many outstanding McCurdy School graduates the class portraits will line the walls of the Community Room and the trophies will line the halls of the Adult Education Building. The east science lab will be made into a warm up kitchen and dining space with the east and south walls being removed to open the room up to the hallways. The dining area will be used for catered meals for community workshops held in our building and for coaching sessions for participants in our Adult Education program. Finally, the west science lab will be converted to infant and toddler childcare rooms and the locker room will be converted to older childcare space and a small outdoor fenced playground will be accessed from the locker room space. McCurdy Ministries will be applying for a USDA Community Connect grant this fall to help with the remodeling and program costs associated with these programs.

In preparation for the days ahead we are asking you to do three things: Partner with us in prayer as we prepare our hearts to step out in faith to fulfill this plan. Become ambassadors to help communicate the story of McCurdy Ministries and how fulfilling this plan will transform lives. When the opportunity comes, participate joyfully with a generous gift. If you have questions about the Master Plan please feel free to contact Patricia Alvarado or Rev. Diana Loomis at 505-753-7221.

Thanks to the many, many McCurdy supporters who participated in the in person and phone interviews or the online survey for the Feasibility Study being conducted by Jennifer Tyler of Tyler Associates in preparation for a Capital Funds Campaign to help make our new vision for ministry a reality!



Notes from the McCurdy Ministries executive director

When McCurdy was a K-12 school, this time of year life slowed down as the school year wrapped up. Since we became McCurdy Ministries, in the summer we offer a camp for K-6 students, we make maintenance upgrades to the campus and our United Methodist Volunteers in Mission come from all over the United States to help us repair and prepare our campus for the coming school year. Now our summer activities keep our campus humming for most of the summer!

As we **TRANSITION** into yet another phase, McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico, which is our corporate name, will start using a new trade name **McCurdy Ministries Community Center**, which better describes the difference God is calling us to make in the Española Valley. Now more than ever, there is a spirit of excitement on campus and we see God working to make new life and transformation happen for McCurdy every day. With those transitions we experience some moments of anxiety and delight as we plan for and execute new opportunities!

These opportunities include: Partnering with other community agencies to provide services to support families, adults, children, and youth. Training in areas of math, reading, computer and financial literacy, High School Equivalency (HSE),

Project Cariño year end activities

This year's Big Buddy/Little Buddy Program was different than in years past in that Project Cariño therapists coordinated the program instead of college student interns. We welcomed the help of two student coordinators. Our Bigs rose to the occasion in such a stellar way that the year's mentor relationships were strong and successful for all. When asked to give testimony about the program to attendees at McCurdy Ministries Donor Dinner, one student said, the Buddy Program "is a wonderful program and benefits both the Big and Little. I have noticed the effect it has had on my Little Buddy....He has a good time and can get away from any problems he might have at home or school and I can get away from the stress of school. When I get to go and pick him up from class we play games and have fun. I like that he can smile and laugh, and it makes me feel good because I can positively influence a child."

To celebrate the end of the year, we had two field trips, one for both Bigs and Littles at the Children's Museum in Santa Fe, NM, and the other for Bigs only at The Main Event in Albuquerque, NM. Both were true celebrations of the relationships that were made! *Amanda Gonzales, Project Cariño director*



Bigs enjoy trust and skill building activities on their field trip to the Maine Event in Albuquerque.

After School Care fun and faith

The After School Care Program at McCurdy Ministries is more than just a safe place for students to go after school to work on home work, play board games or enjoy the computer, it is a family. It is always so refreshing to see how the children care for others. One four year old was so friendly and caring. One day I popped my finger and said, "Ouch!" He heard me and asked me what had happened and if I was okay. It was very sweet. We also had a third grader who was very eager to help get ready for Bible Study or crafts. After a movie our fifth grade boys would ask if they could vacuum if there was popcorn on the floor. Twice this year two of our students, a first and third grader, went out of their way to buy snow cones for students who didn't bring money to school that day and they did not ask to be paid back.

This year we hosted an Easter Egg Hunt for our students with help from volunteers from Virginia and two student teachers from Ohio. The children had so much fun and were very thankful. The students made thank you cards for our volunteers and student teachers. In return our After School Care staff, and students received a thank you card fom our volunteers thanking us for the nice cards made by the students. Our students are learning when you share God's love you receive love in return! *Flor Cordova, After School Care Provider*

weaving and other traditional Northern New Mexico crafts. Providing parenting and grand parenting support groups, advancement to higher education training whether that be college or work force connections. Expanding PreK and After School Services. Becoming a Nonprofit Hub so nonprofits, service providers and government agencies with missions to provide support for families, adults, children, and youth are housed on our campus.

On page two you will find an article about our Adult Education Program which is one of our first steps in unfolding our NEW vision for ministry. For now, I invite you to support our new vision with your resources, gifts, talents, prayer, and manpower. Our Father will never lead us where he does not first pave the way! He calls us to be his hands and feet to love and serve one another as he has loved us! We believe that this beautiful mission begun over 105 years ago shall not wane but will grow in strength and numbers! We believe God's children all across this country will answer the call to revive a spirit of love, service, and caring so we may grow in compassion, kindness and mercy and they will know we are God's children by our love! May God continue to sustain you in all you do, *Patricia A. Alvarado*





Project Cariño Bigs and Littles enjoy end of the year fun at their field trip to the Children's Museum in Santa Fe.



Volunteers in Mission News

Volunteers in Mission Work Teams Needed!

We are blessed to have most of our calendar filled with mission teams coming to help at McCurdy this summer. We have some openings which we'd like to fill as soon as possible. The available weeks are: July 23–29, August 6–12, August 13–19, August 22–September 2. We accept mission teams all year, so we also have fall and winter slots available. In August, we need teams who can help us remodel our two portable buildings which will be used for Project Cariño and prepare Adult Education classrooms in the high school. There will definitely be much to do in our buildings as the charter school moves into its own new building.

Individual Volunteers

We are blessed this summer to have Kent and Myrtle Matheny from Utah and Brenda Clampitt from Tennessee serving as Dorm Hosts for the summer. They will be greeting our mission teams and settling volunteers in their rooms before Vickie does orientation and a tour. Our hosts provide support, guidance and lots of hospitality to our mission teams. Sue McQuistion from Texas and Barbara Wharton from Ohio will also be at McCurdy this summer helping teams, teachers and office staff. Please note individual volunteers who stay two weeks or more and volunteer 30 hours per week receive free board during their time on campus.

For information on bringing a team or becoming an individual volunteer at McCurdy go to our website at www.mccurdy.org and click on VIM tab at the top of the page to locate the VIM Team Handbook or the Individual Volunteer Handbook. To schedule a team to come to McCurdy contact Eufemia Romero at eromero@mccurdy.org to volunteer as an individual contact Vickie Luviano at vickie@mccurdy.org. You can call Eufemia or Vickie at 505-753-7221 or call Vickie on her cell at 505-927-3683. Vickie Luviano, volunteer manager



The outside of the charter school building is complete, outside lighting has been installed and the parking lot is being worked on.

McCurdy Charter School news

The countdown to the completion of the new McCurdy Charter School building is on. The school said goodbye to the director, Janette Archuleta, as she retires and has already welcomed a director, Michele Lucci. The new school year starts August 14.

Left: The McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico Pre-K graduates enjoying their caps and gowns as well as each other.

McCurdy Preschool news



McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico Pre-K held its annual graduation on May 18. This year we were blessed to promote 20 of God's beautiful, eager, kind hearted and loving children. Throughout the year we were able to witness God's love in action, not only through our children but through their families. Many bonds and friendships were formed that will endure the test of time. Our children learned firsthand how to walk in God's love by forgiving others, having patience, understanding, respecting diversity, giving back to others, and showing kindness and compassion. We know that God will continue to bless their lives with goodness and love; so they can use the gifts he has given them wisely and walk into their bright futures with faith, hope and great love. *Sandra Archuleta, Pre-K director*

Please support McCurdy Ministries!

McCurdy Ministries touches the lives of more than 550 students every school day. Your donations of prayer, time, talent and funds literally help us save lives, support their education and create a safe place for the children and youth under our care. **For information on making a donation to McCurdy Ministries** please call Diana Loomis at 505-753-7221, ext. 352, write her at 362A S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532 or email her at dloomis@mccurdy.org.

McCurdy Ministries will be hiring an

Associate Development Director

and is looking for someone who loves God, McCurdy, Northern New Mexico, multi-cultural ministry and the United Methodist Church!

The primary responsibility for this position will be grant writing, development communication and other tasks necessary for the development task at McCurdy. While development experience is preferred it is not required. Excellent writing and research skills are required. McCurdy graduates and United Methodists with development experience and a passion for mission, especially those who speak Spanish, are encouraged to apply. For more information on this position please contact Rev. Diana Loomis at dloomis@mccurdy.org or call her at 505-753-7221, ext. 352.

Box Tops, Campbell's Labels & Tyson updates

Please submit your Campbells UPCs and V8 lids to McCurdy Ministries by NO LATER THAN July 15, so we can process, count, package and mail them to Campbell's Labels for Education by July 31, 2017, when the program ends. Campbell's will not accept any submissions after July 31. McCurdy Ministries wants to thank ALL of you from across the United States who have supported the Campbell's program. Because of your faithfulness, we were able to acquire many items for our ministries including vans, TV/VCR combos, physical education and playground equipment, classroom math kits, books, computers, cameras and more items. Thank you! We have begun collecting Tyson Project A+ labels as a way to raise funds at McCurdy Ministries and we are just about to send in our first submission of the Tyson labels! They have a minimum of 100 labels for a submission, and we've finally completed the first 100. Thank you to all our supporters who have started saving, cutting and submitting those Tyson Project A+ labels. Each label is worth 24 cents. Thank you for your support of McCurdy Charter School by collecting Box Tops for Education. Since we began these efforts in 2012, because of your generosity, we have helped the school earn over \$75,000. Please continue to send in your Box Tops and Tyson Project A+ labels to McCurdy Ministries, 362A S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532. Thank you! For more information on our labels programs please email Vickie Luviano at vickie@mccurdy.org.

Thanks to three NW Texas Conference Churches for getting creative for McCurdy!

Rev. Toni Bailey, pastor at Spearman United Methodist Church in Spearman, TX, loves a challenge for a good cause. Last fall Bailey and her congregation challenged Rev. Steve Chappell, pastor at First UMC in Perryton, TX, and Rev. Mark Metzger, pastor at First UMC in Gruver, TX, to a contest collecting Campbell's Labels for McCurdy Ministries. The prize was the losing pastor



Rev. Steve Chappell, from First UMC in Perryton, pictured with Tom and Linda Latta, from First UMC in Spearman, who attended worship to view the shirt.

had to wear the winning town's school t-shirt for an entire worship service and the kicker was that these towns are arch rivals in sports! Needless to say, Rev. Bailey made sure her congregation collected the most labels and Spearman UMC won. But the real winner was the children of the Española Valley because these three churches collected **THOUSANDS** of labels for McCurdy. We send our sincere thanks to these three pastors and churches for their love of God, love of fun and love of McCurdy Ministries!

Attention all persons, lay and clergy, who work full time for the United Methodist Church you are invited to McCurdy Ministries for a free spiritual retreat!

Recently, the McCurdy Ministries board enacted a policy allowing persons who work full time for the United Methodist Church, whether they are lay or clergy, to come to the McCurdy Ministries campus in beautiful Northern New Mexico for up to seven nights for a spiritual retreat in our retreat center at no charge. This includes board but not meals but we provide kitchens that can be used in the retreat center and wonderful restaurants in the area. The only charge is allowing our staff to give you a tour of campus and an introduction to our ministries. Our desire is to support you while providing a chance for you to reconnect with God, plan for your ministry, be still, renew and enjoy life.

If you have questions about this opportunity please be in touch with Rev. Diana Loomis, director of development and church relations, at <u>dloomis@mccurdy.org</u> or call her at 505-901-3082.