



Battle Creek Rotary Club Newsletter: The RotoScoop Week of September 27, 2021

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Safe Place Ellen Lassiter Collier, CEO



Ellen Lassiter, CEO of SAFE Place explained that the BC Rotary Grant covered expenses for the annual Calhoun County Project Connect, formerly known as the Homeless

Health Fair. Coming up October 15th, the fair has changed its tactics for distributing food and supplies because of the Covid Pandemic. The project will distribute 550 bags of food and basic living supplies via the SHARE Center, Charitable Union, SAFE Place, and the BC Homeless Shelter. Hopefully, next year the project can occur indoors, and haircuts and flu shots can be given as well.

Lassiter also explained that SAFE Place (SP) is celebrating its 138-year anniversary of serving Battle Creek and lower Michigan. SP provides four main services, which are a 24/7 crisis line and emergency shelter; counseling for adults and children; legal advocacy; and general survivor advocacy. It serves about 2200 unique individuals a year.

The demand for domestic violence services during Covid has skyrocketed. The Shelter never ceased operations. It utilized virtual counseling during the pandemic and will continue to use it since transportation is a common barrier to obtaining services.

SP also works on system change across our community. It has worked with the BC Police Department for 5 years to train officers to utilize a Lethality Assessment during domestic violence (DV) calls. A DV court has been set up to help deal with the over 400 backlogged DV cases.

SP has partnered with Sexual Assault Services (SAS) and BCPS on a grant from the Office of Violence Against Women to provide dating violence, sexual abuse and stalking prevention education at a more extensive and comprehensive level than is currently available. The plan is to engage parents, teacher, school staff, parents, and community members in the effort.



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Welcome ! Adam Castle, Executive Director of the Red Cross, sponsored by Karla Fales, was inducted as a member at Monday's meeting. Right to left: President Tom Ebeling, Membership Comm. Members Ed Guzzo and Karla Fales, New Member Adam Castle and Rob Bernardo, Membership Comm.

Announcements

Volunteer: Krazy for the Kazoo is Saturday, October 2, 2021 Join your fellow BC Club members in cleaning up area waterways. Last year we picked up trash and cut down invasive species along the river shore. This year we have the opportunity to pull tires out of the river. What fun! Contact Jill Anderson if you are interested .

jillandersongrants@gmail.com

Volunteer: Share Center Outside Clean up , Saturday October 23, 2021 from 10-12 noon. Contact jillandersongrants@gmail.com

Membership Minute: Where your Rotary garb proudly to recruit new members.

We are now meeting in person at the Kool Center as we did before the pandemic. We will continue to provide a Zoom link up to members as long as it is needed. We use the same Zoom link and password for every meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting at:

<https://zoom.us/j/93233115265> Meeting ID: 932 3311 5265 Passcode: 049691

Upcoming Programs and Events

10/4/2021	Grant Presentation: Charitable Union	Teresa Allen Charitable Union
10/11/2021	BCPS Bond issue	
10/18/2021	New Vision	Monique French, WA UMC

Contact Karla Fales if you have any ideas: KFales@carewellservices.org