



University Community News

Volume 10

Restoring hope . . . one life at a time.

Issue 1

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2014 “A new year a new look”

www.universitycommunityministries.org

If you have been to our website in the past, let me encourage you to go visit it again.

In January of the New Year, UCM partnered with Gruvy Graphics to launch a new website with a new look that is easy to read and more user friendly.

Lots of new pictures have been added and you can now view UCM's upcoming events and video with the easy navigation screens that have been designed. Our website now allows people to make donations online by clicking the **“donate now”** button where you can use your debit card, credit card or pay pal account. You can also find our address information if you would like to mail in your check to our accountant.

We hope you will take some time to access our new website, send us your comments for improvements, send a donation to help continue our services of restoring hope to others, and/or get involved by volunteering to work with one of our programs.

We thank God for all of you who support UCM and the outreach services through your finances, giving of your time and most importantly your prayers. Without you it would be impossible for us to **restore hope...one life at a time** to the hurting and needy in the Tampa Bay area.



UCM is all about **“Restoring hope . . . one life at a time”**.

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FRIENDSHIP BRIDGE (Senior Adult Events)

Upcoming events

FRIENDSHIP BRIDGE FUN DAY

Date: March 15, 2014

Time: 10:00 am

Place: TBA

Description: Picnic at the Park

Reservations must be made by calling the citylife church office at (813) 933-3991 or UCM office at (813) 935-8400 by no later than March 12, 2014

FRIENDSHIP BRIDGE LUNCHEON

Date: April 12, 2014

Time: 12 noon

Place: citylife church

Description: Springing into Action

Speaker: Garisal Garica,
Seniors in Service

Reservations must be made by calling the Citylife church office at (813) 933-3991 or UCM office at (813) 935-8400 by no later than April 22, 2014

FRIENDSHIP BRIDGE LUNCHEON

Date: May 17, 2014

Time: 12 noon

Place: citylife church

Description: Special Musical
Guests/Sing-a-long

Reservations must be made by calling the Citylife church office at (813) 933-3991 or UCM office at (813) 935-8400 by no later than May 14, 2014.

FRIENDSHIP BRIDGE LUNCHEON

Date: June 21, 2014

Time: 12 noon

Place: citylife church

Description: Planning a Senior Vacation
Reservations must be made by calling the citylife church office at (813) 933-3991 or UCM office at (813) 935-8400 by no later than June 19, 2014

Friendship Bridge meets monthly at citylife church, 8411 N. Dale Mabry, Tampa, Florida 33614.

For additional information on Friendship Bridge/citylife Seniors, call Pastor Molly Cox at (813) 933-3991 or email at mcox@citylifechurch.cc.

BOWL FOR HOPE



LOOK FOR IT IN
April 2014

By Jerome Van Gorp

University Community Ministries, Inc. will be holding its fourth annual bowl-a-thon in April, 2014. The 2014 **Bowl for Hope** is a fun event and important to UCM's annual fundraising efforts. There will be food for each bowler and great raffle prizes will be given away.

UCM will be providing program volunteers and/or their guest with the opportunity to form a team of six bowlers. A team of six bowlers will be assigned to a lane available for the event. Each bowler solicits pledges from friends, family and co-workers who commit to a contribution on a per pin basis (the per pin amount is multiplied by the total score of two games to determine the total contribution) or a flat dollar amount. Lane sponsorships per lane will also be available to community partners, businesses as well as individuals. Each sponsor's name will be prominently displayed at the lane which they are sponsoring.

We are hoping you will support this fun and worthwhile event and remember all proceeds benefit the program and services of University Community Ministries, Inc.

Please visit the UCM Website: www.universitycommunityministries.org or call the UCM Office (813) 935-8400 for more specific details, to donate, to participate or volunteer to participate in this fun event.

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE Judy Morales

UCM is pleased to introduce to you Judy Morales, a new member of the University Community Ministry, Inc. Board of Directors. Judy is self-employed. Currently she works with a management co., she does maintenance and serves as a Notary Public.



Judy's passion is to help people. She loves her job because she is always willing to give people a second chance. Judy also enjoys being a Notary Public because she is able to go to the hospital and lift up those that are hurting and remind them there is a God that loves them.

Judy has been attending citylife church for over three years. She serves as an usher, greeter and works in the Café. She enjoys assisting in any area that she is needed; she is also a board member of the Singles Ministry at citylife church.

Judy was born in Manhattan, New York and has been living in Florida for 20 years. Prior to her being self-employed, she was working for Drive Time Car Sales for ten years. She started working with them in 1999 as an account representative and then was promoted to manager in 2002. Judy's department was relocated in 2010 to Arizona. Judy started doing small maintenance jobs and eventually became self-employed and she gives the Lord all the glory. Judy loves to help people and wants to continue with the purpose the Lord has for her life.



OPERATION JUMPSTART (Homeless Community Outreach Program)

My Story By Albertine Tumba

My name is Albertine Tumba, I am 31 years old, and I am from Burundi in Central Africa. Every person has a testimony for what God has done or is doing in their life.



Everything begins by a tragedy that happened in my life in June of 2011 when my husband was taken at night from our home by force and murdered after a few days. After my husband was murdered, the same person that killed him threatened to take my life. After four months, my mother told me to leave my country and come to the United States where I would be safe.

After six months in the northern part of the United States, I met a person online whom I thought had become my friend and they asked me to come to Tampa, Florida and said they would help. After I came to Tampa, I found out that this person was expecting things from me that I was not willing to do. At this point I became homeless and hungry; I was really in need. I couldn't return up north because I was also homeless there and it was so cold.

Someone told me about citylife church and gave me a contact number, so I called asking for an appointment with Pastor Jason. Every word he told me, I was lost because he was talking to me so fast. I was confused and said "God help me so then I could understand what he says so then I will know which direction I need to take. The appointment was in the afternoon at citylife church at the old location. While I was on my way to citylife church, I got lost and couldn't get to my appointment on time. I walked for a long time and kept getting turned around. I stopped somewhere under a tree and begun to ask God for help and then I saw Ms. Molly's car and a voice spoke to me

just to follow that car. I began to run after it. At that time I knew that was the way. I arrived at citylife and the first person I met and talked with was Jeremiah Solberg, who directed me to Pastor Jason in the office. Ms. Charlene gave me a bottle of water, but I couldn't accept it because I was so hungry. After a few minutes, Pastor Jason took me in his office and talked to me. He found out that I was homeless and in need. He called Ms. America, who is with University Community Ministries for assistance. He told me to go back where I stay and Ms. America will call me and set up an appointment with me. Before I left his office, he gave me \$30 to buy some food. I was really hungry. Ms. America called me the very next day, took me to lunch, encouraged me and then bought me some groceries.

Citylife church was a door open for a blessing that connected me to University Community Ministries, which provided me with a place to stay, food and clothes. Not only a place to stay, food and clothes, but UCM helped me with something really important for a person like me without a family and in a strange place; they restored hope in me with the Word of God, which gave me strength and helped me to step into the next season of my life. Ms. America continues to help me with all the processes of getting an asylum in this country. I can say that God provided UCM to be a blessing for me. Until now, UCM continues to support me physically and spiritually in all aspects of my life, until one day, when I will stand on my own feet.

Since UCM took me under their wing, I have become very involved with the Operation Jumpstart Program. I help cook the food and feed the homeless and needy every Saturday. I am also the receptionist and caretaker for the House of Hope. I also help with the clothes closet.

Thank you God for sending me to citylife church! Thank you citylife church for opening a big door for the blessing of a big family like UCM! Thank you UCM for

being a big part of my life! Thank you UCM board members and Operation Jumpstart team members for all the ways you have taken care of me. You restored hope to me when I was lost and homeless. I was alone in a country where I know no one and have no family and you gave me strength when I was crying every single day and you continue to be my big family showing me the true meaning of God's love. **TO GOD BE THE GLORY GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!!!!**



NEEDS

UCM needs your time and talents – volunteer today! Call the UCM office at (813) 935-8400 or email us at info@universitycommunityministries.org and let us hear from you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you prefer to receive the UCM Newsletter via email, then email us at newsletter@universitycommunityministries.org to be placed on the emailing list and removed from our mailing list.

CHECK US OUT!

Visit UCM's **NEW & IMPROVED** website at www.universitycommunityministries.org for the latest news and events. Your comments are welcomed and encouraged.

If there is anything that you would like to see posted on the website or in the quarterly newsletter, email us at info@universitycommunityministries.org or fax to (813) 968-8400. We would love to hear from you!

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE FLORIDA DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL FREE WITHIN THE STATE 800-435-7352. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.



YOU CAN HELP

Join UCM in *Restoring hope . . . one life at a time*. As a supporter, you will receive our quarterly newsletter with important messages about our programs as well as success stories about the people we serve. UCM is a non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

DID YOU KNOW

UCM served over 4300 meals last year to the hungry and needy in our community?

YES, I would like to partner with UCM in *Restoring hope . . . one life at a time*. Enclosed is my gift to UCM in the amount of:

\$500 \$100 \$250 \$50 Other \$ _____
 One Time Monthly Quarterly Annually

Name _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone/Fax _____ E-mail _____

I am interested in becoming a volunteer.

Planned Giving Options:

Please consider a gift to UCM in your will or estate plan.

Please send me information about naming UCM in my will.

I have already made provisions for UCM in my estate plans.

Thank you.

**Make checks payable to: University Community Ministries, Inc.
PO Box 280024, Tampa, Florida 33682**

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