Mercy Housing Lakefront (MHL) is one of the largest and most innovative community development organizations in the Chicago and Milwaukee regions. MHL has developed and currently manages 28 affordable rental properties enabling over 4,000 people to live in hope. In addition, MHL anticipates doubling in scale in 2016 by completing construction of four new buildings and assuming stewardship of a housing ministry sponsored by the Wheaton Franciscan Sisters. Ultimately, this work enables working families to overcome poverty, seniors to stay independent, kids to do better in school, and the homeless to escape the streets.

www.mercyhousinglakefront.org

Vision: Our vision is to create a more humane world where poverty is alleviated, communities are healthy and all people can develop their full potential. We believe that affordable housing and supportive programs improve the economic status of residents, transform neighborhoods and stabilize lives.

Mercy Housing Lakefront invites congregations to join us in spirit and action to create a more humane world by alleviating poverty and creating affordable homes. Through this partnership, we ask our partners to help by:

1. Sharing the joy of Christmas or Hanukkah by collecting toys, books, or gift cards ($25 max value per person) to share with 50 children or adults living at Mercy Housing Lakefront;

2. Hosting a school supply drive to provide the youth in our buildings with the materials needed to be properly prepared for the upcoming school year;

3. Praying for the poor, homeless, and neglected during weekly worship services;

4. Inviting a representative from Mercy Housing Lakefront to provide a brief talk at an appropriate time during service;

5. Inviting a representative from Mercy Housing Lakefront to host an information table before or after worship service; and

6. Making a donation or taking an offering to help Mercy Housing Lakefront provide hope and homes for more people.

Mercy Housing Lakefront also welcomes other creative ways to deepen the impact and relationship over time. Please contact us to explore other partnership opportunities.

How the Program Works

1. Register by June 30, 2016. Based on the project chosen, Alva Kennedy will contact you and provide a list of school supplies needed by July 15, 2016 or a list of children with name, age, gender, and building by November 1, 2016 for holiday gifts.

2. Congregation volunteers will purchase school supplies or purchase, wrap, and clearly label age-appropriate gifts ($20 maximum value per person)—books, games, toys, or gift cards—for each child or adult for the holidays.

To establish a partnership, please complete and return the registration form to Mercy Housing Lakefront, Attn: Alva Winfrey Kennedy, 120 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 1850, Chicago, IL 60603. For questions, contact Alva Winfrey Kennedy at 312-447-4545 or awinfrey@mercyhousing.org.
3. Congregation volunteers deliver school supplies or gifts to the building where the residents live or they can be picked up by Mercy Housing. Our buildings are in Chicago’s Uptown, Lakeview, Austin, Roseland, and Pullman neighborhoods.

4. Presents should be delivered by December 16, 2016.

5. Depending on the building, there may also be opportunities for volunteers to attend holiday parties to meet the residents and help distribute presents.

**Interested in partnering or learning more?** Please complete the form and mail or email it to Alva Winfrey Kennedy at Mercy Housing Lakefront, 120 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 1850, Chicago, IL 60603, or awinfrey@mercyhousing.org. For questions, contact Alva at 312-447-4545.

- Yes, I would like to register my congregation to participate in the Faith Community Partnership Program at Mercy Housing Lakefront. We agree to help by undertaking the five primary activities outlined in the partnership description.

- I would like to learn more about partnering with Mercy Housing Lakefront.

**Address**

- Congregation Name
- Address
- City, State, Zip Code
- Website

**Contact Information**

- Primary Contact Name
- Contact Phone
- Contact Email

**Partnership Details**

- Number of children or adults you would like to provide with school supplies or gifts (50 minimum)
- Estimated date you would like to host a representative
- Other Interests

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