



## The SCOOP!

We had a very busy summer at the Roberti Community House (RCH.) All of our programs/activities continue to have a strong focus on promoting good health and wellness.

Both the RCH and community gardens flourished this year enabling us to harvest fresh fruits and vegetables well into the fall. By partnering with a number of area farming programs – Food Share Food, CSA, Liberty Prairie Farms, Sandhill Farms, and University of Illinois Extension – we were able to feed more people on a weekly basis than any previous year. Throughout the summer we distributed thousands of pounds of garden fresh produce to members of the immediate community. We continued our Tuesday “tastings” in the community garden so that everyone could sample the harvested fruits and vegetables and shared recipes offering various ways that the produce could be prepared.



While neighbors and volunteers turned out each week to work in the gardens, the RCH was busy with a myriad of other activities. Highlights include:

- The Junior Green Youth Farm completed its fifth year of providing middle school children with a hands-on gardening experience. They celebrated another successful season with an Open House on August 3rd for friends and family that was attended by over 100 people.
- We initiated our adult walking group in late spring. As word spread about the health benefits of walking and exercise, the group has grown. You will not only see this group walking in the area but you can also hear them – they love to sing while they walk! Several adults in the group were even inspired to sign up for a 5k walk – wow!



- Monday cooking group featured a different harvested vegetable during the summer and each week they prepared a delicious lunch for over thirty teens and staff at the Windy City Harvest Youth Farm.
- We had so many kids that wanted to join us for cooking this summer that we offered two classes. The Junior Chefs (5 to 8 year olds) met Thursday afternoons and the Master Chefs (9 years and older) met every Tuesday. Both groups learned basic cooking skills and prepared nutritional meals that they could later duplicate at home.

- The community house offered a place to hang out this summer. Reading and Math camp met for two hours every Tuesday and Thursday. We played games and read to improve math and reading skills.



- More than 40 people joined us this year to participate in Waukegan's Hispanic American "Fiestas Patrias" parade and festivities. It was a beautiful day and there was a huge turnout by a cheering community.



- More than 65 people attended our annual Harvest Festival on September 23rd. Neighbors and volunteers cooked for days and the array of food was amazing. The weather was warm and children were able to sit outside and watch the movie "The Jungle Book" on our large screen in the yard.

During the last year, 170 adults participated in various programs/activities at the RCH and more than 240 children and teens were involved in our programming for youth. The success of the RCH is due to the hard work and dedication of the wonderful volunteers who facilitate all of our programs. They are the heart of the community house! 120 volunteers assisted us from 9/15 through 8/16. 26 were members of the immediate community. We welcome you to join us – no special talent is needed, simply the desire to work with others.



## Upcoming Events Fall 2016

October 22 <sup>nd</sup> 9:30 - 12:00pm	<b>Free Health Screenings &amp; Flu Shots at RCH</b>
October 27 <sup>th</sup> 4:00 - 6:00pm	<b>Afterschool Halloween Party at RCH</b>
November 1 <sup>st</sup> 10:00 - 12:30pm	<b>Putting The Gardens to Sleep</b> Clean up for the Community & RCH gardens – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### Wish List

Bluetooth speakers • Microphone • Projector Screen • Hand dryer  
Large Commercial refrigerator • Transportation for field trip bus rentals  
Movie tickets • Joanne Fabric gift cards • Wal-Mart gift cards

*Encouraging the best in ourselves,  
our neighbors & our community.*

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The Roberti Community House (RCH) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. The RCH is intended to be a gathering place, a safe haven, where neighbors of all ages can come together to develop and share their skills and talents and celebrate their successes.

The mission of the Roberti Community House is to nourish, educate and empower community members so that they can acknowledge, appreciate and actualize their individual strengths and talents.

Volunteer Opportunities contact [volunteerrch@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerrch@gmail.com)

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