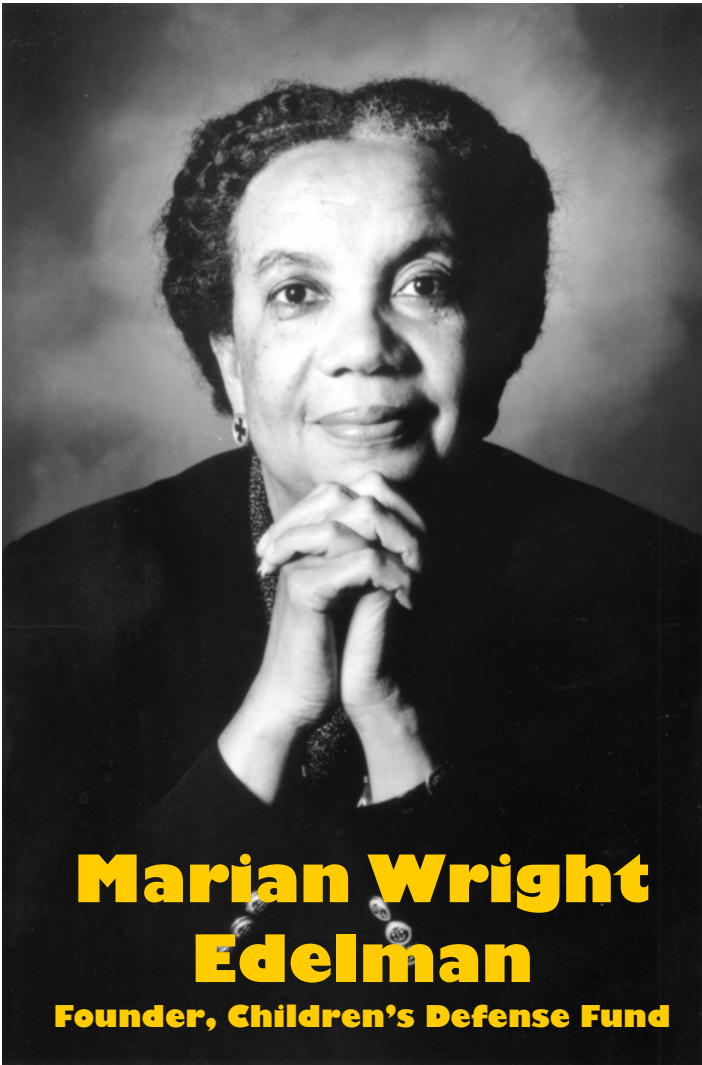


A program of  
Princeton Outreach  
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# Neighbor to Neighbor



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You can:

- ▶ Make your [Marian Wright Edelman](#) reservations
- ▶ Reserve for our [30th Anniversary Celebration: Honoring our Founders](#) ♦ [Looking to the Future](#)
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30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lecture Series Continues!

## "Re-Imagining Charity"

— with —

[Marian Wright Edelman](#)—founder and  
president of the Children's Defense Fund

— and —

Special performance by  
[the Trenton Children's Chorus](#)

Friday, October 15

7 pm (doors open @ 6:30)

[Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau St., Princeton](#)

**Tickets: \$20 General; \$40 Supporter**

Proceeds will support the CDF

Reserve in advance:

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Following the success of our first "Re-Imagining Charity" lecture by Prof. Cornel West last April, we look forward to welcoming Marian Wright Edelman, the founder and head of the Children's Defense Fund. Please join with your friends and supporters of the Crisis Ministry—and our sister organization the Trenton Children's Chorus—Friday, October 15, at Nassau Presbyterian Church, Princeton.

Mrs. Edelman, a graduate of Spelman College and Yale Law School, began her career in the mid-60s when, as the first black woman admitted to the Mississippi Bar, she directed the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund office in Jackson, Mississippi. In 1968, she moved to Washington, D.C., as counsel for the Poor People's Campaign that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., began organizing before his death. She founded the Washington Research Project, a public interest law firm and the parent body of the Children's Defense Fund. For two years she served as Director of the Center for Law and Education at Harvard University and in 1973 began CDF.

"Re-Imagining Charity", sponsored by our 1980 co-founding congregations Nassau Presbyterian Church and Trinity Church, continues a series of events throughout 2010 to commemorate our 30 years of providing hunger prevention and homelessness prevention solutions across Mercer County.

## Beyond Charitable Relationships

Jarrett Kerbel, Executive Director

The raw numbers were unsettling, and the implications of the numbers were disturbing.

An article in the New York Times Magazine states that families who earn less than \$24,000 per year give 4.2% of their income to charity while families who earn over \$75,000 per year give only 2.7% of income away, and most of that goes to colleges, universities, and cultural institutions. Those with more give less, and those with less give more. Why? According to the article, the cause is an 'empathy gap.' As the economic, social and geographic distance between poor and wealthy Americans has grown, the ability of well-off Americans to imagine the suffering of life with low income has diminished, and giving has declined correspondingly. Most disturbing to me, personally, the data shows that people of faith are no more or less generous than people of no faith.

We need to reconnect person to person across economic, racial, geographic, and social divides in Mercer County. We cannot really "Love our Neighbor" unless we know our neighbors. Because New Jersey is one of the most economically and racially segregated states in the nation, the work of knitting together neighbors needs to be intentional and strategic work.

I hope your congregation or community group will take on this intentional work, just as Crisis Ministry is doing more to know our neighbors, too, building on our tradition of respecting the dignity of the people we serve. I am available to meet with your group or your outreach committee or leadership to help train you in the basics of reaching out and building bridges to connect communities.



Trenton Central High School students Jackie Martinez (far left), 17, and Katherine Depaz, 15, collect donated fresh produce from Jim Moeller of West Win-

dsor at a recent West Windsor Farmers' Market. The students are frequent volunteers for Yes We CAN! Food Drives, which regularly collects donated food for the Crisis Ministry. Jackie and Katherine are members of the TCHS program ScienceMentors I to I, which matches a mentor and a high school student for special science projects. They and other program members have been volunteering for Yes We CAN! Food Drives throughout the school year. Jackie said, "Collecting food is so important. We find it an honor to be part of this work."

### *The Crisis Ministry 30th Anniversary Committee*

Co-Chairs:

Beth Fitzgerald and Reaney Kunkler  
and Members:

Carolyn Biondi Rhonda Hurlbert  
Mary Ellen Iles Keating Johnson  
Daphne Jones Martha Lashbrook  
Cathy Smiddy

*Invite you to our*

## *30th Anniversary Celebration*

*Honoring our Founders ♦ Looking to the Future*

Friday, November 12

7:00 p.m.

Chauncey Conference Center on the ETS Campus  
Rosedale Road, Princeton, New Jersey

*We would not be here today  
without the vision of:*

- ♦ *The Rev. John Crocker ♦ The Rev. Wallace Alston*
- ♦ *The Rev. Blan Aldridge ♦ Barbara Barnett*
- ♦ *The Rev. Carol Kerbel ♦ The Rev. Carol Stoy*
- ♦ *The Rev. Sally Osmer*
- ♦ *The Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation*

### *Reservations:*

**Benefactor** \$500 (and above) per person

**Patron** \$250 per person

**Supporter** \$100 per person

Call 609-396-9355, ext. 27

or visit [thecrisisministry.org](http://thecrisisministry.org)

Please join us Friday evening, November 12, as we honor our founders and earliest supporters. The foundation they laid continues to lead for thousands of neighbors who each year come to the Crisis Ministry for healthy food, stabilized housing, and employment solutions. We are excited and gratified to honor this mission, to say thank you, and to rally around a shared vision of an energetic future of neighbors working with neighbors.

**RSVP:** By November 3

The Crisis Ministry is a program of Princeton Outreach Projects, Inc.

All but \$50 of each reservation is tax-deductible.

# 30 Years of Partnering with our Community

## Crisis Ministry Sukkah will be in Palmer Square for 7 days, Sept. 25



The Crisis Ministry, working with the advice and guidance of Rabbi Adam Feldman of the **Jewish Center of Princeton** and Rabbi Donna Kirschbaum of **String of Pearls** will erect a Sukkah in Princeton's Palmer Square to

stand during the seven-day observance of Sukkot.

The Sukkah is a temporary structure that recalls the 40 years of wandering in the wilderness by the people of Israel. It is meant to remind us all of the fragility of life and shelter. Our Sukkah will apply these themes to the fragile housing situation of low-income residents of Mercer County, reminding us of homelessness and marginal housing in our community.

We will gather to inaugurate the Sukkah Saturday, September 25, at 2 p.m. in Palmer Square. Please join us and our project partners **Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness** and **Jewish Family and Community Services**.

## Staying Responsive to Real Needs ...

For 30 years, the Crisis Ministry has implemented creative, effective ways to serve neighbors in need. Here are some of the most recent:

As part of the Mercer Food Council, we placed **Trenton Fresh** and **Trenton Fresh Mobile** farm markets in underserved neighborhoods, making farm-fresh produce available at very low prices.

Summer intern Josh Victor transitioned our **Home Food Delivery** to the Cilent Choice model used in our stores. Now homebound clients receive foods that match their stated preferences and health needs.

To reduce the time and stress of waiting in line to request financial assistance, people experiencing an emergency such as potential eviction, foreclosure, or utility shut-off now utilize our **new phone intake system**. According to program director **Dara Lewis**, we now address needs more effectively and efficiently.

Changes in workforce development program **Harvesting Hope** include certified language and math skills tutoring and life skills mentoring for our participants.

## WE THANK

the following for their support and leadership

- ♦ **Robert Wood Johnson 1962 Charitable Trust**—general operating support
- ♦ **Anonymous foundation**—general operating
- ♦ **Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation**—Hunger Prevention Program and AmeriCorps staffing funds
- ♦ **Mercer County**—Homelessness Prevention and Workforce Development (Harvesting Hope)
- ♦ **Fred C. Rummel Foundation**—Utilities Assistance
- ♦ **Footprints 2010 organizer Terry Adams, and our walkers and friends**
- ♦ **The supporters who have contributed \$15,800 so far to our spring/summer appeal**
- ♦ **Karma Foundation**—Trenton Fresh Mobile
- ♦ **Highland Mills Foundation**—general operating
- ♦ **Concordia Foundation**—Utilities Assistance
- ♦ **The more than 500 people who attended and our first “Re-Imagining Charity” lecture by Prof. Cornel West**
- ♦ **Farmers Against Hunger**—many tons of fresh vegetables this summer
- ♦ **Yes We CAN!**—monthly food drives at ShopRites Montgomery and Ewing, McCaffrey's Pennington Quality Market, West Windsor Farmers Market
- ♦ **Strawberry Hill and Fern Brook Farms** in Chesterfield for generous donations
- ♦ **The Benjamin family**, for the donation of veggies from their own garden.
- ♦ **McCaffrey's shoppers** who send in their receipts quickly (within 3 months is ideal). A recent tally yielded a donation from McCaffrey's of \$600!

## Introducing two student staffers at the Crisis Ministry



**Diane LaFontant** currently studies social work at Mercer County Community College. While an intern at the Crisis Ministry, Diane is working closely with participants in our Harvesting Hope workforce development program. In addition to being the first person Harvesting Hope participants come to with an issue, she is integral to the Friday group discussions that cover such topics as how to work with difficult customers and how to balance work and family life. “This is a productive way to enhance their on-the-job skills and their job search,” says Diane.

On Fridays, Diane also helps manage the busy produce market held just outside our Trenton storefront.



**Kelley Sternhagen**, a senior at Princeton University and native of Scotland, South Dakota, is studying psychology and women's studies, and plans to apply to law schools for fall 2011. A highlight of her summer work was a financial assistance outcome study for 2010 as well as for 2006–2010. She is now setting up a new system and new volunteer training to maximize efficiency through data analysis. The system would shift our current 6-month and 12-month follow-up to a 2-month cycle.

Says Kelley: “My time at the Crisis Ministry has shown me that there are areas of social work that are uniquely tailored to my personal gifts. While meeting basic human needs is vital, there is also room for intelligent analysis and creative innovation based on personal interactions with real people.”

## Princeton Outreach Projects, Inc.

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If you prefer to no longer receive this newsletter, or if you need to update your name and/or address, please send an email to:  
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The Crisis Ministry is a program of Princeton Outreach Projects, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization incorporated in the state of New Jersey.

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Barbara Flythe  
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**Delia Bailey**  
Harvesting Hope Assistant, 23

**Tearyean Brown**  
Facilities Manager, 16

**Margaret Cowell**  
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**Shantia Loving**  
Financial Assistant, 24

**Mark Smith**  
Food Services Director, 26

**Sarah Unger**  
Communications/Dev., 15

**Warentha Washington**  
Homelessness Care Coordinator, 28



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