

Community House Questions Answered

Inquiries, Replies Reveal Functions Of "Heart Of Birmingham"

BUDGET DETAILED

Ques. Why is the Community House called the "Heart of Birmingham"?

Ans. Because it is the center of the community spirit of Birmingham; because it provides a social center for the young people of our city; because it is the meeting place for Birmingham's many civic-minded organizations, and because it is the center of many welfare activities which have helped brighten the lives of the more unfortunate members of our community.

Ques. What organizations use the Community House?

Ans.
Boy Scouts
Methodist Forum
Girls Service League
A. A. U. W.
Girl Reserves
Bloomfield Horticultural Society
International Relations Class
Evelyn Smith Dance Class
Business Girls Club
Oakland County Federation of Women's Clubs
League of Women Voters
University Men's Club
Monday Book Review Class
Y. M. C. A.
Lions Club
Girl Scouts
Brownies
Thursday Musicales
Junior A. A. U. W.
Allied Youth
Farm and Garden Association
Birmingham Teacher's Club
Rotary Club
Birmingham Athletic Club
Birmingham Women's Club
M. S. C. P.
Varsity Club
League of Catholic Women
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Exchange Club

Ques. What is the purpose of the 1935 Birmingham Community House Roll Call?

Ans. The purpose of the 1935 Birmingham Community House Roll Call is to secure \$7,500 in cash and pledges to meet the operating budget of the year May, 1935, to April 30, 1936.

Ques. What are the expenses this budget covers?

Ans.
Salaries of Janitors, Executive, Bookkeeper, Hostess and Employment Office...\$2,850
Heat, Light, Power & Water...1,700
Maintenance...1,000
Interest on indebtedness...1,000
Telephone & Telephone, etc...250
Insurance...500
Miscellaneous expense...200
Total...\$7,500

Ques. What is the present financial condition of the Community House?

Ans. Interest payments have all been met when due and current bills are paid promptly. Mrs. Carol Plumstead has been a most capable overseer of all funds. While needed repairs have had to be neglected, everything has been cleaned and renovated whenever possible.

Ques. Are there any other sources of income?

Ans. No. The organizations which use the House facilities are all non-profit groups—therefore no charge is made for the privilege of holding their meetings in the Community House.

200 Women To Canvass Homes In Important Roll Call Job

Probably the most important single job in connection with the 1935 Community House Roll Call will be done by the women.

Headed by Mrs. L. N. Pyle, former president of the Community House and one of its loyalist friends and patrons, a group of approximately 50 women have been appointed captains of teams which will do the actual house-to-house canvassing for Roll Call memberships. On their efforts, success or failure of the campaign will largely depend.

Each of the captains has appointed the members of her own team, and each team contains from three to eight members. The captains are:

Mrs. Carl Rupp, Mrs. E. U. Titus, Mrs. Clinton C. Sears, Mrs. Lee A. White, Mrs. W. T. Cushing, Mrs. Walter L. Connelly, Mrs. D. L. Tate, Mrs. F. H. Mellinger, Mrs. W. H. Knowles, Mrs. Charles S. Kinnison, Mrs. G. W. Beeman, Mrs. C. E. Pardee, Mrs. M. G. Kirm, Mrs. William Graham.

Mrs. A. A. Bull, Mrs. G. W. Heath, Mrs. Aaron H. Webster, Mrs. J. D. Rule, Mrs. H. Gray Muzzy, Mrs. Frederick E. Booth, Mrs. Hugh W. Hitchcock, Mrs. Maxwell J. Austin, Mrs. J. K. Ormond, Mrs. Charles H. Welch, Jr., Mrs. Robert F. Grindley, Mrs. Lewis B. Sappington, Mrs. D. G. Clemmer, Mrs. M. S. Rice.

Mrs. Francis C. Bagby, Mrs. H. H.

Ques. Is the commissary self-supporting?

Ans. Yes. Through the watchful management of Mrs. Wall and the economical cooking of Mrs. Prentice this department has not only supported itself but has made sufficient profit to make possible the purchase of a much-needed new gas stove, a kitchen-aid, new dishes, and the replacement of worn out equipment.

Ques. What welfare activities are conducted by the Community House?

Ans. The activities in welfare work for the Community House are carried on through orders from the city welfare, the city nurse and the public school nurse, supplemented by distribution of relief in the way of food and clothing by the Community House organization.

Ques. Is there a separate fund for welfare work?

Ans. Yes. And all monies contributed to this fund are used for welfare purposes exclusively.

Ques. Where does this money come from?

Ans. From various local funds. Of great importance also are various organizations in Birmingham which supply articles of clothing, etc., for distribution through the Community House. These organizations include the Teacher's Club, the Needlework Guild and the Presbyterian Women's Union.

Ques. Who directs this welfare work?

Ans. This work is under the direct supervision of Mrs. Wall. Many members of the Community House give freely of their time in this work.

Ques. Does the Community House furnish clothes for welfare cases?

Ans. Yes. Over 1,000 pieces of second hand clothing were given out in 1934. Much of this clothing was collected by the Boy Scouts. Used furniture is also often distributed.



Mrs. L. N. Pyle

Corson, Mrs. O. F. Beier, Mrs. D. C. James, Mrs. W. Whiting Raymond, Mrs. W. S. Toothacker, Mrs. Joseph E. Stroup, Mrs. R. C. Fowler, Mrs. Emerson C. Brown, Mrs. J. J. Reilly, Mrs. Charles F. Butters, Mrs. P. M. Wygant, Mrs. Warner L. Forsyth, Mrs. Donald T. Stanton, Mrs. O. L. Andrews, Mrs. Loren T. Robinson, Mrs. Claude B. Rumble and Mrs. Matilde Rundell.

Ques. Is food distributed to the needy?

Ans. Yes. The "Emergency Relief Cupboard" is continually kept filled through the courtesy and generosity of Stroup's Market, Kroger Grocery Store, school children, churches and private individuals. At Thanksgiving and Christmas time, hundreds of baskets are distributed.

Ques. What is the "linen chest"?

Ans. This new project loans sheets, pillow cases, towels, blankets, etc., for emergency cases only. These articles bear the Community House stamp.

Ques. Does the Community House render any medical help?

Ans. Yes. From the miscellaneous welfare fund, many emergency purchases are made. Small loans are granted to those temporarily unable to meet medical obligations. Many members volunteer the use of their cars in taking patients to clinics in Royal Oak and Pontiac.

Ques. What are the activities of the Community House employment office?

Ans. During the year more than 1000 people were helped to get em-

Activities Of Employment, Welfare Offices Are Recounted

1,000 JOBS FOUND

ployment of a temporary or permanent nature, including the following:

Men placed in Fisher Body Plant	130
Maids placed permanently	188
Maids placed temporarily	17
Second maids	1
Cooks	6
Waitresses and cateresses	37
Nurses	3
Housekeepers	4
Seamstresses	4
Part time workers	10
Couples	14
Regular daily workers	15
People for short periods of time	20
Laundry work at home	5
Housemen	5
Day workers (men)	238
Day workers (women)	398
Lawns and steady gardening	3
High school girls for summer work	2
Nursemaids	2
Steady summer work	2
Farm work	1
Saleslady	1
Telephone soliciting	1

Ques. Who is in charge of the employment office?

Ans. Mrs. Grace Trumbull. In 1934, this office handled approximately 5,300 telephone calls and interviewed 3,300 people.

Ques. How extensive is this employment service?

Ans. So well known is this office that calls are received from Bloomfield Hills, Rochester, Royal Oak, Farmington, Pontiac and other cities.

Ques. What special social activities are conducted in the Community House?

Ans. Dances, young peoples group meetings, the Saturday children's hour, special entertainments and concerts, athletic events, etc.

Ques. What other facilities has Birmingham for such social and welfare activities?

Ans. None. Without the Community House, Birmingham would have absolutely no social or welfare center.

Ques. Why should the families who do not actively use these facilities help "Keep the Heart of Birmingham Alive"?

Ans. Because the activities of the Community House and its various services touch directly or indirectly the lives of everyone in the Birmingham community. Truly it is a Community House in every sense of the word. There is no family in Birmingham that could not find some value in the many activities conducted by the Community House organization.

Skeleton Staff Maintains House Services With Aid Of Volunteers

Without the generous assistance of volunteer workers, it is certain that the present staff of paid employees, efficient as it is, would be entirely inadequate to handle the vast number of details incident to the performance of Community House services on their present high level.

There are only six employees on the salaried list. These are Mrs. Edith S. Wall, the popular hostess, whose manifold duties include those of arranging for meetings and greeting guests; Mrs. Carol Plumstead,

bookkeeper; Mrs. George Johnson, assistant hostess; Mrs. F. C. Prentice, head of the commissary department; Mrs. F. G. Trumbull, head of the employment office, and Ben Richardson, janitor.

It is only with the able assistance of scores of volunteer workers, offering their services at various times throughout the year, that this skeleton staff is able to carry out competently and economically the many functions of "The Heart of Birmingham."