

# FOCUS ON FILLING

SPRING 2026



## Blessings in Bloom

- *Soaring Arts Studios expands, new pottery building opening Summer 2026*
- *\$50,000 Donation Match doubles Purses for a Purpose proceeds*



Mayson Salinas  
Soaring Arts Studios Artist

# Lutheran Ministries of Mercy



**Terri Rodriguez**  
President and CEO  
Lutheran Ministries of Mercy

## HONORING THE GIFTS THAT BUILD OUR FUTURE

Dear Friends, Families, and Supporters,

Every time I pause to reflect on our work, I find myself thinking about the people who make it possible. Not just the staff or volunteers, but you—the individuals who have stood with us, believed in our mission, and given so generously over the years. Your support has shaped real lives in ways that matter deeply. When I think about the impact we've made together, I feel a genuine sense of gratitude for the trust you've placed in us.

As we look toward the future, one of the most touching gestures we receive is when someone chooses to include our organization in their estate plans. It's a quiet, thoughtful decision — one that speaks to a desire to keep doing good long after today. Estate gifts give us the stability to plan ahead, to grow responsibly, and to make sure the work you care about continues with strength and purpose. They help us build a future that reflects the same compassion and commitment you've shown throughout your lifetime.

If you've ever considered leaving an estate gift, I want you to know how meaningful that choice truly is. It becomes part of your story — a lasting reflection of your values and the difference you want to leave in the world. And, it becomes part of our story. Thank you for being part of this community, for believing in what we do, and for helping ensure that the impact we make together continues for generations. Your kindness today, and your vision for tomorrow, mean more than you know.

In gratitude,

## A GIFT THAT LASTS BEYOND A LIFETIME

Have you included one of our ministries in your will or estate plans, or are you considering it? A planned gift is a powerful way to support the ministries you love—today and for years to come.

### With a legacy gift, you can:

- Give in a way that aligns with your financial goals
- Support programs that matter most to you
- Be recognized now as a valued member of our Legacy Society

Already included us in your plans? We'd love to thank you.

And if you would like to learn more, please reach out.

### Contact Jeanette Hrovatich

419-972-4373 | [jhrovatich@luthmin.org](mailto:jhrovatich@luthmin.org)



## A Message from Carol Slight

Vice President, Filling Homes

This spring, there is a real sense of energy and renewal across our homes and community programs. Spring brings longer days, more time outdoors, and new opportunities for connection, growth, and shared experiences.

One of the highlights this quarter was our annual Purses for a Purpose Bingo Fundraiser. With nearly 300 attendees and more than 40 sponsors, and the generous support of the Hanson family match, we raised more than \$50,000 for Filling Homes, making it our most successful fundraiser to date. We are deeply grateful for the incredible support that made this possible.

We are also excited to share the expansion of Soaring Arts with Soaring Arts Pottery. This new space will expand our ceramics program, increase kiln capacity, and create even more opportunities for individuals to explore creativity, build skills, and share their work in meaningful ways.

Looking ahead, we are preparing for Revival Week 2026, taking place July 20–27. This special week is dedicated to celebrating the staff who make our work possible every day and recognizing the dedication, compassion, and consistency they bring to those we support.

As we move toward summer 2026, we look forward to continued growth, deeper engagement, and meaningful moments across all areas of Filling Homes.

Thank you for staying connected and for the continued support you show Filling Homes. We are truly grateful for the many ways our community continues to stand with us.

Warmly,

*Carol Slight*



### Leadership Team



**Carol Slight**  
Vice President

[cslight@fillinghome.org](mailto:cslight@fillinghome.org)



**Amy Krassow**

Director of ICF Services

[akrassow@fillinghome.org](mailto:akrassow@fillinghome.org)



**Jenny Borgelt**

Director of Community Services

[jennyborgelt@fillinghome.org](mailto:jennyborgelt@fillinghome.org)



**Tina Parsons**

Director of Mission Advancement

[tinaparsons@fillinghome.org](mailto:tinaparsons@fillinghome.org)



March marked **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**, and Filling Home clients took part in Developmental Disabilities Awareness & Advocacy Day 2026 at the Ohio Statehouse.

Joining the Fulton County Board of Developmental Disabilities, they shared their perspectives and discussed community priorities with Governor Mike DeWine, Representative Jim Hoops and Senator Rob McColley.

Client Tara shared, "It was a good reminder that we can speak up for each other and ourselves, and that we do have rights." We're proud of each attendee for using their voices to help highlight what matters most and advocate for the community.

## Soaring Arts Studios Expands: Introducing Soaring Arts Pottery

We're excited to share a meaningful new chapter in the growth of Soaring Arts Studios, a program of Filling Homes.

Soaring Arts began in 2009 as a small artist-in-residence program at our main campus. What started as a simple space for creativity has grown into a vibrant, thriving program with a strong presence in downtown Napoleon. Today, Soaring Arts Studio and Studio Express continue to provide daily opportunities for individuals across Filling Homes and Northwest Ohio to create, connect, and express themselves through art.



*New Soaring Arts Pottery building located in Downtown Napoleon*

As the program has grown, so has the need. Both spaces are now at full capacity, and since Fall 2024 we've had a growing waitlist. This reflects something we are truly grateful for, the continued interest, participation, and belief in the power of creative expression.

To meet this need and continue expanding opportunity, we are thrilled to announce the next step forward: Soaring Arts Pottery.

This new space will be located in the former MKATS building, just steps from our current studios. This building already holds special meaning in our journey, as it was the site of a Soaring Arts mural created by our artists in 2021. Now, it will be transformed into a dedicated pottery studio and storefront, continuing its story in a new and inspiring way.

Soaring Arts Pottery will allow us to grow one of our most loved areas of creativity. With expanded kiln capacity and improved production space, we will be able to create more pottery, improve turnaround times, and better support both the making and sharing of finished work. Most importantly, it will give artists even more opportunity to explore clay, build skills, and experience the joy of creating something from start to finish.

As part of this growth, Studio Express will become Soaring Arts Community Studio. This space will continue offering hands-on art classes and welcoming creative experiences to the public. Soaring Arts Studio will remain a store, gallery and multi-medium studio, showcasing artwork created by the individuals we support.

*Soaring Arts Artists Brianna Lillie, Amanda Goheen*



Together, these three connected spaces will strengthen Soaring Arts by expanding capacity, deepening opportunity, and continuing to build a program rooted in dignity, creativity, and meaningful expression. We are currently moving through renovations and required approvals, with a hopeful opening planned for Summer 2026.

We are deeply grateful for the support that has made this growth possible. Most of all, we are excited for the artists, staff, families and community members who will continue to experience the impact of Soaring Arts in new and meaningful ways.

## Purses for a Purpose 2026: A Night of Bingo and Impact

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, **Purses for a Purpose 2026 raised more than \$50,000, which has been matched dollar for dollar** through a first-ever matching gift from the Hanson family, creating a total impact of more than \$100,000 in support of Filling Homes.

Purses for a Purpose is one of Filling Homes' signature fundraising events, where friends of our mission come together for an evening of fun, community, and support. Guests enjoyed a lively evening of bingo for designer purses, along with raffles and games, all in support of the individuals we serve. Since 2017, it has grown into a beloved tradition that brings our community together each year. Held at the Filling Homes Community Center on Thursday, April 23, 2026, this sold-out event welcomed nearly 275 guests.

A highlight of the evening was hearing from Kaylee Hanson, and her kind words of gratitude for Filling Homes. "It is such a joy to come by and see the experiences Chris is having, how happy he is. The staff are so wonderful and caring to him... Filling Homes has provided that level of wonderful care for decades to my amazing brothers." To support the 2026 Purses for a Purpose fundraiser, the Hanson Family generously committed to match all Purses for a Purpose funds, doubling the impact of all donations and making this a historic fundraiser for Filling Homes.

We are deeply grateful for the support that made the evening such a success, including three Diamond sponsors, thirty one corporate sponsors, sixteen in-kind sponsors, and twenty volunteers made up of current Filling Homes staff, Filling Homes retirees, and generous community members.

Together, our community helped create a lasting impact that will directly support Filling Homes programs and services. As the year unfolds, we look forward to sharing the many ways this generosity enhances the lives of those we serve. Save the date for Purse Bingo 2027 on Thursday, April 22.



Guests lined up at registration, ready to win big!



# THE FILLING HOME FOUNDATION

WE SINCERELY THANK OUR FRIENDS WHO GENEROUSLY SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY.

## *In Memory of*

### **Kenneth Belcher**

- Randolph & Theresa Reeder
- Steve & Debbie Kemper  
*Evendale, OH*

### **Judy Birchfield**

- Randolph & Theresa Reeder  
*Evendale, OH*

### **Ruth Troutman Bockelman**

- Paul Bockelman  
*Haines City, SC*

### **Philip Bowen**

- Norbert & Linda Sonnenberg  
*Archbold, OH*

### **Abba Chen**

- Todd & Carol Slight  
*Napoleon, OH*

### **Carl Cohrs**

- Marian Dickmann  
*Napoleon, OH*
- Friends & Family Of Carl Cohrs



*Abba Chen*



*Kaleb Schaffner*

## *In Memory of*

### **Cheryl Devrow**

- Tim & Bev Nelson  
*Napoleon, OH*

### **Susan Marie Eicher**

- Norbert & Linda Sonnenberg  
*Archbold, OH*

### **Beulah Gentry**

- Randolph & Theresa Reeder  
*Evendale, OH*

### **Audrey Gilliland**

- Catherine Slight  
*Napoleon, OH*

- Kurt & Theresa Wilhelm  
*Napoleon, OH*

### **Francey Green**

- Marathon Petroleum,  
Napoleon Team

### **Mary Fischer**

- Glenn & Patricia Alexander  
*Miamisburg, OH*

### **Verl Homier**

- Charles Boose  
*Defiance, OH*
- Carmen Knipp  
*Holgate, OH*
- Darwin & Joan Paxton  
*Holgate, OH*

### **Norman Hill**

- Betty Hill  
*Deshler, OH*

### **Jim Hull**

- Anonymous

### **Roxana Kendzel**

- John & Debbie Kendzel  
*Toledo, OH*

### **John "Jack" Krueger**

- Jeff Mires  
*Archbold, OH*

### **Michelle Mino**

- Joyce Mino  
*North Olmsted, OH*

### **Judy Myers**

- Earl LaGorin  
*Sarasota, FL*

### **Kaleb Schaffner**

- Austin & Victoria Schaffner  
*Columbus, OH*

## *In Memory of*

### **Marilyn Shazer**

- Earl LaGorin  
*Sarasota, FL*

### **Dan Shininger**

- The Andersons  
*Maumee, OH*
- Three Arts Club  
*Montpelier, OH*
- Rob & Renee Timbrook  
*Perrysburg, OH*

### **Leif Teig**

- Benton & Monica Bassett  
*Olmsted Township, OH*

### **Judy Thourot**

- Marlene Bockelman  
*Napoleon, OH*

### **Juanita Ward**

- Marian Dickmann  
*Napoleon, OH*

## *In Honor Of*

### **Geri Alexander**

- Barbara & Ed Schlegel  
*Gahanna, OH*

### **Jared Cox**

- Keith & Jessica Cox  
*Ottawa, OH*

### **Rebecca Eddington**

- Audrey Sutton  
*Clyde, OH*

### **Jenny Hartford**

- Leslie Barnes  
*Liberty Center, OH*

- Amanda Seiler  
*Wauseon, OH*

### **Jean Plassman's Birthday**

- Nancy Glaser  
*Napoleon, OH*

### **The NHS Class of 1949**

- Paul Bockelman,  
*Haines City, SC*

### **The Service You Provide (With God's Help)**

- Kenneth Arps,  
*Celina, OH*

### Individual Gifts

- **Mary Arps**, Hamler, OH
- **Lori Beakas**, Waterville, OH
- **Gary Bernath**, Napoleon, OH
- **Rick & Molly Biddle**, Napoleon, OH
- **Chuck & Jeri Campbell**, Toledo, OH
- **Carol Chatham**, Defiance, OH
- **Earnie & Lois Clark**, Harold, KY
- **Terry Cohrs**, Napoleon, OH
- **Rosemarie Cole**, Napoleon, OH
- **David Crandall**, Napoleon, OH
- **Michael & Kimberly Cushman**, Napoleon, OH
- **Sam & Sandy Denn**, Wauseon, OH
- **Sandra Dennie**, Anderson, SC
- **Thomas Dennie**, Anderson, OH
- **Lynn Durham**, Napoleon, OH
- **Deb Ehlers**, Defiance, OH
- **Stanley & Pamela Engle**, Leo, IN
- **Randall Fahringer**, Napoleon, OH
- **Patricia Fisher**, Defiance, OH
- **Linda Francis**, Bowling Green, OH
- **Shirley Gebers**, Defiance, OH
- **Douglas & Jill Gilliland**, Archbold, OH
- **Les Grime**, Archbold, OH
- **Don & Terri Grimm**, Grand Rapids, OH
- **Rosella Hannewald**, Waterville, OH
- **Timothy Hoops**, Napoleon, OH
- **Suzanne Johnson**, Archbold, OH
- **Elmer Junge**, Napoleon, OH
- **Dale & Marcia Kern**, Archbold, OH
- **Kurt & Donna Meyers**, Toledo, OH
- **Kathy Mohring**, Napoleon, OH
- **Kristan Norden**, Napoleon, OH
- **Bob & Charlene Nye**, Edgerton, OH
- **Esther Oberhaus**, Napoleon, OH
- **Paul & Sandra Oehrtman**, Napoleon, OH

### Individual Gifts

- **Ann Rethmel**, Defiance, OH
- **Edward & Betty Riedinger**, Bluffton, SC
- **Sue Rohdy**, McComb, OH
- **Amy Rosebrock**, Napoleon, OH
- **John & Wanda Schimpf**, Bloomville, OH
- **Carol Schroeder**, New Bavaria, OH
- **Duane Shively**, Bowling Green, OH
- **Todd & Carol Slight**, Napoleon, OH
- **Linda Sonnenberg**, Archbold, OH
- **Bret Speiser**, Napoleon, OH
- **Louis Streicher**, Napoleon, OH
- **Mary Streicher**, Napoleon, OH
- **Steven & Amy Thieroff**, Holgate, OH
- **David & Ashlie Thomas**, Defiance, OH
- **William & Linda Wallace**, Pittsford, NY
- **Mary Weisgerber**, Defiance, OH
- **Jacqueline Williams**, St. Marys, OH

### In Kind

- **Rick & Molly Biddle**, Napoleon, OH
- **Bob & Charlene Nye**, Edgerton, OH
- **Michael & Kimberly Cushman**, Napoleon, OH
- **Patricia Fisher**, Defiance, OH
- **Douglas & Jill Gilliland**, Archbold, OH
- **Suzanne Johnson**, Archbold, OH
- **Sue Rohdy**, McComb, OH
- **Amanda Seiler**, Wauseon, OH
- **Quilters Hideaway**, Napoleon, OH
- **Mary Weisgerber**, Defiance, OH

### Giving Tuesday

- **Ann Vreeland**, Marco Island, FL
- **Bradley & Marla Wonderly**, Bryan, OH

### Congregational

- **St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**, Stryker, OH
- **St. Johns Lutheran Ladies Aid**, Stryker, OH
- **St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**, Defiance, OH
- **St. Paul Women Of Life**, Napoleon, OH
- **St. Peters Lutheran Church**, Holgate, OH
- **Trinity Lutheran Church**, Delta, OH
- **Wauseon Women's Guild of Filling Memorial Home**, Wauseon, OH



**The gifts listed were received January 1 - March 31, 2026. If your name or gift was listed incorrectly, please email [info@fillinghome.org](mailto:info@fillinghome.org).**

**Thank you for supporting Filling Homes' mission.**

# THE FILLING HOME FOUNDATION

WE SINCERELY THANK OUR FRIENDS WHO GENEROUSLY SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY.

## Purses for a Purpose

- **Automatic Feed Company,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **B & I TV and Appliance, LLC,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Civista Bank,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **Claridence Wealth,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Clifton Larson Allen LLP,**  
*Minneapolis, MN*
- **Culligan,** *Napoloen, OH*
- **Dental Excellence,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Dunkin' Donuts,** *Napoloen, OH*
- **Elling's Plumbing & Heating,**  
*Inc., Napoleon, OH*
- **Endeavor Financial Group of**  
**Thrivent,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **Engler, Garrow & Roth, LTD.,**  
*Maumee, OH*
- **Farmers & Merchants State**  
**Bank,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **Freedom Township Mens Club,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **GBU Life,** *Pittsburgh, PA*
- **GEM Service,** *Walbridge, OH*
- **Glenn & Patricia Alexander,**  
*Miamisburg, OH*
- **Gordon Food Service,**  
*Grand Rapids, MI*
- **Guardian Life Insurance,**  
*Independence, OH*
- **Henry County Hospital,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Holgate Lumber Company,**  
*Holgate, OH*
- **HOT Graphics,** *Northwood, OH*
- **ICP Pharmacy,** *Tiffin, OH*
- **J.A Hillis, LLC.,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **Jim Speiser and Sons, Inc.,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Kings Flooring & Furniture,**  
*Archbold, OH*
- **Kurtz Ace Hardware,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Lumberyard Winery,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Mercy Health,** *Defiance, OH*

## Purses for a Purpose

- **Midwest Community Federal**  
**Credit Union,** *Defiance, OH*
- **Northwest State Community**  
**College,** *Archbold, OH*
- **Pat Bilow,** *Holgate, OH*
- **Paycom,** *Columbus, OH*
- **PC Connection INC.,** *Keene, NH*
- **Philadelphia Insurance,**  
*Dublin, OH*
- **Pondview Veterinary Clinic,**  
*Archbold, OH*
- **Rodenberger-Gray Funeral**  
**Home,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **Sedgwick Claims Management,**  
*Dublin, OH*
- **The Gerken Companies,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Theresa Reeder,** *Evendale, OH*
- **T&R Lawncare,** *Morenci, MI*
- **Vernon Nagel Inc.,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **VFW Post 8218,** *Napoleon, OH*

## Business

- **Americold Engagement**  
**Committee,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **Family Dollar,** *Deshler, OH*
- **Heartland Hospice,**  
*Whitehouse, OH*
- **Lutheran Ministries Of Mercy,**  
*Williston, OH*
- **Napoleon Public Library,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Panorama,** *Claymont, DE*
- **Pulaski Garden Club,** *Bryan, OH*
- **Sean Baker,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **The Blackbaud Giving Fund,**  
*Charleston, SC*
- **The Kroger Company,**  
*Cincinnati, OH*
- **Weston Public Library -**  
**GR Branch,** *Grand Rapids, OH*

## Grants

- **Bret & Kristi Speiser,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Walmart,** *Bentonville, AR*

## Heart to Heart

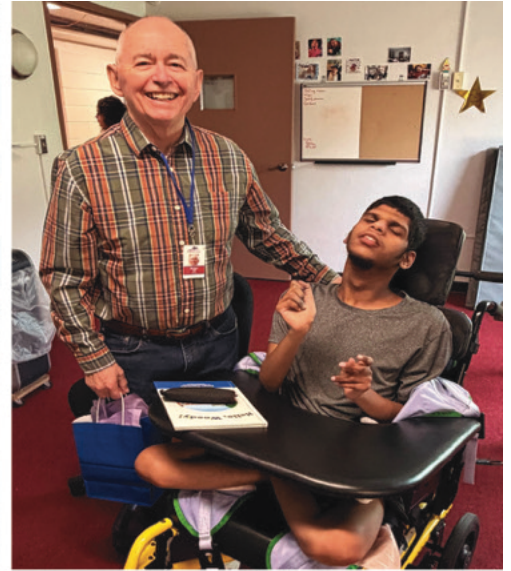
- **Leslie Barnes,**  
*Liberty Center, OH*
- **Jane Bell,** *Bryan, OH*
- **Jan Bratton,** *Delta, OH*
- **Deborah Chupp,**  
*Archbold, OH*
- **Keith & Jessica Cox,**  
*Ottawa, OH*
- **Michael & Kimberly**  
**Cushman,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **John & Debbie Kendzel,**  
*Toledo, OH*
- **Edward Lause,**  
*Bloomdale, OH*
- **Timothy Robinson &**  
**Brenda Rigdon,** *Adrian, MI*
- **James & Terry Riggs,**  
*Bryan, OH*
- **Jessica Schimmoeller,**  
*Montpelier, OH*
- **Gary & Debra Vollmer,**  
*Hicksville, OH*

## Thrivent Choice

- **David Bishop,** *Deshler, OH*
- **Herb Bunke,** *Clearwater, KS*
- **David Crandall,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **David Darr,** *Ann Arbor, MI*
- **Norma Ehlers,** *McClure, OH*
- **Margaret Greene,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Larry Maassel,** *Malinta, OH*
- **Kevin Miller,** *Napoleon, OH*
- **Chelsea Ridley,**  
*Ridgeville Corners, OH*
- **Todd & Carol Slight,**  
*Napoleon, OH*
- **Stephen Voigt,** *Defiance, OH*
- **Marie Zimmerman,**  
*Archbold, OH*



# INSIDE THE MISSION



## WE ARE ACCEPTING NEW RESIDENTS AT OUR MAIN CAMPUS.



If you know of any individuals who may be in need of services, please connect with Filling Homes' Kim Stevens at [kstevens@fillinghome.org](mailto:kstevens@fillinghome.org) or 419-592-6451 X 1210 to learn more.



**Napoleon, OH**

## Filling Home Events Save the Dates:

### Festival of Tables Luncheon

**September 26, 2026**

**Doors open at 11AM  
Luncheon begins at Noon**

### Filling Fall Fling

**November 7, 2026**

**Lunch, Silent and Live Auctions  
11AM-3PM**



**Hosted by The Guild of Filling Homes**

### Our Mission

Rooted in faith, we support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, enriching lives full of value, hope and choice within their community.

### Our Core Values

Treat all with Respect  
Act with Integrity  
Serve as Faithful Stewards  
Strive for Excellence

### Our Ministries

#### Intermediate Care Facility (ICF)

Filling Home Main Campus, *Napoleon*  
Cardinal Home, *Bryan*  
Egly Home, *West Unity*

#### Supported Living Homes & Services

*Fulton, Henry, & Defiance Counties*

#### Adult Day Services Programs

Abilities Bistro, *Napoleon*  
Filling Home Main Campus, *Napoleon*  
Filling Home Community Center, *Napoleon*  
Soaring Arts, *Napoleon*  
Studio Express, *Napoleon*  
Trinity Place, *Bryan*

#### Lutheran Ministries of Mercy, Board of Directors

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#### Filling Homes Foundation Members

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**N160 State Route 108  
Napoleon, OH 43545**

**419-592-6451  
fillinghome.org**



Connect with  
Filling Homes online:  
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Scan to Donate.  
Join Our  
Mission Today!

Address  
Change:

info@fillinghome.org  
Filling Homes  
N160 St. Rt. 108  
Napoleon, OH 43545

## Needs List

As we continue to carry out our mission, we're grateful for the generosity of those who support us. Below is a list of current needs on our Main Campus, should you feel led to give:

- Baking mixes (cake, muffin)
- Cardstock paper (white)
- Deodorant
- Glue sticks
- Hand towels
- Hot chocolate mix
- Ketchup
- Lotion
- Macaroni and noodles
- Men's white T-shirts
- Mustard
- Oatmeal
- Paintbrushes
- Plastic tablecloths
- Rice
- Shortening
- Snack pack pudding
- Soups (all varieties)
- Spaghetti
- String, twine, or raffia
- Sugar (brown, white)
- Syrup
- Washable markers
- Washcloths (cotton, bamboo)
- Water/splash balls
- Zipper storage bags

Please contact Tina Parsons at [tinaparsons@fillinghome.org](mailto:tinaparsons@fillinghome.org) or 419-906-3836 to arrange drop-off. Thank you for making a difference!

