

This is great Shelley! Thank you for taking the time to send me all this information.

Would it be possible to set something up tomorrow on the dire need of volunteers to help east side clients with transportation. I work during the day, so the shoot would have to be from 10am to 1pm at the latest.

Let me know!

Thank you!

Lydia

From: Shelley Shelton [<mailto:sshelton@icstucson.org>]

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2014 10:29 AM

To: Camarillo, Lydia

Subject: RE: KOLD News 13/ FOX 11 story ideas

Hi Lydia,

Things are great! And busy!

We do have quite a few things happening around here, for you to take your pick.

-We are getting ready for our annual Empty Bowls event, which is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and helps us keep our Food Bank operating so we can continue to fight hunger in our community even during the non-holiday months when people aren't thinking as much about donating food (and when there are fewer people around to do so). This means working with the Tucson Chinese Cultural Center, where the event will be held, and we have potters groups industriously creating 1,000 handmade bowls for us to distribute at the event, which is March 22. A big change for us this year is that all tickets will be sold only in advance, none at the door. So people who wish to attend will need to be sure to let us know ahead of time. I'm sure we could arrange some photo ops with the potters.

-We are a key site for the United Way's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which began this month. Trained volunteer tax preparers prepare tax returns free of charge for eligible low-income families and individuals. We have volunteers here from 4-7 p.m. on Wednesdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, through April 12. There's no appointment necessary – first come, first served. For that, I'm sure you could talk to a volunteer or two, and then obviously we'd need to get some input from United Way. I don't know how soon you're looking to have a story, but this one might be ideal around the beginning of March. (The fear being that if something were to run now, we might have more demand than we could meet, based on current traffic, but around the beginning of March it slows down a bit.)

-We are in dire need of volunteers to help our east side clients with transportation. One of our core services is that we provide FREE transportation to the elderly and disabled to meet essential needs, such as getting to medical appointments, the pharmacy, and grocery shopping. Seniors continue to be the fastest-growing population in Pima County, so the need continues to be great. And at the moment we've got a bit of a gap on the east side needing to be met. We could certainly arrange for some kind of ride along with a transportation driver to help illustrate the piece.

-On the heels of Empty Bowls, preparation-wise, we have our second-ever Faith Communities & Mental Illness coming up. The daylong event will feature three nationally known keynote speakers as well as about two dozen local presenters (for breakout sessions), a resource fair, book signing and lunch. ICS is not a religious organization, but we are supported by 74 faith communities, and we are putting on this event because faith communities tend to be one of the first places

people turn to for comfort and solace when they are coping with mental illness (within themselves or their families). We'll be providing the faith communities with local resources and encouraging dialog to help remove some of the stigmas associated with mental illness so people will be more inclined to seek (and give) help. We are working with faith communities to develop programs to reach out to people who are struggling. One example of this is one of our own staffers, who has been through the Community Partnership of Southern Arizona training on mental health first aid and is seeking to bring the training to local congregations as well. She would be available to talk, as well as someone from CPSA. The event itself is on April 25. The last time we did one was two years ago.

-We're happy to update you on the terrific things that have been happening at our Job Resource Centers. We have three of them (one here at our main office, one on the east side, and one in Marana) where people can use computers for free to update resumes and search for and apply for jobs, get help from volunteers with updating the resumes and do mock interviews to get ready for the real thing. We also offer financial literacy classes through the centers. Quite a few people have been getting back on their feet with our help in the last several months.

I didn't mean to write an entire book! Let me know if any of these sound interesting to you, and we can make the appropriate arrangements.

Thanks so much for thinking of us.

Best,

Shelley Shelton

Grant and Communications Writer

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From: Camarillo, Lydia [<mailto:lcamarillo@tucsonnewsnow.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2014 10:31 PM

To: Shelley Shelton

Subject: KOLD News 13/ FOX 11 story ideas

Hello Shelley,

Hope all is well! How are things going? I'm looking for possible story ideas. Please let me know if you have any.

Thank you!

Lydia Camarillo

Tucson News Now Multimedia Journalist

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