

# St Henry / St Mary Joint Social Justice meeting Agenda

Thursday February 22nd at 6:30 PM

St Henry Parish Center

Present: Lynn Carroll, Marianne Rundall, Mary Lake, Zita Cashin, Mark and Elly Mack, Jeff Harris, John and Carol Haney.

1. Judge John Haney gave a presentation on the local judicial system and specifically about the drug court he heads up in Marshall County. It started in February 2016 with volunteers. It has a multidisciplinary approach with volunteer professionals from substance abuse, law enforcement, attorneys, probation and the judge. They meet with the client at least weekly. This is in place of incarceration. The outcomes are reduced crime, reduced drug use, reduced family conflicts, helps with financial and social needs. 75% of the graduates are successful and don't return to the system. The money saved: it costs \$33,000 a year for incarceration compared to \$7,400 a year for someone on drug court. He wanted us to be aware of the continued cutbacks from the state for the judicial system which results in decrease in services in general. One of the suggestions was to become aware of the problem and talk to our legislators. As far as the voluntary drug court he runs, John also uses incentives for people, such as Y passes, movie passes or gas cards to give a few examples. Lynn volunteered to write a grant to help in getting some of those incentives so to be used in the volunteer drug court that he is in charge of. Overall, he gave us a lot of good information so to share with other people.
2. Lynn shared with the group that Irv would be retiring from the Social Justice Committee. He has given many years to this group and many things were started, that are still in existence, because of his involvement and dedication to social justice.
3. HOC; Lynn will be in charge of the date in March.
4. Food packaging: this will be this weekend and Marianne Rundall's husband will help with transporting all of the meals to the Emergency Food Box.
5. Giving Tree: Zita volunteered to be in charge of that for next year and will be getting another volunteer to help.
6. Due to the risk of bad weather, we decided to table the rest of the agenda until next month.

Respectfully submitted

Elly Mack

