

Schenectady Inner City Ministry



2017

Annual Report




Schenectady Inner City Ministry



2017

Annual Report



Schenectady Inner City Ministry ANNUAL REPORT

2017

Schenectady Inner City Ministry
Administrative Office
1055 Wendell Ave.
Schenectady, NY 12308
518.374.2683
www.sicm.us

CONTENTS

Message from Steering Chair Randy McGough	4
Message from Executive Director Rev. Phillip Grigsby	5
Mission and Member Congregations	6
Programs	
Food Program	7
Emergency Food Pantry	7
Community Garden	8
Summer Meals	9
Summer Youth Camp at Steinmetz Park	10
Internship Program	11
Schenectady County Embraces Diversity (SCED)	12
Leadership – New Initiatives	12
Program Impact	13
Donor Information	15
Supporters	16
Looking Forward	17

Message from Steering President

Randy McGough



Steering Members 2017

Randy McGough
President

Rev. Dustin Wright,
Vice President

Jo-Anne Rafalik
Secretary

Marsha Mortimore,
Treasurer

Shirley Readdean
Past President

Sr. Ann Christi Brink
Don Wheeler
Rev. Peter JB Carman
Rev. James McDonald

Emerita Member:
Rev. Diana Fletcher

Rev. Phillip N. Grigsby
Executive Director

As we end 2017 and begin 2018, I would note the many positive things that SICM has accomplished throughout the past year. SICM worked hard during 2017 on fulfilling its mission of, *"Relating the resources of the congregations to the needs of the community."*

Throughout 2017 SICM has worked diligently on meeting the needs of the folks within the inner city and Schenectady County who are lacking many of the basic comforts that we who have so much take for granted. We accomplished this through the many programs that we operate, including the Food Pantry, Internship Program, Summer Meals, Summer Camp at Steinmetz Park, Schenectady County Embraces Diversity (SCED), the Damien Center of Schenectady, and other initiatives. SICM also conducted a monthly Assembly meeting for its member congregations to share information on current and new social justice initiatives.

During the year, SICM has worked with community partners on a number of fundraising events to fund the many programs that it operates. These include, Souper Bowl, CROP Walk, Empty Bowls, The Knight's of Columbus Charity Golf Classic, Harvest for the Pantry, and the Concert of Thanksgiving.

As SICM prepared to enter its next 50 years, it has been working on plans to reconfigure the agency to meet the growing needs of the community. Congregations, staff and volunteers have been and continue to be involved in this arduous undertaking.

The work of SICM cannot occur without the assistance of its many volunteers, staff and community partners. It is because of the hard work of these folks that SICM can perform the many good things that it does. In closing, while 2017 was a good year for SICM in carrying out its mission and goals, we are looking forward to an even better 2018 for fulfilling its mission's goals.

Randy McGough

Message from Rev. Phillip Grigsby

Executive Director



Reflections at 50 Years

In the mid 1960's concerned congregational and community members gathered to form a new expression for direct action, a "hands on" approach to community ministry. The more they met, the larger grew their vision. What came about is far beyond what they ever imagined:

- Originally a Four Parish Fellowship (comprised of Duryee Memorial AME Zion, Emmanuel Baptist, First United Methodist, and Friendship Baptist) gathered and quickly became 12, and now 51 congregations seeking to "do those things together we can best do together."
- Roman Catholics and Protestants, originally suspicious, after Vatican II discovered we had much more in common than what divides us. The ecumenical movement took shape. Now we are enriched by multi-faith partnerships and relationships.
- Many able and skilled leaders over the years helped develop and lead SICM. We recall "the communion of saints" on whose shoulders we stand today. We remember the Rev. Dr. Carl B. Taylor, Mother Georgetta Dix, Pieter VonHermann, Willis Rexford, Rachel Rowe, Lloyd Rivest, Mary Schieble, Phyllis Clas, Cay Raycroft, Bertha Comanzo, Fr. Michael Hogan, David Nelson, Rev. Don Stake, George Roman and many more who have gone before us faith and in a very real way guide us still today.
- A direct and effective help for those with "too much month at the end of the money" with a model food program. While we give "a fish for a day" we also "teach to fish" with a variety of resources; it is a neighborhood resource center. The SICM community garden near the pantry enables families to grow their own food.
- A 'social entrepreneur' response to community concerns by the development over the years of such initiatives as Safe Inc. (human trafficking), Bethesda House (homelessness), the Community Land Trust (affordable housing), Nutrition Outreach and Education (accessing food programs), and more.
- Leadership in initiatives to improve police and community relations, with other community issues, and addressing racism/diversity in a now more diverse community (Schenectady County Embraces Diversity).
- Initiatives for health and wellness (for example, the Spiritually Sound Physically Fit program, Safe Parks and Edible Playgrounds, Healthy Homes, the Schenectady Damien Center, healthier options at the SICM Food Program).
- Addressing childhood hunger through the county's only Summer Food Service program providing breakfast and lunch at 28 sites, fixed and mobile.
- Educating children through a summer camp helping youth avoid "the summer slide" and teaching faith values as well.
- and more!

We can't do it alone. We do it through partnerships and broad community support. Thank you! As we look ahead, we celebrate these partnerships and many supporters to not only sustain important work but develop new initiatives. "There is yet light and truth to break forth" the old covenant spoke. "Behold this new thing I am doing" says God in Revelations. If we are fortunate, we can "catch on to God's coattails" and be at those places where hope is affirmed, where community is developed, where those in crisis get a hand, and people of faith bear witness.

Rev. Phillip Grigsby

Mission

Relating the resources of the congregations to the needs of the community.

SICM is a faith-based, non-sectarian 501(c)3 organization that cares for Schenectady County's high-risk populations through ministries focusing on:

Food Insecurity

Family, Adults, Youth, and Seniors

Diversity & Acceptance

Advocacy, Partners and Collaborations

Summer Lunch and Book Giveaways

Guests enjoy an evening at Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC)



SCHENECTADY INNER CITY MINISTRY

Member Congregations – The Assembly

Alplaus UMC, Altamont Reformed, Bellevue Reformed, Bethel AME, Burnt Hills UMC, Carman UMC, Christ Church Episcopal, Duryee Memorial AME Zion, Eastern Parkway UMC, Emmanuel Baptist—Friedens UCC, Faith UMC, First Baptist, Schenectady, First Reformed, Schenectady, First Reformed, Scotia, First UMC, Friendship Baptist, Good Shepherd Lutheran, Holy Name of Jesus PNC, Immaculate Conception, Immanuel Lutheran, Lynnwood Reformed, Messiah Lutheran, Mt. Olivet Missionary Baptist, Niskayuna Reformed, Our Lady of Grace, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Our Lady Queen of Peace, Our Redeemer Lutheran, Parson's Memorial, Prince of Peace Lutheran, Refreshing Spring, Rotterdam UMC, St. Adalbert, St. Anthony's, St. George's Episcopal, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. John the Evangelist, St. Joseph's, Schenectady, St. Joseph's, Scotia, St. Paul the Apostle, St. Paul's Episcopal, St. Stephen's Episcopal, Scotia UMC, Society of Friends (Quakers), Stanford UMC, State Street Presbyterian, Tabernacle Baptist, Trinity Presbyterian, Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady, Zion Lutheran.

Programs

SICM Food Program

The SICM Food Program addressed public health needs such as hunger and nutrition, encouraged healthy behaviors, and advocated to improve the lives of high-need populations. The SICM Food Program included the Emergency Food Pantry with support services, a Community Garden, and a Summer Meals program for anyone under 19.

Vision: Everyone has access to healthy, nutritious food.

Emergency Food Pantry



The Pantry was open four days a week and provided guests who were in need of temporary and emergency food with nutritious groceries. Once a month mass food distribution was offered. Van rides home were offered to guests.

Community organizations offered information and assistance at the pantry to help guests learn about community resources.

The pantry offered special programs, such as Senior Connect, Sit & Knit and food deliveries to the homebound.

Many community organizations and individuals volunteered to assist the pantry and warehouse.



Funding provided in part by: NYS Hunger Prevention Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP)

Other supporters:

Regional Food Bank
Concerned for the Hungry
Post Office Food Drive
Individuals and Groups
Congregations
Foundations
Corporations
Fox Creek & Roxbury Farms
Annual Fundraisers:
Souper Bowl
Empty Bowls
Harvest for the Pantry

SICM Food Pantry
839 Albany Street
Schenectady, NY 12307
Pantry: 518.346.4445

Emergency Food Pantry

Better and more abundant food, and value-added nutrition education, will result in healthier people, particularly healthier children.

Impact & Results

2017

Total equivalent meals distributed:	390,375
Total Households Served:	1,500
Children (Under 18)	15,300
Adults (18-64)	25,738
Seniors (65+)	2,625
Over 170 regular volunteers!	
14,640 Hours	

Community Garden

Goal: Gardeners save money and learn how to grow their own fruits and

Community residents were offered 18 plots to grow their own fresh fruits and vegetables. SICM provided support through a staff person and volunteers who prepared the soil for planting. The garden operated April through November. Each gardener was responsible for maintaining their own plot. Many donated produce to the pantry. Community and faith-based organizations and individuals volunteered to assist gardeners.



Garden Location: Hulett St.
Schenectady, NY 12308
Pantry: 518.346-4445-Food Director

The property on Hulett St. is possible
through a partnership with Duryee
Memorial AME Zion Church

Summer Meals

Vision: *Ensure that high priority children of Schenectady receive a nutritious meal during the summer.*

Summer Meals provided free breakfasts and/or lunches to youth 19 and younger at parks, public housing locations, and churches. The program also offered mobile site locations throughout the county. Teams of SICM summer staff, interns and volunteers served the meals and engaged children with fun activities, such as arts and crafts, reading, etc. The program started at the end of the school year and continued until school restarted.



Funding provided in part by:

USDA through the NYS Dept. of Education

United Way of the Greater Capital Region

City of Schenectady

76 community groups/37 faith communities volunteer

Impact & Results

Summer 2017

Lunches: 40,182

Breakfasts: 11,029

Total meals: 51,211

Over 1,200 Volunteers!

4,500 Hours

SICM Food Program
839 Albany Street
Schenectady, NY 12307
Pantry: 518.346.4445



Summer Youth Camp at Steinmetz Park

Vision: *Children have a safe and nurturing experience that builds confidence and self-reliance.*

SICM's Summer Day Camp at Steinmetz Park was a free faith-based camp for children ages 7—12 that offered engaging hands-on activities designed to motivate campers and take advantage of the beautiful natural surroundings at Steinmetz Park. The 45-acre park resources included a large stocked pond with beautifully sculptured nature walks, a playground, and picnic areas. The camp offered treasure hunts, arts and crafts, music, fishing, recreation activities, and more. Off-site field trips were offered. The program included breakfast and lunch.



The camp was open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for six weeks (July through August.) It was open and staffed with professionals, interns and volunteers; the SICM camp offered a one to six ratio of staff to children.

Funding provided in part by:

Times Union Hope Fund

Rotary

**Eastern Parkway United Methodist
Church Growth Fund**

MiSci Scholarships for campers

Target

In-kind Support: City of Schenectady



Impact & Results

32 Campers: 19 males; 13 females

Average daily attendance: 25

5 interns supported staff at the camp

Field Trips: NYS State Museum, Albany
Camp Fowler-Speculator, Fox Creek Farm-
Schoharie; MiSci-Schenectady

Camp Location: Steinmetz Park

Lenox Road & Salina Streets.

Schenectady, NY 12308

Main: 518.374.2683

Internship Program

Vision: During the summer months, students have a valuable work experience.

The Summer Internship Program benefited high school and college-age students by offering part-time and full-time positions. It offered the experience of observing and responding to those in need at SICM and other non-profit programs. The experience was especially valuable for the community who reaped the benefits of the students' hard work in various programs, and SICM benefited from having "many hands to make light work." Congregations benefited from having their youth reaching out to the residents of Schenectady.



Internship Program
SICM Administrative Office
1055 Wendell Ave.
Schenectady, NY 12308
518.374.2683

Impact & Results – 2017

10 interns participated

9 congregations and/or individuals supported the students

Interns gained experience and confidence

Many interns often developed life-long friendships

Interns assessed future career opportunities

Interns used this experience as a steppingstone to graduate work and careers in social work

Funding provided in part by:

SICM, individuals and congregations

Schenectady County Embraces Diversity (SCED)

Vision: Diversity is our strength for change.

SCED was a program for both youth and adults designed to create new ways to talk about Schenectady County's increasingly diverse community. Participants gained a deeper understanding of the issues that divide populations and identified possible solutions to address their concerns.

SCED provided support to local networks and sought change through advocacy. Program offered Dialogue to Change curriculum for adults and Study Circles for middle and high school students. The small groups of 12-15 people included structured sessions led by trained peer facilitators. Participants offered personal stories leading to shared understanding of differences. They shared knowledge, resources and learned decision-making skills, then developed plans of action for change.

Impact & Results— School Year: 2016-17

Study Circles

5 middle schools — 89% of participants stated they felt they can do something to improve relations

6 high schools — 93% of participants stated they had a better understanding of different types of maltreatment

Coordinated Community Conversations

Police & Community Relations; Youth Response to Authority

Total Youth and Adult Participation: 400

SICM
SCED Program
1055 Wendell Ave
Schenectady, NY 12308
Main: 518.374.2683



Funding provided in part by:

**School Districts Fees, SICM and
Sisters of St. Joseph**

Leadership – New Initiatives

SICM provides the knowledge, supports, and connections to assist individuals and/or agencies in Schenectady develop new non-profit programs/services. SICM has the expertise and leadership to support new initiatives that will minimize risk and provide stability to strengthen the venture. For SICM to consider a **New Initiative**, the plan should:

- Align with SICM's mission
- Address gaps in services for high-need populations
- Present a proposed budget (i.e., projected revenue and expenses)
- Articulate purpose of venture project/service
- Demonstrate individual empowerment and self-reliance, whenever possible



2017 -2018 Current Initiatives:

Patty's Place

Literacy – Preschool Reading

Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC) – Summer Nights



Former SICM Programs

These organizations achieved independent status and continued to operate as successful non-profits.

Bethesda House of Schenectady, Inc. (homelessness)

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)

Community Land Trust of Schenectady (addresses affordable housing concerns)

Nutrition Outreach & Education Program (NOEP) (access to federal food program)

Safe Inc. of Schenectady (runaway, homeless youth and human trafficking)

Schenectady Damien Center (HIV/AIDS community and resource center)

SICM
1055 Wendell Ave.
Schenectady, NY 12308
Main: 518.374.2683

Impact Stories

Food Program

Pantry Guest

"This pantry helps out in many ways even when you don't expect it. GOD is in this place!!"

"I love SICM because they feed you with nutritious veggies, fruits and meats. They are courteous and the people are kind and caring."

Summer Meals Parent

"It's like the pot of gold at the end of a rainbow ... it helps with people's budgets."

A Gardener

"Everyone needs to know where their food comes from; the range of what was grown was truly amazing. You go from the ground to your plate...once you get past the hard work...the rest is free."

A Volunteer

"The SICM Food Pantry is a wonderful service to our community. Over the past 18 years I have enjoyed working here with some of the nicest people I have ever known."

Summer Camp

From Campers

"I would probably just sit in my room and lock the door," said a camper, when asked what he would do if he didn't have camp."

"I can relax and do things I like, like crafts."

From a Grandmother

"She [granddaughter] tells me about the fishing events she did or the field trips she went to; it has an open area, a fish area and they paint, play and color - it kept her busy."

From a Counselor

"Many of the campers that attended last year returned for another year so the camp started out with a sense of camaraderie that has only grown since."

Schenectady County Embraces Diversity

From Youth

"I learned new ways to help others and believe I can make a difference."

From a Peer Leader

"As a trained Peer Leader I was able to help guide the conversation for change with youth from my school."

Program Impact

SICM Food Program



SICM Summer Meals Program



SICM Community Garden



SICM Summer Camp at Steinmetz



SICM Internship Program



SICM SCED Program



Donor Information

Donors include: individuals; congregational giving; groups, organizations; G.E. Match; corporate giving; fundraisers; and foundation grants; and other

\$1,059,384

Champion for SICM: 13 = \$754,838

Advocate for SICM: 9 = \$59,361

Partner of SICM: 22 = \$77,301

Ally of SICM: 44 = \$62,939

Supporter of SICM: 367 = \$89,438

Friend of SICM: 382 = \$15,507

KEY

\$10,000 & Above

\$9,999 - \$5,000

\$4,999 - \$2,500

\$2,499 - \$1,000

\$999 - \$100

Under \$100

Revenue	Amount
Congregations	\$ 100,199
Denominations/Religious Organizations	\$ 8,065
Individuals	\$ 188,033
Groups/Organizations	\$ 14,398
G.E. Match	\$ 43,267
Corporate	\$ 11,289
Fundraiser	\$ 39,990
Foundation Grants	\$ 182,385
Other*	\$ 471,758
Total:	\$1,059,384

*Includes government grants.

2017 Fundraising Events

Souper Bowl

Concert of Thanksgiving

Crop Walk

Empty Bowls

Knights of Columbus Charity

Golf Classic

Harvest for the Pantry

Supporters

SICM is grateful for the many supporters who provide financial resources to help us help others. Thank you to the many congregations, groups, and businesses who helped in 2017.

109 th Alumni Association	Freysbush UMC Women	Rosary Altar Society
1 st National Bank of Scotia	Galaxy Sports (Goldstock's)	Rotary Club of Schenectady
Aetna Foundation	GE Athletic Ass'n	Rotary Club of Scotia
Albany All starts Roller Derby	GE Foundation	Rotterdam UMC
Alplaus UMC (United Methodist Church)	GE United Way Campaign	Schalmont Central School District
Altamont Reformed	GE Women's Club	Schenectady Central School District
Amazon Smile	Girl Scout Troop 2012	Schenectady Friends Meeting (Quakers)
Ambition Coffee and Eatery	Glen Worden School	Schenectady Ole Timers Baseball Club
Anker's Auto Service	Grand Blvd Fire Co.	Schenectady/Scotia 500 Club
Atlantic Contracting and Specialties	Handelman Family Foundation	Scotia Glenville Lions Club
Bellevue Reformed	Hannaford Helps	Scotia UMC
Berkshire Bank Foundation	Happy Cappuccino	Scotia-Glenville School District
Beukendaal Chapter No. 271 OES	Hernas Veterinary Clinic	SEFCU
Blue Ribbon Diner	Holy Name of Jesus PNC	Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet
Henry Butzel Family Foundation	Immanuel Lutheran	SE Group Giving Committee
Capital District YMCA	Kingsway Community	Sons of Italy #321
CREO (Capital Region Ecumenical Organization)	Lisha's Kill Reformed	St. Andrew's of Schenectady
Carmen UMC	Lounsbury Family Foundation	St. Clare's RC
Catholic Charities Diocese of Albany	Lynnwood Reformed	St. Gabriel's RC
Catholic Charities Senior Services	Mazzone Hospitality	St George's Episcopal
Christ Community Reformed	Messiah Lutheran	St. John the Evangelist RC
Christmas Wish Campaign (WGY)	Metroland Business	St Joseph's RC of Scotia
Christ's Church of the Hills	Mike's Contracting	St. Joseph's Place
Church of St. Adalbert	Niskayuna Consumer Cooperative	St. Joseph's RC of Schenectady
Church of the Immaculate Conception	Niskayuna Knights of Columbus 8121	St. Kateri Tekakwitha
Church World Service/CROP	Niskayuna Reformed	St. Madeline Sophie
City of Schenectady	Niskayuna Wine and Liquor	St. Margaret of Cortona
Cobblestone Church	Northville United Presbyterian	St. Paul's Episcopal
Coburg Village Residents	NPS Gives	Stanford UMC
Community Foundation of the Capital Region	NYS Dept of Education (Summer Food Service)	Stewart's Foundation
Congregation Gates of Heaven	NYS Dept of Health, Hunger Prevention Nutrition Assistance Program	Trinity Presbyterian
Duryee Memorial AME Zion	Orthopedics NY LLP	Troy Savings Bank Foundation
The Edward D Cammarota Foundation	Our Lady of Mt Carmel	Union College Athletics
Emmanuel Friedens	Our Lady Queen of Peace	United Way of the Greater Capital Region
Faith UMC	Our Redeemer Lutheran	United Way of Portland, ME
Fenimore Asset Management	Pattersonville Furniture Store	William Gundry Broughton Charitable Foundation
First Baptist of Schenectady	Presbytery of Albany	Woestina Young at Heart
First Reformed Schenectady	Price Chopper's Golub Foundation	Women's Alliance of the USS
First Reformed Scotia	Prince of Peace Lutheran	Wright Family Foundation
FM Global Foundation	RBC Foundation	Zonta Club of Schenectady
Fox Creek Farm	Robert E Van Vranken and Lori Liebers	

Looking Forward

How can you help SICM?

Make a financial donation to SICM to support all programs, or target your donation to a specific program. Consider planned giving and/or a memorial gift.

Join a committee and/or help out at one of specialized fundraisers: Souper Bowl, Empty Bowls, Golf Classic, Harvest for the Pantry, or a new one of your choice. Make an in-kind donation to the SICM Emergency Food Pantry. Volunteer to serve lunch or breakfast to children during the summer months. Not everyone can make a financial contribution. Engage people in other ways by volunteering at SICM. If you have time, we could use your help.

Check out our website for more information: www.sicm.us



Volunteer and help make a difference and/or make a financial contribution:

- ☐ Volunteer with a program: (List your program(s) preference) _____
- ☐ Volunteer around the office with phone calls and other tasks
- ☐ Volunteer in a different way: _____
- ☐ I am interested in financially supporting SICM. Donation enclosed: _____
(Make check payable to SICM); PayPal available via www.sicm.us
Credit Card# _____/Exp. Date _____/Security Code _____

Please visit our website <http://www.sicm.us> to learn more, or call us at 518.374.2683. Send this form by mail to our office at 1055 Wendell Ave., Schenectady, NY 12308

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Thank you to our donors for your support and for helping us extend a hand to others in need.

We wish to thank the hard working and devoted staff and volunteers, who go above and beyond to support SICM!



2017

Annual Report



Connect With Us

(518.374.2683 | email@sicm.us)