

*I Want to Be a Part of
Marion Matters*

Name

Business or Other Organization

Position

Street Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

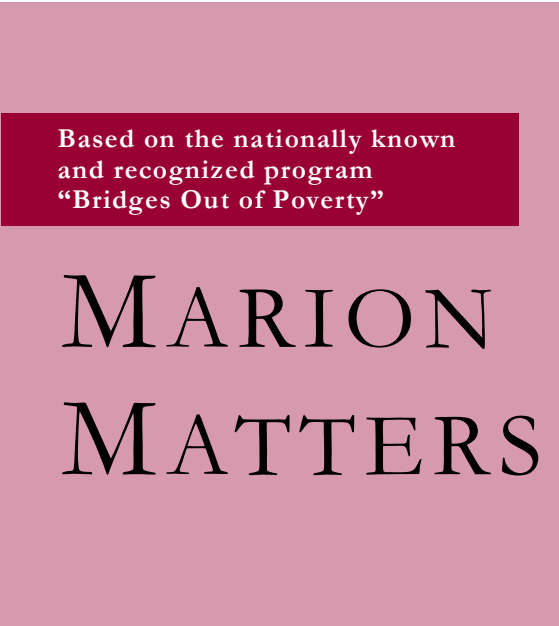
E-mail

Please complete both sides and mail
this information to:

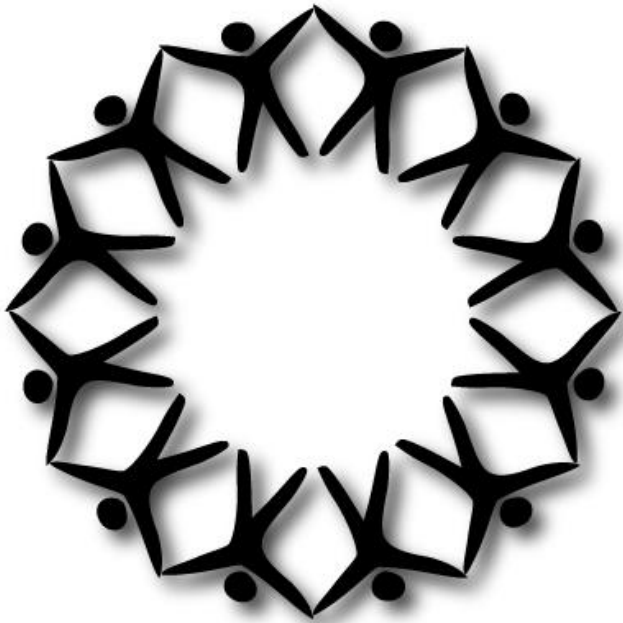
Marion Matters, Inc.
233 West Center Street
Marion, Ohio 43302

Or e-mail your information to:
coordinator@marionmatters.org

Marion Matters, Inc.
233 West Center Street
Marion, Ohio 43302
Phone: 740-387-0347
E-mail: Coordinator@marionmatters.org



Be a part of what matters



*What is Marion
Matters?*

Marion Matters is comprised of individuals and businesses that care about Marion County and believe that people can improve their lives and financial position with education and support from others. Marion Matters is not a project. Marion Matters is not a program. Marion Matters is a community movement! Marion Matters mobilizes caring community members working to create pathways out of poverty through community collaboration, education and support.

Why?

Almost one in four Marion County residents receives federal food assistance and more than one in four is enrolled in Medicaid – two of the most useful indicators of poverty and both significantly higher than the State of Ohio average. (2009 Marion County Job & Family Services Profile)

The Results

Here are just a few accomplishments achieved by our Getting Ahead graduates:

- Sue landed one solid job after juggling three jobs at the same time



- Steve obtained educational grants and enrolled in local college programs



- Bob enrolled in and graduated from the Tri Rivers STNA nursing assistant program



- John opened local bank accounts and improved credit ratings



How Does Marion Matters Work?

Marion Matters is based on a nationally known and recognized program called “Bridges Out of Poverty” which teaches that most of us grow up in a culture of poverty, middle class or wealth, and that the unspoken knowledge and rules of each culture are different. It is almost impossible to move from one class to another without having and understanding this information. For example, below are a set of differences involving financial skills:

- ⇒ In Poverty, financial skill includes knowing where all the “quick cash” places are located.
- ⇒ In Middle Class, financial skill includes knowing how to maintain a checking and savings account.
- ⇒ In Wealth, financial skill includes knowing how to manage a stocks and securities portfolio successfully.

Marion Matters engages the community and local businesses to form more effective relationships among economic classes.

Marion Matters

In 2010, more than 1,000 Marion citizens participated in Bridges training. Marion Matters also offers “Getting Ahead In a Just Gettin’ By World” classes for those in poverty who wish to achieve financial stability. Once these students graduate from the two month, twice weekly classes, they are matched with community mentors or “allies” to help them find their way through middle class systems. These students then become teachers and allies themselves for others.

How Can I Be a Part of What Matters?

As an individual, I want to:

- ☐ Become an ally
- ☐ Facilitate “Getting Ahead” classes
- ☐ Prepare meals for “Getting Ahead” classes
- ☐ Provide child care for “Getting Ahead” classes
- ☐ Provide transportation for “Getting Ahead” classes
- ☐ Become a dues-paying member of Marion Matters (Check enclosed)
 - ☐ Personal \$25
 - ☐ Family \$100

As a business, I want to

- ☐ Become a dues-paying member of Marion Matters (check enclosed)
 - ☐ Church \$250
 - ☐ Business \$500
 - ☐ Tier 3 Sponsor \$1,500
 - ☐ Tier 2 Sponsor \$5,000
 - ☐ Tier 1 Sponsor \$10,000
- ☐ Schedule training on “Bridges Out of Poverty” concepts for my management team
- ☐ Refer appropriate employees for “Getting Ahead” classes
- ☐ Find out about simple policy changes that will help my Employees
- ☐ I am OK with receiving future e-mail communications, but am not ready to make a commitment at this time