#### Summer 2022 Newsletter

## Crowded Closet MCC THRIFT SHOP $\mathbf{O}$



# Journey of a donation



**Donation drive-thru** Donors drive-up and unload items for donation. 🛌 🥿





**Donation receiving** 

Staff greet each donor and wheel items into receiving area. Items are assessed and sorted by department.





Workroom Donations are transferred to departments throughout processing to prepare items for sale by cleaning, sorting, and bagging.



#### Shoppers After a warm

welcome from our volunteer greeter, customers enjoy an exciting adventure perusing the racks, filling their carts with treasures.



Stocking

Staff and volunteers take special care to display items in organized and eye-appealing displays

throughout the retail floor.

### Pricing

Each item is priced and tagged using current market trends and information.



### DESTINATION Impact

The purchase creates new opportunities for others, such as education for children in Ethiopia or vouchers for a local family in need of clothing.



Check-out Volunteer cashiers scan each item for purchase and bag or box the items. The once-donated item heads out into the world for its new, extended life!

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#### Changing lives locally and around the world. Shop. Donate. Volunteer.

# Building community, building dreams (?)

Our South District Neighborhood is alive with creativity and community during the Diversity Market, every Saturday this summer. On a recent stroll through the market, Closet staff discovered a booth filled with beautiful bags of all shapes and sizes. Local entrepreneur Marichu Sokpe, of D'Mari's Artisanal

gift shop, was able to share directly with Closet staff how she purchases fabric for her bags from Crowded Closet.

What an awesome example of supporting one another's goals and dreams within the South District Neighborhood and a beautiful story of what Crowded Closet does for our community! Each donor and volunteer can feel a renewed sense of purpose and satisfaction that their contributions are a gift to the world.



donor and volunteer can<br/>feel a renewed sense of<br/>purpose and satisfactionMarichu Sokpe (left) of D'Mari's<br/>Artisanal gift shop shows her beautiful<br/>goods to Cindy Williams (center),<br/>Retail Supervisor and Christine Maust<br/>Beachy (right), Volunteer Coordinator,<br/>at a recent Diversity Market.

Watch for the new, permanent, year-round South District Market coming soon, now under construction in the former Slumberland.

Ready for your next creative endeavor? Check out our Fabric & Crafts department for inspiration and supplies to create something beautiful!



## Volunteer Spotlight ()

Meet Matisse! Matisse first discovered Crowded Closet after the shop relocated to Pepperwood Plaza over three years ago. Right away, he was struck by how friendly everyone was, from Greeter to Cashier and everyone else. He immediately loved Crowded Closet, and the shop became a favorite. So when Matisse was looking for a place to build connections and become involved in the community, he thought of Crowded Closet right away.

He enjoys his role of volunteer cashier because meeting the shoppers gives him energy, and all the friendly interactions make his day



a little better. Days with Matisse make our shop a little brighter, too. Be like Matisse and join us in sharing love and compassion with our Iowa City community!

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Christine Maust Beachy at 319-337-5974 or email crowdedcloset.volunteer@gmail.com to join us in service.