

ShareFest 2014

Final Report



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Introduction

ShareFest 2014 marked the 10th year for the annual donation drive that occurs during Miami University Move-Out Week in Oxford. ShareFest is a remarkable effort that brings together people from the university, community, and Butler County. ShareFest 2014 was a record year for donations.

While ShareFest continues to increase donations from the Miami University and greater Oxford community, there is opportunity for improvement and better collaboration among the various organizations and social service agencies that participate in this annual event.

Mission Statement and Purpose

Mission Statement

ShareFest is a service and environmental nonprofit corporation dedicated to the collection and redistribution of items donated by Miami University students and the Oxford community at the end of the academic year. Collected items benefit residents in need and social service agencies throughout the region.



Purpose

The purpose of ShareFest is to:

1. Help individuals in need by providing them with access to furniture, household goods, clothing and food that are donated by Miami University students or by other community members at the end of the academic year.
2. Teach sharing and environmental ethics and an awareness of diverse backgrounds to the young people who are students at Miami University.
3. Protect and preserve the environment by preventing usable items from going into the landfill.
4. Help the City of Oxford dispose of unwanted items and help clean the City quickly.

History

ShareFest has experienced tremendous growth since beginning in 2005. That year, 65 families were served, followed by 270 in 2006, over 300 in 2007 and 2008. In 2009, ShareFest served over 600 families. Families were able to furnish homes with items such as couches, dressers, desks and kitchen tables. In addition, many teenagers received high-quality clothing items.

Organizations such as the Family Resource Center, Butler County Children Services and Lighthouse Food Pantry distribute items collected from ShareFest. In some years, up to seven organizations were involved with ShareFest.

In 2010, the ShareFest Committee began allowing groups to sell the collected items. It was a condition that proceeds would benefit their clients.

Establishment of Nonprofit Corporation

In September 2013, ShareFest was established as an official nonprofit corporation with the State of Ohio. The nonprofit corporation was set up to manage event finances and donation collection. It is a separate entity from groups that receive ShareFest donations.

In summer 2014, ShareFest received its 501(c)(3) tax exemption status with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), effective September 9, 2013. ShareFest continues to support the nonprofit partners and agencies that participated in previous years.

Board

- President: Dr. Carol Michael, Miami University
- Vice-President: Dr. Kevin Bush, Miami University Partnership Office
- Treasurer: Karen Baker, Baker & Associates CPAS LLC
- Secretary: Andrew Wilson, City of Oxford
- Holli Morrish, Talawanda School District

Planning Committee

Thank you to the following people who put in countless hours planning and coordinating ShareFest 2014.

- Rob Abowitz, Miami University Office of Residence Life
- Gena Bowles, Butler County Children Services
- Dr. Kevin Bush, Miami University Partnership Office
- Jung-Han Chen, City of Oxford
- Debbie Hurd, Lighthouse Church
- JoAnn Knott, Lighthouse Church
- Dr. Carol Michael, Miami University
- Holli Morrish, Talawanda School District
- Diane Ruther-Vierling, Family Resource Center
- Rory Uhler, Family Resource Center
- Andrew Wilson, City of Oxford

Recipient Groups

The number of groups receiving ShareFest donations varies from year to year. In 2014, the following three agencies and organizations received ShareFest donations.

The Family Resource Center (FRC)

The [FRC](#) serves the Talawanda School District and provides emergency assistance with basic needs such as shelter, energy, water, and clothing. The FRC also coordinates services with community partners to

enhance the ability of individuals to become more self-sufficient through education, employment, and money management. The FRC has been involved in the planning and operation of ShareFest since it began. Between 2005 and 2009, dozens of families received free furnishings and housewares as a result of the FRC's participation in the event. Since 2010, the FRC sells its ShareFest donations in order to maintain the funding needed for its services to the community.

Butler County Children Services (BCCS)

[BCCS](#) is the county agency responsible for investigating allegations of abuse or neglect and acting to protect children from harm. Like the FRC, BCCS has been involved with ShareFest since it began in 2005. BCCS staff has freely given food, clothing, house wares, and furniture collected from ShareFest to hundreds of families in need.

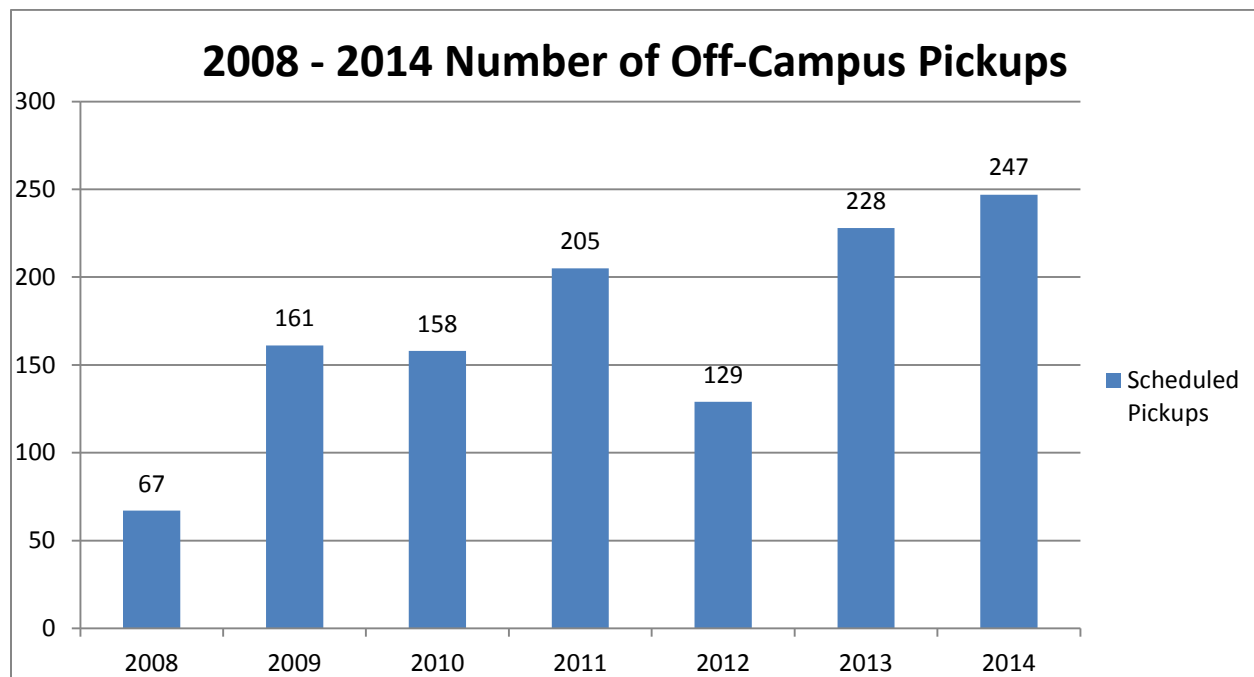
Lighthouse Food Pantry (Lighthouse)

[Lighthouse](#) serves 400-500 families each month, and is based in Hamilton, Ohio. Lighthouse has been involved with ShareFest since 2009. Since 2010, and like the FRC, Lighthouse sells its ShareFest donations in order to maintain the funding needed for its services to the community. The Lighthouse Food Pantry is a service of The Lighthouse Church.

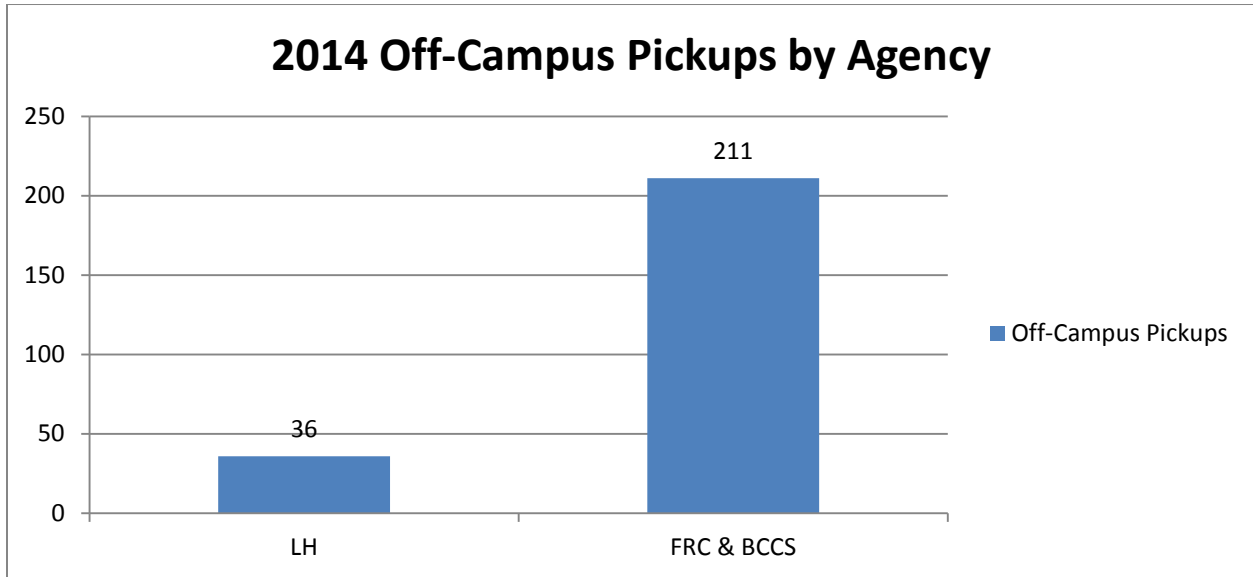
Donations

Off-Campus

ShareFest 2014 was a record year for off-campus donations, with a total of 247 scheduled pickups. This represents an 8% increase from 2013.



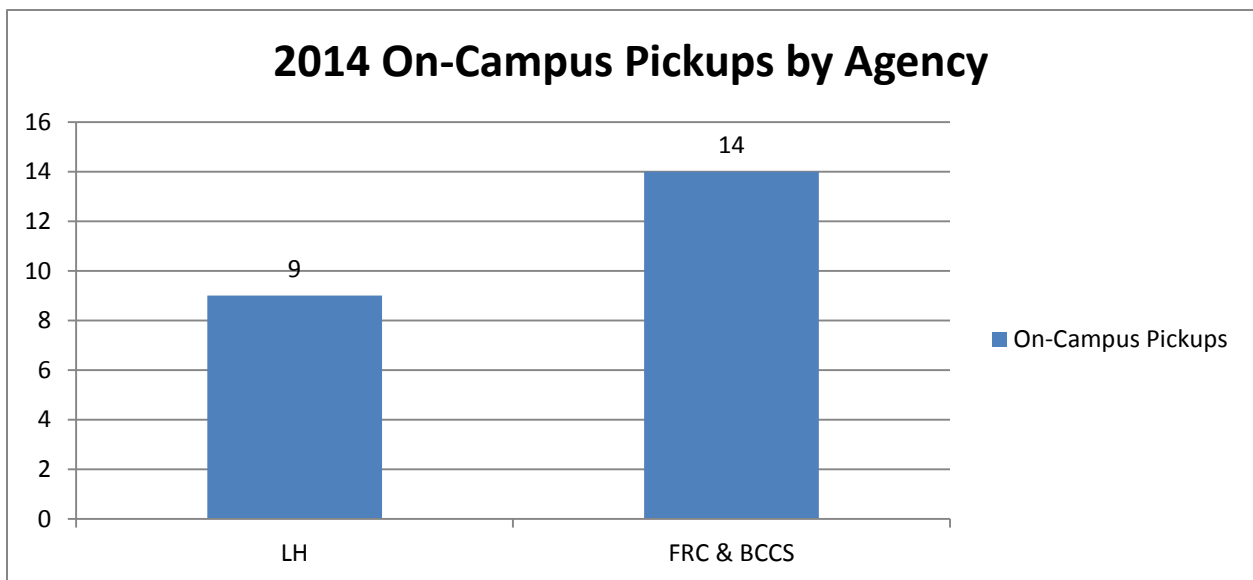
The FRC and BCCS combined collection efforts, so their donations will appear together in the subsequent charts.



On-Campus

The following chart displays the number of inventory sheets collected from each recipient group. This number does not reflect the number of residence halls visited by volunteers from the respective groups, as inventory sheets may cover multiple halls.

Forty-two open residence halls participated in ShareFest 2014. Anderson and McFarland Halls were closed for renovation.



Items Collected

While donations of furniture increased, donations of food, clothing, and TVs decreased significantly.

Item	2013	2014	Change	Item	2013	2014	Change
Clothing ¹	709	522	-26%	Dresser	40	53	33%
Food (nonperishable) ¹	210	184	-12%	Chest	8	14	75%
Cleaning Supplies ¹	22	15	-32%	Nightstand	18	29	61%
Unused Toiletries ¹	15	9	-40%	Television	77	45	-42%
School Supplies ¹	21	42	100%	Laptop Computer	6	2	-67%
Curtains ¹	14	19	36%	Refrigerator	5	6	20%
Tools ¹	1	4	300%	Stove	0	1	-
Plates ¹	33	32	-3%	Washer	0	1	-
Glasses and Cups ¹	41	39	-5%	Dryer	0	1	-
Bowls ¹	30	38	27%	Fan	64	50	-22%
Silverware and Utensils ¹	25	26	4%	Carpet or Rug	55	37	-33%
Pans ¹	28	28	0%	Mirror	77	106	38%
Bakeware ¹	22	23	5%	Printer	9	21	133%
Microwave	62	90	45%	Christmas Decorations ¹	2	5	150%
Toaster	22	18	-18%	Blender	5	4	-20%
Slow Cooker	1	6	500%	DVD Player	2	2	0%
Coffee Maker	21	16	-24%	Garbage Can	1	3	200%
Dining Room Table	17	21	24%	Air Conditioner	4	6	50%
Dining Room Chair	66	53	-20%	Wardrobe	4	0	-100%
Sofa	53.5	61	14%	Bicycle	5	1	-80%
Loveseat	21	31	48%	Filing Cabinet	3	2	-33%
Chair	69	67	-3%	Chest Freezer	1	1	0%
Recliner	10	22	120%	Grill	3	1	-67%
Coffee Table	24	31	29%	Futon	2	14	600%
End Table	45	60	33%	Ironing Board	20	21	5%
Bookcase	40	80	100%	Vacuum	7	17	143%
TV Stand/Entertainment Center	13	29	123%	Storage Container	5	103	1960%
Desk	57	89	56%	Cooler	1	5	400%
Desk Chair	41	46	12%	Stool	7	3	-57%
Floor Lamp	89	85	-4%	Iron	1	3	200%
Table Lamp	86	110	28%	Electric Skillet	2	0	-100%
Mattress	62	58	-6%	Ottoman	0	6	-
Box Springs	53	50	-6%	Bar Stool	0	5	-
Bed Frame	43	48	12%	Folding Chair	0	23	-
Headboard	10	15	50%	Books ¹	0	6	-
Blankets ¹	21	23	10%	Shoe Rack	0	6	-
Sheets ¹	15	19	27%				

¹ Counted as a bag or box

Impact

The ShareFest Board required recipient agencies to provide impact statements after ShareFest 2014, which should include the following items:

- The impact statement will provide real or estimated numbers of persons that will benefit from ShareFest donations, and the number of volunteers and total number of volunteer hours.
- An agency that sells ShareFest donations will report the real or estimated dollar amount of sales and the intended use of funds in the impact statement.

FRC

Twenty eight volunteers collectively worked 259 ½ hours, driving trucks and lifting heavy items for the Family Resource Center. In addition to the driver and heavy lifter volunteers, 171 other volunteers helped sort and process thousands of furniture, housewares, and clothing items for a special thrift store event that took place in the old Talawanda High School. The four-day sales event raised \$14,928.87, which will help the FRC continue its self-sufficiency mission. The FRC held back some ShareFest donations for the FRC Yard Sale, which took place in August and raised approximately \$2,600.

BCCS

Butler County Children Services recruited 7 staff members, who collectively worked 70 hours. They collected 7 dressers, 4 beds, 3 couches, 4 side tables, 3 dining room table and chair sets, 13 microwaves, 3 dish sets, 5 televisions, 1 washer and 1 dryer, 6 lamps, and 10 boxes of food and cleaning supplies. Numerous FRC volunteers assisted BCCS in organizing items. These donations helped set up the apartments of fifteen newly emancipated foster teenagers from the Butler County foster care system.

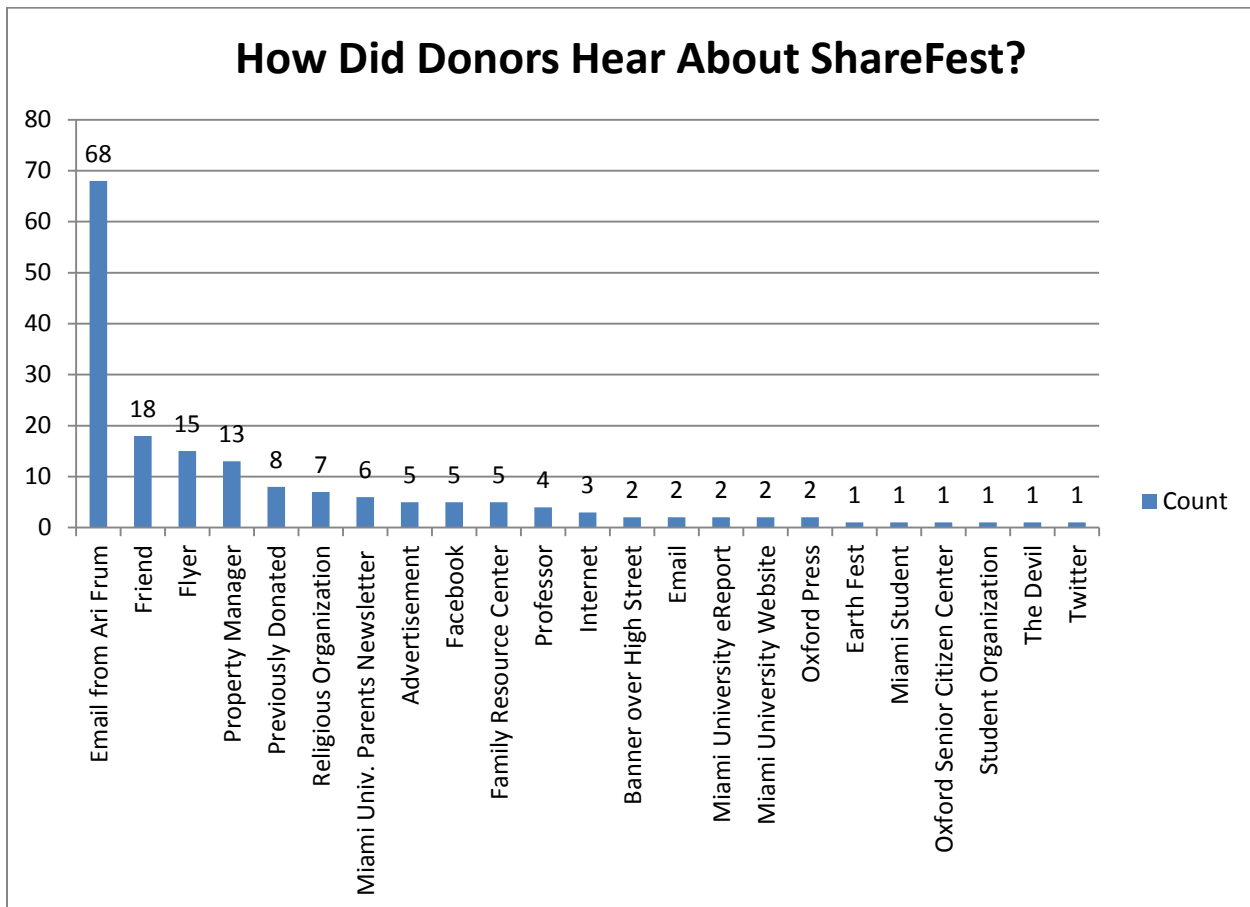
Lighthouse

Twenty volunteers worked 420 hours for The Lighthouse. The sale of the items collected at ShareFest raised \$6,000. Lighthouse will use the money raised to buy food and personal hygiene items, serving more than 3,000 people.

Marketing

The ShareFest 2014 Planning Committee marketed the event in the various ways listed below.

- Email to off-campus students by Secretary for Off-Campus Affairs Ari Frum
- Email to on-campus students
- Facebook: ShareFest Page and ShareFest 2014 Event
- Miami University Office of Community Engagement and Service Facebook Page
- Banner over High Street
- Miami University Parents Office Email Newsletter
- Religious organizations
- City of Oxford website
- Information from Property Managers
- Signs in residence hall corridors and drop-off locations
- Residence hall move out checklists



Financial

Income

Transfer from FRC (Former Custodian of Funds)	\$ 917.68
Grant from Miami University	\$ 1,000.00
Contribution from Oxford Methodist Church	\$ 500.00
Reimbursement from Miami University	\$ 400.00
Total Income	\$ 2,817.68

Additional Income

Not included above

Oxford Community Foundation Grant	\$ 1,000.00
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Expenses

Repay Carol Michael for exempt status application	\$ 400.00
Lebowski Tees	\$ 191.00
US Bank Checks and Deposit Forms	\$ 92.41
Total Expenses	\$ 683.41

Reimbursement Requests

Historically, ShareFest assisted economically challenged groups participate in the event by offering financial assistance. ShareFest allows groups to use money for rental trucks, fuel, and storage.

The Family Resource Center requested \$2,425.00 to assist with truck rental, fuel, and storage space.

Lighthouse requested \$500.00 to assist in truck rental and fuel.

At the next board meeting, the ShareFest Board will review reimbursement requests and determine disbursement of funds to the recipient groups.

Future

- Increase donations and community support
- Improve donation inventory and volunteer hour tracking
- Improve process for picking up donations from High Street addresses
- Improve communication with donors
- Improve volunteer check-in and preparation
- Pick up all donations on time
- Increase number of heavy lifter and driver volunteers
- Eliminate friction and hostility between recipient groups

Thank You!

Donors

Thank you to all of our donors from the Miami University and greater Oxford community!

Volunteers

Volunteers are essential to the success of ShareFest. Some volunteers worked multiple days to drive trucks, pick-up, sort, and organize donations. Volunteers came from the Oxford community and all parts of the region, including service and religious groups, Miami University, businesses, ShareFest Planning Committee, and recipient groups.

Miami University

Thank you to Miami University for donating the former Talawanda High School building for ShareFest 2014! In addition, thank you to the various offices that participated in planning and execution event!

Companies and Organizations

Thank you to the following organizations and offices that provided financial support, staff to help with planning, volunteers, and other assistance!

- Baker & Associates CPAs LLC
- Bunker Hill Haven for Boys
- Butler County Children Services
- City of Oxford
 - Community Development Department
 - Finance Department
 - Fire Department
 - Police Department
 - Service Department
- Duke Energy
- Family Resource Center
- Furniture Fair
- Kiwanis Oxford
- Kroger Oxford
- LaRosa's Oxford
- Lighthouse Food Pantry
- Miami University
 - Associated Student Government
 - Office of Community Engagement and Service
 - Office of Residence Life
 - Parents Office
 - Partnership Office
 - Physical Facilities
- Oxford Bible Fellowship
- Oxford Community Foundation
- Oxford United Methodist Church
- RDI Inc.
- Robinson, Lipnickey & Jones Co., L.P.A.
- Talawanda School District
- US Bank Oxford
- Whistle Stop

Community

Thank you to everyone who participated in ShareFest 2014! Recognize that your contribution to this event has an enormous impact on helping people and recipient groups. By providing these donations to a good cause, ShareFest helps individuals in need, teaches sharing and environmental ethics and awareness of diverse backgrounds, protects the environment, and helps keep Oxford clean. Thank you!