



Cultivating Justice,  
Nonviolence & Well-being

# 2012 YEAR IN REVIEW

Celebrating 30 years of *caring in action*

*Vision: Thriving communities sustained by social justice & compassion*

## SWOT's Up?

Taking the vital signs of Peace Connections and Circles of Hope

### PEACE CONNECTIONS: Top Picks

#### Strengths

Volunteers	14
Vital programs	10
Staff	10

#### Weaknesses

Funding	16
Board	10

#### Opportunities

Diversified funding	14
Full-time Circles staff	13

#### Threats

Sustainability	16
Transition/succession	11

### CIRCLES OF HOPE: Top Picks

#### Strengths

Staff	13
Involvement of all	7

#### Weaknesses

Funding	15
Need more volunteers	8

#### Opportunities

Diversified funding	6
Local outreach	6

#### Threats

Perceptions	7
Inadequate funding	6
Stretched too thin	6

*Where are we and where do we go from here?*

In 2012, with the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the horizon, the Board of Directors decided it was time for a strategic look at future priorities. The tool they decided on was a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats), a simple and time-tested business self-assessment method.

Dorothy Nickel Friesen, veteran of over 200 SWOT exercises in a variety of contexts, agreed to provide leadership and assist with interpreting results. As she clarified at the conclusion of the process, SWOT results are not a "sacred text," but rather a snapshot of a moment in time that can be mined for insights, a place to look for trends and priorities.

Twenty stakeholders (including staff, board, volunteers and donors) undertook the exercise for Peace Connections. Due to the fact that the Circles of Hope initiative has rapidly risen to dominance in terms of staffing and budget for the organization, a second session with 16 stakeholders (Circle Leaders, Allies, other volunteers and staff) focused specifically on issues within Circles of Hope.

Not surprisingly, the most frequently identified strengths and weaknesses were similar for both Peace Connections and Circles of Hope, with dedicated leaders/staff and faithful volunteers as the top strengths and funding/financial sustainability as the top weakness for both.

These highlights then provided the focus for a board session led by Cathy Anderson to identify top priorities for consideration and action: finance, leadership and mission.

The board continues to study these implications and refine the organization's response in 2013.

# Thanks to all who translated their values into action by volunteering in 2012

## PEACE CONNECTIONS BOARD 2012

Lizzie Bernhart  
Margaret Goering  
Shafiq Hasan  
Judy Hawk  
Gary Rediger  
Rosi Reimer  
Don Swender  
Jeanette Stucky  
Mary Sue Voth  
Mel Voth

Jerilyn Ediger  
Kay Ediger  
Mary Ediger  
Elena Entz  
First United Methodist Church  
First UMC Saturday Morning Prayer Group  
First UMC Youth Group  
Joyce Flickinger  
Sharon Freeby  
Judy Friesen  
GFWC Delta Hypatia Group  
Debbie Garner

Jill Schmidt  
Dan Schroeder  
Lynda Schroeder  
Jim Schwarzenberger  
Kathy Schwarzenberger  
Sherie Klassens's Matched Circle  
Cay Siebert  
Sojourners Sunday School  
Curtis Stubbs  
Marian Stubbs  
Jeannette Stucky  
Don Swender  
Sue Swender  
Teresa Froese's Matched Circle  
Toni Thompson's Circle  
Trinity Heights UMC Mission Group  
Janet Voth  
Mary Sue Voth  
Mel Voth  
Marva Weigelt  
Wendy's Restaurant, Newton  
James Wenger  
Bill West  
Deb West  
Jim Wickiser  
Susie Wickiser  
Wickiser Family  
Dave Wiebe  
Cathy Woodward  
Cynthia Wyss  
Deb Zeiner  
Peg Ziser

Ruby Moore  
Gloria Rediger  
Arlen Regier  
Linda Reimer  
Erna Rempel  
Richard Rempel  
Deb Smalley  
Jacque Spangler  
Susie Wickiser  
Peg Ziser

## CIRCLES GUIDING COALITION 2012

Carolann Adair  
Vicki Adame  
Libby Baumgartner  
Rachel Bennett  
Stan Bohn  
Dawn Marie Booher  
Karen Dickson  
Teresa Froese  
Margaret Goering  
Myrna Krehbiel  
Elmo Newman  
Wanda Pumphrey  
Lea Ann Reber  
Bill Reynolds  
Glenda Reynolds  
Laurie Oswald Robinson  
Steve Richards  
Dan Schroeder  
Marian Stubbs  
Toni Thompson

Jenny Gehr  
Peggy Gerber  
Stephanie Gibbens  
Allan Gibbens  
Margaret Goering  
Sheralyn Goering  
Ryan Goertzen  
James Goerzen  
Harvey County Democratic Women  
Leroy Hershberger  
Jerica Hinshaw  
John Hobbs  
Anita Kehr  
Eunice Kerbs  
Randy Krehbiel  
Brenda Learned  
Sandy Lewis  
Nancy Martin  
Cindy Mason  
Kate McPheeters  
Phillip McPheeters  
Roxanne Miller

## GIVING GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

Lisa Barland  
Donna Bender  
Rose Brandt  
Carol Brockmeier  
Cyril Brown  
Gerre Brown  
Nancy Budde  
Tim Davis  
Marion Deckert  
Karen DeGrazio  
Cathy Edwards  
Duane Friesen  
Elizabeth Friesen  
Joanna Friesen  
Martha Gartner  
Marlene Greene  
Gerald Greene  
Mary K. Jones  
Doris J. Koester  
Mary Anne McCloud

## KIDS SUMMER FOOD

Amy Bays  
Helen Bargaen  
Wes Bergen  
Stan Bohn  
Kimma Boyles  
Amie Busenitz  
Caring Hands Humane Society  
Jan Claassen  
Druber's Donuts  
Sue Engel  
Margo Gaeddert  
Linda Gaertner  
Sheralyn Goering  
Bob Grant  
David Habegger  
Harvey County Extension Office  
Kauffman Museum  
Carol Kirchmer  
Don Kirchmer  
Bonnie Krehbiel  
Kristin Kreider  
Susan Lammers  
Norm Lichti  
Newton Fire Department  
Newton Police Department  
Newton Public Library  
Martin Norris  
Doug Pauls  
Gloria Rediger  
Fred Saab  
Vicki Scheuermann  
Kim Silvernale-Wagner  
Kevin Stubbs  
Marilyn Swanson  
Deb Unruh  
Susie Wickiser  
Mark Willis  
Andrea Yoder Graber

## CIRCLES OF HOPE VOLUNTEERS

Vicki Adame  
Dee Anderson  
Lois Anderson  
Jay Anderson  
Floyd Bartel  
Sylvia Bartel  
Berean Academy Freshmen & Juniors  
Wes Bergen  
Lizzie Bernhart  
Bethel College Mennonite Church Circle  
Mackala Blair  
Stan Bohn  
Dawn Marie Booher  
Linda Budde  
Chisholm Middle School Activity Council  
Church Secretary's Group  
LaRita Claassen  
Craig Jaworski's Matched Circle  
Dream Makers Sunday School Class

New Creation Fellowship  
Elmo Newman  
Nick Magruder's Circle  
Ray Nicodemus  
Jan Nicodemus  
Roy Pumphrey  
Elizabeth Raid  
Roger Ratzlaff  
Rawlins Book Club  
Lea Ann Reber  
Reber Family  
Gloria Rediger  
Heidi Regier Kreider  
Clarence Rempel  
Denise Rhoades  
Marc Rhoades  
Lorraine Richards  
Steve Richards  
Laurie Oswald Robinson  
Florence Schloneger

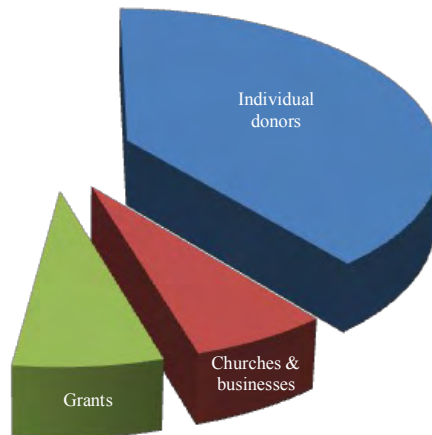
## STORE AND OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Cathy Anderson  
Rachel Bennett  
Mackala Blair  
Stan Bohn  
Christy Brennehan  
George Dyck  
Annita Haury  
Randy Krehbiel  
Vernon Lohrentz  
Ruby Moore  
Kathy Randall  
Roger Ratzlaff  
Gloria Rediger  
Kathryn Reichenberger  
Steve Richards  
Marlene Smucker  
Stan Smucker  
Jeanette Stucky  
Leann Toews  
Roger Voth  
Nora Werts  
Ralph Werts

**THE VALUE  
OF  
VOLUNTEER  
TIME IS  
NEARLY  
EQUAL TO  
ALL OTHER  
RESOURCES  
COMBINED**



Value of volunteer time



Based on projected 2013 budget

**We regret if we missed you!**

# Thanks to all who supported the mission with financial contributions in 2012

Dwayne and Ruth Abrahams  
 Frank and Vicki Adame  
 Alexanderwohl Mennonite  
 American Association of University Women  
 Cliff and Lois Amstutz  
 Jay and Lois Anderson  
 Lora Andreasson  
 Helen Bargen  
 Floyd Bartel and Justina Neufeld  
 Gladwin and Lois Bartel  
 Grace and Harlan Bartel  
 Sylvia Bartel  
 Dan and Loretta Baumgartner  
 Gail and Jeff Baumgartner  
 BCMC Women's Fellowship  
 Charles and Cynthia Bertsche-Regier  
 Bethel College Mennonite Church  
 Anita and Stan Bohn  
 Book Reviews  
 Michelle Bosworth  
 Rosie Goering Brandt  
 Dena and Ron Braun  
 Joan Breit  
 Christy and James Brenneman  
 Roland and Sophie Brown  
 Joan and Wade Brubacher  
 Carol and Jerry Buller  
 Rachel Epp and Tim Buller  
 Donald and Susan Cameron  
 Central Kansas Community Foundation  
 Mike and Suzanne Chapek  
 Herb and Lucile Cies  
 John and Miriam Claassen  
 Walter Claassen  
 Conrade Insurance Group, Inc.  
 B.J. and Jonell Davies  
 Lois and Marion Deckert  
 Chris and Christine Crouse Dick  
 Daagya Dick and Juan Coy  
 Darlene Dick  
 David and Mary Duerksen  
 Dennis and Norma Duerksen  
 Lynette and Marlo Duerksen  
 Eden Mennonite Church  
 David and Kay Ediger  
 Glen and Karen Ediger  
 Marlow and Mary Ediger  
 Catherine Edwards  
 Bruce Entz  
 Elena Entz  
 Gerry and Ruth Epp  
 Everence Financial  
 Evolution Properties LLC  
 Alma and Marvin Ewert  
 Faith Mennonite Church  
 Faith Mission Circle  
 Donna L. Feudner  
 First Bank  
 First Mennonite Church, Halstead  
 First Mennonite Church, Moundridge  
 First Mennonite Church, Newton  
 First Mennonite Women's Fellowship  
**First Mennonite Women's Mission Society**  
 First United Methodist Church  
 First United Presbyterian Church  
 Arlo and Geneva Flickner  
 Marsha Forcum  
 Judy and Paul Fransen  
 Janet and Raymond Franz  
 LaDeen and Rod Frey  
 Pamela Frey  
 Friendship Circle, First Mennonite, Moundridge  
 Donna Friesen  
 Dorothy Nickel and Richard Friesen  
 Duane and Elizabeth Friesen  
 Gregg and Joanna Friesen  
 Jacob and Lola Friesen

Carol and Walt Friesen  
 Gerald and Joyce Gaeddert  
 John and Mary Gaeddert  
 Theresa Gerritzen  
 Elizabeth and Victor Goering  
 Larry and Margaret Goering  
 Lloyd Goering  
 Lorene Goering  
 Carol and Randall Goering  
 Verna Goering  
 Cynthia and Les Goerzen  
 Linda and Milton Goertzen  
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 Douglas and Nancy Graber  
 Martha F. Graber  
 Grace Hill Mennonite Church  
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 Chuck and Jan Hadley  
 Mary Hall  
 Ruth Harder  
 Dorothy and Willis Harder  
 Edgar and Marge Harms  
 Beverly and Shafiq Hasan  
 Marnette and Ronald Hatchett  
 Arnita Haury  
 Janice and Willis Heck  
 Nancy Hedrick  
 Marilyn Helburg  
 Mary Hensley  
 Kathleen Hermes  
 Leroy Hershberger  
 Hesston Mennonite Church  
 Greta Hiebert and Nathan Smucker  
 Hoffnungsau Mennonite Church  
 Gordon and Jeanne Houser  
 Joyce Huber  
 Carole and Robert Hull  
 Helen and Vern Jantz  
 Elaine and Paul Jantzen  
 Eileen Janzen  
 Norma Johnson and Vern Preheim  
 Helen Jones  
 Jane and Lanny Jones  
 James Juhnke and Miriam Nafsinger  
 Don and Eleanor Kaufman  
 James R. Kaufman  
 Leona Kaufman  
 Anita and Bryan Kehr  
 Kidron Bethel Auxiliary  
 Carol Kirchner  
 John and Valerie Klaassen  
 John and Judy Kliever  
 Esther and Nathan Koontz  
 Bonnie and Dwight Krehbiel  
 Myrna and Randy Krehbiel  
 David and Heidi Regier Kreider  
 Lois and Robert Kreider  
 Pamela Lamborn  
 Kathy Landis and Miles Reimer  
 Brenda Learned  
 Sandy and Tim Lewis  
 Norman and Vicki Licht  
 Ruth Linscheid  
 James and Lois Loflin  
 Wilma Loganbill  
 Gail Lutsch and Wayne Wiens  
 James Lynch  
 Kansas West Annual Conference  
 Connie and Gene Marsh  
 Nancy Martin  
 Bill and Ruth Mason  
 Cynthia Friesen and Phillip Mason  
 Eric Massanari and Yolanda Kauffman  
 Kristen and Mark Mayhue  
 Beverly McGee  
 Midland National Bank  
 John and Roxanne Miller

Gary and Ruby Moore  
 Rosemary Moyer  
 Bernell and Ted Mueller  
 Jim and Melanie Mueller  
 Dana and Kathleen Neff  
 Donna and Harry Neufeld  
 Frieda and Walter Neufeld  
 Gerhard Neufeld  
 Kendra and Russ Neufeld  
 Newton Medical Center  
 Fred and Ruth Obold  
 Paul Oswald  
 Helen Pauls  
 Kaye and Virgil Penner  
 Kathryn and Lawrence Penner  
 Carol and Ron Peters  
 Ed and Evelyn Peters  
 Jason Peters  
 Carol and Mike Petitjean  
 Dwight and LaVonne Platt  
 Roxane Pohl  
 Rachel Polding  
 Darlene and Michael Powers  
 Prairie Harvest LLC  
 Roy and Wanda Pumphrey  
 Evelyn Quiring  
 Boots and Robert Raber  
 Elizabeth Raid and Lou Gomez  
 Gary and Gloria Rediger  
 Bruce and Sarah Regier  
 Gary and Jean Regier  
 Harold and Rosella Regier  
 Gladys and Raymond Regier  
 Gladys Reimer  
 Rosi Reimer and Steve Goertzen  
 Clarence Rempel  
 Dick and Mary Rempel  
 Loren and Peggy Reusser  
 Bill and Glenda Reynolds  
 Keith and Susan Rhoades  
 Denise and Marc Rhoades  
 Lorraine and Steve Richards  
 Esther Rinner  
 Laurie Oswald Robinson  
 Galen Rudiger  
 Naomi and Orville Rutschman  
 Fred Saab  
 Salem United Methodist Church  
 Karen and Merle Schlaubaugh  
 Florence and Weldon Schloneger  
 Alvin and Wilma Schmidt  
 Amy and Matt Schmidt  
 Jeannie and Ralph Schmidt  
 Jill Schmidt  
 Josephine and Richard Schmidt  
 Lola Schmidt  
 Roland Schmidt  
 Ada and Wes Schmidt-Tieszen  
 Bob and Jenny Schrag  
 Dale and Margo Schrag  
 Annie and Gordon Schrag  
 Laura Ann Schrag  
 Paul and Wendy Schrag  
 Christy and Kevin Schunn Sebes  
 Miner and Valetta Seymour  
 Linda Shelly

Ann Showalter  
 Cay Siebert  
 Carol Siemens  
 Francis and Richard Siemens  
 Lois and Walter Silvernale  
 John and Molly Simmering  
 Edwin and Mary Smith  
 Jan Smith and Steven Thomas  
 Marlene and Stan Smucker  
 Judith and Peter Storandt  
 Bruce and Pat Stucky  
 Frank and Kathy Stucky  
 Jeanette and Steve Stucky  
 LaVern and Marilyn Stucky  
 Lowell Stucky and Sharon Koehn  
 Gail and Mark Stucky  
 Don and Sue Swender  
 Tabor Mennonite Church  
 The Citizens State Bank  
 Nelda Thelin  
 Barbara and John Thiesen  
 Thirty Second Friendship Club  
 Donald and Stephanie Thompson  
 Diana Torline  
 Twice Ten Friendship  
 Radene Unruh  
 Earline and Robert Unruh  
 Beth Van Netta  
 Roberta and Timothy Vandermolten  
 Jackie Volbrecht  
 Mildred and Myron Voran  
 Lois and Peter Voran  
 Annette Voth and Daryl Regier  
 Arnold Voth  
 Bill and Nada Voth  
 Janet and Orvin Voth  
 Lonnie and Orpha Voth  
 Mary Sue and Mel Voth  
 LouAnn and Ron Voth  
 Jolynn and Timothy Voth  
 Dennis Walker  
 John and Mary Jane Waltner  
 Lenore Waltner  
 David and Joan Wasser  
 Connie Weber  
 Doris Weber  
 James and Jean Weber  
 Arnold and Dolores Wedel  
 Helen Wehry  
 Esther Wenger  
 Grace Wenger  
 Faith and James Wenger  
 White Eagle Credit Union  
 Ruth White  
 Whitestone Mennonite Church  
 Jim and Susie Wickiser  
 Margaret Wiebe  
 Florene Wiens  
 Dolores Yoder  
 James and Lonabelle Yoder  
 Doris and Jim Yoder  
 Jeannie and Marvin Zehr  
 Zion Mennonite Church  
 Bill and Joyce Zuercher

**We regret if we missed you!**

## 2012 Giving by Type of Donor

Amount	Households	Churches	Businesses	Organizations
\$1,000 - \$5,000	14	6	5	3
\$250 - \$999	29	7	2	1
\$100 - \$249	72	6	4	1
\$50 - \$99	69	2	0	1
Less than \$50	74	1	0	1
	<b>258</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>

**Mission:** We partner with others to build resources within families and communities; teach and practice nonviolence; and nurture personal and spiritual well-being.

*Circles of Hope weekly meetings begin with each participant sharing something new and good that has happened in their lives and end with some form of appreciation, usually for the person sitting next to you. This is our annual version of these positive practices.*

## NEW & GOODS

- The first Cookie Wiebe Memorial Ride in April raised over \$5,500 for Circles of Hope.
- Denise Rhoades developed a new Circle Leader training curriculum designed to increase retention in Circles of Hope.
- As a Circles® training center, it was exciting to coach three new sites in Finney, Marion and Saline counties. Kansas now has six sites.
- Despite another hot, dry summer, the volunteer Giving Garden raised a record amount of vegetables for Salvation Army: 6,250 pounds!
- In its seventh year, Kid's Summer Food & Activity program reached the milestone of serving over 63,000 meals since 2006.

## APPRECIATIONS

- Deep gratitude for Christy Brenneman's weekly dedication to volunteer accounting.
- Thanks to the many volunteers who provided meals for Circles of Hope meetings on Tuesday evenings. The fellowship around the tables changes lives!
- Appreciation for First United Methodist Church's ongoing hosting of Circles of Hope.
- Thanks to all the local churches and other organizations that provide a place to tell the stories that bring in new volunteers and donors to support the mission.
- Gratitude for the churches and individuals committed to regular monthly or quarterly giving in support of our initiatives.

