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## Dear Neighbor Ministries

*eNews Update*

*March 2012*

**Dear Friends,** we hope this monthly report finds you well. Please remember you can use the icons at the top of the page to share our news with your family or friends.

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### CSJ Ministries Board Visit

Dear Neighbor Ministries and StepStone are sponsored ministries of the Congregation of St. Joseph. This month we were honored to host Sister Nancy Conway, president and Sister Janet Fleischhacker, executive director of CSJ Ministries for a day-long tour and visit with staff and volunteers.

Sr. Ann Catherine Burger shares her experience in serving the 'dear neighbor' in the Hilltop area.

Members of the CSJ Ministries Board of Directors have visited all sponsored ministries as part of their strategic planning.

Their purpose is to better understand the Mission of each ministry and how they can better support each ministry. The day started with Mass and breakfast with many of the Dear Neighbor Ministries board of directors.

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### Embracing Standards For Excellence

As part of the Dear Neighbor Ministries strategic initiatives we continue to work toward the highest level of ethical and accountable practices. The National Roundtable on Church Management provides a code and template for Catholic Nonprofits.



Click on the image above to learn more about the Standards for Excellence

The eight guiding principles and fifty-five standards are being reviewed by each of our board committees. Each committee will then determine where to start.

The Fund Development committee has selected Gift Acceptance Policies as the standard they will work on first.

The end result of this work will help prevent conflicts, better define roles and responsibilities, advance openness and provide sound financial controls.

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A quick group photo after a morning of gardening.

### **Support from Eastminster Presbyterian**

A group of women from Eastminster who normally meet as a prayer group, spent a recent morning helping clean and weed our Peace Garden. While this is the first volunteer group from the church, they often help us provide direct financial assistance for rent, utilities or other urgent needs of people in Hilltop. We are most thankful for their help and collaboration.

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### **Sister Carmel Growing Food for the Hungry**

Sister Carmel Fukunaga, CSJ moved here from Japan a few years ago and while she may have some difficulty communicating with others, she knows how to make things grow.

This year she has agreed to plant vegetables for distribution to hungry people. She will tend two plots in the community garden as her new ministry. We are most pleased that Sister has chosen this way to help serve others.



Kit Lambertz presents Sister Carmel with her own garden tools and tote.

Some funding for our community garden comes from Gargill Cares.

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### **Dillons/Kroger Gift Cards Benefit Dear Neighbor and StepStone**

Since last August we have received \$2,105 because



many of you are using the re-loadable card. This is an easy way to help.

Click [here](#) to send an email requesting your own card.

When you order your card from us you pay only \$5.00 and then the cards can be reloaded with the amount of your choice and used at any Kroger owned store. You can reload as often as necessary. You can purchase groceries, pharmacy orders or gas. In Wichita, Kroger owns Dillon's and Kwik Trip. To find a Kroger owned store near you, [click here](#).

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### In other news...

We are most thankful for recent grants or sponsorships from:  
Emprise Bank  
Spirit Employees Good Neighbor Fund  
Health Concepts Foundation  
Cargill

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Can You help? [Click here to connect to our secure on-line donation site.](#)

Thank You  
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