



COBYS Connection

November 2013

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 4

Motivated by Christian faith, COBYS Family Services educates, supports, and empowers children and adults to reach their full potential.

COBYS Family Services

1417 Oregon Rd.

Leola, PA 17540

Phone: 717-656-6580

Fax: 717-656-3056

www.cobys.org



Support us through [GoodSearch/GoodShop.](#)



COBYS Connection is an occasional e-newsletter of COBYS Family Services. Tell us what you think, let us know if you experienced technical difficulties, or unsubscribe by e-mailing [Don Fitzkee](mailto:Don.Fitzkee).

It's Back: Give Nov. 22 to Earn a Match

The first ever 24-hour online giving campaign sponsored last November by the Lancaster County Community Foundation was so successful that the Foundation is doing it again. And so is COBYS.

This year's ExtraOrdinary Give is slated for Friday, November 22. **More than 250 non-profit organizations** are participating. The logistics are the same as last year. With credit card in hand, donors simply need to visit extragive.org between 12:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. on Friday, November 22, choose COBYS from the list of organizations, and give a donation of \$25 or more.



The Foundation, with help from Presenting Sponsor Rodgers & Associates, is promoting the event, providing prize money, and offering a \$250,000 "stretch fund" that will be divided proportionately among participating organizations. The more our donors give, the greater COBYS' proportion of the \$250,000. For example, if a total of \$2 million dollars is given to all organizations and COBYS receives \$40,000 from its donors, we receive two percent or \$5,000 of the match.

On top of the match, an additional \$50,000 will be awarded in prizes. During **certain time periods**, individual donations will be randomly selected. If a COBYS donor is chosen, the foundation will add \$1,000 to that donation. The more individual donations COBYS receives, the greater our chance of winning one or more prizes.

Last year COBYS had the fifth highest donation total of 192 organizations and earned a \$1,000 Early Bird prize for being the second organization to reach 50 "unique donors." COBYS' net income for the day exceeded \$32,500. (A unique donor is one person giving with one credit card. A husband and wife can give two "unique donations" if they use two different credit cards.)

"Now that people know how this works," says COBYS Director of Development Don Fitzkee, "we think the competition will be tougher this year. If we're going to win the Early Bird prize this time around, it probably will take some night owls to give at the stroke of midnight."

Please mark your calendar, tell your friends, and remember COBYS on November 22. Additional information will be mailed to COBYS supporters with a year-end appeal letter next week.

If you know a potential donor who doesn't have access to a computer or just have questions about the ExtraOrdinary Give, contact Don Fitzkee at 717-656-6580 or don@cobys.org. Or visit the ExtraOrdinary Give [FAQs page](#).



COBYS Connection/2

Looking for a Christmas Project?

If your church, business, or community group is looking for a hands-on Christmas project, please check out the recently updated COBYS [Needs List](#). The list includes a variety of items for kids and families that are needed on an ongoing basis.

The “Kids’ Closet” lists items for foster children. Each foster child coming into care receives a backpack filled with toys, games, personal care items, a Bible, and more. In addition, we visit our closet to find gifts for special occasions, supplies for caseworkers to use for therapeutic activities, carseats to transport children to appointments, and items to meet emergency needs.

The Needs List also includes a variety of toys, games, and craft supplies for use in our Family Life Education programs.

If you are seeking to designate a Christmas offering, the “Care for Kids Fund” meets needs of foster children that are not met by other funding sources.

COBYS also receives special offerings this time of year designated for our general ministries fund.

Contact [Don Fitzkee](#) for more information about any of these needs.

Eat Pie & COBYS Gets a Slice



[Pies Galore & More Bakery and Cafe](#) will be raising some dough to benefit COBYS ministries during the holiday season. Head Baker and Proprietor Donna Alexander will donate 10 percent of gross sales on the first three Saturdays in December to COBYS Family Services.

Located at 76 E. Main Street, Mt. Joy, Pies Galore is a local, hometown bakery, offering made-to-order specialty pies and baked goods. In addition, the bakery serves fresh brewed coffee and breakfast items, and offers indoor and outdoor seating and free Wi-Fi.

Donna was looking for a children’s ministry to bless during the holiday season, and we are pleased as pie that she chose COBYS! So stop in for a sweet treat or cup of coffee on December 7, 14, or 21 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., and the children and families served by COBYS will receive a generous slice of your purchase.

Tree Farm Coupon Benefits COBYS



[Miller’s Christmas Tree Farm](#) is sharing the Christmas spirit by supporting a number of nonprofits, including COBYS. Present [this coupon](#) when you buy a tree at their Elizabethtown or Bernville locations, and the Millers will donate \$3.00 to support COBYS ministries. Additional information is available on the coupon.

E-town Brethren to Host Alternative Gift Fair

Looking for gift ideas for that friend or relative who doesn’t really need anything? We can help.

COBYS Family Services will be one of 19 organizations participating in an [Alternative Gift Fair](#) at [Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren](#) on Sunday, November 24, from noon to 2:30 p.m.

Stop in for a simple lunch, do some shopping, and receive a card to give to the person in whose honor your gift or gifts were purchased.

The child-friendly event will include face painting, play dough, and an opportunity to make a Christmas ornament related to the organization or organizations a family is supporting.