

## South Marshall Block Party a grand success!

Although a heavy down pour shortened the party, over 500 residents enjoyed great food, a bouncy house, a stilt walker, drumming and lots of games, crafts and activities on South Marshall Tuesday afternoon. While most everyone got super wet – they were smiling and saying it was the best party yet!

Over 165 happy children received bikes and new helmets, and people gladly accepted over 100 plants. There were almost 2000 children's books spread over four 8 foot tables. The children were thrilled as they requested bags and boxes to help carry home all the books that they wanted to read! Nearly 1500 books were given away before the rain came, and even then many were salvaged with the hope that they can be taken them back to S. Marshall St this fall and given away then.

Between the rains there was an opportunity for a surprise recognition of Sandy Barry, a former Marshall House Director and long time Salvation Army Employee. More than anyone else, Sandy has been the key organizer of each year's Block Party, and the glue that has held it all together. It was especially fitting that Mayor Segarra was able to be there in time to present the honor to Sandy, which includes the renaming of the main meeting hall after her. Most importantly, there was a happy mingling of the various cultures presented on S. Marshall



St, and many of the residents continue to get to know their neighbors. Through the Hartbeat Ensemble and the Playground efforts, as well as the survey that Habitat is undertaking, we can expect to see deeper engagement among the S. Marshall St residents and with the broader Asylum Hill Neighborhood. More photos are available at

<https://goo.gl/photos/dpwdWnC4W3neqJS6A>