## Report of CKN participation at Mercy Community Healthcare's Back to School Bash Prepared by Vic Legerton on October 13, 2024

The annual Back to School Bash produced by Mercy Community Healthcare is an opportunity for parents to bring in their young children, primarily from low income families, for medical checkups before the start of school and vaccinations and services as needed. They add value to the event with games and activities for the children and invited us to have a table with Moozie and some games and even resources should the families be interested.

The 2023 event was held on July 28<sup>th</sup> at the old facility outside in extreme heat and they did provide a canopy (though we should have our own and subsequently bought one). There was some interest but not sufficient to have the parents and children stand in the heat to look at the books and the puppets and the coloring pages and so forth.

The 2024 event on July 12<sup>th</sup> was at their new facility inside a larger attendance for the exhibitors set up and there was some interest both in learning about the materials and one high school student interested in getting some information to start a kindness club at Ensworth High School. Bob Rudman and Cheryl Chamberlain supported our encounter with families.

We do recommend that this event be attended with an exhibitor table in the future. It is a good partnership and a worthwhile group of attendees.