



community

A PUBLICATION OF PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

To serve homeless children and their families and provide a new opportunity for a healthy, stable family life.

Thank you to those who were able to donate this spring.

See back page to review what we currently need donated.



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614 South Third Street
Minneapolis, MN 55415

www.peopleservingpeople.org

SUMMER 2009 VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer in the City

Help Send People Serving People Kids to Camp



For children everywhere summertime means saying goodbye to mom and dad and heading off to camp where lasting memories and friendships are made. At People Serving People, we understand children living in a homeless shelter may

never get a chance to experience a week at camp. This is why we want to give these children one week away from the everyday hardships they face and to be free to act like kids!

Last year, we were able to send 18 children to a week-long camp at One Heartland in Willow River, MN and this year, we are hoping to send 20. One Heartland is filled with diverse activities and an amazing community of people uniquely positioned to work with homeless and highly mobile youth. They offer the children of PSP the opportunity for personal growth, social development, and good old-fashioned fun.

Annette's family has resided at PSP for three years, first in emergency housing and currently in a supportive housing apartment on-site. Supportive Housing at PSP makes it possible for Annette to care for her family during her ongoing battle with cancer. Last year, Annette accompanied her three sons on the trip to One Heartland. When they returned to PSP Annette said, "It was an experience they [the children] took with them for life...they came back different children - more open, more respectful, and able to deal with their emotions."

Children from homeless and highly mobile families have documented increased exposure to poverty, illness, hunger, violent crime, and domestic violence than children in other economic circumstances. Help us give them one week where nothing is expected from them, aside from being kids! For \$400, you can send one of PSP's children to camp. I would love to hear from you. Please call my direct line at 612.277.0212.

Jim Minor
President/CEO People Serving People

News Briefs

- Early Childhood Development Center and Preschool hours have extended by an hour to accommodate working parents at PSP. The hours are now 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. In the near future the hours will extend again by one hour.
- In May, the Aveda Institute gave free shampoos, haircuts, and brow waxes to PSP guests.
- Smoking cessation classes started at PSP. The sessions are every week for a month.
- Local mosaic artist, Kat Moses designed and created a colorful mosaic for the PSP lobby with the help of 15 volunteers.



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Facilities Training Program Students Gain Broader Perspectives at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Cummins Power Generation

Two of PSP's major supporters, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Cummins Power Generation opened their doors to Facilities Training students last month. The PSP Facilities Training program consists of an 11-week structured, hands-on learning process teaching individuals the skills necessary to seek, secure, and hold high demand positions of custodians or general maintenance technicians in facilities departments around the Twin Cities.



Students at Thrivent

The students and instructors of the training program were invited by both Ted Stearns of Thrivent and Jim January of Cummins to tour their extensive facilities. Both site visits proved invaluable to the students as they were able to see the operating systems of two vast organizations firsthand. The Facilities Training program includes electrical, plumbing, basic computer skills, and boiler certification.

PSP seeks similar partnerships with corporations to enhance our training programs. Please call President, Jim Minor for more information at 612.277.0212.

Thank you to both companies for your continued support of People Serving People!

Students at Cummins



Homeless but Not Helpless

Since September 2008, Erica and her five children have been homeless. This is the second time that fate has dealt them a bad hand. In 2003, they rented their own home until they were foreclosed upon and lived in various situations including shelters, and most recently an apartment they lost due to management improprieties with their rent money. They now reside at PSP, where Erica, a former office worker, is having a hard time finding a job in the current market.

Being homeless can sometimes feel like a full time job for Erica. She spends the majority of her days looking for jobs, going to interviews, and filling out paper work to keep her and her family off the street. Erica has found an affordable apartment for the family to live in, but will need to prove employment before she can move.

Erica's greatest support is her 17 year old daughter, Alisha. Despite all the family's painful housing transitions, Alisha is a National Honor Society member studying hard in her International Baccalaureate college prep courses and did very

well on her ACT scores. During the day she looks at colleges, and at night she shares a bed with her mom and acts as a second mother to her four younger siblings, ranging in age from 5-16 years old. The youngest child is autistic and requires special care from Erica and Alisha.

Alisha used to be picked up first on the bus in the morning from PSP. The school bus schedule changed, and now she is picked up last, so her classmates can see where she lives. Alisha "wanted to wear a paper bag on her head" after becoming homeless again, but she is working hard to make her life better. She wants to give back to society, and is grateful for the education, food, and shelter she has. She belongs to an afterschool volunteer program. Alisha is homeless, but she doesn't feel helpless.

Erica's five children have all dealt with being homeless differently. They are held together by their faith and their strong bond as a family.



Congratulations to Erica and her five children!

We are happy to report that after this article was written, Erica secured a job as a Pharmacy Tech and an apartment through Rapid Exit. Erica and her five children will be moving into their own apartment by the end of May.

STRIKE OUT HOMELESSNESS



A Benefit for People Serving People

Friday, August 14, 2009

4:30-7 PM: Pre-game Party @ The Metrodome Picnic Pavilion (near gate D)

7:10 PM: Minnesota Twins vs. Cleveland Indians Baseball Game

Tickets: \$25 for children 12 and under and \$30 for adults

(Price includes pre-game party and section 226-227 game ticket)

Call 612.277.0246 or visit peopleservingpeople.org to register

For the sixth year, People Serving People is proud to present Strike Out Homelessness in partnership with the Minnesota Twins, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, and the Star Tribune. The event includes a pre-game party and Minnesota Twins Baseball game.

At the pre-game party, enjoy a gourmet barbecue, live acoustic music from Jeremy Messersmith and Ben Connelly, Minnesota Twins player appearances, a raffle of Twins memorabilia, magic provided by Mr. Magic, and activities for children at the Picnic Pavilion (near gate D) outside the Metrodome stadium. Afterwards, cheer on the Minnesota Twins as they play the Cleveland Indians, all the while knowing you are making a difference in the lives of homeless children and families.

2009 Event Schedule

Tuesday, August 4

National Night Out BBQ for PSP Guests and Neighbors @ People Serving People

Friday, August 14

Strike Out Homelessness @ Metrodome Pavilion and Stadium

Monday, September 21

Chefs for Change with Chef Pete Maccaroni of The Sample Room @ People Serving People

Monday, October 19

Chefs for Change with Chef Rick Kimmes of The Oceanaire Seafood Room @ People Serving People

Thank You Sponsors!



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SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, October 9

Fusion + Fashion Event Benefiting People Serving People @ Epic Event Center Visit iida-northland.org for more information

Saturday, November 14

Starlight: Hope Shines On Gala Benefiting People Serving People @ Solera Event Center



Thank You Volunteers!

- Campbell Mithun
- Century College
- Ernst and Young
- Foley and Mansfield
- Good Deeds Society
- IBM
- Luther College Alumni
- Minnetonka High School
- Peace Presbyterian
- Presbyterian Church of the Way
- South View Middle School
- UPS
- US Bank
- TCF Bank
- Weber Shandwick

If your group is interested in volunteering or hosting a party for our children, contact Lindsey Tiede, Volunteer Coordinator at 612.277.0256.



Volunteers from Ameriprise Financial helped to lay wood chips in our playground.



A group from Cars.com participated in our Spring Cleaning event.



One of the many volunteer groups from Cummins, which sends volunteers to serve six meals per month at PSP.



Liz Malanaphy, with the help of her family and volunteers, painted colorful, educational murals on our Rec Room walls for the children to enjoy.



Ameriprise Financial volunteers laying wood chips and washing windows. Ameriprise also sends volunteers to serve around 15 meals each month.



Weber Shandwick volunteers helped staff at PSP prepare for our Open House as part of their year-long commitment to our organization.

Chefs for CHANGE



Thank You Chefs,
Volunteers and Donors
for Making Chefs for Change
a Continued Success!

100% of proceeds from Chefs for Change benefit the families at People Serving People. Your generosity is extraordinary! We especially appreciate the dedicated volunteers who regularly work our events and the chefs who have partnered with us year after year. Thank you for making the first four Chefs for Change dinners of 2009 so outstanding! We eagerly await the talents of our upcoming chefs.

For more information about Chefs for Change please visit peopleservingpeople.org or call Mary Ites at 612.277.0246.

(see page 4 for a list of upcoming events)



Chef Hadj of the Barbary Fig demonstrates his hummus appetizer



Jill and Chuck Koosmann



Board member, Karen Bjorkman and Duane Kelling



Today Show Correspondent, Amy Matthews, and Fabian Deloach



Rob and Allison Taffe



Chef Nipa Bhatt describes the "wheel of spice"



Volunteer, Betsy Johnson, helps out in the kitchen



Chef Serge Devesa of Chez Colette shows off his plating techniques



Cory and Jessica Docken



Greg Frietag and Shari Pomeroy



Sherwood and Sharon Pomeroy



Thanks Donors!

March - June 2009

\$35,000

Minneapolis Foundation Fund to End Homelessness

\$10,000

The Pat and Tom Grossman Family Fund of Minnesota Community Foundation

RBC Wealth Management

Best Buy Children's Foundation

\$9,000

Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless

\$3,000

The Walter D. Boutell Camp Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation

Open House 2009

Thank you to everyone who participated in our spring Open House including our collaborative agencies, speakers Gail Dorfman and Laura Kadwell and the many constituents who participated in tours. Guests were able to learn and see first hand what we do at PSP and how they make a difference in the lives of children and families.

If you missed the Open House and want to take a tour, don't worry, PSP staff are always available and more than happy to set up a tour. Call Beckie Sandager, Development Associate at 612.277.0219 to arrange a tour today.



Over twenty collaborative partners were represented at the event ranging from medical services to programs for youth



President/CEO, Jim Minor



Guest speaker, Laura Kadwell



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Volunteer Opportunities

Adult Tutor – Tutor our Culinary Arts Training Program students through their course work, focusing on measurement conversions and other math related problems.

Adult Mentor – Looking for a caring individual to help mentor single moms; go shopping, to the park, and to doctor visits. This person will need to have a lot of patience and the ability to just be a friend. The schedule is very flexible.

Afternoon Children's Activities – Summer activities will run every day 1-3pm. Volunteers are asked to commit to one day per week.

Wish List

New or Gently Used: Strollers, blankets and comforters, children's pants for ages 5 and under, adult socks and underwear and bulletin board supplies.

New: Diapers (esp. size 4, 5 & 6) and potty training Pull-ups.

Remember to check our website in August for school supply needs!

Donations may be dropped off at the Security Desk M-F from 8am to 5pm or weekends before 1pm. For more information contact Kirsten Ellingson at 612.277.0243 or kirstene@peopleservingpeople.org.



Donate Now!

Make Monthly Giving Easy!

Try the convenience of automatic withdrawal. It makes monthly giving efficient for you and secure for us. Knowing your gift is coming allows People Serving People to plan effectively for our long-term goals and insures you'll remain an essential supporter of our future. To arrange your monthly giving plan call Janine Wenzholz, our Financial Services Manager at 612.277.0245.

Also, check with your employer to see if charitable contributions made to Social Service programs are matched by your company. To make a contribution please call Beckie at 612.277.0219 or visit our website peopleservingpeople.org

Every single financial gift given to People Serving People will be used to further our mission of serving homeless children and their families and providing new opportunities for healthy, stable family life. We are truly grateful for every dollar we receive!