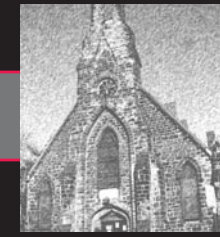


New Visions

HOMELESS DAY SHELTER



LUTHERAN
SOCIAL
MINISTRIES of
NEW JERSEY



A PROGRAM OF LUTHERAN SOCIAL MINISTRIES OF NEW JERSEY

SUMMER 2010

New Visions

HOMELESS DAY SHELTER

Another way to support the shelter

Save the Date

FOOD FOR SHARING
A COCKTAIL RECEPTION
& SILENT AUCTION

Join us for the Lutheran Foundation of New Jersey signature fundraising event held in the newly renovated Breidenhart Castle. Our hope is to bring together the community and all those who are advocates for ending hunger and homelessness in New Jersey.

Wednesday, November 10, 2010

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Breidenhart Castle

On the campus of Lutheran Care at Moorestown

255 East Main Street, Moorestown, NJ 08057

Proceeds benefit New Visions Homeless Day Shelter & Lutherans Feeding Friends program.

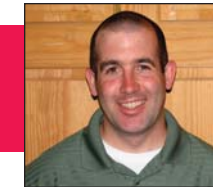
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE.

For more information, visit www.lsmnj.org or contact Barbara Carriere at 609.699.4102.

Thank You!



A very special 'Thank you' is extended to Philadelphia-based Singer/Songwriter/Guitarist, Jeffrey Gaines, for performing a benefit concert for New Visions Homeless Day Shelter on Friday, July 30, 2010 at the Camden County Boathouse in Pennsauken, NJ. His soulful lyrics have reminded us that a "Change is Gonna Come" for the patrons of New Visions, but only if we continue to raise awareness and educate others on the needs of those who hurt, who are in need or who have limited choices. Thank you Jeffrey, for embracing New Visions and its patrons, and for joining our fight to end hunger and homelessness in New Jersey. We hope others will also recognize the need and step-in to support our cause.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

KEVIN MORAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results."

** Andrew Carnegie **

SERVICES

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Adoption Program
Assisted Living Program
Community Partnering
Immigration & Refugee Services
Lutheran Disaster Response
Lutherans Feeding Friends
Lutheran Senior LIFE
New Visions Homeless Day Shelter
Speakers Bureau

COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Lutheran Home for Children
Piscataway Community Residence
Sayreville Community Residence

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Community Redevelopment
Lutheran Social Ministries of Camden

SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

Luther Haven
Project Home
Stepping Stones Commons

AFFORDABLE FAMILY HOUSING

Cadwalader Apartments
Elwood Driver Townhomes
Mott Centre Street Apartments
Peapack-Gladstone Family Housing
West Hanover Street Apartments

AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING

Birchwood at Old Bridge Senior Apartments
Circle F Senior Apartments
Lutheran Senior Residence at Pennsauken
Mirota Senior Residence
Mt. Olive Manor I & II
Zurbrugg Mansion
Roosevelt Solar Village*
South Plainfield Senior Residence

SENIOR HEALTHCARE

Lutheran Care at Moorestown

CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Crane's Mill

*Professionally managed by Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey

New Visions Homeless Day Shelter is fortunate to have many significant corporate and business partners, which allow the organization to continue the mission: "through the power of the Holy Spirit, and in response to God's love as revealed in the Gospel, the mission is to serve those in New Jersey who hurt, who are in need, or who have limited choices." There are a variety of ways that corporations, businesses, and organizations can assist New Visions Homeless Day Shelter, in achieving its mission of providing to our brothers and sisters who are lonely, neglected, sick, oppressed, and forgotten. The relationship with your organization is vital, and there are a variety of volunteer opportunities available. Below is a list of ways you can offer support either as an individual volunteer or as a group. We are extremely flexible in meeting the interests, gifts, and schedules of our volunteers because, without you, we could not continue to feed and shelter the homeless in Camden. Please feel free to contact me to discuss specific needs or to schedule a 'Day of Service,' at our location.

- Assist in preparing and serving breakfast & lunch
- Organize a specific drive for the homeless
 - Clothing
 - Toiletries
 - Towels / Wash Cloths / Sheets / Blankets
 - Canned Food
 - Baby Food / Supplies
 - Toys
- Coordinate a Dress Down Day for employees (Donations made in order to dress down)
- Volunteer to sort food, hang clothes, and assist in organizing the individual departments

In this newsletter, we wanted to highlight one of our many corporate partnership. This past January, Subaru employees participated in the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. The employees not only volunteered on

the day of service, but also extended their volunteerism efforts throughout a two-week period under 'Subaru Legacy Days.' The Subaru employees volunteered to assist with the lunch preparation and delivery, worked in the food pantry and clothing room, and had the opportunity to sit down and engage in active conversation and dialogue with the patrons. The experience was a meaningful and transforming one for the employees from Subaru.

As a result of the positive volunteer experience, New Visions Homeless Day Shelter was nominated by Subaru employees for The Subaru Celebration Grant Program and received a \$5,000 grant, which has been applied towards continuing to provide to individuals in desperate need. According to Thomas J. Doll, Executive Vice President and COO of Subaru, "Subaru has always had a long standing commitment to its community partners. We believe that our success is due in part to the support we receive from the community, and the Subaru Celebration Grants are a great way to engage the employees in the process of recognizing the important work being done by non-profit organizations to better our community."

Our feature article shares with you an incredible, one-of-a-kind initiative which Subaru of America, Inc. has established over the past several months, called Subaru Share the Love Garden. The program has provided New Visions with more than 260 pounds of fresh produce over the past several months. Not only are we able to provide more nutritious meals for breakfast and lunch, but we can also assist low-income families in providing nutritious meals for their families at home. We are fortunate to have such a wonderful partnership with Subaru of America, as well as other corporate supporters. As we have in this issue with Subaru, we will continue to highlight the good work of our other corporate partners in future issues as well.

If you are interested in partnering with New Visions, contact us at 856.963.0857.

NEW VISIONS HOMELESS DAY SHELTER

New Visions Homeless Day Shelter is a daytime safe haven for men, women and children to receive a nutritious meal (breakfast and lunch), with access to shower and laundry facilities, a food pantry, a clothing closet, mail services, and job placement assistance patrons. Since January 2010, the shelter has provided 22,691 meals to its patrons and has had the assistance of 1,000 volunteers investing 7,000 hours of volunteer support. Call us at (856) 963-0857 to coordinate a volunteer project with your company or community group.



LUTHERAN SOCIAL MINISTRIES
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www.lsmnj.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



MEET KEVIN COOPER

Kevin is a former patron of New Visions who now volunteers his time as a Chef in the kitchen. Kevin recently graduated from the Cathedral Kitchen Culinary Arts program which is an intensive 14-week program to prepare students for entry level positions in fine dining and other food service establishments. The course is designed to give participants a new direction in life and to get them firmly back on their feet. But, as Kevin will tell you, it has helped with so much more than that. Watch for our Fall newsletter to hear more about Kevin Cooper's journey.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of New Visions Community Services of Camden, Inc. is to provide multi-cultural social services to men, women and children at risk in Camden County in an ecumenical spirit. New Visions advocates dignity, justice, serving human needs and the empowerment of all who enter.

SUBARU FUELS GOOD NUTRITION

at *New Visions* with its *Share the Love Garden*

Over the years, New Visions has been fortunate to receive food donations from several food retailers, supermarkets and corporations who continually extend their generosity by donating food, breads, and baked goods, in order to provide meals to our patrons. Companies like Wegmans, Panera Bread, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Red Lobster and Olive Garden graciously donate on a regular basis, ensuring that our patrons have a variety of choices and a full plate.

Recently Kevin Moran, Director of New Visions, decided it was time to work towards creating a more well-balanced meal offering – hoping to include more fruits and vegetables and healthier choices. “If we can present at least one meal each day with healthy alternatives, I believe we can improve the overall health of many of our clients,” explains Moran. Kevin has been working with the Food Bank of South Jersey to provide nutritious casserole recipes to offer to the many volunteer groups and organizations that provide the shelter with casseroles on a weekly/monthly basis. Moran refers to the changes as ‘baby steps.’ He adds, “I hope others will embrace the concept and see the value I see in making New Visions’ offerings nutritiously-based.”

One local organization has already jumped on board. Subaru of America, whose corporate headquarters is in Cherry Hill, NJ, had already been providing New Visions with weekly fresh produce which the company grows right on its own property in its employee-run organic garden. They were delighted to hear of Kevin’s initiative as it was already in line with a program they began last year, called the *Subaru Share the Love Garden*.

In early 2009, Subaru of America enlisted the help of its employees and also Greensgrow Farms, an urban farm in Philadelphia, to create a 700 square-foot community-style garden in the middle of their property in Cherry Hill. Sandy Capell, Community Services Manager at Subaru of America and creator of the *Subaru Share the Love Garden* program, was looking for a way to engage more Subaru employees in its



Subaru employees harvesting produce from the Subaru Share the Love Garden



environmental initiatives, as well as help Subaru support its community. Sandy explains, “Our executive team and employees embraced the idea. Today we have two employee co-leaders who are avid gardeners managing the daily activities and about 50 employee volunteers.”

With hopes of growing vegetables to donate to local food banks to help feed the hungry, Subaru turned to Mario Partee at the Food Bank of South Jersey to find out which local programs would benefit from receiving the produce it harvested.

New Visions was one of the programs identified and shortly thereafter, Subaru began delivering fresh produce to feed its patrons.

Sandy further explained that this year New Visions is the sole recipient of Subaru’s produce. “As the produce is harvested, we are delivering it directly to New Visions. Over the past seven weeks, we have been able to donate more than 340 pounds of produce, including squash, zucchini, cucumbers, onions, lettuce greens and more,” boasts Sandy with great enthusiasm in her voice.

“This is a unique program, and I’m thrilled that the garden continues to exceed our expectations,” explains Sandy. “The corporate culture at Subaru is as unique as the garden, and this program fits very well with our drive, passion, and commitment to our community.” Michelle Schindwein and Nancy Sheppard, co-leaders of the garden add, “We were both involved in the garden last year and loved the experience. As co-leaders, we help to ensure that the garden ‘sows the seeds’ to help feed those who are hungry. How great it is to work for a company that allows us to volunteer to help in unique ways by doing what we love - gardening.”

In addition to the *Subaru Share the Love Garden*, Subaru of America has also provided numerous volunteer hours at New Visions through its Subaru Legacy Days, a program that places Subaru employees into volunteer roles during a two-three week timeframe. The program is kicked off every year on Martin Luther King Day. More than a dozen employee volunteers spend time at New Visions serving the patrons lunch,



Lucia Mair, pictured with “Mr. Bill” Johnson, a patron staff member.

ONE YEAR at *New Visions* by Lucia Mair

My first day as a volunteer at New Visions was just a little more than nine months ago. I remember clearly how excited I was to finally be here, and how anxious to meet everybody and to hear their stories. New Visions, and Camden in general, were so different from anything I’ve ever seen before that the first few weeks rushed by as one constant stream of new impressions. From the very first day, the people at New Visions – staff as well as our patrons – treated me with incredible warmth and openness. And so one of the most memorable experiences for me this year was our Thanksgiving together.

Coming from Germany and having lived there all my life, I had never celebrated Thanksgiving and didn’t know much about it. All I knew was what I’ve seen in countless Hollywood movies: lots of food, turkey, families coming together to celebrate in cozy, candle-lit dining rooms. With my own family being roughly 4000 miles away, I am lucky to have found a second family here in the patrons and co-workers that I could spend the day with. We went to a free Thanksgiving dinner at the Silver Dollar Diner in Cherry Hill, in a group of patrons, staff members and volunteers from New Visions.

I remember thinking that whoever invented Thanksgiving must have had exactly this in mind: forgetting, even if it’s just for a day, where you come from, what you’ve been through, and what’s wrong in your life. And instead being grateful and simply spending time with your family, and having that be enough for a day. Everybody sitting at our table that day came from a different family, a different city and, in some cases, a different country. We all brought our own stories with us, our own problems, worries and flaws. But none of that mattered as we were sitting there, digging into the Thanksgiving turkey and saying what we were grateful for, just like any other American family.

To me, that’s what New Visions is about. It truly is more than “just” a homeless shelter. I’ve learned more about life here in a year than in the 13 years I went to school in Germany, and I’ll miss it terribly when I fly back to Germany in September. It’s a very unique place full of incredible characters, and to many of us – including me – it’s a place we can call a home, and a group of people we call a family.

Share the Love Garden continued



organizing the clothing room and just sitting and talking with our clients.

As the result of their first-hand experience of New Visions and its clients, the employees at Subaru nominated New Visions to receive a \$5,000 Subaru Celebration Grant, one of 20 such grants awarded to non-profits in recognition of Subaru’s record sales year in 2009. With the grant money, the shelter will be able to purchase much needed supplies for the patrons, including canned food, products to serve lunch / breakfast, diapers, and baby food.



As the team at Subaru of America has shown us, there are creative ways to lend support to New Visions. Thinking outside the box can help generate ideas that not only benefit the community and more specifically, New Visions, but also encourage employee volunteerism and camaraderie.

If you would like to find out more about ways to support New Visions Homeless Day Shelter, call us at 856.963.0857.

SEND US YOUR RECIPES!!!

Help us prepare new meal options for our patrons.

Send us your favorite recipes that include any of the produce listed below.
CUCUMBERS • ZUCCHINI • SQUASH • ONIONS • PEPPERS • RADISHES
HERBS • LETTUCE GREENS • CHERRY TOMATOES • TOMATOES • BEANS

Send your recipes to:

New Visions Homeless Day Shelter 523 Stevens Street, Camden, New Jersey, 08013

