



Homeless Prevention Council
14 Old Tote Road
P.O. Box 828
Orleans, MA 02653

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Lifeline

SPRING 2011



HPC's mission is to combat and prevent homelessness for the people of the Lower and Outer Cape through professional case management.

DON'T LET HOMELESSNESS HAPPEN!

508-255-9667 • Toll Free: 877-349-6962 • Fax: 508-255-4928 • Email: info@HPCcapecod.org • www.HPCcapecod.org

UPCOMING EVENTS OF NOTE

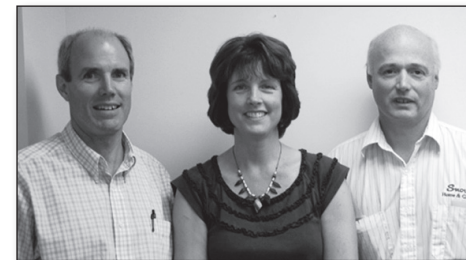
The Mid Cape Chorus Benefit Concert Sunday, May 29, 2011

The Mid Cape Chorus, celebrating 40 years of choral music, presents its annual concert to benefit HPC, on Sunday, May 29, 2011, at 5:00 PM, Pilgrim Congregational Church, Route 28, Harwich Port. The concert, **'THIS IS OUR COUNTRY'**, features a musical travelogue of songs from 'California Here I Come', to 'Old Cape Cod'. Joining conductor Ruth McKendree Treen, will be a jazz trio: Art McManus, piano; Judy Yaldatel, string bass; and Ken Rogers, percussion. Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased from chorus members or by calling 508-430-7136. Any remaining tickets may be purchased at the door.



The 19th Annual Housing With Love Walk July 11 to 17, 2011 *From Provincetown to Falmouth - walk a little or a lot!* **Support secure housing for Cape Codders in need!**

HPC will join other housing agencies on the Cape to bring attention to the solutions for housing those in need. If you would like to participate in the walk for secure housing as a walker or as a sponsor, please contact Clare O'Hara at 508-255-9667 or email Clare@HPCcapecod.org.



Snow's Supports the Homeless Prevention Council

HPC thanks Snow's Home & Garden, especially Sid Snow, Susan Snow and James Snow, for making this partnership possible.

Since 1991, Snow's Home and Garden has supported HPC in its mission to prevent homelessness. Now their generosity is extended once again with their participation in the Gift Card program.

"We know that the Homeless Prevention Council serves an urgent need in our community. We are proud to be working with HPC in a newly established program within our store," said Sid Snow, President and CEO. "We hope that our employees and shoppers will support their great work in our community by purchasing HPC gift cards at Snow's."

Through arrangements with several markets, and now CVS, HPC offers debit cards that can be used for anything in the participating markets. You receive the full value of the card for your purchases and HPC receives 5% of the card's value. They are

available in a variety of denominations for Shaw's, Stop & Shop, Friends Marketplace, Phoenix Fruit and CVS. Since most residents shop at one or more of these stores, this program is a very simple way to help HPC with much needed revenue.

When you are shopping at Snow's, you can now take the opportunity to help prevent homelessness at the same time. Visit their customer service desk and purchase HPC's gift cards. You can use cash, check or credit card to buy the gift cards and the Homeless Prevention Council will receive 5% of your purchase. Snow's is generously absorbing all credit card costs for cards purchased at Snow's, so the full 5% will benefit HPC. The cards are also available at several local churches and organizations and from the HPC office.

Welcome Home Baskets

Imagine moving into your new apartment without any of the basic necessities and no extra cash to buy them: shower curtain, mop and broom, hangers, cleaning products, etc. The little cash you have must be used to buy food.

A couple of students at Cape Cod Community College were in that situation not too long ago. So when their Human Communications class assignment included a service project, they inspired their team to create "Welcome Home Baskets."

They chose the Homeless Prevention Council as the recipient of their project because members of their group were personally familiar with HPC's services. The students visited local businesses and solicited donations of household supplies that they arranged in large laundry baskets.

Mahrya Hart told HPC Executive Director Christine Austin that "Moving out of homelessness and into a new



Terri Lewis, Stacie Beauchamp, Mahrya Hart and Jessica Brown (Jonathan Watley not pictured)

location can be very exciting for a family, but also very costly. They just need a little help to make their empty house into their home. These baskets will provide them with a practical 'Welcome' as they transition into permanent housing."

The Director's Corner

A Message from Christine M. Austin, HPC Executive Director

Most of all, I want to thank our donors for their generous response to our once-a-year appeal in December. You gave over \$50,000 — a much needed resource to address the increase in clients we are seeing as a result of the current economy. Thank you for your partnership in helping those seeking homeless prevention. All recipients are aware that your generosity keeps them from homelessness.

Donations make the critical difference in our ability to assist the growing needs of our clients. In 2010 we experienced a 10% caseload increase as we served 2,178 people. I can also report that we were able to keep 968 children, from 579 families, housed in 2010. We are experiencing an increase in cases since January, as well. Grants, individual donations and our network of Cape Cod organizations, churches and community groups has kept us going with needed resources. We struggle to meet the demand for our services in the ongoing, unstable economy. We continue to pursue grants and additional donation sources to enable HPC to serve all who come to us for help.

We are fortunate to have new Board members join us in the fight against homelessness. Sally Jacob is an Orleans resident with experience in Board membership at her Alumnae Association and at Snow's Public Library. Richard Laraja, Attorney, also an Orleans resident, brings fund raising experience with him. And Herb Montgomery, CFP, lives in Brewster and brings financial management to the Board as its new Treasurer. We are both delighted and grateful to have them join the Board.

In closing, thank you again to all who support our efforts—together we will offer the best possible homeless prevention services to our Cape Cod neighbors.



News from HPC's Case Managers

Maggi Flanagan: Since January, 31 cases have come through the Soup Kitchen. Five of those were families and 13 were 55 years of age and older. As the winter season is coming to a close, we find people struggling to keep fuel in their homes. Fuel assistance benefits have been used up and often, unemployment benefits have also expired. Many residents who house themselves in weekly rentals through the winter are now under pressure to find replacement housing before the summer season begins.

In 2011, to date we have collaborated with other organizations to "package" over \$6,700 in assistance to residents of Provincetown to prevent evictions resulting in homelessness. We also connected residents with resources such as food stamps, the food pantry, Mass Health, fuel assistance and veterans' services.

Nancy Roberts: After a very busy holiday season and an equally busy January, caseloads are leveling off. We have been fortunate to access funding through a collaborative effort with Community Action of the Cape and Islands. State of Massachusetts Diversion funds provide money to keep families out of shelters. The Diversion Program has very specific guidelines, including intensive case management that often requires daily



Maggi Flanagan, Nancy Roberts and Maureen Linehan

contact with the family.

One of the families in the program was able to procure housing through a local town housing authority. The rent will be based on her income so she will always have a safe, affordable home for herself and her children. She worked very hard with me to make it happen and she started a new job last week. Her success has made all the paperwork worthwhile!

Maureen Linehan: John is a client in need of a plumber to help make his Harwich Port bathroom wheelchair-accessible. He recently lost his leg and is due home in mid-April. We have all the other volunteer professionals lined up: carpenter, electrician, tile installer and materials disposal. The landlord will pull the permits and the supplies are donated. We just need one more important volunteer to complete the project. Please help John with your plumbing skills!

Please cut out and mail or visit www.HPCcapecod.org to donate today.



I / We want to fight homelessness on the Lower and Outer Cape with the Homeless Prevention Council!

NSP11

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of \$_____ made payable to the Homeless Prevention Council.

If you prefer to make a secure online tax-deductible donation, please go to www.HPCcapecod.org

Or charge your tax-deductible donation to your VISA or MasterCard account:

Card # _____ 3 digit V Code # on back of card: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name: _____

Address & Zip: _____

Signature: _____ Your email address: _____

The Interfaith Council for the Homeless of Lower Cape Cod, Inc. dba the Homeless Prevention Council, is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit agency dedicated to preventing homelessness. Federal Tax Identification number 043-104858. HPC does not share with or sell any of our donor addresses or email addresses to other organizations or businesses.

Brewster Baptist Church Benefits HPC

The Brewster Baptist Church Holiday Fair Committee 2010 donated the entire proceeds from the fair to the Homeless Prevention Council. When the check for \$30,000 was presented to HPC's Executive Director Christine Austin, she said, "This is our Christmas miracle!"

The Committee worked for an entire year on the event to produce such an outstanding financial result. These significant funds will help our Case Managers deliver direct assistance to individuals, couples and families in need from the Lower and

Outer Cape. The funds will be used to keep folks in their homes or, if need be, relocate them within their community.

Everyone at the Homeless Prevention Council thanks the Brewster Baptist Church for this meaningful gift that will make so much possible to prevent homelessness.



Recent News & Events

Grants & Gifts Gratefully Received:

HPC has been awarded \$5,000 from the Federated Church of Orleans and \$1,500 from the Marion Jordan Charitable Trust for the "Family Housing Stabilization" program. The United Way of the Cape and Islands has awarded \$25,000 for an early intervention collaboration and direct support for HPC clients. Generous donations of \$1,000 from The Chapel of St. James the Fisherman, \$4,000 from the Church of the Holy Spirit, \$1,000 from the First Congregational Church, Wellfleet, \$2,500 from the Church of St. Mary of the Harbor and a new computer from The Chatham United Methodist Church are greatly appreciated.

The Provincetown Theatre:

A week-long production of "Sleeping Indoors" raised homelessness awareness and benefited homeless prevention agencies across the Cape. Our thanks to the actors and director, Judith Partlow.

Adopt-A-Family:

361 children from 160 families were surprised and delighted this holiday season due to the generous donors who supported Adopt-A-Family. From dolls to bicycles, warm coats and gloves to basketballs, there were many smiles on the Lower and Outer Cape. Thanks to all our AAF donors!