



News From...

Homeless Solutions

A HAND UP
NOT A HAND OUT

Volume 7 Issue 2

May 2006

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Annual Bash is a Success!

Blue skies and unseasonably warm March weather raised the spirits of the 220+ attendees of HSI's 6th Annual Dream Builders' Bash and set the mood for fun and celebration. The event, held on March 31, raised \$120,000 to support HSI's shelter programs through ticket sales, donations, sponsorships and our now-famous Silent/Live Auction.



Incoming Board President Craig Dodd (center) and Executive Director Betsey Hall (right) present an award honoring the congregation to Janet Bonar of St. Margaret's Church.

This year, the Bash began online well before the first reveler arrived at the Madison Hotel. Our first Bash Online Auction attracted hundreds of bidders from as far away as California and added extra excitement to the event. The evening's highlights included a dance demonstration by professionals Denisa Jancusova and Marek Gabor and longtime HSI supporters (and great sports!) Margaret and Roger Greenway.

has provided volunteer support for the shelter since the early 1990's, was honored at the Bash as was the Platinum Sponsor Cendant Charitable Foundation.

Remarks from two HSI shelter guests reminded the attendees why the Bash is held. Sharyn spoke of her family's becoming homeless while she and her husband were both working full time. If they hadn't found HSI, they would have had to send their kids to relatives and sleep in their car. Ten-year-old Kendra told of her life at HSI's

The Church of St. Margaret of Scotland, whose congregation

See Annual Bash, page 2.

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Ready, Set, Hike!

Start training now to get ready for Homeless Solutions' first annual *Hike to Help* walkathon on Saturday, June 10. Our three mile walk will begin at 10 am at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Morris Plains – rain or shine, so please keep your fingers crossed for good weather!

It's easy to participate –

1. Register – you can register online (www.homelessolutions.org) or use the tear off registration form that's

attached and mail it in.

2. Get sponsors – print out a sponsor sheet from our web site.

3. Return your sponsor sheet – with a check made out to Homeless Solutions, Inc. by mail or at the event. Everyone who collects \$100 or more in contributions will receive an official 2006 *I Hiked to Help* t-shirt. If we receive your sponsor sheet and check by June 2, you can



See Ready, Set, Hike, page 4.

New Board Member at HSI

We're happy to welcome Elisabeth Hughes MacDonald to the Homeless Solutions Board of Trustees. Elisabeth joined the board in March and will serve on the Audit Committee.



Elisabeth Hughes MacDonald

Elisabeth has extensive experience in the banking industry and has held the position of Managing Director at JPMorgan Chase & Co. in the areas of investment banking and retail financial services. She holds a B.A. in Economics from Lafayette College and an MBA from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University.

Elisabeth is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Lafayette College and is a Member of Session at the First Presbyterian Church in Mendham, where she resides with her family. ▲

Annual Bash

From page 1

Transitional Housing Program and how she wishes "THP was bigger because some of my friends want to live here, too." And how "THP is not only a good place for kids, but it is a good place for families because we have rules and a curfew. It keeps moms and kids on the right track." Without HSI's help – help made possible through funds raised at the Bash – Sharyn, Kendra and hundreds like them would face hopelessness each year.

We thank all those who made the Bash a success: Bash committee chairs: Nancy Biello, Jane Sell, and Kari Szary, our squad of dedicated volunteers, and those of you who supported the event by donating auction items, attending the Bash, participating in the auction, and sending your best even if you could not join us for the evening. Without all of you, this event would not have been possible.

Volunteer Spotlight

Twelve girls from Chester Junior Girl Scout troop 945 recently took on the role of mentors to some of our younger guest girls at the shelter as part of their Silver Award project, and the effort was a big success. The Girl Scouts made four visits to the shelter, and the projects they worked on with the guest girls included making pottery, sewing blankets, making friendship bracelets, and hosting a game night. The younger girls enjoyed working on all of the projects, but they seemed to enjoy spending time with the older girls most of all! Thank you, Troop 945 – your time and energy made such a wonderful impression on our girls here! ▲

Guest Profile

The support Homeless Solutions volunteers and donors provide is what allows HSI to help those in need to get back on their feet as independent, contributing members of our community.

Audrey W. is the mother of a four year old son who was referred to our Women's and Family Shelter through the Jersey Battered Women's Shelter. Audrey and her son were accepted as guests at our Family Shelter and were with us for a number of months. Homeless Solutions provided them with a safe, supportive environment, and during their stay Audrey returned to college to complete her LPN degree. Her son attended a local day care center, where he blossomed, both socially and academically.

"Homeless Solutions was there for us at a time when we had nowhere else to turn," Audrey said. "My son and I will always be grateful to you for helping us at that very difficult time in our lives." Today, Audrey is working full time as an LPN, and she and her son are living in their own apartment.

Audrey and her son are just two of the many men, women, and children HSI is able to shelter and support thanks to your generosity. Together, we are making a difference in people's lives. ▲



In the mood for fun and celebration -- (l to r) Jeanne and Richard Connell, Tom and Bliss Ireland, and Susan and Edward Munoz enjoy the evening.

We also thank our event sponsors for their partnership and support: Cendant Charitable Foundation, First Morris Bank and Trust, RegentAtlantic Capital, FirstEnergy Foundation, The Hamilton Group, JPMorgan Chase, Peapack Gladstone Bank, Pfizer, Presbyterian Homes and Services, FJ Rawding AIA and Schommer Engineering. ▲

John Murray, Mayor of Harding, dances with Denisa Jancusova, a professional dancer who later entertained Bash guests with a performance.



News from Headquarters Development

There's also exciting news to report from Headquarters Development as we work to increase the supply of affordable housing in and around Morris County.

- Our proposal for our 12 unit "service-enriched" low and moderate income rental apartment development on Abbett Avenue will be heard by the Morristown Board of Adjustment on May 3. Just go to our web site, www.homelessolutions.org, to read the Daily Record's April 10 front page article on the proposed development.
- HSI/HD expects to complete the purchase of an existing building in Roxbury in May or June. The building consists of four two bedroom apartments over office space, and the apartments will be available for income-eligible tenants after

we perform some minor renovations and energy/water efficiency upgrades.

- In his capacity as Chairman of the Housing Alliance of Morris County, Dan McGuire led a countywide effort as part of a postcard campaign to Governor Corzine to double the funding for the state rental voucher program. Over 800 postcards were generated in just eight days—the most of any county in the state—and the Governor's initial budget proposed \$40M for the program, representing a \$15M increase.

As always, we are actively seeking new housing sites and potential development partners, and we welcome any information about prospective sites or partnerships – our friends in the community are our greatest asset! ▲

Capital Campaign Moves Closer to Goal

Generous support from our community has brought HSI's Campaign for the Future closer to our \$4 million dollar goal. To date, 30 dedicated contributors have donated \$2.7 million to help HSI:

- Construct affordable housing on Abbett Avenue in Morristown,
- Advance the development, renovation, and acquisition of low-income housing,
- Ensure the replacement of major equipment and facility renovations, and
- Secure HSI's future operation.

Board President and Campaign Committee member, Candace Weeks, sees this campaign as critical to HSI's success in impacting the housing crisis in our community. "Funds raised through the Campaign will enable HSI to continue to develop scattered sites of energy efficient, well constructed affordable housing for the working poor" states Candace. "Our goal is to replicate the success of the Jean Street Apartments in Morris Township, where fifteen families who might otherwise be homeless are now paying rent and living independently."

Please join us – make a gift, involve your friends in the campaign, or raise awareness about homelessness and the lack of affordable housing in our area. Together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of the most vulnerable in our community. Call Pam Palumbo, Director of Development, at 973 993 0833 to find out how you can help today.

If you can donate or help, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Tamala Reynolds at 973-993-0833.

**Wish
List**

- Lamps
- Pillows
- Towels
- Wash Cloths
- Shop Rite or Walmart Gift Cards

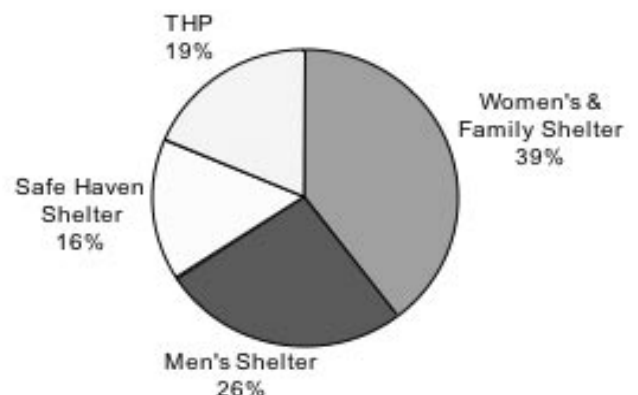
Our sincere thanks to those who have given generously to the Campaign for the Future:

Basking Ridge
Presbyterian Church
Jim and Nancy Biello
The Boye Family Fund
Robin & Carlton Bruen
David & Barbara Bugen
Craig & Anne Dodd
John & Anne Duffy
Leslie Erickson &
J Wright Witcher
Ruth Frost
Dr. Elizabeth S. Hall
Jockey Hollow Foundation
Bill & Betsey Johnston
JPMorgan Chase Foundation
Peter R. Kellogg
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas V. A.
Kelsey
Paige & Elizabeth
L'Hommedieu
John & Elisabeth MacDonald
Morris County HOME Funds



Jim & Sigrid Mueller
Peter & Pat Muratore
Pamela M. Palumbo
Dr. Kathryn Peper
Les & Eileen Quick
Carole & Leo Rogers
Ray & Brenda Shepherd
United Way of Morris
County
Leanne Wagner
Candace & Rich Weeks
William E. Simon
Foundation

HSI in 2005... Number of Guests Housed



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Mailing Address Line 1
 Mailing Address Line 2
 Mailing Address Line 3
 Mailing Address Line 4
 Mailing Address Line 5

OUR MISSION:
*To offer shelter, supportive services
 and housing to homeless
 and low-income people.*

In Memoriam

Create a Lasting Legacy

Please consider including Homeless Solutions in your will with a bequest in the form of a specific amount of cash or property or as a percentage of the remainder of your estate. Your bequest can have a direct impact on the future of HSI and on our mission in our community while offering practical advantages to you and your heirs – charitable gifts are 100% deductible from your taxable estate. For more information, contact Pam Palumbo, Director of Development, at 973-993-0833. ▲

HSI recently lost a very important member of our volunteer family. Dorothy Gamsby of the Montville Reformed Church had been active at HSI for over 22 years, cooking dinner with a group of women from her church once a week. Because Dot and her group are known for their meatloaf, they took on the name of the “Meatloaf Ladies.” Dot was a wonderful presence here at HSI, and she will be missed dearly by guests and staff alike. Dot leaves behind seven sons, 19 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. ▲

Ready, Set, Hike! From page 1,

select the size of your t-shirt. If we receive your information by mail after that or at the event, you can select your shirt from the sizes available that day.

4. Join us – at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Morris Plains on June 10 at 10am. You can print directions from our web site.

Not available that day? Hate to walk? You can be a Virtual Walker – simply send in your registration and contributions. You’re still entitled to a t-shirt!

All proceeds from the walkathon will be used to purchase a van for the shelter so that we can continue to transport our guests to work, day care, and medical appointments. Your support has a direct impact on the lives of some of our community’s most vulnerable members – thank you for helping. ▲

To register, return this panel to: Homeless Solutions, Inc., 540 W. Hanover Ave. - Suite 100, Morristown, NJ 07960

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone Number: _____
 Email: _____
 Over the age of 18? Yes__ No__

Participants Must Sign Release Below:
 In consideration of the acceptance of my entry: I do hereby, for myself, for my heirs, executors, and administrators waive, release, and forever discharge any and all rights and claims for property damage, and/or personal injury which I may have or which may occur to me, against Homeless Solutions, Inc. or any of their officers, members, sponsors, agents, or representatives arising out of traveling to, participating in, or returning from the Homeless Solutions, Inc. First Annual Hike to Help, on June 10, 2006.
 Signature of walker or parent’s signature if walker is under the age of 18: _____
 I can’t make it to the walk, but I’d like to contribute \$ _____

