

THE HOMELESS OUTREACH, INC. NEWSLETTER



Volume 18 Issue 3

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Proverbs 19:17

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR, *Carol Leo*

As I watched the children receiving their school supplies this year, the impact of the love of Christ hit home. From the little boy at Shepherd's Cove Shelter who got excited when he saw the notebooks and paper, but whose mouth dropped open in astonishment & joy when he was told he'd be receiving a backpack too, to the children of all ages whose faces lit up with smiles of excitement and looks of relief as they strapped on their backpacks, the care of the heavenly Father for the children of the world could not be denied. Events such as receiving new school supplies, which are mundane in the minds of many American children, are deeply meaningful to those who have so little of this world's goods. Many, many thanks go out to the hardworking volunteers who came from many different churches and settings. Below are some of the churches or organizations which participated. Many individuals, too numerous to mention contributed to the success of these events. THANK YOU! AND GOD BLESS YOU!

UPCOMING EVENTS 2006

THANKS TO CHURCHES/ORGANIZATIONS

10/13	Harvest Outreach , Shepherd's Cove Shelter Collecting: Hygiene
11/10	Outreach , Shepherd's Cove Shelter, Collecting: Hygiene
11/12	Thanksgiving Outreach , DC Village, at NCOG Collecting: Hygiene, socks, underwear
12/17	Christmas Outreach , Families Forward, Spring Rd., Community of Hope, Shepherd's Cove, DC Village Collecting: New toys, all ages, new hats, gloves, mittens, warm winter clothing, new or good condition

Christ Fellowship Assembly of God Church, Silver Spring, MD	Love Offering & Volunteer
Corkran United Methodist Church, Temple Hills, MD	Many Bags of School Supplies
Evangel Assembly of God Church, Camp Springs, MD	Many Bags of School Supplies
Gideons	New Testaments (Picnic Outreach)
GA Shaeffer Corporation	Greatly Discounted, High-Quality Backpacks
Harvest of Hope, (Society of St. Andrews), Big Island, VA	Stuffed Animals for all the Children
Merito Corporation	Bus Sponsorship, Donations
Meyers Family	Truckload of School Supplies/Clothing
National Church of God, Fort Washington, MD	Facility use for Preparation of Supplies, Clothing, Supplies, Volunteers
Shrewsbury Gospel Temple, Shrewsbury, PA	Large Boxes of New Children's Books, Toothbrushes, Other Gift Items
Victory Chapel Church, Accokeek, MD	Many Bags and Boxes of School Supplies, School Supply Distribution Team, Praise Band
Sons of Thunder	Contemporary Christian Music
Vision DC	Clothing, Supplies

Contact Bertha Fenwick, 301-292-2658 or Carol Leo, 240-475-4219 to donate or participate.

And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple verily I say unto you, he shall in nowise lose his reward. Matthew 10:42.

Summer Picnic 2006

Cosca Park,
July 1, 2006



Children played with great excitement on the many-faceted playground equipment, a temporary respite from the crowded shelter conditions.



The line for food and drink was continual.



The Gideons (left) were present with testimony & New Testaments for all.



Children crowded around Sons of Thunder to listen and receive prizes.



Minister Pat Kriner shared Jesus from his heart; men, women & children all repsonded

A young Worship band from Victory Chapel helped to usher in the presence of the Lord with praise songs.

Sons of Thunder ministered in contemporary Christian rap music, to encourage faith in Jesus



Backpacks were everywhere. As they were packed and distributed by our hardworking volunteers, sounds of excitement were heard from the children.



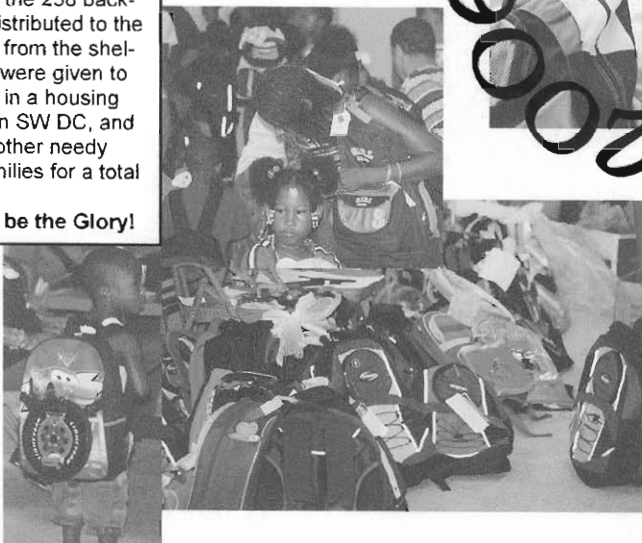
Concentrating on the spaghetti...

Besides the 238 backpacks distributed to the children from the shelters. 24 were given to children in a housing project in SW DC, and 15 to 5 other needy area families for a total of 278.
To God be the Glory!

2006 Back-to-School



Concentrating on the arts and crafts . . .



As Pastor Ted Prasatek from Spotsylvania, VA preached, hearts were opened and many hands went up in the air to receive Christ. Children and adults were attentive to the Word of the Lord.



DC VILLAGE BACK TO SCHOOL, August 20, 2006

By Tara Lawton, Coordinator for DC Village Back-to-School Outreach

Almost nothing went as we planned at the DC Village Back To School party. We did not have any formal ministry. But, the event was amazing! I believe the event went according to God's plan. There was phenomenal cooperation by our workers who all worked so very hard and ministered to all the families with their sweet spirits. Mr. Owens, who had the list of the families that had signed up was a tremendous help in lining the families up in an orderly manner, to receive their backpacks and school supplies. I have never seen the distribution of supplies go so smoothly. The families collected clothing and went on to collect the supplies which were sorted, expertly and efficiently, by grade level by our wonderful teen helpers, Kai, Patrick, Landon and Crystal Washington, China, Charleston, Christopher, Chandee, and Calvin Pinkney. China immediately took charge of the clothing when we arrived and sorted them faster and more orderly than I have ever seen, with the help of Sis Adrienne. Sis Adrienne was such a calming spirit and had so many excellent ideas. Bro. James Cummings was a powerful force who also had great ideas.

All of our workers were on their feet the whole time working so hard but they all took the time to minister with the families one-on-one while the supplies were being distributed.

There were more than enough supplies. We were able to provide backpacks and supplies to all who signed up and then to all the others that came. The stuffed animals and books were a big hit. The families were very happy with the supplies and for our prayers and thanked us profusely.

I was awed by our great team of workers. I know the families saw Christ in our workers and they benefited by the sweet fellowship. Each worker was specifically appointed and anointed by God. I thank God for each and every one of them.

SHEPHERD'S COVE BACK-TO-SCHOOL, August 11, 2006

Children watched in anticipation and excitement as we unloaded backpacks, school supplies, snacks, coloring sheets, crayons and books from the van. Following a brief time of ministry, children and parents lined up and were able to choose from a spectrum of books, workbooks, and craft projects, and then to receive backpacks with school supplies appropriate for their ages. Although, as in the DC Village Outreach, our original plans for the program were unexpectedly changed, we were able to enjoy a time of praise and worship action songs with the children, a time of brief testimony about the love of our God, and to see at least 8 children come forward to receive Christ as Savior. We give God glory for all that He did.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL OUTREACH AT ST. STEPHENS, August 20, 2006

The Homeless Outreach ministered to the children and parents from Families Forward Park Road, Spring Road, and Community of Hope for the Back-to-School Celebration at the St. Stephens multi-purpose room facility downtown. The team of workers, from several different area churches, cheerfully and efficiently served the families from the shelters. (See photos on previous page for scenes from this event.) Mothers were thrilled with the vast selection of donated clothing and everyone enjoyed the arts & crafts project and the delicious spaghetti dinner prepared by the Fenwicks & their helpers. Music from two Christian bands filled the room with the praises of God and attention was riveted on Pastor Ted Prasatek as he preached the Gospel in a down-to-earth way. We give God all the glory for the lives that were touched and souls that were saved.

THE HOMELESS OUTREACH RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

We have just completed our six-month period of rental assistance for a third family transitioning out of the shelter system into housing. Mr. Smith states that things going great with the family. Mr. Smith is currently working at the Madison Hotel and Ms. Smith is in a Job Training Program. Ms. Smith will begin employment shortly with the help from her job training referrals. Jean started her 1st grade year and John and Judy are all enrolled in daycare. The family is extremely optimistic about their future housing and state that they have been blessed. Thank you for your assistance with this amazing family. They are very grateful for the help they received. (Names have been changed in above.)