

# THE HOMELESS OUTREACH, INC. NEWSLETTER



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For the needy shall not always be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall not perish for ever.

Psalm 9:18

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## UPCOMING EVENTS 2007

<b>Oct. 5</b>	Fall Outreach, Shepherd's Cove
<b>Nov. 11</b>	Thanksgiving Outreach
<b>Nov. 9</b>	Shepherd's Cove
<b>Dec. 16</b>	Christmas party for families from Park Rd., Spring Rd., Community of Hope, Hope Apts., Shepherd's Cove We are collecting: NEW Toys, New Gloves, hats, Scarves (all ages); good used winter clothing

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

We have been blessed with a website through the generosity of one of our donors. Go to [www.thehomelessoutreach.org](http://www.thehomelessoutreach.org) for the latest information on our events, as well as other information. If you or your group support this ministry and would like to be linked or listed please contact me! Carol Leo

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR, Carol Leo

This is a time of big change for the family shelter system in Washington, DC. DC Village, the largest family shelter in Washington, is being closed. The Metro Transit Authority will be parking its buses on this property, as the Metro Transit Authority bus lot is being displaced by the new stadium that is being built in S.E. Washington, DC. There is an interesting article about what is going on. You can read it on the Internet at [http://www.streetsense.org/articles/article\\_050107dcvillage.jsp](http://www.streetsense.org/articles/article_050107dcvillage.jsp)

Please keep all of the residents of DC Village, as well as the other DC area family shelters in your prayers. Per one shelter director, "a domino effect" is being created as the 350 DC Village residents are being moved out into spaces in some of the other family shelters, and those families, in turn will have to be relocated into subsidized housing. Some of the DC Village residents will also be moved into subsidized housing. There was already a waiting list for shelter space, even with the existence of the DC Village facility. Closing this shelter will put an extra strain on the system. Please pray for the families, that this will actually turn out to be for their betterment.

The six shelters that we minister to are: DC Village, Community of Hope, Families Forward Park Road, Spring Road (all in DC and all affected by the change), Hope Apartments (a new place in DC), and Shepherd's Cove in Maryland. We have been encouraged to carry on with our regularly scheduled plans for outreach in the next few months, and to make any adjustments when the time comes.

We realize that this is a time when more people than ever need the assistance of God's people. It is a privilege to continually minister to the needs of those who are needy and struggling; to be the vessels through which the Lord can pour His abundant supply to bring blessing and victory into the lives of hurting children and adults.

In addition to the shelters mentioned above, The Homeless Outreach has been able to share a large offering of hygiene articles with the women at the Open Doors Ministry at CCNV downtown through the National Church of God NET ministry; school supplies with about 80 additional needy children in our community; and hygiene articles with the poor in Nicaragua through the Missions department at Evangel Assembly of God. Special thanks and recognition go to the Evangel Assembly of God Local Missions Team led by Richard Bell for their strong turnout and involvement with The Homeless Outreach throughout this past year. The NET under the direction of Ed Torrence has also been a mighty blessing with their presence at every event. Other church groups have also contributed significantly to this ministry. (See next page.)

Thanks to each and every one who has so lovingly and generously donated of their time, talents, and material blessings to share the love of Christ with the poor and disadvantaged in our community. To God be the glory and may He richly bless you.

### Transitional Rental Assistance Update

We are currently assisting a family consisting of an adult and two very small children as she makes the adjustment from shelter to living independently. We are extending our six-month time period for assistance to seven-months, as the Lord leads and enables.

*Kevin & Jim*

# Summer Cookout 2007



# Back-to-School 2007



Thank you!

## **Summer Cookout 2007 (Photos on opposite page)**

On Sunday, June 24 The Homeless Outreach held our annual event in the great outdoors for over 150 children and parents from six area homeless shelters. Groups from several area churches collaborated to make this a most blessed event. The Lord gave us a perfect day of sunshine and blues skies. Children were everywhere, playing on the playground equipment, running in the grassy areas of the park and listening to the Gospel rap band, Sons of Thunder. Some of the children went forward and danced to the music. Adults and teens listened with interest to the testimonies and preaching of Pat Kriner, who was himself saved from a lifetime of homelessness through the intervention of the Lord. Two representatives from the Gideons were present to hand out New Testaments to all who wanted one following the presentation of the Gospel message and prayer. Minister Kriner prayed the sinner's prayer with everyone who would and individuals also came up seeking personal counseling and prayer. The lines were long for food and the grilled hotdogs, hamburgers, chicken, chips, watermelon, cookies, and drinks were generously heaped on plates of all who waited. Mothers made abundant use of the offerings of good quality clothing that were available on the picnic tables and racks. Every child received a cute stuffed animal and families each received toothpaste and toothbrushes. Words of thanks were expressed all around and happiness could be seen on the faces. Thanks to Evangel Assembly of God Local Missions Team and Dorcas Clothing Closet; National Church of God N.E.T.; Sons of Thunder from Victory Christian Center; Pat Kriner and team from Victory Chapel; Harvest of Hope, Society of St. Andrews; The Gideons; the many, many anonymous donors who made this event possible.

## **Back-to-School Party 2007 (Photos on opposite page)**

The Back-to-School Outreach was held on Sunday, August 19. Over two hundred children and adults from five area shelters were present at the National Church of God gymnasium to receive of the ministry and abundant school supplies that had been donated. Our ministry program consisted of some impromptu presentations this year, as some of the groups who had been invited were unable to attend. A praise dance team consisting of two eight-year olds, Joanna Lehtinen and Seerah Yamini praised the Lord to the deeply worshipful music, "Show me the Way." Impromptu action praise songs were sung with the children. Rosalyn, an NCOG media person stepped forward to be our D.J. for the day. "Grandma" Phyllis Clemmons called the children up to the stage and read to them the story of David and Goliath out of a children's Bible. Minister Pat Kriner again brought forth the Word of God. Prayer counselors from among our many volunteers came forward afterwards and prayed with young and old to receive Christ as Savior. The front of the gym was filled with those seeking Christ.

The families were greatly blessed by the abundance of clothing that was available. The delicious spaghetti dinner that was prepared by the Fenwicks, the Roberts, and team was eagerly consumed with partakers coming back for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> helpings. The distribution of school supplies was very rewarding for all. Over 150 backpacks were distributed at this event with children receiving age-appropriate school supplies. Babies received stuffed animals. In all, this year, close to 300 backpacks were distributed. This included those distributed at the event held at Shepherd's Cove (see below), as well as distributions to other needy area children. Thanks to the N.E.T. from National Church of God and Phyllis & Roxanne; Evangel Assembly of God Local Missions team; Praise dancers, Joanna and Seerah (Christ's Fellowship and Immanuel's Church); Nancy Thoman and Corkran United Methodist Church; Christ's Fellowship Church; Pat Kriner and team from Victory Chapel; Sharon Devlin, Eunice Sanders, and Merito Corporation; the Meyers family; G.A. Shaffer, Inc.; Glaceau Water Co. (see photo).

## **Shepherd's Cove Update**

On Fri., Aug. 10, the Back-to-School event was held at Shepherd's Cove Shelter. Over 40 backpacks were distributed, including four to college-age young women. The sense of gratitude was very deep from all recipients. Marianne Benson & Pete Hyde carried forth ministry in singing and preaching. Our September Shepherd's Cove event is described below by Alicia Adams from Evangel Assembly who headed up the event:

"They got a double blessing. Soul Factory Church was there grilling hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken wings, greens and beans. I had the children on one side and the ladies close to the box, unfortunately I couldn't get the micro phone to work. But they heard the word from Sister Phyllis. They asked questions at the end. She passed out tracts and bookmarks. The kids enjoyed coloring and getting their stuffed animals and snacks. Then it was time for dinner. They enjoyed that as well. The adults got their goodies (assortment of dozens of travel-sized hygiene articles) and were very appreciative. We told the kids to do well in school and to obey their teachers. They were not rowdy nor extremely loud. After the study, I played fast CD's. Some of the kids were even dancing. We had a grand time. Thank you for the opportunity to minister to these ladies.."