

FRIENDS IN DEED

A Quarterly Publication of Washtenaw Area Network of Congregations

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 29 Issue 3 Fall 2011

Congregational Partnership Services

In 1983 about 35 local congregations came together because they wanted to do a better job of helping those in need who approach them. Friends In Deed was begun by this group to collaborate with congregations in aiding low-income persons in Washtenaw County. Our social ministries network now includes over forty congregational partners. The heart of FID is still our partner congregations. Principal elements of this partnership include:

Information. We collect, review, and share information about who is doing what in social services in Washtenaw County. We keep current on and keep in contact with programs and agencies meeting needs and offering services to members of our community. We maintain, consistently update, and twice yearly distribute a resource guide to approximately 200 local congregations. Our website www.friendsindeed.info and our email network keep this updating current. Our annual How to Help Seminars offer similarly valuable guidance about how to talk, listen, and respond effectively to those in need and seeking help. (We can, upon request, make How to Help presentations and offer clearinghouse services to individual congregations.) If your congregation is not connected to these tools, get there!

Referrals. We are one of the top three Washtenaw County agencies receiving requests from United Way's 211 Help Line. We can usually refer persons seeking help (directly or through congregations) to the person or agency best able to aid the seeker. Congregations value and rely on our ability to suggest useful options to persons in need that come to their doors.

Screening. Over the years we have helped many of our county's needy; and we have gotten to know them, maintaining comprehensive case work files on each client. We are knowledgeable about them and about the

few "con artists" or those who try to "game the system." If a congregation is approached by someone that they are suspicious of or have problems with, they contact FID. We help them figure out how to deal with that person and also share alerts about the individual to other congregations if we feel that is necessary.

Support. Providing these services relies heavily on support from our partner congregations. Their financial contributions are essential—grants and fundraising alone cannot cover all of our expenses. Congregational gifts provide approximately 25% of our operating budget and an equally significant portion of our direct assistance funds. The network of prayer with and among our partners is similarly crucial; and we ask that all of you continue to keep FID's mission, clients and staff in your prayers. As a mostly volunteer organization, we depend on and value the participation of volunteers from our partners to do our work. We have members of our partner congregations serving as volunteers in all areas of FID: Helpline, furniture line, warehouse, furniture delivery, office work, and as board members. Without these amazing people, FID would not be able to help those we do. Thank you so much!



Friends In Deed board member and volunteer Peggy Glahn takes a break from working the Annual Rummage sale. Peggy is a member of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

bd's Mongolian Barbecue FID Fun, Fun, Fundraiser (Thursday, September 15, 6 pm-9 pm)

On the above date, this popular Ann Arbor restaurant is allowing our "guest grillers" (volunteers, board members, and staffers) to prepare meals for a limited time (6-9 pm) with all tips during that period going to FID. We'll also have some merchandise for sale then. Come, bring your family and friends, have a great meal and a good time, and help those in need.

Whole Foods Benefit Day (Thursday, September 22, 8 am-10 pm)

This popular market is designating 5% of net sales on that day to FID. We will have an information booth in the store from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. to distribute materials, improve awareness, and answer questions about FID's work. Come and shop to benefit your family, the sponsoring store, and Friends In Deed.

Big House Big Heart Run, University of Michigan Football Stadium (Sunday, October 9)

Do a 10K, 5K or 1 Mile walk or run through the university area and end up finishing in the Big House to benefit FID! Participants are needed to walk/run, solicit contributions from others, and to sponsor our FID team. See enclosed insert for more information. If interested, call Stormy Lloyd at (734) 485-7658 or email her at office@friendsindeed.info.

How to Help Seminar (Tuesday, October 18, 7 pm-9 pm at the FID Office)

Concerned individuals and congregations *wanting* to help persons and families with pressing needs can do so more effectively and confidently by knowing *how* to help. This annual seminar offers valuable training and helpful resources for doing so. Presenters include Jennifer Brown (Salvation Army), Mary Beth Lampe (Community Support and Training Services), Barbara Blom (Shelter Association of Washtenaw county), and Sarah Thornburg (Friends In Deed).

SERRV Small World Shop Sale (Friday & Saturday, November 18-19)

This annual sale, held the weekend before Thanksgiving at First United Methodist Church, Ypsilanti, offers distinctive handcrafted items from around the world, many especially suited for holiday gift giving. The SERRV non-profit program promotes economic and social justice by direct marketing of these items made by persons in developing, often poor, nations. Your Small World Shop purchases will help to alleviate poverty here and elsewhere, as ~\$1200 in sales can support a family of four for a year in many lands, and 15% of Shop sale proceeds on those days will go to FID.

Fifteenth Annual Holiday Bed Drive (November 15-December 31)

With the generous help of Van Winkle Mattress Company, we hope to provide badly needed beds for many local, low-income families. Your contributions can help realize hopes and fulfill dreams of many lacking beds and trying to sleep in chairs or on floors. Purchase of one or more beds is an ideal project for your organization, office, company, or extended family. Bedbug covers for mattresses of all sizes are also desired. Make your plans to help and watch for details in the November (Winter) newsletter advertisement.

United Way Campaign

Designations

As the annual fall United Way campaign approaches, please consider designating all or part of your UW contribution to FID. These designations provide much needed operating funds; but we can receive only those contributions specifically designated in writing to Friends In Deed on the United Way contribution card. Our designation number is 2881.

Update on our New Director

In her first five months as our new Executive Director, Sarah has pursued a "hands-on" approach to learning FID. She has driven the truck, helped with two furniture routes, made contact with many of our partner congregations, participated in the Golf Outing, and produced this newsletter issue. Sarah has covered both the Helpline and the Furniture Line for staff on vacation. She has even gotten her husband and children involved in some work at FID. Her positive and upbeat manner invigorates our operations. Way to go, Sarah! And congratulations on your daughter's August wedding!

Annual Meeting and Board News

FID's annual meeting convened June 14 at Ann Arbor's St. Luke Lutheran Church. Executive Director Sarah Thornburg presented the agency's 2010 report and spoke on 2011 Plans. Patti Eaton and Malinda Waltz were re-elected to three-year Board terms. The group expressed appreciation for the service of retiring Board Members Sarah Jarzembowski, Carla Jones-Richmond and especially Jerry Kruse for outstanding work as Treasurer during our challenging building fund years. New Board Member Kenneth Timmer (Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church) was elected; three other board members have joined during the summer. At the board meeting immediately following, these officers were elected: President, Mike Weber; Vice President, Allen Sherzer; Secretary, Peggy Glahn; and Treasurer, William Dahms.

Rummage Sale Results

FID's annual Great Late Summer Rummage and Bake Sale was held August 12 and 13 at Ann Arbor's St. Luke Lutheran Church. Donations from many made numerous attractive items available to browsing and buying shoppers. St. Luke staff was very helpful, the Bake Sale offered tasty treats, and many volunteers participated to make the event meaningful and rewarding. Thanks go to the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department for providing a work crew to transport and set up merchandise and to Aubrey's and Cottage Inn for their donation of pizza for our workers. A special thank you goes out to Kanda "KJ" Jordan and her team from Target for their years of volunteering at the rummage sale. More than \$2700 was earned from the Rummage Sale to support the work of FID.

Volunteer News

We gladly welcome Rick Wilhelmson as a new Furniture Line volunteer. A recent retiree from Michigan Department of Human Services, Rick brings a wealth of experience and understanding to our office. But other needs persist. We are eagerly seeking individuals/congregations willing and able to provide a 2-3 person team for furniture pickup and delivery once a month (typically a 2-4 hour route) during the year. Other ongoing volunteer needs include appliance repair, minor home repair, chore services, and helping clients move out of problem situations on short notice.



2011 Golf Outing

Friends In Deed's third annual Golf Outing attracted some 65 golfers on July 25 for an enjoyable day at the Reddeman Farms course. Contributions by participants, hole sponsors, and a raffle raised over \$8200 for FID. Thanks to the members of the Golf Outing Committee (John Carver, Harvey Pillersdorf, Helena Prince, Tom Prince, Anya Siglin-Sadler, Dave Siglin & Kate Whitaker), to FID staff members Sarah Thornburg and Stormy Lloyd, and to outing volunteers Rita Nowland and Marlene Milske for all their hard work organizing and facilitating the event. A big thank you also goes out to Patty McCarthy and all the nice folks at Reddeman Farms, our sponsors, our in-kind donors and our golfers.

The following individuals and companies sponsored our recent Golf Outing, making it a great success.

Hole Sponsors

Amherst Fund
Ann Arbor Ctr for Financial Svcs, LLC (Phil Zepeda)
Bank of Ann Arbor
Booth Plumbing & Heating Co.
Brewer's BP Service
BTB Cantina
Carver & Associates
Cherry Republic, Inc.
Community Drive, Inc.
Cubs A.C./Colonial Lanes
Cueter Chrysler Jeep Dodge
Dana & Donna Underwood
Dexter Pharmacy & Village Pharmacy II
Dick & Rita Nowland
Dr. Allen Dumont
Dr. Virginia Bell, FID Board Member
DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen
Good Time Charley's
Gretchen's House Child Care Center
James Chaconas
James Johnson

Jill McDonough
John Debbink
John & Marilyn Rintamaki
Juli Pinsak
Kate Whitaker
Ken & Phyllis Timmer
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Lorin Cartwright
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Terence Joiner, MD
The Ark
The Carver Family
The Dawn Treader Book Shop
The Optimist Club of Ypsilanti
The Siglin Family

Tim McFadden Management
Tios on Liberty
Tom & Helena Prince
University Musical Society
VanWinkle Mattress Co.
William F. Dufek, State Farm Insurance Co.

Cart Sponsors

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Phoenix Contractors
Tidy Tom
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Conor O'Neill's
Cueter Chrysler Jeep Dodge
Dufek, Bill
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Joe's Crab Shack
Liberty Athletic Club
Lululemon Athletica
M-Den
Maggie's Organics
Mainstreet Ventures
Miles of Golf
Old Town Tavern
O'Reilly's Auto Parts
Outback Steakhouse
Pictures Plus
Potbelly Sandwich Shop
Reddeman Farms
Red Robin
Selo/Shevel Gallery
Silver Foam Distributing
Stadium Trophy
Starbucks
Stuchli's
T.G.I. Friday's
The Ark
The Common Grill
The Earle
The Raven Club
Univ. of Michigan Golf Course
Univ. of Michigan Medical School-DCDO



bd's Mongolian Barbecue
FUN, FUN, FUNDRAISER

Thursday, September 15

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

200 S. Main St

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

FID Guest Grillers will cook your food and entertain you while you wait!

All tips go to Friends In Deed!!

NO COUPON REQUIRED



Whole Foods Benefit Day

Thursday, September 22

8:00 am - 10:00 pm

3135 Washtenaw Ave.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

5% of the day's sales go to

Friends In Deed.

NO COUPON REQUIRED

Newsletter Contributors

Writer: Jim Waltz **Designer:** Sarah Thornburg **Copied by:** Zion Lutheran Church **Mailing:** Claudia Larson and the MP Group

Friends In Deed is an inter-faith volunteer organization that provides for the needs of Washtenaw County residents that are not being met by other human service agencies. FID provides information, referrals and screening services to congregations and agencies as well as resources to people in need.

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For More Information
contact Stormy Lloyd at
734-485-7658 or visit
www.BHBH.com to
register online.



Calling all "Friends" and
Congregational Partners!!!
Come run or walk for
Friends In Deed and finish up
in the Big House.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in
Ypsilanti is signed on to have a
team. Show your enthusiasm
for FID's work by forming a
team from your congregation
as well. Or sponsor someone
on our team. Thank you in
advance for supporting us with
your time and your money!

Sunday October 9, 2011
U of M Football Stadium
10K, 5K or 1 Mile

ASK STORMY ABOUT
SPONSORING A
FID kid, AS OUR
STAFF'S KIDS DO THE
1-MILE WALK