

# NEWS & NOTES

1755 S. Zuni Denver, CO 80223, 303-935-3428, www.comministry-denver.org

## A New Year and New Look

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Holiday Activities. With your support and caring we were able to give out 208 food boxes and 455 gifts. This represents more families than previously helped during the holiday season

The food bank was closed between Christmas and New Years. During that time with the help of many volunteers we painted, re-designed the shelving, and waxed the floors and as a result the food bank is starting the year with new look. We have switched to a self-choice model which allows families to pick their food within nutritional and quantity guidelines. So far both families and volunteers seem to be pleased with the change. We do need your help however. Doing self choice requires more one-on-one contact with the individuals coming to the food bank – so we are in need of volunteers (bilingual is helpful) to work with the clients as they choose their food. We switched to this model for several reasons. One is that it gives the clients some dignity as they choose their food instead of being handed whatever we decided they need and second, studies show that there is less product waste. We have already seen the change in product waste. When some of the families were offered four vegetables they declined saying they really only needed two. Please feel free to stop in and see the new set up and volunteer! Joyce Neufeld, Director



Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 27, 2010 for our annual celebration at El Jebel Shrine Center, 4625 W 50<sup>th</sup> Ave. Tickets are \$25.00 each or a table of 10 for \$250.00. Tickets may be purchased through our website or by calling and requesting an invitation. We are also collecting items for the silent auction such as gift cards, theme baskets etc. Please call Joyce if you have an item to donate at 303-935-3428 ext 102.

## Calendar of Events

January 29 – Volunteer Potluck  
February 7 – Souper Bowl Sunday  
February 27 – Celebration of the Heart

Souper Sunday is February 7 (Super bowl Sunday) so if you see soup on sale, stock up now!

## Business Partners Wanted

Over the holiday's several businesses contacted us to help with the Sharing Tree and the rearrangement of the food bank. IQ Wired is such a company. They called wanting to donate gifts for children and ended up bringing their entire team to help us restock the food bank shelves and sort out clothing for the clothing bank. It was a great experience for all of us and gave us new contacts for future donations. If you know of businesses that are looking for an organization to adopt please give them our name and their contact information to me for follow up. We can start a relationship very easily by having them host a canned food drive, jeans day or even an underwear collection. Your connections could be our next major donors. Jerry Docherty, Community Outreach Director

## Help wanted

Volunteer help is needed working in the food bank and with an upcoming survey we will be doing to assess our services within the community. This will require a short time commitment to assist in a 10 question interview with families as they arrive at the Food Bank. It can be fun and very helpful as we move forward. Please call Davida at 303-935-3428 ext 101 to assist in the food bank and Jerry to help with the survey.