



Community Ministry CHRONICLE

1755 S. Zuni • Denver, Colorado 80223 • 303-935-3428 • Fax 303-975-9917

Executive Director
Christy Ziembra

Chairman
Rev. Joe Woodson

Vice Chairman
Sue Albers

Secretary
Gwen Marshall

Treasurer
Lloyd Martinez, Jr.

Operations Manager
Christine Aragon

Intake Coordinator
Sonja Martinez

Clothing Bank Coordinator
Joyce Neufeld

Newsletter Editor
Joyce Neufeld

Mission Statement

To serve the Lord Jesus Christ by helping to meet the needs of the people within the community who are experiencing economic hardship and related problems both physical and spiritual.

Board Restructured, Trustees Elected

Following months of consultation and discussion the board of Community Ministry voted to revise the bylaws and restructure how the board of directors functions. The board is now made up of a Board of Trustees and the Governing Council.

The Board of Trustees consists of seven to eleven members. Nine people have been elected and are responsible for oversight of the day-to-day operation of CM and its committees. The Trustees meet monthly.

The Governing Council consists of up to two representatives from each sponsoring church and is responsible for acting as liaisons to their churches and the community as well as working on committees. The Governing Council meets three to four times per year. It is anticipated that this less demanding time commitment will allow individuals who work full time to be involved.

The following individuals were elected to the **Board of Trustees**:

Chairman: Rev. Dr. Joe Woodson, pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, will serve a two year term. He has been involved in a number of service organizations in Denver including Cenikor, Jeffco Action Center and the Rotary Club.

Vice Chairman: Sue Albers. Sue is serving the remainder of her previous term and brings abundant enthusiasm to the board. She is active in a number of programs with the Methodist church and heads up the CM coupon program.



Coming Events

March 16 - 6:30 p.m. Governing Council meets at Southwest

Baptist Church - The Rock

April 23 11 to 1 - Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, Garden Park Gym

June through October - Cannery

August 28 - Annual Walk

Nov. 18 & 19 - Thanksgiving Distribution

Dec 16 to 18 - Sharing Tree and Christmas Box Distribution

Committees Formed

At the first Board of Trustee meeting the board formed what they feel to be the most important committees. These committees are open to anyone wishing to participate and share their expertise and enthusiasm. Please contact the first person listed for information on how you can be involved.

Fund-raising - Sue Albers, Melinda Bowers, Christine Aragon

Board Development - June Biscelgia

Finance - Lloyd Martinez, Jr., Cathy Pergola

Personnel - Joe Woodson, Christy Ziembra, Kathy Keefe

Facilities - Ron Blatchley

Publicity - Joyce Neufeld, Katherine

Crofford, Aaron & Adrienne Ruhnow

Technology - John Darrow, Dan

Whittemore, Aaron & Adrienne Ruhnow

Important Information

Food Bank Mon-Thurs 10a-2p

Clothing Bank Thurs 9a-12p

Main Phone: 303-935-3428

Food Bank: 303-936-0469

Fax: 303-975-9917

Email: Comministry@americanisp.net

website: www.comministry-denver.org

Board continued on pg. 3

Volunteer Opportunities

- Food Bank
- Food Pickups
- Food Bank of the Rockies
- Canning
- Clothing Bank
- Coupon Clippers
- Clerical Work
- Computer Maintenance
- Newsletter
- Events
- Photographer
- Quilting Club (baby blankets)
- Graphic Art & Board Layouts
- Christmas in July Food Drive
- Back to School Programs
- Annual Walk
- Breaking Bread Program
- Sharing Tree Children's Gift Program
- Souper Bowl Sunday (soup canned food drive)

Thank you to the schools that volunteer on a weekly basis: Littleton Public Schools Special Needs Students and the Kennedy High School Special Needs Students

Volunteers — Our Greatest Resource

Get to Know... Ginny

by Christy Ziemba

Ginny Grace has been volunteering at Community Ministry since the organization was started back in 1968. She remembers when it was just a clothing bank located in the Goat Hill area just south of our current location. Every Tuesday, you will find Ginny sorting and counting the food that is delivered to Community Ministry. Tuesday's are when the largest loads of food are delivered to the food bank. So, as you can imagine, this is no small feat. It doesn't seem to bother Ginny. She's use to juggling many different activities at one time; after all, she was a kindergarten teacher.

Ginny taught for more than 30 years. She was a kindergarten teacher primarily in the southwest Denver area but she also taught in Bristol, England. She started her teaching career in Dayton, Ohio which is her home town.

Judging by her accomplishments, she must have been one incredible teacher. She taught a reading program on KRMA PBS Television Station and was instrumental in developing several pilot teaching programs. Ginny taught for a year in England through the Fulbright Exchange Program.

Ginny was married to Homer Grace for 12^{1/2} years before Homer passed away from Nephritis. Ginny has two children, JoAnne and Brien, and two grandchildren, Jill and Jeff. She also has three great grandchildren, Jacob, Christina and Nicolle.

Ginny is a member of St. Philip & St. James Episcopal church, one of Community Ministry's member churches. Many of us had no idea of Ginny's age, and she mentioned that she actually has two different ages, one on her birth certificate and the other, the actual day and year she was born.

She prefers to go by her birth certificate year, of 1917 because it makes her a year younger! We're fortunate to have such a wonderful and dedicated volunteer, and we look forward to working with her on Tuesdays or any other day she wants to volunteer. After all she keeps things running smoothly just as she did for many years with her kindergartners.

In Memory

During the past several months we have lost some of our volunteers. Although we know they are with the Lord, we still miss them and ask you to pray for their families as they continue to grieve the loss of their loved ones. These volunteers were Leila Kailey, Pastor Sam Bates and Pastor Paul Hastings and his wife Jo.

We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. I Thessalonians 1: 2,3

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon Planned

The annual volunteer luncheon is planned for Friday, April 23 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Garden Park Church Gym, 1755 S. Zuni. Invitations will be mailed soon so mark your calendars now. Nominations for outstanding volunteers can be submitted to Christy Ziemba.

Volunteer Hours 2003

Food Bank	4,731 hrs
Cannery	383 hrs
Coupon program	2,736 hrs
Holiday programs & prep	1,500 hrs
Clothing Bank	748 hrs
School Supply Drive	65 hrs
Computer hours	132hrs
Board Members	1,120hrs
TOTAL	11,415 hrs

Board *(continued from pg. 1)*

Secretary: Gwen Marshall has been the secretary for CM for the past two years. Gwen is the Preschool Director for Trinity Lutheran Church and has served on a number of regional and national committees for the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Treasurer: Lloyd Martinez, Jr. is serving the remainder of his term. Lloyd is committed to using his financial expertise to help CM and also the clients. Lloyd is looking at starting a personal budgeting service for the food bank clients.

Serving two-year terms

Ron Blatchley from Southwest Baptist Church - The Rock, has been an active part of CM for a number of years. Ron's vocation is serving Christ with engineering as his avocation to support ministry.

Joyce Neufeld from Garden Park M.B. Church became involved with CM through expansion of the clothing bank ministry. She is the administrator at Garden Park and is excited about the future of CM and its impact on the community. Joyce heads up the clothing bank program.

Chuck Hubbard from Harvey Park Baptist has been a longtime volunteer at CM picking up food from various stores and helping with the canning project. Chuck always has a smile on his face and a word of encouragement.

Serving one-year terms

John Darrow attends Garden Park M.B.

Church and was instrumental in revising the bylaws for CM. He has been an officer in a number of groups including Mennonite Urban Ministries and Colorado Right to Life. John works on the computer systems for CM.

Melinda Bowers teaches at Sabin Elementary school. She has worked for the Rape Assistance and Awareness Program and for Project Pave. Melinda is a great resource on fund raising opportunities and a link to our local schools.

Clippers Snip Their Way into Fund Raising



The coupon program has been growing over the past year. In previous years the clippers not only had to cut out the coupons but also had to tape them to food items at the grocery store. For many reasons this became a more time-consuming and less profitable venture. Over the past year a change in procedure has taken place. Specific coupons are now requested by companies. These are then clipped and redeemed for 5% of the value of the coupon. In 2003 this brought in over \$4,000.00 to Community Ministry. The program has 28 regular volunteers and meets every Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. at Brentwood United Methodist Church, 1899 S. Irving. Coupons may be dropped off at the Food Bank or at Brentwood United Methodist Church any day between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. For information about how you or your church can become involved contact Sue Albers at 303-798-4669.

Sponsoring Churches

Alameda Heights
 United Methodist
 All Saints Catholic
 Atonement Lutheran
 Bear Valley Christian
 Bethany United
 Methodist
 Brentwood United
 Methodist
 Christ
 Congregational
 Christ Lutheran
 Christ The King
 Lutheran
 Denver First
 Wesleyan
 Denver Grace
 Brethren
 First Assembly of
 God
 Garden Park
 Mennonite
 Brethren
 Good Shepherd
 Lutheran
 Harvey Park Baptist
 Harvey Park
 Christian
 Light of the World
 Catholic
 Mountain View
 Community
 Reformed
 Southwest Baptist
 St. Andrew
 Presbyterian
 St. Peter and St.
 Mary Episcopal
 St. Philip and St.
 James Episcopal
 St. Rose of Lima
 Catholic
 The Church in South
 Denver
 The Light of Christ
 Anglican
 Trinity Lutheran
 Victory Outreach -
 Southwest
 West Side Christian

Food Bank Statistics

Since the move to Zuni Street, we have seen a tremendous increase in the number of people needing assistance. The statistics are listed here for comparison:

	2001	2002	2003
Families	2,794	3,977	4,969
Individuals	8,706	13,568	17,331
Gas	\$1,130	\$1,010	\$660
Bus Tokens	3,018	2,998	3,129
Incoming Food	\$191,108	\$244,332	\$324,091.30
Out Going Food	\$146,775	\$243,138	\$327,133.00

Schools Stock Shelves

Schools have a huge impact on the food bank inventory. From the first of November into the Christmas holidays the schools bring in enough canned food to stock the food bank for several months. Following is the total monetary value of the food from the School Holiday Food Drives.

Doull Elementary	\$1,906.21
Force Elementary	\$747.33
Goldrick Elementary	\$1878.42
Grant Ranch Elementary	\$747.33
Johnson Elementary	\$1,178.99
Sabin Elementary	\$2,723.75
Schmidt Elementary	\$155.87
Traylor Academy/Cub Scouts	\$3,054.98
Westgate Elementary	\$2,784.08
St. Mary's Academy	\$88.80
St. Rose of Lima	
School & Church	\$9,710.36
Henry Middle School	\$788.05
Kunsmiller Middle School	\$1,105.85
Kennedy High School	\$7,629.31

Community Ministry
1755 S. Zuni
Denver, Co 80223

*Community Ministry is a
member agency of
Caring Connection.*

Clothing Bank

The Clothing Bank continues to serve a large number of children. In 2003, 368 families received clothing impacting the lives of 1,012 children. Over 600 coats were given away for adults and children. You can help by bringing in clean children's clothing especially sizes 2T - 5T, and new socks and underwear. Adult clothing is no longer accepted. Clothing may be dropped off Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Grants

In addition to the financial assistance received from churches and individuals, a significant portion of the funding used to operate CM comes from foundations that give grants.

2004

CEAF - Colorado
Energy Assistance
Foundation
Emergency Food &
Shelter Program
National Board
Program
Denver Foundation

Middle insert for duplication.

Food Bank Needs

Paper sacks

Non perishable food items:
peanut butter
jelly
tomato sauce
tomatoes
jell-o
pudding
ravioli
spaghetti-o's,
cake mix
pizza mix
sugar
misc. packages,
peas
misc. vegetables
fruit
cereal
soup
pasta noodles
sugar
flour.

Personal hygiene items

Donations

If you would like to donate to CM or have your church become a sponsoring church, contact Christy Ziemba at 303-935-3428.

Thank you for your help !

Walking Allowed

The goal for the 2003 Annual Walk was to raise \$7,500 for CM. In spite of the cold rain the efforts of 50 walkers, bicyclist and their sponsors was rewarded with \$7,605 raised. Three children were awarded for decorating their bikes with Blockbuster gift cards. The 2004 walk is tentatively scheduled for **Saturday, August 28**. So get those legs in shape now because *Walking is Allowed!*



Souper Sunday Success

This year's Souper Sunday was a super success with your help. Over 4,100 cans of soup were collected by 20 churches. Thank you for your generosity!

School Supplies

170 children started school with appropriate supplies. Thanks to your donations, an additional 150 received back packs. With the help of Caring Connection 60 children started the school year with brand new clothes.

Holiday Wrap-up

The holidays are always a busy time at CM. 150 Thanksgiving boxes were given out along with 150 Christmas boxes. An additional 25 families were adopted by two organizations. Approximately 450 children received Christmas gifts through the Sharing Tree program.



More ways in which you can help!

Canning Project

Plan now to help can with the humanitarian canning project. Produce is donated by farms throughout the Rocky Mountain region and canned at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Cannery. The food canned by Community Ministry volunteers is given to our own food bank and helps us cut down our purchasing expenses. This is a great group project that makes a big impact on CM. Financial donations to help cover the cost of cans and labels etc. are needed and appreciated. The canning dates for this year are from June 16 - October 27. Contact the office at 303-935-3428 or your church representative for more information.



Job Information

Many of our clients are out of work and need information on where to look for a job. If you see a job flyer, notice a job poster or own a business that is in need of new employees, you can help by passing that information on to us at 303-936-0469.

People

- Help with clerical and data entry
- Drivers for pick-ups and deliveries
- Quilters (call Daisy Mason at 303-922-5265)

Did you know...

- ...that CM receives \$1.00 for each printer cartridge we recycle. You may drop off your cartridges at the food bank or at your church.
- ...newspapers and aluminium cans can be dropped off at Brentwood United Methodist, 1899 S. Irving, for recycling. Bins are located in the parking lot. All proceeds go to help CM.
- ...that if you shop at Cub Foods and give your receipts to CM they receive 1% of your receipt total.
- ...CM is a member of Caring Connection. This allows you to give charitable contributions to CM such that some companies may match your donation.