



HELPLINE HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2011

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where one stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where one stands in times of challenge and controversy."
Martin Luther King Jr.

For more information, or to donate online, see www.helpinehouse.org

A message from our Board President



Susan Vincent

We have seen many wonderful events, organizations and individuals contribute to Helpline: The First Annual Turkey Trot, with dedicated runners who braved our cold and icy Thanksgiving morning in a run to benefit Helpline House, The Bread Pudding Bakeoff, The Bainbridge Island Women's Club and Sing Out have once again made generous donations to us. We have had record numbers of schools, and girl and boy scout troops hold food drives to help fill our shelves. We have received donations from church groups and from young folks who presided over lemonade stands. Sweet Life Farms requested donations go to Helpline during "Christmas In The Country", the Mahjong Ladies gave us welcome dollars, and an Eagle Scout named Brandon had a two day food drive at Safeway and collected a total of four SUV loads of food. A neighborhood group made toiletry bags for our clients and children, instead of gifts for themselves on their birthday, asked for items for our food bank.

These groups, individuals and many more have allowed us to maintain and expand services to help meet the needs of a growing portion of our island's population. Generous support by you allows Helpline to continue our mission: neighbor helping neighbor,

Comings and Goings

Goodbye to Linda Hayes (6 years) and Paula Johnson (10 years) as they retire from our social work team and we thank them for their many years of service.

We will also miss Linda Henry (13 years) who has managed the Clothing Connection and the Holiday Shoppe. She is moving to Memphis, Tennessee and we wish her well.

Brianna McNamara is the newest member of the social work team. She interned at Helpline in 2010 and recently graduated with an MA in Marriage & Family Therapy from Antioch University. She has worked in human service work with both youth and adults at Kitsap Mental Health, Institute for Family Development and also on a University of Washington project focusing on children diagnosed with autism. Welcome Brianna.



Remember the Letter Carrier's Food Drive,

Saturday May 14, 2011.

Watch for future food drives.

Where does the money go?

In 2010, Helpline House experienced a 12% overall decrease in private donations. At the same time, staff worked diligently to keep operational costs in line and to be good stewards of client support funds.

Neighbor Helping Neighbor

Stanley came to Helpline House after two very lean years of self-employment in a building-related industry. Several years ago he moved to Bainbridge Island and was able to make a healthy down payment on a home here. In the interim, he has a large home equity loan and is now trying to sell his home before the bank forecloses on it. He came in with a shut-off notice from PSE and from the City of BI for a grossly overdue water bill. He is also at least 3 months behind on his mortgage and asked for "whatever help you can offer". We used Salvation Army funds to avert a PSE shut-off and referred Stanley to St. Vincent de Paul for possible financial help with his water bill. Stanley signed a release so that Helpline can work together with St. Vincent de Paul to help this client. Additionally, we provided Stanley with a packet of information—including contact numbers—on government resources that are available to help people avoid foreclosure. We also referred Stanley to the Homefinder program at the Housing Resources Board to help him start the transition to affordable housing.

Income: \$811,902

Private Donations	\$442,653	54.5%
Contracts	\$201,023	24.8%
Endowment & Interest	\$85,709	10.6%
Local Funding/Client Support	\$29,286	3.6%
Special Events	\$24,650	3.0%
Fee for Service Revenue	\$1,381	0.2%
Foundations/Corporations	\$27,200	3.4%

Expense: \$756,510

Financial Assistance—Clients	\$130,189	17.2%
Program Costs	\$496,344	65.6%
Facilities/Equipment	\$17,241	2.3%
Administration	\$74,533	9.9%
Utilities/Maintenance	\$37,049	4.9%
Special Events	\$1,154	0.2%

Meet our new Board Members

Barbara Clarke has professional experience in marketing & communications, healthcare delivery systems and has worked as a freelance writer. A champion for affordable housing in all forms, she serves as chair of the Island's Housing Trust Fund. An Island resident since 2007, she is grateful to call the Pacific Northwest home.



Quentin Wildsmith was born in the U.S. Virgin Islands and is a first generation American citizen. Before moving to the Island in 1997, he was a Public Defender for the City of St. Louis. He is a Principal of Lasher Holzapfel Sperry & Ebberson, PLLC with a practice area of litigation. He has three children, and his family loves every athletic pursuit imaginable.



"I expect to pass through life but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do for any fellow being, let me do it now..."

William Penn

Your Neighbors Thank You

Letters recently received by Helpline House:

"This letter is a great big thank you to all associated for the kind, generous and loving help. You never know what your circumstances will be and as humbling as it might be, you have kept integrity intact."

"My family and I would like to thank you all for your support and generosity to us when we were struggling financially. I don't know where we'd be without the help of your food bank and clothes store. God has blessed us and my husband has a new job...and are getting back on our feet. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your kindness to us. You've blessed us and countless others tremendously."

Food Bank Business in January	2010	2011	Change
Households—January	357	349	-.02%
Services—January	1,782	1,786	+.002%
Govt. Commodities Households	175	378	+116%
Govt. Commodities— Services	412	798	+94%

Ten Plus Years at Helpline House

2011

Helpline Desk:

Terry Macdougall (28)
Suzy Kueckelhan (19)
Sally Thompson (18)
Dick Dearsley (16)

Dick Gregory (15)
Joyce Knutsen (14)
Garnet Logan (14)
Barbara Pettit (12)

Fishline Desk:

Jane Harrington (21)
Charlotte Aucutt (14)
Tom Lockwood (13)
Martha (Dunn) Schuman (10)

Food Bank and Pickup Drivers:

Sharon & Eric Kortum(22)
Pat & Robert Johnson (19)
Pam Dardis (13)
Frank Vibrans (12)
Becky Peddy (11)

Clothing Connection:

Nancy Russell (21)
Cynthia Taylor (14)
Linda Henry (13)
Lih Chin (10)



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Interested in attending the Helpline House Annual Benefit Party on April 30th? Call 842-7621 to be put on our invitation list. You can meet old friends, make new ones and build community all at the same time!

All donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.



OR CURRENT RESIDENT

"How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a weary world." William Shakespeare