



HOME ... FOR NOW

A publication of the Greater Nashua Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc.

Anne-Marie House
180 Lowell Rd
Hudson, NH. 03051
Volume 6 Issue 1
March 2008

Director's CORNER



Looking Backwards...

As we present to you our first issue of 2008, let's first rejoice by taking a look back at what we accomplished together in 2007:

- We served 25 families -31 adults & 43 children (68.2% increase in number of guests from 2006)
- We provided 6,912 bed nights of shelter and 20,736 meals (47.7% increase over 2006)
- 77% of our graduating families attained housing independence (compared to 75% in 2006)
- All this was done through the loving kindness of 400 volunteers who so generously gave 15,396 hours of their precious time to our program

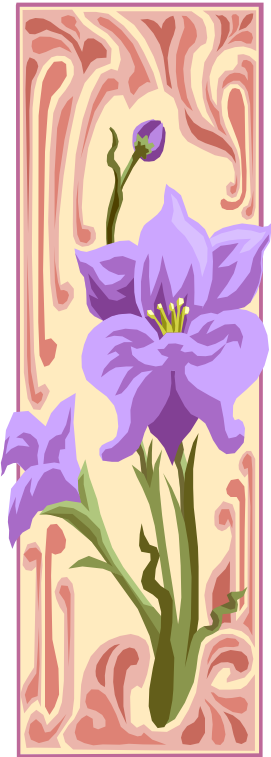
And these statistics can't even begin to describe how this program has made a difference in so many people's lives that have called Anne-Marie House their home...for now. Yes, 3 out of every 4 families in our program have attained housing independence and that's a significant accomplishment; but more importantly, how does one measure the transformation in a family's life that came in through our doors *hopeless* and leave our program *hopeful* of their future? As MasterCard® would say, "it's priceless".

Looking Forwards...

Now that we are operating at over 75% capacity (a 25% increase over 2006), it is necessary to increase our staff to support our increased activity. Please welcome Tami McKay who joined our Anne-Marie House staff on February 4, as our Volunteer Coordinator.



As you may know, without volunteers, we have no program. It would be economically unfeasible for us to raise the amount of money needed to pay for staff, 24/7 when we do not charge our families anything to live in Anne-Marie House, or to receive our supportive services. It is Tami's new responsibility in her part time position (20 hrs per week) to nurture, develop and support our volunteer Congregational Coordinators who in turn, nurture and support their pool of volunteers, so vital to our program. Tami is well-qualified for this position, as she was one of the volunteer Co-Key Coordinators for the past 16 months with Nashua West. Welcome, Tami!!



Looking Forward cont..	2
Things for which thankful	2
Make Someone Happy	2
New Board Members	3
Board Actions	3
Fund Raising	4
Band Concert	5
Attention Volunteers	5
Save The Date Dancing with the Stars	5
Looking Forward	6

Continuing our look forward to this current year's activities, please mark two important dates on your spring calendar:

- For all 7th-12th grade youth (and their chaperones) we will be creating “**Box City**” on the campus of Rivier College on Saturday evening, April 5 – Sunday morning, April 6. Youth will gather pledges to “sleep outside so others don’t have to.” There will be live bands to entertain and educational stations to stimulate our understanding of who’s our neighbor, ending the evening with a candle vigil. Rivier College students from Campus Ministry and Habitat for Humanity will be co-sponsoring this event along with the staff of Anne-Marie House. Please visit our website <http://www.gnihn.org> for additional information. There is a brochure and a DVD available for viewing by your faith community. We will be more than happy to come out and speak to youth leaders, parents and youth. Registration deadline is March 24.
- The following weekend, on April 12, from 9am-4pm, is our 3rd annual **Rock-A-Thon**, hosted by St. Joseph Residence of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary in Manchester. Come and rock (yes, in rocking chairs) while playing balloon volley ball, be entertained by local folk music, eat free food and laugh a lot – or, pledge your support for those who will! Last year this event raised more than \$8,000. Sign up for as many 1-hr blocks of rocking as you wish. Deadline is Monday, March 31.

For either of these activities, please contact my office, 883-7338, for further details.

*Always grateful for your support,
Laurie*

Things for which we are thankful

- *Quilts donated by the pre-school at Rivier College.**
- *Donors who contributed Bissell vacuums, food baskets, pantry items, and new crock pots.**
- *Donations from St. John Neumann Roman Catholic Church, the Elks and the Hudson Junior Women’s Club**
- *Donations of four conference tables and three swivel desk chairs from BAE**



Make Someone Happy

Under the leadership of Curt Potter, the second Make Someone Happy campaign is underway. A mailing outlining the program should have reached you by now. Our aim of the Make Someone Happy campaign is to raise \$35,000. Four individuals have offered matching funds totaling \$19,500. We ask for your support of this campaign which provides housing for families caught in a “homeless” situation. Your support makes it possible for these families to have hope.

New Board Members

Jerry Leclerc came onto the board in 2007 after having served on the Gala committee. Jerry calls Hudson his home and has twenty-five years of experience in Customer Service with specialized training in Organizational Management and Human Resources. He currently is the Coordinator for Mission Activities at St. Joseph Hospital, with primary responsibility assisting those in the community who are in need. He has been an active participant in the Nashua Continuum of Care and the Ending Homelessness Committee and member of the Nashua Rotary Club West. Jerry is a member of our Fund Raising/Public Relations committee.

Frank Manley is our newest board member, although many of you recognize his name as having served as our GNIHN Transportation Coordinator. Frank is retired after numerous years of being publisher and co-owner with his wife Martha of the Cabinet Press newspaper. He and his wife are members of Church of Our Savior Episcopal in Milford, where Frank was just elected to the vestry. Frank has a diverse background, having been born to parents who were American Baptist Missionaries and raised in India. He serves as a current board member of the Milford Rotary Club and is a past board member and president of the Souhegan Home and Hospice Care.

We welcome both Jerry and Frank to the board and look forward to working with them and getting to know them better!



Actions of the Board

The Board of Trustees adopted a budget of \$205,000 for the year 2008. This budget presents a challenge to the Board in fundraising. This budget year's expenses includes the costs of a new staff position, that of Volunteer Coordinator.

The Board elected its officers for 2008. On the Executive Board, Rev. Tom Woodward continues as President. Also continuing are David Palance, Vice President; Sr. Lorraine Arsenault, Secretary, and Tami Chevalier, steps in as Treasurer.

The Board recognized two of its trustees who have stepped down off the Board. Helen Uurtamo and Brenda Hodgkiss completed their terms. Helen continues to be active on the Fund Raising/Public Relations Committee and as Editor of our Home for Now newsletter. Brenda will remain active on the Finance Committee.

The FUNd Raising/Public Relations Committee Needs your Input!

We are researching walking and running clubs and mall walking groups/programs in New Hampshire to check on the feasibility of a fun-style Walk/Run/Hike we would like to organize in the Southern NH/ Greater Nashua Area in late Spring (May) or early Summer (June).

We would like to expand this event to non-experienced runners, walkers, children and persons with disabilities for a more Fun-Family/Friendly type event. We are considering having a separate run and walk events simultaneously and would like to inquire as to how many groups/folks/families may consider participating in such an event.

We would appreciate it if anyone (or if someone knows of someone) who is knowledgeable in organizing such an event may offer sort of a time line of tasks that need to be done, how one is organized and samples of registration brochures and/or marketing pieces. Also suggestions on time frame that walkers/runners would prefer.

If they could attend our next meeting on Thursday March 6th at 7pm, we would be happy to arrange transportation to and from AMH meeting place in Hudson, NH.

If you would be interested in participating in such an event, or would like to attend or next meeting or know of someone who can help us organize such an event, please call Helen at 603-765-7482 - or Email Helen at newelca@hughes.net



The Greater Nashua Interfaith Hospitality Network Donation Form

The Board of the Interfaith Hospitality Network is thankful for gifts of time and supplies that allow us to provide emergency shelter. We have an operating budget of over \$175,000 that comes from grants and the gifts of people who believe in providing shelter to the least of these our neighbors. Please use this form to make a financial donation.

Name: _____ Telephone Number _____

Address _____

Amount of the Donation: (\$25) __ (\$50) __ (\$100) __ () ____

Does your employer match your donation? If so, check here _____

**Amherst Town Band Concert
Benefit for Anne-Marie House**

For the second consecutive year, the Amherst Town Band has offered to hold a concert for the benefit of the Anne-Marie House. It is scheduled for Saturday, May 10th, at the Souhegan High School auditorium. The Band plays a variety of musical selections. Members of the Souhegan High School Choir will also perform with a variety of popular selections. A \$5.00 ticket donation will be accepted.

We will also be selling refreshments the evening of the concert. The Nashua Church of Christ will be coordinating the food preparation, but we are still in need of a group(s) to furnish the beverages and actually staff the serving tables the evening of the concert. If you are interested in helping out in either of these activities, please contact Tom Woodward at 881-8206.

**ATTENTION - CURRENT GNIHN
VOLUNTEERS !!!**

Does your employer offer a program or matching funds for employees that volunteer? Does your company match charitable gifts or offer grants or sponsorships? GNIHN would like to know.

We have recently been made aware that some larger area employers encourage employee volunteerism both hands-on activities, as well as serving on board of trustees of non-profit organizations. They also offer initiatives where non-profit organizations such as GNIHN can get stipends for number of employees volunteering from the same company at a particular non-profit.

Please research this through your employer as we will soon be gathering this information.

Save the Date!

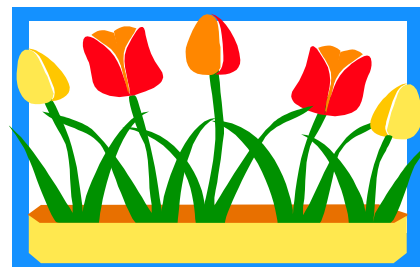
Dancing with the Stars!

Plans are underway for the
First Annual GNIHN Ball,
titled

“Dancing with the Stars!”
which will be held on October 18,
2008 at the Marriott Hotel Ball-
room in Nashua.


Watch for further updates
over the next few months.

If you are interested in
helping with this event, please con-
tact GNIHN Board members
Jerry Leclerc (595-3097)
or Linda Jeynes (882-0731).



March 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24 	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 					

Looking Forward



March 24th
Box City registration
deadline



March 31st
Rock-a-Thon pledge
deadline



April 5th-6th
Box City



April 12th
Rock-A-Thon



May 10th
Amherst Town Band
Concert



October 18th
Dancing with the
Stars

GNIHN Board of Trustees

Executive Committee

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