



**Fall 2012
Issue 21**

DDB Mission:

Feed the hungry & provide services for the homeless of Harrisburg.

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**Downtown
Daily Bread**

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We welcome your suggestions, comments, and feedback.

Quote: "There is a lot that happens around the world we cannot control. We cannot stop earthquakes, we cannot prevent droughts, and we cannot prevent all conflict, but when we know where the hungry, the homeless and the sick exist, then we can help." **Jan Schakowsky**, U.S. Representative—Illinois



From The Director

Good news; Bad news

The good news is that Downtown Daily Bread has a solid and firm foundation after 29 years of serving the community. The bad news is that we are in the midst of some hard times. The good news is that the cook has never run out of food at lunch time. The bad news is that those days are coming closer. The good news, DDB still receives a grant from the state. The bad news is that it has been reduced

by 20%. The good news is that DDB has two counselors on staff. The bad news is that most days they are overwhelmed with the work load. The good news is that the lunch plus program is helping more people than ever before. The bad news is that more people than ever need to be helped. At DDB we are always dealing with the "ying and the yang," the constant push and pull, of social needs, economics, politics, and everything at play in a community. DDB works hard to feed up to 150 people every day of the week, and to serve as an oasis in a sea of troubles for the poor, hungry, and the homeless of the city. Unfortunately, it becomes harder and harder when resources are taken from us and all of the human services in the community have to compete for much needed funding.

In this newsletter, you will read how the DDB cook, counselors, and volunteers are doing their best to meet the needs DDB clients, what small organizations have partnered with us, what DDB is doing to fundraise in a "fun" way, how you can help, and other pieces of information which will help to paint the DDB pictures.

Fall is a time of harvest. I hope that you can harvest your resources and join us as we move forward to serve the poor and hungry of our community. Please remember that "the poor will always be among us" and they need our help.

All the best,

Elaine

To all of our Jewish friends, we wish you a L'Shana Tova...a sweet and happy New Year. Have a good fast on Yom Kippur, when for 24 hours you will truly know what it means to be hungry and thirsty.

L' Shanah Tovah
Have a sweet year!



**Mark Your Calendar & Make Plans To Attend:
2nd Annual Share The Harvest (See Page 2 for complete details)
Friday, October 12th 7PM**

If you would like to purchase tickets online, please visit: <http://www.pinestreet.org/events/share-the-harvest-2012/>

New this year...special silent auction items including: Cocktail Party for 20 at the home of two gourmet chefs, cooking instructions and dinner at Cornerstone Coffee House, fine art by local artists, gourmet food & wine baskets, and many more quality items...come ready to enjoy!

**Gratitude For Our
Community Partnerships**

We would not be able to carry out the mission of DDB without those who support our vision. Thank you to our new friends in the downtown neighborhood, the Mannerchor Club. In addition to their financial contribution to DDB, the club hopes "to continue to develop a good relationship for the future" with DDB. Additionally, they want us to invite the community to their twice monthly bingo night which helps with revenue for the many worthy causes they support.

Thank you to The Harrisburg Young Professionals (HYP) for selecting DDB as one of its five beneficiaries for HYP's 2nd Annual Charity 5 for 5 k race scheduled for September 14th. We applaud HYP for its effort to highlight hunger relief and Downtown Daily Bread in particular. Just a couple of examples of the community coming together...that's what it's all about!

Storm News Won't Stop DDB News

DDB Newsletter Editor, Linda McGuire, lives near Baton Rouge, LA. With Hurricane Isaac approaching South Louisiana, residents experienced power outages, 80 mph winds, heavy rain, and flooding. Despite the force of nature, we are pleased we were still able to get the Fall issue of *DDB News* to the printer and out to our readers. Dedication is certainly a trait among our all our DDB volunteers!



Give a meaningful gift this year...a holiday donation to DDB made in honor of a friend or loved one.

Honoree will receive a certificate for a "joyful holiday and many blessings in the coming year." Or purchase an Entertainment Book. They make a great gift for any occasion! Get one for \$30 at the DDB office. DDB receives \$5 (which equals 2.5 meals) for every book sold.



SHARE THE HARVEST 2012!

What is Share the Harvest 2012? Sometimes it is just fun to throw a party! It is even better to throw a party which will help others. This is what our fundraising event scheduled for Friday night, October 12 at Historic Harrisburg Association hopes to achieve. The fall is a time of "harvest and gathering" to prepare for the long winter ahead. Our fundraiser will help us do just that. With proceeds from sponsorships, ticket sales, and raffles ticket purchases, DDB will be able to buy food and kitchen supplies to help us feed clients through the winter. As food prices continue to climb and client numbers continue to grow, it is imperative that we look for creative ways to fundraise. Why not have fun at the same time?

The "Share the Harvest" event will be a time for the community to come together for a common goal: to feed the hungry. Our evening will feature delicious appetizers, wine and cheese pairings, musical entertainment, art displays, raffle prizes, and most importantly, good company. In addition, we are excited to partner with Historic Harrisburg Association, another important community organization. You will love being in their grand building, a former brownstone bank building with a rich history. The space will take you back to a kinder, gentler time where buildings were works of art made in marble, fine woods, and brass.

Please mark your calendars for this special evening of community coming together to benefit those in need. I look forward to seeing you on October 12 as we work to "gather and harvest" for Downtown Daily Bread.

Sharing The Harvest

Ticket Order Form

Yes, I'm looking forward to attending!

I need _____ (number) of tickets

(Advance Tickets are \$35)

I will pick-up tickets at the event!

Tickets will be \$40 at the door

Sorry I won't be able to attend, but I want to support DDB with my donation of _____

Understanding The Role Of The DDB Outreach Caseworker

In December, 2011, Downtown Daily Bread (DDB), formed a collaboration with Dauphin County Mental Health and a federal grant enabling DDB to hire a Street Outreach Coordinator and Mental Health Caseworker.

This position serves to "bridge the gap" between DDB and the Dauphin County Case Management Unit, which serves those Dauphin County residents with a mental health diagnosis. The caseworker utilizes outreach as a major method to reach out to homeless individuals, particularly those with underlying mental health issues. These individuals typically do not utilize available services to meet their needs and therefore, outreach efforts including walking throughout the Harrisburg community in an attempt to make contact with homeless individuals. Down Daily Bread is open to all individuals seeking a variety of services. As relationships evolve with clients and counselors and a sense of trust is established, additional referrals may be made for other services including the Case Management Unit and mental health counseling providers. The mental health counselor also works with individuals already receiving services from DDB as well as those who do not come to DDB but who may be identified with, or seeking evaluation for a mental health diagnosis.

It's Not Too Late...

Share The Harvest sponsorship opportunities are still available! Please complete and return the sponsorship form below:

Name of Sponsor _____

Address _____

Daytime phone # _____

Contact Person _____

Sponsorship Level: _____ Platinum (\$3000) _____ Gold (\$1500)

_____ Community (\$500-\$1000) _____ Friend (\$250-\$499)

_____ Check Enclosed \$ _____

Checks payable to: **Downtown Daily Bread, 310 N. Third St., Harrisburg, PA 17101**

Downtown Daily Bread is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

Thank You, Milton Hershey School

DDB Executive Director, Elaine Strokoff, is honored to accept the generous \$1000 donation from Milton Hershey School during the check presentation. Left to right: Elaine Strokoff, Kayvon Asemani- Vice President, Paul Lyons - President. Not pictured: Lewis Webster, Student Character & Leadership



Thanks to **ACS (Art Communication Systems)**, for printing this newsletter. We are pleased to have a partnership with **ACS!** Harrisburg's Premier Commercial Printing Service offers printing, graphic design, sales/marketing, & web development. Call Park Cook, **ACS**, @ 717-232-0144.



Feeding Harrisburg's hungry since 1983!

DOWNTOWN DAILY BREAD
WWW.DOWNTOWNDAILYBREAD.ORG

DDB...Never A Typical Day

"My day started at 7:30 when I arrived at Downtown Daily Bread to meet the Barton sisters who were coming in to cut our clients' hair. When I got in, they were not here so I called the YWCA van for the scheduled transportation. The YWCA had been waiting for a confirmation from me. Since the van had left, it was up to me to pick up the barbers and to bring them to DDB. I had just returned with the Barton sisters and had gotten them situated when the DDB doorbell rang. It was a client telling me that another client just fallen and was unconscious outside of our door. So I ran outside and looked at the client who fell and I know him from coming here. He was a 72 year old man and was just becoming conscious. I asked him a few questions, left him with another client, and I ran to call 911. The ambulance arrived and took the individual to the hospital.

So then I was free for 2 hours to meet with clients and check in with my volunteer. And then one of the kitchen volunteers came and got me she said someone was trying to start a fight in the dining room. So, I go over to the dining room and sure enough one of our regular clients is drunk and getting loud with everyone. I act according to our policy and I escort him to the door. Then it's back to seeing about my clients and checking in on the haircuts. At this point it is 2pm and time to clean up from the day's work. I help the Barton sisters get ready for their ride to pick them up at 3pm and then I'm off to home... myself... worn out, but knowing that we did good work."

Chris

Finding Hope In A Tough Situation

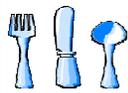
About six months ago, a young lady, "Mary", came to DDB crying. Due to a relationship break-up she and her little girl were left homeless. She needed a place to get her mail and a place to leave phone messages for work interviews. "Mary" had to send her daughter to live with her mother in Atlanta, Georgia until she could get back on her feet. Over the next six months "Mary" worked diligently to gain employment. She got a good job at PHEA where she has been working the past 5 months. DDB has been helping her with bus passes and other Lunch Plus services. "Mary" met with a DDB counselor once a week when she came in to pick up her mail. She has moved to an apartment and hopes to have her daughter living with her in the near future. "Mary" wants everyone to know how GRATEFUL she is to everyone involved with DDB. "I would not be where I am today without you wonderful, caring people. I will never forget you."



Keeping Up With The Weather

Triple digit temperatures of summer certainly create challenges for DDB clients, however, the brutal elements of winter are no less distressing. This winter when temperatures drop, clients will have to cope with snow and sleet; and keeping warm and dry. Frostbite is a cruel enemy to someone sleeping on the streets in the winter and many of our clients suffer from foot related problems. DDB provides extra blankets, mittens, scarves, and hats in the winter, along with heavy coats and boots.

Did You Know?



As of August 31, 2012, DDB has served 22,371 meals this year! Thanks to our cooks & volunteers!



THANK YOU! DDB sends a huge thank you to Thomas Clark-Jones for his "orchestration" of the Annual DDB Benefit Concert. It was a lovely event which made \$822 to support the soup kitchen. A huge thanks also goes to our performers, Pine Street's own Jonathan Hays and his accompanist Jeremy Gill. The talents of these two young men were astonishing. Thanks also must be sent to the Pine Street Mission Committee who provided a lovely reception after the concert.

Elaine

Weekend Cook, Valerie Wolfe, has resigned due to personal reasons. We are currently interviewing for her position. We will miss her greatly.

DDB Wish List

As costs rise and resources decline, DDB, like many other non-profit organizations, is in need of additional support. Please help us augment our income with a tax-deductible contribution. If you wish to provide more tangible gifts, please consider donating items:



Lunch Plus Wish List

Disposable razors, deodorant, shampoo, large bars of soap, laundry detergent, men's & women's underwear and other seasonal clothing, socks, and blankets.

Kitchen Wish List

#10 cans of soups, fruits, or vegetables; coffee; sugar; plastic forks and spoons; napkins; meats; turkeys; hams; and spices.

Before we know it, we will be in the midst of the holiday season. Can you imagine a holiday celebration without a delicious meal? Please help our friends living in poverty enjoy a festive holiday meal as we do in our own homes. You can be a part of the DDB holiday experience by donating items or making a pledge to pay \$2 per meal to feed 100-150 individuals. Every little bit can make a big difference.

From our kitchen to yours, we wish you and your loved ones a Beautiful and Bountiful Fall Season and Thanksgiving Holiday!



The new Downtown Daily Bread website is live! The new site features user-friendly options and access to convenient links. Log onto www.downtowndailybread.org to check out what changes we've made and discover the latest news and info at DDB. Special thanks to Jason Verdelli at Phase 2 Solutions and DDB Webservant, Alex Lang for all their efforts and dedication in getting the new site up & running. Please help spread the word and invite others to visit the new website!

Pine Street Presbyterian Church



DOWNTOWN DAILY BREAD
WWW.DOWNTOWNDAILYBREAD.ORG

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