



HELP THE NEEDY
A Hand Up

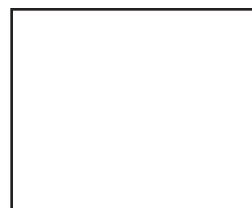
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March 2013

HELP THE NEEDY TIMES

Board of Directors

Kelly Becker

Mary Gonzales

Mike Hazelwood

David Mals

Bob Taylor

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WHO WE ARE

Help the Needy is a charitable, non-profit 501C(3) organization that since 1981 has been dedicated to helping people overcome difficulties not of their own making. These difficulties are usually the result of a shortage of money. The shortage of money can be caused by a great variety of problems including loss of job, transportation problems, medical problems, or family crisis. Help the Needy also advocates for the poor and at-risk at all levels.



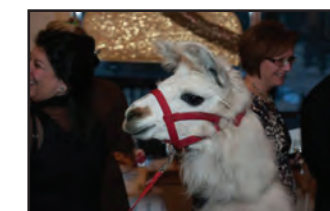
2013 Sweetheart Ball – A Big Success!

What a Ball! The Help the Needy 2013 Sweetheart Ball held at the Shining Mountain Golf Club was a huge success! Our terrific team of volunteers, led by Rose Carpenter and Linda Meier, created an event like no other in our history. Seating was sold out in December with a waiting list of hopeful attendees seeking to acquire much sought-after seats. As a result, we added three more tables, creating a total of 224 seats. Still, we had some disappointed people unable to gain attendance.

A huge draw was Neil Levy's Swiss Chalet which catered the event with an amazing menu. Music was provided by Jim Kristoff who sang the National Anthem and provided music during dinner, and the John Cary Band which added to the festivities. Well known auctioneer, Bob Gorman of Gorman Auctions, handled the live auction superbly, prodding bidders to dig deep into their pockets for the worthy cause. The highlight of the auction was a llama. Yes, that's right, a live llama! And, yes, someone took him home after some heavy bidding. Silent auction items sold at a rapid pace, as did the chocolates, some of which held special prizes.

The event was sponsored by Vanguard Skin Specialists, and supported by 20 local corporations, each of which bought a table. The Master of Ceremonies was Mike Perini of Perini and Associates. Valet parking was handled by the Knights of Columbus and Columbian Squires.

To list all the people who made this event such a success would take up this entire newsletter. Suffice it to say they did an amazing job. Help the Needy thanks them and all who supported the Ball. Their contributions will enable Help the Needy to continue our mission of offering a hand up to those in need in our community.



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Chamber of Commerce 2012 Volunteer of the Year



Congratulations to CHARLIE SCHROEDER for receiving the Greater Woodland Park Chamber of Commerce VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD for 2012.

Charlie has been a volunteer grant writer for Help the Needy for four years. Since starting in January 2009, he has dedicated continued service of more than 95 hours a month, researching and applying for grant money to enable HtN to operate successfully.

Each year, Charlie has successfully increased the amount of grant money we receive. The money Charlie has brought in has been used to assist people and families in need in Teller County.

Charlie has been praised by the foundations he works with for his diligence, dedication and thoroughness. Without Charlie's continued dedication, HtN would not be able to continue operations, and an average of 400 clients a year would not get the help they need in Teller County. He is a true community hero! HtN is so blessed to have such a dedicated person on our team. He has had, and continues to have, a very positive impact on the quality of life for so many in Teller County.

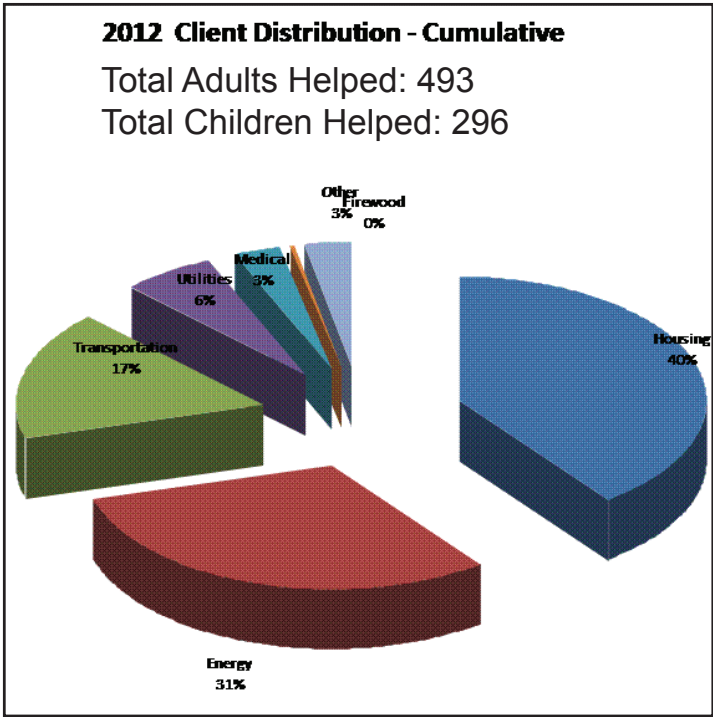
Message from the President



100,000 hours. When putting together a presentation for the Sweetheart Ball, I came across this number of hours volunteered by people for Help the Needy over the last ten years. While talking to Greg Schilling a couple of weeks ago I shared that information with him, and I could see his look of amazement. I have

been thinking about that number over the past two weeks in relation to a couple of changes at HtN, and realized that the number by itself is less amazing than the people who have given of themselves to make up that number. Recently, we at HtN had to say goodbye to three exceptional people who have contributed to those hours in a significant way. First, Bill and Pat O’Dell: Bill and Pat have contributed to HtN over the years with their time, talents, and prayers. Pat was a school teacher in Houston before coming to Colorado, and her no-nonsense teacher approach to solving problems, and her loving heart made her an excellent interviewer who got great compliance from her clients. Bill, who was a very successful businessman in Houston, used a combination of his vast experience in business and his faith to develop his unique approach to the interview job. Just recently Bill, with the help of others, implemented a procedure Terry Lutz designed which lets us measure our effectiveness with our clients. This is an important tool for us in obtaining new grants. Bill and Pat are moving to Montrose Colorado this month. Our loss at HtN will be significant. I wish them safe journey, and I will personally miss them both. Another individual who contributed immeasurably to HtN over the past several years is Tony Perry. Tony has been a board member and president of the board from 2006 -2012, thus, always working behind the scenes. During his time as president, Mary Gonzales, with Tony’s counseling and guidance, turned HtN into an organization that is recognized as a leader in people-helping organizations. Tony has given of his time and talents to our organization freely over the past several years, and now needs to move on. I can’t tell you how much Tony has influenced our organization over the years, but it has been significant. His efforts and dedication are greatly appreciated by me and many others. HtN is saying goodbye to three people who it seems impossible to replace - not only to replace their time, but also most importantly their hearts. But God seems to provide by working through others. So, if you know of any kind hearts out there who desire to touch others, please send them to Vince or me. And to the three beautiful hearts moving on, thank-you and God bless you.

Bob Taylor
President



CLIENT FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM

In October 2012 Help the Needy initiated a pilot program to follow up with past clients at the two month point after their visit with Help the Needy. The objectives of the program are to assess the impact that Help the Needy had on the client’s situation, provide feedback to the interview process, and gather statistical data regarding Help the Needy’s effectiveness, which is then applied to the grant proposal processes. Interviewer, Terry Lutz, designed the program, developed the form to be used in the follow-up interview and created the statistics to be derived from the data. Bill O’Dell volunteered to conduct the initial set of interviews. The core of the process is determining how well the client executed the recovery plan priorities established in their initial interview, and how satisfied the client was with the overall Help the Needy experience. To date, the program has met all expectations, yielding data that could be directly applied to the grant writing process, and giving interviewers important feedback on their efforts that they never had before. In a statistically significant number the recovery plans are being followed with positive effect, and clients have had a positive reaction to the Help the Needy experience. We are now comfortable that the program enhances overall Help the Needy business process and can be moved from pilot to permanent status.



Our wood program is in desperate need of volunteers to assist with cord wood deliveries and other tasks. Please contact Leo Vetter via email at: fletchle@q.com if you are interested in helping with this very important program. Or contact us at 719-687-7273 to learn of other volunteer opportunities.

*“Even if it’s a little thing, do something for those who have need of a man’s help, something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.
For remember, you don’t live in a world all your own. Your brothers are here too.”
- Albert Schweitzer*



Congratulations to the following HtN Volunteers on their Help the Needy Awards:

Gaylynn Ratliff
Volunteer of the Year

Kathy Paul
Volunteer of the 4th Quarter



Message from the Executive Director

WHAT DOES GOD WANT US TO DO?

This is a question we all ask ourselves, some more than others, and some quite often. It’s a question I’ve asked myself many times over the years. I actually knew the answer, but I chose to ignore it. Why? Life got in the way. I was too busy with my high-tech career, even though I knew that wasn’t my calling. Yes, I started out as a teacher, something I had wanted to do for many years, but left the profession after three years. I think a desire to help others may have started for me when I saved a life in the Bronx as a fifteen-year old boy. Helping others is something many of us want to do, but having the opportunity to do this doesn’t always present itself. To me it is God’s work. I do believe he called me again while I slept one morning in 1977. I woke up with a verse in my head, one I knew was never written before, but one which I believed was God’s words. It was Him poking me to get with it. It went like this:

*So many lives are on the line,
Some people say they ain’t worth a dime,
But I’m gonna try to do my best
To see that they will pass the test,
I’m not gonna stand behind this time*

But I did stand behind. I had my career and a family to support. I told myself, “Someday you will help others.” It took another thirty-four years for me to finally “get on the bus”. I actually started applying for jobs with local non-profits several years ago, but since I had no experience, I was rejected. I think God wanted me at Help the Needy. I actually had a great high-paying job opportunity which I could have taken instead of taking the HtN position. I knew it was God testing me. I also knew it was my time to help others. So I took the job that had no pay and no benefits, and I have never regretted it. To me, it is a gift bestowed on me, not an obligation. I’m the lucky one, to be fortunate enough to work with so many dedicated volunteers, and to help so many needy in our community. What did God want me to do? Now I know I am finally doing it.

Vince Scarlata
Executive Director