



April, 2014

Plymouth Taskforce for the Homeless

E-News

366 Court St. – Success!

On April 1st, The Plymouth Taskforce became the owner of 366 Court St. which will provide us with four beds plus one for a house manager. Thanks to the Community Preservation Committee and the Town of Plymouth which provided us with the funds for this purchase.

Volunteers Needed – Saturday, April 12th

The house is in good shape, but we would like to give all the rooms a fresh coat of paint and add a second bathroom. Before we do that, we need a few volunteers to help clean. There are a few items that need to be moved for disposal for which we will need a couple of strong backs. So if you are available to help on Saturday, April 12th from 9 AM -12 PM, please contact Jack Ryan at 508-932-4765 or john.ryan84@verizon.net.

After the cleaning is finished, we will be looking for volunteers with painting skills to help us with the painting. Please contact Jack Ryan at 508-932-4765 or john.ryan84@verizon.net.

Furniture Needs

We will be needing twin beds, bureaus and nightstands and folks to help transport them. Please contact Connie at [cmelahoires@plymouth-taksforce-homeless.org](mailto:cmelahoires@plymouth-taskforce-homeless.org).

Housing Applications and House Manager Position

We are in the process of collecting housing applications from those in housing crisis. We also are looking for someone to be the live-in house manager. Please contact cmelahoires@plymouht-taskforce-homeless.org for further onformation.

Overnights of Hospitality

We ended our tenth season of the Overnights of Hospitality, the emergency shelter program for single men. This past season, shortened by 4 weeks due to the loss of a site, was a challenge in many ways.

Statistics

- We averaged almost 18 guests every night, an increase from 15 last season.
- Every night we were in the double digits.
- There were 39 nights in which we had 20 or more guests with a season high of 25.
- In January we averaged 21.
- We saw 58 different individuals but over half of them were fairly regular throughout the season
- If we were to pay for overnight staff, meals, etc, our costs would be approx.. \$120,1777 to run the program!

Unfortunately, one of our guests passed away in his sleep in March.

Increasingly, we saw guests with drug problems, a reflection of what is happening regionally.

We continue to receive more and more calls from women and women with children in need of shelter. We help with giving them a night or two at a local motel and then try to refer them to DTA and/or Fr. Bill's Mainspring in Brockton.

A huge thank you to all our volunteers who are too many to name. But the following deserve a special thanks..

- Chris DeGowin, Sarah Barnicle, Marion Peterson, and Ray Tompkins our site coordinators
- George Berardi for being there every week to help transport the gear from one site to the next
- Bill Corners for supervising the shower ministry, helping with the driving almost every night, and being a frequent chaperone

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting was held on Monday, February 10th. We welcomed new members Frank Mand, a reporter for Gates Media News and Kathleen Dayan, a lawyer, to the Board of Directors. We ended the year in the black financially. To read the President's Report for 2013 go to our website www.plymouht-taksforce-homeless.org.

Auditor Needed

The Board is still looking for an individual to do a basic audit of our books. Please contact Jim Freedman at treasurer@plymouth-taskforce-homeless.org if you can help.

Fundraising

Golf Tournament – Save the Date!

Our annual Golf Tournament will be held on **Monday, August 25, 2014** at Souther's Marsh in Plymouth beginning at 1 PM. We will be looking for golfers, sponsors, and auction items. Forms will be available soon on our website and via email.

If you are an avid shopper on Amazon (as I am), you can now help us to raise money for the Taskforce. Just be sure to go to our website <http://plymouth-taskforce-homeless.org> and click on the Amazon button. You do not need to type in the search box. Just hit GO. For every item you purchase, we will receive a percentage.

You can also help us raise money by using Goodsearch as your search engine or Goodshop or Good Dining. Once again, go to our website and click on the link to get started.

It helps to put these links in your Favorites Bar.

We will continue to use the Scripts gift card program, but it is currently under transition to a new liaison.

You can also make a direct contribution online via our website <http://plymouth-taskforce-homeless.org>.

By the way, we are an all volunteer organization which receives no direct funding from federal or state governments. All funds received, go to support our program.

Website

Check out our website:

<http://plymouth-taskforce-homeless.org>

Facebook

We are now also on Facebook. Go to our website <http://plymouth-taskforce-homeless.org> to like us!

Etc...

Please be sure to let us know if you change your email address or if you wish to be removed from our mailing list.