

# HELLO FROM THE HOUSE



Quarterly E-Newsletter of the  
House of Neighborly Service (HNS)  
407 N. Calaveras, San Antonio, TX 78207  
Phone: 210-434-2301 Website: [www.hnstoday.org](http://www.hnstoday.org)

March 2011  
Quarter 1, Issue 1

## ST. PATRICK'S PRAYER

May the Strength of God pilot us,  
May the Wisdom of God instruct us,  
May the Hand of God protect us,  
May the Word of God direct us.  
Be always ours this day  
And forevermore. - St. Patrick

## HNS PROVIDES SERVICES TO WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SENIORS

**HNS' Senior Lunch and Activities Program Blossoming:** In January 2011, HNS welcomed Dee Dee Guajardo to the staff in her "multi-hat" role as Senior Program Coordinator, Food Coordinator, Cook, and Administrative Assistant. One of Dee Dee's contributions in her work at HNS has been bringing new vitality to the HNS Senior Lunch and Activities Program. With a background and talent in art, Dee Dee has engaged the seniors in creative painting, ceramic painting, making pillows, and creating memory books and greeting cards. Additionally, David Phipps, Executive Director of San Antonio Christian Dental Clinic, and Nancy Shaw, Executive Director/CEO of HNS, collaborated to provide the HNS seniors with a presentation on oral health care by oral hygienists from the Christian Dental Clinic. The oral hygienists also distributed oral health kits to the seniors. Joe Flores provided the HNS seniors with two financial literacy trainings during the month of March. The purpose of the Senior Lunch and Activities Program is to enhance the mental and physical health of Westside seniors by engaging them in activities they find meaningful and through providing nutritional lunches for seniors, cooked on site at HNS. The Senior Program prevents social isolation of seniors who have lost a spouse or friends, or whose children or grandchildren have left home.

**Question:** How many different seniors does the HNS Senior Lunch and Activities Program serve annually?

**Answer:** Over 200 different seniors are served annually by HNS.

**Question:** How can we help support the HNS Senior Lunch and Activities Program?

**Answer:** There are a variety of ways to be supportive. A cash donation of \$25 will purchase supplies needed for one week for senior activities, such as art projects; a donation of \$100 will pay for supplies for one month. If you have an area of talent or expertise that you could share with the seniors, such as playing a musical instrument or singing; vegetable or flower gardening; or providing education on a topic such as dementia, Alzheimer's, or arthritis, please call Nancy Shaw (210-314-2940) or Dee Dee Guajardo (210-234-2301), and we can arrange for you to present at the Senior Program.

## **HNS PROVIDES SERVICES TO AT-RISK WESTSIDE COMMUNITY CHILDREN, ADULTS, AND FAMILIES**

### **Did You Know That:**

Each year, HNS provides intensive Early Intervention Program (EIP) services to over 230 families and their children, birth to age 5, at-risk for child abuse and neglect and with special needs. These services include In-Home Parenting Education (Precious Minds New Connections); Kid's Place Child Development Center services; Respite Care; assessments for risk factors, stress, communication, attention, behavior, and cognitive development; individual family and child service planning; and implementation of interventions. Intervention focuses on the whole family.

### **Did You Know That:**

Every Tuesday, the HNS Breadline fills and distributes 120 boxes with a variety of foods for persons and families who are hungry and/or who suffer from food insecurity. Breadline is held on the covered basketball court and parking lot area, to accommodate the large number of persons who come for food and fellowship. The HNS Thrift Shop runs alongside the Breadline activities, and is an important source of clothing and other items for Westside children and families in need. The HNS Food Pantry, which is held every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon in the Fellowship Hall, serves from 15 to 45 families or persons on each distribution day. HNS' Food Distribution Programs, including Breadline and Food Pantry, distribute approximately 9,000 boxes of food to Westside Community persons and families in need each year.

## **HNS COORDINATES, SUPPORTS AND/OR SPONSORS COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE WESTSIDE COMMUNITY**

**Sus Hijas Sewing and Jewelry Making Group** meets every Tuesday morning in the HNS Fellowship Hall, except during the summer months. Coordinated by women from First Presbyterian Church, the Sus Hijas Program teaches persons from the Westside Community how to make beautiful jewelry, doll clothes, purses, cosmetic bags, Bible covers, and other items that rival those seen at the best arts and crafts festivals around the country. These items are then sold at festivals, church events, and markets, with the proceeds from the sales going to augment the incomes of residents from the Westside Community who created the items.

**Quilting Group** meets every Wednesday in the HNS Fellowship Hall. Persons from the Westside Community and other areas meet to make beautiful quilts, some for personal

use and some to help with fundraising for college and vocational scholarships for Westside Community students. The group plays an important role in providing fellowship for Westside Community residents and in preventing social isolation for seniors.

**Other Collaborations** for the Westside Community include the **Back-to-School Supplies, Thanksgiving, and Gift of Christmas Projects** organized annually; the **Community Playground**, open daily to Westside children and families; and sharing of space at the **Vasquez Center** with other community organizations that need a place to hold their programs and activities. Various churches and other groups work together with HNS to provide the latter projects. HNS also provides **utility assistance** to families and **community service opportunities** to Westside residents, in collaboration with Bexar County

### **THANK-YOU SO MUCH FROM THE HOUSE OF NEIGHBORLY SERVICE!**

**Our Sincere Appreciation:** HNS wishes to express its heartfelt gratitude to those individuals, couples, churches, and church organizations that have made recent financial contributions to HNS:

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Walmsley  
Betty Brook  
Judy and Harold Morris  
Good Shepard Presbyterian Church  
University Presbyterian Church  
Robert and Barbara Will  
Carolyn Harte  
Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church  
Ms. Martha K. McCulloch  
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Marek  
John W. Royall  
Rosemary Engstrom  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
Los Angeles Heights Presbyterian Church  
Madison Square Presbyterian Church  
Northminster Presbyterian Church  
San Pedro Presbyterian Church  
Mary Alice Rodriguez  
Ms. Betty H. Beck  
Carol Brown  
Charles and Ellen de Riemer  
Christine A. Kluzinski  
David P. Green  
Doris B. Parker  
Elizabeth Irvine  
Frederick and Elaine Hutchinson

Barbara Warren  
Dr. D. Thomas Stone, Jr  
Oak Hills Presbyterian Church  
E.H. Hutchison  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Sandy Stone  
Delbert and Margaret Rowland  
Pilgrim Presbyterian Church  
Bethany Presbyterian Church  
First Presbyterian Church Women's Circle  
Dr. Olivia Valdez  
First Presbyterian Church  
John Calvin Presbyterian Church  
Divine Redeemer Presbyterian Church  
Mission Presbytery  
Northwood Presbyterian Church  
University Presbyterian Church  
Milton and Ann King  
Rev. Carlos Lopez  
Carolyn Cook  
Charles and Carla Mathews, Jr.  
Cynthia Stephens  
Doris Brumbaugh  
Eileen Hickok and John Richardson  
Frank and Geraldine Seamen  
G. Richard and Le Anne Galloway

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Gladys T. Brooking	Helen and Mark San Roman
James and Martha McCulloch, Jr.	James and Denise Schneider
Janelle D. Allen	Janet Beauch and Linda Bullard
Jerry and Barbara Nicks	John and Molly Lewis
Judith C. Trotti	Judith B. Spencer
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Deats	Laura M. Labatt
Margie Guerra	Marilyn J. Morris
Mark and Heather White	Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Marek, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Smith	Ms. Sylvia Tazbir
Oliver and Betty McBryde	Perry and Amy Deckard
Phyllis Griffin	Reyes and Martha Ramos
Kathy and Richard Pettit	San Juana Garcia
Tom and Linda Byrne	Wanda Beebe
William and Valerie Lester	William and Linda Ruhman
Oak Hill's Presb. Church Children's Enrichment Center	
University Presbyterian Church - MOS	
Northwood Presbyterian Church Alternative Gift Market	

**If you wish to make a donation to HNS**, please make your check payable to House of Neighborly Service and mail to:

House of Neighborly Service (HNS)  
 Attn: Nancy Shaw or Monica Deckard  
 407 N. Calaveras  
 San Antonio, TX 78207

You may specify an area that you would like your donation to go towards (e.g., preventing child abuse; enhancing senior health; feeding the hungry; community projects; or where funds are needed most) or to a specific program (e.g., Kid's Place, Respite Care, Parenting-Education, Senior Lunch, Senior Activities, Breadline, Food Pantry, General Expenses, or Collaborative Programs). HNS can mail you a statement detailing your contributions, if you would like to have this for tax filing purposes.

**HNS Gala 2011:** The Annual HNS "House with a Heart" Gala was held on Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Crowne Plaza Riverwalk Hotel, 111 E. Pecan Street, San Antonio, TX. The event featured a dinner, music, dancing, silent and live auctions, fun, and fellowship. The event was a success! HNS extends many, many thanks to HNS Board Members, Judy Morris and Rosemary Engstrom, who co-chaired the event, donating their time, efforts, and energy! HNS also expresses its gratitude to Board Member, Susan Kirk, and her sister, Marilyn Anderson, who coordinated the silent and live auctions for the Gala! Also, thanks to everyone who helped with the Gala, including "Cheerleaders" from the different Presbyterian Churches in San Antonio who helped sell tickets and obtain auction donations, and other volunteers from the HNS Board and staff, and from churches and other community organizations, who helped with a variety of tasks that made the Gala possible. Our applause goes out to all of our donors, including those who donated through dollars, auction items, auction and ticket purchases, and time. All proceeds benefit the House of Neighborly Service.

**Thank-You Zachry Middle School:** House of Neighborly Service expresses its gratitude to Pam Martinek, Gifted and Talented Program teacher, and the administration, staff, and children of Zachry Middle School, for selecting HNS to support in their spring fundraising project! Zachry raised over \$1,000 to benefit HNS. Mrs. Martinek served as project coordinator.

**Our Appreciation:** HNS extends many, many thanks to Lenna Baxter, new volunteer for HNS. Lenna has been helping HNS with data intakes for Food Pantry, and with other office and program tasks. She is a member of University Presbyterian Church and served as the Executive Director of Boysville.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**Choir Summer Program:** Grace Presbyterian Church will host their third annual Choir Summer Program on Sunday afternoon, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Both sacred and secular music will be presented. The theme for this year's event is "Circles and Smiles." Everyone is welcome to attend. (Please call Grace Presbyterian for the exact time of the program.) An offering will be collected, with proceeds benefitting the House of Neighborly Service. HNS extends its gratitude to Grace Presbyterian Church!

### **PASSAGES**

**Heartfelt Condolences:** House of Neighborly Service expresses its sincere condolences to Lillie Rendon-Segovia and her family members on the loss of Lillie's mother, Andrea Zamarripa, who passed away in February. Mrs. Zamarripa was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Lillie is the Director of HNS' Kid's Place Child Development Center and Co-director of the HNS Respite Care Program. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

### **IRISH BLESSING**

MAY the road rise up to meet you,  
May the wind be ever at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face  
And the rain fall softly on your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

