

April 2012

Spring

The Rescue Mission of Trenton is the agency in the City of Trenton that serves the truly needy men and women who have no place to turn for shelter, food, and clothing. The Mission offers a safe, clean, warm refuge for the homeless, the hungry, the transient, and the addicted. We provide services and counseling to encourage individuals to reach their greatest potential. The Rescue Mission creates an environment where one can live with dignity, build self-esteem, and experience love, responsibility, and hope.

Services include:

Vince's Place: Licensed by the State of New Jersey Department of Human Services as a Residential Addictions Treatment Facility. Provides long term, halfway house, and extended care level of service with a full range of addictions treatment and life skills treatment.

Outpatient Program: Licensed substance abuse treatment for men and women. Provides individual assessment, group counseling sessions, and addiction education.

Permanent Housing: The Mission operates two specialty supportive housing units – Robinson Place, a licensed Rooming and Boarding House, and Brimmer House, a free standing 2-unit house.

Weekend Soup Kitchen

Emergency clothing and furniture

Emergency Shelter: Shelter for single men and women. Licensed by the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Transitional Housing

Work Readiness: Individuals are provided training in GED preparation, basic literacy, writing skills, job seeking skills, and computer and word processing skills.

Industrial Salvage: Donated materials are collected by route trucks and processed and sold through the Carroll Street Store and warehouse.

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The Perry Street Project: A Triumph of Collaboration

It took many years, but it is finally going to happen. Fifteen individuals who were previously homeless, and who have taken affirmative steps to remake and reshape their lives, will be getting spanking new studio apartments and supportive services by the end of this year. The goal of the \$3.5 million Perry Street Supportive Permanent Housing Project will be to assist residents in becoming self-sufficient. Case management services will be available on site.



Architect's rendering of the 15-unit permanent supportive housing project at the corner of Perry and Carroll Streets in Trenton.

Recently, the Rescue Mission of Trenton received notification that they had been granted \$2,736,000 in Special Needs Housing Trust Funds from the New Jersey Housing and Finance Mortgage Agency to help finance the demolition of a long-vacant existing building and construct a new three-story apartment building at the corner of Perry Street and Carroll Street, a major entryway to the city of Trenton.

This is the final piece of a complex funding puzzle that includes financing provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care Program (\$400,000), a Federal Home Loan grant (\$300,000), Regional Contribution Agreement funds provided by the City of Trenton (\$300,000), Rescue Mission sponsor equity (\$275,108), and a capital grant from Hopewell Valley Community Bank (\$3,000), who submitted the Affordable Housing Program application to the Federal Home Loan Bank.

Financially, the Project could not have happened without the support of these project funders and a \$50,000 pre-development loan from the Corporation for Supportive Housing. Also crucial were the financial support of Hutchinson Industries – the Mission's most generous corporate supporter – which provided the funds to acquire the vacant building located at 503-505 Perry Street, and the willingness of Princeton Holdings, LLC (Interstate Outdoor Advertising Inc.) to convey a lot adjacent to the building (501-503 Perry Street) to the Mission for one dollar in 2003.

While many acknowledge the virtues of collaboration and cooperation, they are achieved far too infrequently. Fortunately, that has not been the case with the Perry Street Supportive Permanent Housing Project. The Rescue Mission of Trenton has received exemplary cooperation from government at all levels. The project is truly a triumph of collaboration.

On the following page we salute all those who made this exciting project happen.

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Development of the Perry Street Permanent Supportive Housing Project would not have happened without the patience, support and dedication of the following individuals, units of government, agencies, and companies:

Project Development:

R.B. Coe Consulting LLC
Rhonda Coe
Steven S. Cohen, Architect, PC
Steve Cohen, AIA
Stoolmacher Consulting Group
Irwin Stoolmacher
Szaferman, Lakind, Blumstein & Blader, P.C.
Arnold C. Lakind, Esq.
Bruce M. Sattin, Esq.
Dan S. Sweetser, Esq.
Lionel J. Frank, Esq.
John Kane

Site Acquisition:

Hutchinson Industries, Inc.
Olivier Marsaly, President
Pascal Seradarian, Former President
Interstate Outdoor Advertising, L.P.
Jeffrey W. Gerber, Chief Operating Officer
Jacobelli Builders, Inc.
Carl R. Jacobelli (deceased)

Project Funding:

Special Needs Housing Trust Fund, NJHMFA
Supportive Housing Program, HUD
Shelter Plus Care Program, HUD
Federal Home Loan Bank
Regional Contribution Agreement Funds,
City of Trenton
Corporation for Supportive Housing

Those Who Made It Happen:

Congressman Rush Holt
Congressman Chris Smith
Governor Chris Christie
Senator Shirley K. Turner
Assemblyman Reed Gusciora
Assemblywoman Bonnie Watson Coleman

City of Trenton

Mayor Tony Mack
Former Mayor Douglas Palmer
Department of Health and Human Services
Joseph Rubino, Former Director
Carolyn Lewis-Spruill, Former Director
Cleophis Roper, Former Dir. of Community Dev.
Vernett Sherril, Senior Program Dev. Specialist,
Office on Community Development
Department Housing and Economic Dev.
Jerome Harris, Former Director
Henrietta Owusu, Chief, Housing Production
Walter Denson, Acting Director, Law Dept.
Andrew Carten, Former Director, Div. of Planning
Department of Building and Inspection
Cleveland Thompson, Acting Director/Construction Official
Lenny Pucciatti, Former Director
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Patricia Stewart
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George D. McGill, Esq.
Ray Bucchi, Zoning Officer
Teresa DePula, Secretary

Corporation for Supportive Housing

Alison Recca-Ryan, Director - NJ Program
Colleen Velez, Sr. Program Mgr. - NJ Program

Hopewell Valley Community Bank

James Hyman, President and CEO
Debbie Osgood, VP & Loan Operations Mgr.

Monarch Housing Associates, Inc.

Richard W. Brown, CEO

New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency

Pamela DeLosSantos, AIA, LEED AP,
Green Technical Advisor
Laura Shields, Special Needs Housing Loan Officer
Bruce Blumenthal, Community Development
Ombudsman
Yirgu Wolde, Community Development Officer
Pamela McCrory, Former Director of Supported
Housing

Non Financial Support:

County of Mercer

Brian M. Hughes, County Executive
Marygrace Billek, Director, Department of
Human Services
Mercer County Board of Social Services
Frank A. Cirillo, Director of Welfare

Carroll/Southard Neighborhood Association

Ronnie Romero, President

Community Health Law Project

Steve Leder, Esq., Managing Attorney

Helping Arms, Inc.

Cynthia Morgan, Program Director

Henry J Austin Health Center

George Stokes, Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Kemi Alli, Chief Medical Officer

HomeFront

Connie Mercer, President/CEO

Trenton Area Soup Kitchen

Dennis C. Micai, Executive Director

Principal Kafele Speaks at Mission



When the Mission's Director of Operations Barrett Young heard former New Jersey school Principal Baruti Kafele speak, he knew he had to ask him to come to the Mission.

At the annual UIH Family Partners' award presentation, Principal Kafele (his preferred

title) gave a gripping presentation that riveted Barrett and the audience. Determined to bring him to the Mission, Barrett's persistence paid off when Principal Kafele waived his customary fee and spoke on Monday, November 14th to

Mission residents and the public about manhood, personal responsibility, and fatherhood.

Principal Kafele is an award-winning educator, best-selling author, educational consultant, and renowned inspirational motivational speaker. He has helped to transform four different schools, including Newark Tech High School, which went from a low-performing school in need of improvement to recognition by U.S. News & World Report Magazine as one of the best high schools in America in 2007 and 2008. Principal Kafele is the author of six books including his widely acclaimed *Motivating Black Males to Achieve in School and Life*. His self-expressed mission is to spread his empowerment message of attitude transformation throughout the U.S. and beyond.

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Principal Kafele Speaks at Mission (cont. from pg.2)

Participation at Principal Kafele's lecture was not mandatory for Mission residents; nevertheless the room was filled with residents who remained attentive throughout Principal Kafele's riveting 90-minute talk. The presentation was followed by a lengthy question-and-answer session in which various residents asked poignant questions that related to their personal circumstance and situation.

Principal Kafele opened by telling his inspirational story, beginning with his total lack of success during his early school years, a time when he was told that he "never was going to amount to anything." He explained that his dramatic transformation was triggered by the reading of the first book he had ever read from cover-to-cover, *To Kill a Black Man: The Shocking Parallel in the Lives of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr.*

"The book helped me understand what a man was and that a man has to earn the right to be a man," Kafele stated.

Principal Kafele became a voracious reader. He talked about a second book which left a huge impression on him, Carter G. Woodson's *The Mis-Education of the Negro*, written in 1933. Kafele quoted Woodson: "When you control a man's thinking, you do not worry about his actions. You do not have to tell them to stand here or yonder. He will find his 'proper place' and he will stay in it. You do not have to send him to the back door. He will go without being told. In fact, if there is no back door, he will cut one for his special benefit. His education makes it necessary."

With his introduction to books, a rapid and dramatic transformation occurred. After struggling to graduate from Middlesex Community College in five years, Principal Kafele graduated summa cum laude from Kean University with a B.S. degree in Management and subsequently earned a M.A. degree in Education from New Jersey City University. He moved quickly from an elementary school teacher in the East Orange School District to principal of three different middle schools in East Orange, Plainfield, and Newark prior to his selection as principal of Newark Tech High School. Principal Kafele explained that he didn't get those principal positions at a young age without a lot of experience by sitting back and biding his time. He worked very hard to hone his skills and would not take no for an answer.

Kafele explained that he starts each day with the reflection, "Who am I? What am I about? What is your most recent evidence?" He urged all in attendance to look in the mirror and determine who "they are" and "what their purpose is." Kafele stressed the importance of looking into the mirror and recognizing the person that is looking back. He said "you need to be more than the name on your birth certificate when you love and respect yourself you are

living with a purpose. You are purpose-driven." Kafele indicated that "too many young African-American males wear a mask that allows them to hide who they really are as individuals. Too many teachers teach to the mask instead of trying to get students to remove the mask."

Principal Kafele explained that the media and education advocates spend too much time talking about the academic "achievement gap" which exists between African-American students, especially males and children in other racial and cultural groups. Kafele emphasized that there is more than one "gap." He feels there are five gaps which directly impact the ability of young African-American males youth to succeed academically and personally.

Kafele said there is an "attitude gap" where teachers have little or no expectations or believe that black male students can learn or are interested in learning. There is a "relationship gap" which precludes the development of a bond between teachers and students based on trust which allows the two to develop and dialogue. There is a "compassion gap" which inhibits the development of bonds between black male students and teachers. There is a "relevance gap" which results in students feeling that what they are learning is not relevant. Finally, there is an "empowerment gap" which is the inability of a teacher to help students gain ground academically and personally beyond the school doors.

Prior to accepting questions, Kafele reflected on his experience of walking across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Alabama. The bridge was the site of the 1965 Bloody Sunday March, in which 600 marchers, headed by now-Congressman John Lewis and Hosea Williams, were tear-gassed and beaten savagely by police as they marched for freedom and civil rights for African Americans. Principal Kafele talked about how those who marched from Selma to Montgomery for voting rights did so with their heads high in spite of tremendous obstacles and physical challenges. As Principal Kafele described the historic day and how the marchers triumphed over brutality you could hear a pin drop in the room. His message regarding the importance of personal responsibility was getting through.



Principal Kafele commands the room during his November 14th presentation at the Rescue Mission.



March 9th Golf Tournament A Huge Success!



The 8th Annual Adam Shanks Mission Miniature Golf Tournament took place on March 9th at the Rescue Mission of Trenton. This year's event was a tremendous success, with more than \$40,000 raised for the Mission's continuum of programs to reshape, remake, and rebuild lives.

A special thank you to all who came out to golf, bid on golf at Mercer County's premier courses and finest restaurants at our silent auction, and take a chance to win our new scratch off contest! Take a moment and look at some of our favorite photos from the event – we hope to see you next year!



- Tournament Hosts**
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 Penguin Group, USA
 The Shanks Family
 Wilmington Trust

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Holidays Are a Special Time of the Year at the Rescue Mission

Realizing that the vast majority of our clients are away from their families at the holidays, we work hard to make the holidays as special as possible for each of them.

To set a festive tone in the halls of Vince's Place, our residents geared up for a highly touted holiday competition: the door decorating contest. This has been a hotly contested event over the past couple of years involving residents decorating their doors, staff voting on the best decorations, and prizes being awarded. The door decorating contest stands, in the words of one resident, as "a good way to bond with our roommates and express ourselves."

As has been the case for decades, the Mission staff and volunteers assembled holiday gift bags for each of the residents and shelter clients. This year's gift bags were generously donated by Bloomberg L.P. and contained a new maroon Rescue Mission t-shirt, hygiene kits, electric tooth brushes, socks, hats, and snacks. Other groups assembled hygiene kits for the holidays including the Unitarian Society of East Brunswick and Eagle Scout James Lauricella. We are thankful for these donations, which are regularly distributed through our Emergency Shelter. Interested in hosting a hygiene kit drive in your community? Call Doug at 609-695-1436 ext 132.

In addition, the Princeton Corridor Rotary and Trenton Rotary donated a wide variety of toys for residents to distribute to their children. The Mission staff assisted residents in selecting toys and personally wrapped each gift, right down to the ribbons and bows. Over 65 gifts were collected for 27 grateful residents, who were able to experience the joy of providing gifts for their children this holiday season.

Again this year the Princeton Garden Statesmen provided the residents with a special holiday performance. Every year the group puts on a great show, and this year was no exception. Special meals were served on both Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. The meals were greatly enhanced by the many turkeys, hams, pies, and vegetables that were donated. As in years past, Action Realty donated a large number of turkeys – enough to feed both our shelter and residential clients for two holiday feasts!

The Rescue Mission is always overwhelmed by the generosity in our community, and we are so grateful that you choose to support us with your time, cards, financial, and material donations. Put simply, without these gifts, the Mission would not be as successful as it is in working together to rebuild lives.



Residents Donny H. (far left) and John W. (far right) pose with Action USA Market Realtors and a generous donation of turkeys for the holidays.



One of the winning door displays.

THE MISSION CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE YOUR SUPPORT

If you did not respond to our annual appeal, please do so at this time. We need your support to continue to serve the needy in our community.

\$35 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Please send check and coupon to: **Rescue Mission of Trenton**, P.O. Box 790, Trenton, NJ 08605-0790

The advertisement below was designed by *The Times* and distributed to area publications to ask whether they would run it as a public service announcement for the Rescue Mission. We thank *The Times* and their Publisher/Advertising Director (and Rescue Mission Board Member) Sheila Gallagher-Montone for their efforts on the Rescue Mission's behalf.



**NO ONE CAN DO EVERYTHING
BUT EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING**

**SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY
HOST A *CLOTHING DRIVE*
AT YOUR WORKPLACE**

Contact the Rescue Mission of Trenton
at 609-695-1436 ext. 132



**RESCUE
MISSION
OF TRENTON**

98 CARROLL STREET | P.O. BOX 790
TRENTON, NJ 08605-0790 | 609.695.1436
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RESCUE MISSION OF TRENTON

Cordially invites you to attend

"Recovery & Reentry: Rebuilding Lives"

Wednesday, July 25th

A morning of dialogue and discussion

8:30 am to 11:45 am

Educational Testing Service,
Conant Hall, Lounge C,
Princeton, New Jersey

Keynote Presentation:

"Addiction: Hope & Recovery"

William Cope Moyers
Vice President of Public Affairs and
Community Relations, Hazelden

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A moderated panel discussion featuring
leaders from government, experts in the
addiction field, and clients grappling with
addiction.

Event Sponsor

Educational Testing Service

Tickets will be very limited. Reserve a seat now
for this very special & important event.

Contact Regan at (609) 695-1436 ext 181 or
reganm@rmtrenton.org

RESCUE MISSION OF TRENTON

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Did You Know... *Did You Know ...*

- ✓ **The Mission is a hit:** On February 25th *The Times of Trenton* highlighted the Rescue Mission as one of their weekly Hits. In their words, the Rescue Mission is a “hit” for “securing \$3.7 million so it can begin demolition of a vacant building at the corner of Perry and Carroll streets in April to make way for 15 new studio apartments for homeless individuals in the area.”
- ✓ **New classes in TEACH:** TEACH, the Rescue Mission’s education and job readiness program, is proud to announce various new classes taught by Mission volunteers, including Legal Aid 101, Advanced Computers, Calligraphy, and Creative Writing. Do you have a skill you would like to share with our residents? Contact Ida Malloy at (609) 695-1436 ext 112 or idam@rmtrenton.org
- ✓ **Rescue Mission Welcomes New Staff:** The Rescue Mission welcomes additional Emergency Shelter Associates to our growing staff: Ruedene Aaron, Brian Gentry, Carol Homan, Sunasia McKnight. Herbert McMullen, CPA, joins the Rescue Mission staff.
- ✓ **Clean out your closets:** The Rescue Mission encourages you to think of us as you clean out your closets for spring cleaning! We are pleased to announce our two new clothing donation boxes located at Mercer County Technical Schools’ Health Careers Center in Trenton and at Horizon NJ Health in West Trenton. For a complete list of collection boxes visit www.rmtrenton.org.