Aliveline

Serving Our HIV/AIDS Community Since 1985 January/February 2011 Vol. 21, Issue 1

MARCH IS MINNESOTA FOODSHARE MONTH

March is Minnesota FoodShare Month. Due to the current economic situation in Minnesota, one in ten Minnesotans do not have enough food in their homes. Our Food Shelf distributed five percent more food last year and currently serves about 200 members per month. So, please consider sending a donation to help replenish our food shelf supplies during these cold winter months.

MIRACLE ON 38TH STREET

This year's Holiday Basket Program was an amazing success! This year, we distributed 710 baskets with gifts for more than 950 adults and 450 children. What was truly amazing was that 576 baskets (81 percent) were adopted—a significant increase from the previous year. Thanks to everyone who donated presents, made financial gifts and volunteered. Here is what one of this year's recipients said about his basket:

"Such a wonderful expression of Christmas love!... Thanks to all who made this possible. I look forward to it every year, as I get not presents from anywhere else. Thanks for the beautiful blanket with my favorite critters on it. I hope you know how much it means to be remembered in this way during the holidays!"

Special howks to the following businesses, groups and individuals:

- Alexandra House donated over 600 pounds of items.
- Après Party & Tent Rental loaned 42 tables for our Holiday Basket Program.
- Atons of Minneapolis collected 490 pounds of food at their Holiday Party.
- Bachman's donated 500 poinsettias.
- Billy Elliot National Tour adopted 8 baskets.
- Black Guard of Minneapolis collected 192 pounds of food shelf items.
- Cargill employees adopted 7 family baskets.
- The Chair Salon donated 359 pounds of food shelf items and adopted 4 baskets.
- Christ English Lutheran Church donated several hand-sewn quilts.
 - Cretin-Derham Hall donated \$350 in gift cards and presents.
 - John Doll of John Doll Studios adopted 72 baskets.
 - Ernst & Young did a clothing and household appliance drive.
 - First Equity Mortgage adopted 5 baskets.

- Frush Family Foundation donated \$1,000 for our Food Shelf.
- Garrett Family Foundation donated \$8,750 for general operating.
- · Glad Creations Quilt Block donated dozens of holiday stockings.
- Hamline University Men's Hockey Team collected \$728 in donations during a game.
- Health Partners' Institute for Medical Education adopted 4 baskets.
- Hiawatha Church adopted 5 family baskets.
- Imperial Court of Minnesota adopted 8 family baskets.
- Integrated Healthcare Strategies / Stratford Fidelity adopted 5 baskets.
- · Jon Firebough adopted several baskets.
- Lavender Magazine was a sponsor and promoted our Holiday Basket Program during their holiday event.
- Minneapolis Eagle donated \$500 and adopted baskets.
- Minneapolis South Rotary Club donated \$210.
- New Spirit United Church of Christ adopted 5 family baskets.
- Otto Bremer Foundation provided a challenge grant of \$30,000 for our food services.
- Peter Austin, Chris Foss and their friends adopted 35 baskets
- RE/MAX Results was a program sponsor and adopted baskets.
- St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church donated 881 pounds of food shelf items, promoted our Holiday Basket Program to their members and donated \$3,000 from their Justice Fund.
- Target employees volunteered for a couple of days during the holidays.
- Toys For Tots donated several hundred toys.
- Wells Fargo Home Mortgage and Insurance ASC adopted 9 baskets.
- Wilde Roast Café hosted a kick-off party for our Holiday Basket Program and donated \$625 in gift cards.
- Xcel Energy Property Services donated 5 bags of gifts.
- Everyone one else who adopted baskets or donated gifts!

Joe Larson

Executive Director



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

There is ongoing activity regarding the Positive Impact Capital Campaign. The Capital Campaign continues to follow up on funding sources. We have raised roughly \$700,000 to date. We need to raise at least 50% of our goal of 2.5 million before construction can begin.

In the next six months we hope to exceed that half way mark. We continue working on corporate proposals: Cargill, Imation, General Mills, Target, SuperValu; so if you or a friend works at one of these companies, we would like to speak with you. Please contact Joe Larson, Executive Director, at 612-822-7946, extension 201.



The front of the building has all new windows on the first and second floor. This was completed with a matching grant we received from the City of Minneapolis for a new facade. This spring the new panels on the second story will be painted to complete the work.

In December, we received a new freezer for the Food Shelf at the new site. This was provided in part with a grant from Second Harvest. We will continue to report on progress and ways individuals and members can be of assistance to the Positive Impact Capital Campaign.

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The Aliveline

is a bi-monthly publication of The Aliveness Project, Inc. The Aliveness Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, founded in 1985 as a membership organization for individuals living with HIV/AIDS. This newsletter may report on experimental and other therapies; however, The Aliveness Project does not recommend any particular therapy. Please consult with your medical provider before trying any new treatment. Views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributing authors and are not necessarily those of The Aliveness Project.

HEALTH & WELLNESS EVENTS

Members, avoid cabin fever this winter by coming to free educational sessions at The Aliveness Project! If you haven't joined us before, Health & Wellness lectures are usually held in our conference room from 6-7:30 pm on Tuesdays or Thursdays. You'll be treated to dinner or a giftcard for attending. Don't forget sign up in advance by calling the front desk!

SOME OF OUR RECENT EVENTS

November 18: Men's Skincare

Gretchen Ginter, a local make-up artist and aesthetician, shared tips on how to keep our skin hydrated through winter. She showed us step by step how to exfoliate, cleanse, and moisturize our faces. We discussed skin issues specific to HIV/AIDS, skin types, shaving, and learned tricks like exfoliating your lips with sugar.

December 2: Men's Spirituality through Writing

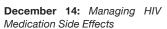
Rena Cade, our resident journaling expert, led a session on "finding light during dark times." It was a cozy evening of conversation and journaling over coffee at Uncommon Grounds in Uptown.

December 9: Stigma

Ericka Jones of Bristol-Myers Squiibb led a session at a restaurant in Uptown on "Stigma." Over Thai food, we discussed the nature of HIV-related stigma, shared personal stories, and discussed ways to cope with discrimination.

December 13:

Spirituality through Journaling
Rena Cade, Spiritualist, guided an
exercise in tapping into the inner spirit
and capturing the thought that arose
on paper through words and art.



Dr. Mike Low of the Walgreens Pharmacy in Uptown presented a lecture on ways to deal with the most common side effects of anti-retroviral medications. He also fielded questions on new developments in medicine.

December 15: Key Elements to HIV Treatment

In this workshop, members learned how to gear up for a healthy holiday season. We enjoyed a meal at Stella's Fish Café in Uptown while discussing ways to cope with winter stress.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Some dates to be announced)

January 11: Opportunistic Infections

Mike Low (PharmD) of Walgreens will be back to discuss illnesses that arise when your immune system becomes severely compromised.

January 13: Intimacy

Local psychologist Nickey Larson will lead a session on the nature of intimacy in relationships.

January 20: Ask the Doctor

Back by popular request, Dr. Mark Sannes will field questions about your HIV care.

January 24: HIV & Hepatitis

Dr. Keith Henry, director of HIV Research at HCMC, will share how the common co-infections of HIV and hepatitis impact the body.

February 7: Current Clinical Controversies in HIV Treatment

Dr. Keith Henry will discuss the latest advances and debates in treatment.

February 10: Sexual Addiction

Dr. Nickey Larson will share her expertise on compulsive sexual behavior.

February 17: Getting the Most Out of Your Healthcare - Role Play Scenarios Join the Health & Wellness team in acting out and discussing health care experiences!

February TBA: Reading Your Laboratory Reports

Dr. Mark Sannes will lead this lively interactive discussion. All members are asked to bring copies of their last two lab test reports.

February TBA: HIV and Meth

Todd Connaughty, Lead Counselor at the Pride Institute for LGBT mental health & chemical dependency care, will lead a multi-part series on HIV and methamphetamine use.

WOMEN OF ALIVENESS

We tried to start up a women's group here at Aliveness on Saturdays after brunch. It didn't take off so we are taking a break until March. Let us know if you are interested in attending a women's group and what time and date would be best and whether you will need childcare. Please take time to fill out a short survey at the front desk about women's programming at The Aliveness Project.

Feel free to contact the Health & Wellness team with any questions:



Saundra Johnson wellness@aliveness.org (612) 822-7946, Ext. 213





PET CLINIC









Free Spay & Neuter Day

On Saturday, November 20, 2010, the Inver Grove Heights Animal Hospital held a "Free Spay and Neuter Day" for Pets of Aliveness Project members. Thanks to Ann Valenti, owner of Inver Grove Heights Animal Hospital for donating the medication, supplies, and clinic to have the work performed.

Dr. Scott Hammel, Dr. Lara Rasmussen, Dr. Ann Winsor, Dr. Jennifer Quast, Shari Cueto CVT, Mary Phelps and other volunteers worked all day long. They performed surgery on 28 animals that day. Thank you so much, Inver Grove Heights Animal Hospital, for your generosity and devotion!

Johnny Herda-Anzaldo

Director of Membership Services

DINING OUT FOR LIFE

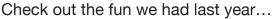


THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2011

Is it that time already? YES! It won't be long before you'll hear me inquire whether you know a restaurant or want to be an ambassador or exhort you to eat throughout the day, so beat me to the punch!

Call me at 612-822-7946, extension 204, and surprise me! We will need over 400 ambassadors and would like to recruit some new restaurants to add. We'll also need prizes and poster distributors. I have one volunteer working on recruitment, but there is much to be done.

We are fortunate this year to again have KARE 11 and Minnesota Monthly participating as Event Sponsors.





HOLIDAY BASKETS 2010

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! from the Fundraising and Special Events guy. 2010 was an exciting year. As hoped last year (and written about), we **DID NOT** get into our new building before Holiday Baskets, but we made do - even though there was a major increase in the number of families served this year.

Holidays Baskets, while very crowded, was VERY exciting! We had 710 families request baskets and **576 were adopted!! Amazing!** Thank you to the many, many groups and individuals who adopted baskets or hosted (toy, mitten, appliances, etc) drives or donated cash to help purchase gifts to provide our families with a bright light during the often difficult holiday season.

Here are a few of the individuals and groups I would like to thank who adopted multiple baskets or VERY large families: Alzheimer's Association, Loreena Anderson, Peter Austin and Chris Foss along with their many friends, Avalon

School - Purple Butterflies GSA, Laura Bachinski and Renee DeLong, Billy Elliot National Tour, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, Cargill and the Cargill, Inc, Treasury group, De LaSalle High School, John Doll, First Equity Mortgage, Fridley United Methodist Church, Friendly Hills Middle School, Girl Scouts of MN/Wisconsin/River Valley - Troop 54209, Health Partners - Institute for Medical Education, Hiawatha Church, Imperial Court of Minnesota, Integrated Healthcare Strategies/Stratford Fidelity, Judson Memorial Baptist Church, Lutheran Church of Christ the Redeemer, Macalester Plymouth United Church - Youth, New Spirit United Church of Christ, Linda and Jeff Raines, Lee Roehl and Paul Shapiro, Amy Ruzick, Smith Partners PLLP, Smitten Kitten, The Chair Salon, Timothy Torgerson, Tres Jolie Salon, TRUST Youth Group, Valley of Peace Lutheran Church - Youth Group, Washington County Library - Woodbury Branch and Wells Fargo Home Mortgage and Insurance ASC.

HAPPY NEW YEAR and THANK YOU for all you did to make the lives of people better in 2010.

Tim Marburger

Director of Fundraising & Special Events



VOLUNTEER NEWS Monica Travis Director of Volunteer Services

Happy New Year to all of our astounding volunteers! My deepest thanks for all that each of you do to support The Aliveness Project. Whether you help once a year or multiple times a week, together all of us make a huge difference in the success of The Aliveness Project and our continued ability to build and create a true sense of community. Please see our photo collage on page 5 from this year's Holiday Basket Program.

Have you "liked" us yet on Facebook? It is the best way to keep up with our ongoing volunteer needs. Recent posts have asked for help staffing tables at events, moving boxes, shoveling, helping at a food drive, and seeking suggestions for a movie title for our Volunteer Recognition Movie Night. It is a great way to get introduced to volunteering with us, especially when many of our day-to-day operations positions are already fully staffed.

We are still plotting this year's Volunteer Recognition Night. Please keep your eye on Facebook and our website for more information. All volunteers will be welcome and we hope that you will be able to join us.



Join us at the Mall of America on Saturday, February 19 between 10 am - 3 pm as we participate in HandsOn Twin Cities Volunteer Expo. We'll have a booth and be promoting Dining Out for Life and our other activities. You can also learn about dozens of other volunteer opportunities across the Twin Cities. We may still need help staffing our booth, too. Interested? Let me know!

With all this said, remember that Dining Out for Life is but a blink away and we once again will need hundreds of Ambassadors! Qualifications include:

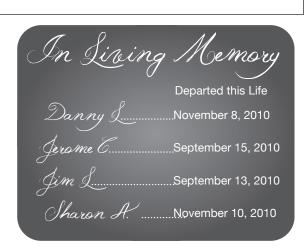
- Be able to talk glowingly about The Aliveness Project
- Inviting tons of friends to your restaurant
- •Be able to smile and have FUN for 3-4 hours!



Please think about who you will recruit as NEW Ambassadors this year, because we'll be in need of some new faces. Do be in touch about joining in for breakfast, lunch, or dinner for **Dining Out for Life on Thursday**, **April 28th!** Look for the sign-up on our website soon.

Aliveness Project Need List:

- New space heaters for therapy rooms
- Chiropractic or massage tables in very good condition
- GREAT prizes for our Dining Out for Life Drawing (such as airline, art or sporting event tickets, in-kind services, vacation stays, gift baskets, etc.)
- Colored copy paper
- 10+ inch digital frame for community displays



My name is Sabrina Cornell Miller (LAc., MAOM.) and I am the owner of Zhen-qi Acupuncture clinic. I have practiced acupuncture since 1997. I studied at MIAHS with Edith Davis and Northwestern Health Science University.

All my life, I was interested in natural healing modalities, so I studied Herbs and Massage Therapy in Germany. My mother would always give me herbal teas when I was sick and I never forgot the comfort that it produced.

When I came to America in 1987 I learned, because of my own physical and emotional health issues, that I needed to further my knowledge of healing modalities. I started to deepen my studies in herbology and acupuncture and also studied independently with "barefoot doctor," Dr. Viet Duk. I am a pediatric and adult Tui-na practitioner and also a Reiki Master Teacher since 1995.

My work with The Aliveness Project started over 15 years ago when I did my internship for the acupuncture college. I fell in love with this place and the wonderful people and have volunteered ever since! It's like family and we all share so much on so many different levels.

In my free time, I dance (Flamenco and Bellydance) and facilitate dance and drum circles at my clinic. Dance and music clear my spirit!!

I look forward to my continued work at The Aliveness Project.



Sabrina Cornell Miller LAC., MAOM. www.zhen-qi.com



My name is Kathy Gagne and I'm honored to now be offering Reiki energy healing at The Aliveness Project. I was introduced to this practice as a way to self-heal, and have found it to be very effective. Reiki treatments are painless and non-invasive, can boost the immune system as well as reduce stress, and can also increase the healing quality of other therapies.

The warm and enthusiastic welcome I have received from staff, volunteers and members have made my first few afternoons at The Aliveness Project genuinely joyful. I am hoping many more members will allow me the opportunity to introduce them to this ancient method of energy healing. I will be at The Aliveness Project on Mondays, with one-hour sessions at 2:00 and 3:00 pm starting near the end of February.

THANK YOU DONORS!

Thanks to everyone who gave financial and in-kind gifts between October 12th 2010 and December 31st, 2010

Hiawatha Church

Hunger Solutions

Minnesota

IBM Employee

Minnesota

Fidelity

Services Center

Strategies/Stratford

Baptist Church

Living Spirit United

Lutheran Church of

Loring Kitchen & Bar

Methodist Church

Macalester Plymouth

Mavrik Realty

Minneapolis Eagle

Minneapolis South

Minnesota College

of Acupuncture

Minnesota Department

of Human Services,

Rotary Club

Christ the Redeemer

United Church Youth

ORGANIZATIONS

A Shoe - A - New. Inc. **ACES (Athletes Committed** to Educating Students) Alexandra House Alzheimer's Association Ameriprise Financial -Black Employee Network

Aprés Party & Table Rental Atons of Minneapolis

Avalon School, Purple **Butterflies GSA**

Bachman's

Bazinet Foundation

Department **Billy Elliot National Tour**

Black Guard of Minneapolis

Blackbird

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota

Cargill

Cargill, Inc Treasury The Chair Salon

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Christ English Lutheran Church

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Communications Workers Connections Academy

Core Power Yoga

Cretin-Derham Hall

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Charitable Foundation

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Foundation **Edward Jones**

Ernst & Young

First Christian Church First Equity Mortgage

Fischer on Finance, LLC Fridley United Methodist Church

Friendly Hills Middle School

Frush Family Foundation **Garrett Family Foundation**

Girl Scouts of

MN/Wisconsin/ River Valley - Troop 54209 **Glad Creations**

GLBT Pride/Twin Cities

Golden Living Center -Chateau

GoodSearch H & B Gallery

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Imperial Court of Integrated Healthcare Jensen Group Judson Memorial

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Calvary Lutheran Church

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Minnesota Red Ribbon Ride

HIV/AIDS

Minnesota Stocks. Debentures & Bonds, Inc.

New Spirit United Church of Christ

Nicollet-East Harriet **Business Association** Otto Bremer Foundation

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Phresh Spa Salon

Prime Timers -Minneapolis/St. Paul

Chapter Sawatdee Thai Restaurant

Seven: The Steakhouse Shir Tikvah: 7th **Grade Class**

Smith Partners PLLP Smitten Kitten

Soup! Party

Southside Farm Store St. Anthony Park

Lutheran Church St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church

St. Marv's University of Minnesota

Steeple People Surplus Store Sustology

The Saloon Tickles Food & Bar Toys For Tots Tres Jolie Salon

TRUST Youth Group Twin Cities Gav Men's Chorus

U of M - AAS 3920: Asian American Youth and Pop Culture Class

University of Minnesota, The HIV/STI Intervention and Prevention (HIPS)

Valley of Peace Lutheran Church Wanderers Car Club

Washington County Library Wells Fargo Foundation

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

Wells Fargo Insurance ASC Wilde Roast Café Worldwide Outreach

Xcel Energy --**Property Services**

for Christ

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Timothy Tormoen *

* Denotes Friends of Aliveness Program donors, who have pledged monthly or quarterly donations to The Aliveness Project.

Janet Hugger

Louise Ziegler

Judith Zier

Lee Zurek

We apologize if we inadvertently missed including your name on our donor list.

Chad Patrow

Marion Paulson

Nancy & Anthony Paul

HOLIDAY BASKET THANK YOU

Each year after Holiday Baskets, we hear from many members of The Aliveness Project who are so appreciative of the extraordinary kindness of the adopters, the caring spirit of the volunteers who deliver their baskets, the sweet paintings on their baskets and the act of being remembered where many have no one around to acknowledge them.

From the many letters we received, we have compiled some of them below for your perusal. Please know that each of you made a **HUGE** difference!

"Thank you so much! Wow! Words cannot describe what all these gifts on Christmas Eve 2010 means to me. Upon hearing the news of my HIV+ status in April, I was devastated to my very core....If it wasn't for places like The Aliveness Project, I wouldn't be here today."

"Thank you for your wonderful gifts. If it weren't for your generosity there would be no Christmas."

"Seeing the smile on my daughter's face was priceless."

"To all of you at The Aliveness Project, including donors and volunteers — all of you made Christmas for me and my partner the best. We are alone and you put smiles on our faces. We are so grateful to have someone who cares about us and people living with HIV/AIDS. I've been needing winter boots for a couple of years and now I have them thanks to all of you..."

"This was my first year in Minnesota and most of my family lives in Tennessee. I wasn't expecting a real Christmas. You helped change that for me. I really want to know how much I appreciate everything you have done for me."

"Thank you very much for such a beautiful coat! You guys are really sweet. You have always treated me so well when I come there for therapies or food shelf"

"I thank the donors and volunteers so much for the wonderful gifts they gave to me and my family...may God Bless them and you, The Aliveness Project for all that you do for many families that are going through tough and trying times..."

"Your service is a blessing to us families who live in poverty and can't afford Christmas presents. Our children couldn't be happier. You put smiles on my children's faces....priceless."

"We are very poor and moved away from family. You really helped us feel at home. We would have had nothing and appreciate what you sent!"

"The kindness, generous and thoughtfulness brought tears of joy to our family, whom otherwise would not have had anything...winter hats, gloves, ear muff and thermals were indeed a necessity!...seeing our child's face when she got her first pair of roller blades cannot be described. It leaves me with tears and restores our faith in humanity!"

FOOD SHELF NEWS

Ho, Ho, Ho! November and December 2010 was a very busy time in the Food Shelf at The Aliveness Project. We received numerous donations this holiday season. Many people have stepped up to the plate and have donated much-needed food, toiletries, and everything in between so we were able to fill everybody's bags to overflowing. Our members appreciated the many extra donated treats such as candy canes, cookies, candy, etc.

There are so many of you that helped us out that I cannot begin to list all of you in this small space. We received donations from businesses, organizations, churches, salons, concerts venues, bars and restaurants, as well as folks that held holiday parties and asked their guests to bring donations of food and just plain folks that like to help in any way they can. There were also many anonymous donors. I hope you all know that you are definitely appreciated!

Even though it is a bit early, I want to plant a seed in everyone's head that this coming March is Minnesota FoodShare Campaign month. That means we try to get as many people as possible to host food drives at work, school, church, or wherever so we will have a successful campaign again this year. Every year it gets bigger, so if you want more info about it go to www.mnfoodshare.gmcc.org and read all about it. You can also go to our website at www.aliveness.org and go to the Food Shelf section where you can print a list of items we need in our Food Shelf.

We will also be holding a Food Drive on March 19 and 20 at The Wedge Community Co-op on Lyndale and Franklin. We always need volunteers to help!

The whole Food Shelf gang would like to wish you a very happy holiday season and a wonderful, healthy and happy new year!
Thanks again for all you do.

Dan Capelli

Food Shelf Director



Or register online at

http://www.aliveness.org/dol-restaurant



11

2011 DINING OUT FOR LIFE - RESTAURANT AGREEMENT FORM

Restaurant:	Contact Name:		
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Office Phone:	Restaurant Phone:	Fax:	
Website:	E-mail:		
Thursday Business Hours:	Cuisine:	Region:	
This agreement for participatin	g in the Dining Out for Life ev	ent to be conducted on Thursday,	
April 28, 2011 is between		(Restaurant) and The Aliveness	
Project, Inc. (Collectively "DOI	L") .		
Your restaurant,		, agrees to:	
☐ Platinum Level (35 ☐ Silver Level (20 - 2	4%):%	Gold Level (25 - 34%):% Bronze Level (15 - 19%):%	
Check all meals applied	cable: 🗆 Breakfast 🗀 Lu	nch Dinner	
Check one: ☐ Food 8	Beverage Including Alcohol	☐ Food & Beverage (no alcohol)	
 Promote Dining Out for Life material provided by DOL at 	within the restaurant by hanging least three weeks prior and up to	posters, and distributing other promotional othe date of the event.	
 On the day of the event, distribution/feedback envelopes questions about The Alivenes 	; and permit volunteer ambassade	Il material provided by DOL, including or(s) at restaurant to thank patrons and answe	
		l materials as per participation level.	
 Submit a check in the amou ALIVENESS PROJECT by 	nt of restaurant's above-desigr Friday, May 6, 2011.	nated donation, made payable to THE	
The Dining Out for Life Con	nmittee (DOL) agrees to:		
• Organize the event, including	arranging restaurant participatio	n and public relations.	
 Promote Dining Out for Life distributing posters, sending a releases to local media. 	and participating restaurants by participating a targeted direct-mail promotional	placing advertisements in local media, il postcard to potential diners, and press	
 Solicit media and corporate s 	ponsorship.		
 Provide promotional material 	s to restaurants.		
Restaurant Representative's Signature:		Date:	
Aliveness Project Representative's Signa	ature:	Date:	
PLEA	ASE RETURN YOUR COMPLET	ED FORM TO:	
The Aliveness Project - At		38 th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407	

January/February 2011

730 East 38th Street Minneapolis, MN 55407

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