

# the Aliveline

Serving Our HIV/AIDS Community Since 1985 January/February 2010 Vol. 20, Issue 1

## DINING OUT FOR LIFE —

Mark your calendars for Dining Out for Life, which this year takes place on Thursday, April 29. Our 2009 DOL event raised over \$127,000 and we hope to have another successful year! If you know of a restaurant that might want to participate, please contact Tim Marburger at our office, or give them the form on page 11.

## MARCH IS MINNESOTA FOODSHARE MONTH —

March is Minnesota FoodShare Month. Like other food shelves in our state, the current economic situation has caused a dramatic increase in the number of people needing help from local food shelves. In 2008, our Food Shelf provided 13 percent more services than the previous year. So, please consider sending a donation to help us respond to this dramatic increase of those in need.

## MIRACLE ON 38TH STREET —

This year's Holiday Basket Program was a great success once again — due to the support of people like you! It really is miraculous how hundreds of volunteers and donors care enough to make this happen! This year, we distributed 661 baskets with gifts for more than 900 adults and 400 children!

This year, 443 baskets were adopted. Thanks to everyone who donated presents, made financial gifts and volunteered. People like you have helped make this miracle happen for the past 22 years!

Here is what one of this year's recipients said about his basket:

*"[Receiving the basket] feels wonderful! It feels like one is not really alone. The fact that there are some fabulous people like yourselves who make this time of year not so lonely... It renews the belief that God is looking out for us. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Felicidades!"*

### Special thanks to the following businesses, groups and individuals who made generous donations this year:

- All God's Children MCC adopted 4 family baskets with 20 family members.
- Après Party & Tent Rental loaned 40 tables for our Holiday Basket Program
- Atons of Minneapolis collected 311 pounds of food at their annual Holiday Party.
- Bachman's donated 250 poinsettias.
- Black Guard of Minneapolis collected donations for our Food Shelf.

*continued on page 2...*

### 3 Meet Some Volunteers

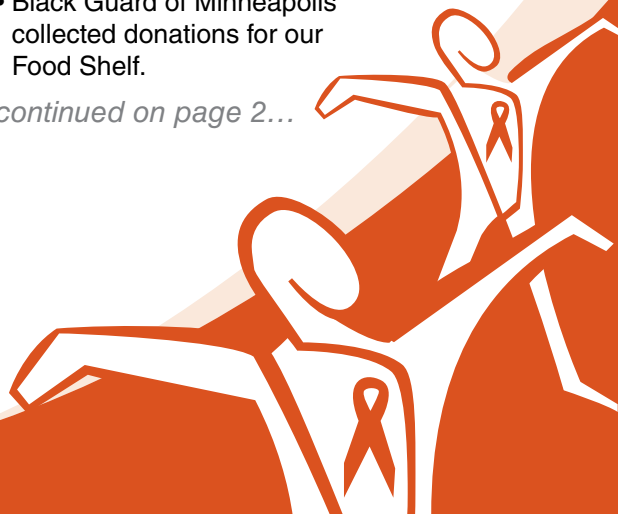
*Holiday Basket Program Helpers*

### 6 Veterinary Volunteers

*The "angels" from Inver Grove Heights Animal Hospital*

### 11 Planning for 2010 Dining Out For Life

*Sign your restaurant up today!*



continued from page 1...

- Cargill Rainbow Alliance donated 12 gift certificates for free turkeys for our members.
  - First Christian Church donated \$1,000 and adopted some baskets
  - Hiawatha Church adopted 3 family baskets.
  - Imperial Court raised \$235 for The Aliveness Project.
  - Integrated Healthcare Strategies donated \$200 and adopted 3 baskets for 10 individuals.
  - John Doll of John Doll Studios adopted baskets for 70 individuals.
  - Kenneth Bobowsky donated 560 CDs, 150 hand-held computer games, 541 VHS movies and 350 DVDs.
  - Louise Ziegler donated \$500 and adopted 4 family baskets, serving 14 people.
  - Lutheran Church of Christ the Redeemer adopted 5 baskets.
  - Macalester Plymouth UCC adopted 3 family baskets with 16 recipients.
  - Minnesota Department of Human Services HIV/AIDS staff adopted baskets for 5 individuals.
  - New Spirit UCC adopted 6 baskets, including 20 individuals.
  - Regions Hospital Radiology Dept. staff adopted baskets for 7 recipients
  - St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church donated 1,389 pounds of food shelf items and promoted our Holiday Basket Program to their members.
  - The Chair Salon adopted 4 baskets.
  - The Minneapolis Rotary Club donated \$2,500 for our Food Shelf.
  - The Orpheum Theatre donated 105 tickets to the 101 Dalmatians Musical.
  - Timothy Kanaley and Kenny Kiser adopted 3 family baskets, serving 12 individuals.
  - TRUST Youth Groups adopted baskets for 13 individuals.
  - University of Minnesota Facilities Management donated 5 turkeys.
  - UPS Foundation donated \$1,500 to pay for boxes and clothing for our Holiday Basket Program, and \$5,000 for new computers for our Food Shelf, Meal Program, Internet Library and Receptionist.
  - Valley of Peace Lutheran Church adopted baskets for 7 individuals.
  - Westminster Presbyterian Church donated 394 pairs of socks.
- **Joe Larson**  
Executive Director

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## The Aliveline

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# Holiday Baskets 2009

HAPPY NEW YEAR! from the Fundraising and Special Events guy. 2010 is going to be an exciting year. Hopefully, we will get into our new building later this year. After experiencing a very crowded, very cramped Holiday Basket season, I will be glad.

Holiday Baskets, while very crowded, were VERY exhilarating! We had 661 families request baskets and at the writing of this newsletter we had adopted 443. It is always fun to see people come into deliver their adopted baskets as they gaze amazingly at "Santa's Workshop." They saw the wonderfully painted baskets from school children and employee groups. Cookies were baked and snuggled in the packaging with care. Stockings and quilts were made with love. Volunteers came in daily to wrap and fill boxes. Carols wafted through the building as sisters sang and laughter rang out. Drivers warmed their engines to deliver with speed the hundreds of baskets on Christmas Eve. Then the elves quietly sighed as the last packages arrived throughout the state; a job well done... Alas, our last Holiday Baskets at 730 East 38th Street.

*HAPPY NEW YEAR and THANK YOU  
for all you did to make the lives of  
people better in 2009.*

**– Tim Marburger, Director of Fundraising &  
Special Events**







## Dine Out, Fight AIDS

**Thursday, April 29, 2010**

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 exhorting 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 to our list from 2009. We'll also need prizes and poster deliverers. I have one volunteer working on recruitment, but there is much to be done.

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

Remember the fun from last year???



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Just how long has Arin McNeese volunteered at The Aliveness Project? “Since turkey was served on Thanksgiving” is Arin’s quick and wide-grinned response. Many have encountered Arin’s bright grin whether at our Thanksgiving celebration, at our summer picnic, while bringing in presents for Holiday Baskets, on in a myriad of other tasks she helps to perform “just to help Monica stay sane.”

Arin’s schedule is busy working full time at BioScrip Pharmacy and spending time with her partner and her dog. She also volunteers for the Rainbow Health Initiative, the Minnesota Transgender Health Coalition, and Open Arms. With all that on her plate, why does Arin volunteer with The Aliveness Project and what keeps her coming back for more? “This really is the most amazing place to volunteer!” Arin encourages others to join in.

One of Arin’s favorite Aliveness Project memories is the plea of one little girl who wanted a pony in her Holiday Basket. When a large stuffed pony happened to be donated, Arin keenly hunted down the little girl’s basket to do our best to fulfill her wish.

Arin’s care is genuine and we thank her for all that she shares with the Aliveness community! Arin is so dedicated to our Holiday Basket program that she even carved a “Charlie Brown” Christmas tree into her hairdo!

## A Letter from Monica

Happy New Year to all of our astounding volunteers! My deepest thanks for all that you do to support The Aliveness Project. Whether you help once a year, or multiple times a week, together you 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 from this year’s Holiday Basket Program to see some of your latest fine work on page 3.

To share in our thanks, we hope that you and a guest will come to our 3rd Annual Volunteer Recognition Movie Night at the beautifully stunning Heights Theatre on the evening of Thursday, February 25. We’ll start at 6:30 p.m. with our cake social (baked by our loving kitchen staff), then a short program, followed at 8:00 p.m. by the acclaimed film starring Meryl Streep, *Julie & Julia*. All volunteers are welcome and we hope you’ll join us! RSVPs requested.

With all this said, do you know that Dining Out for Life is but a blink away and we are going to be once again in need of hundreds of Ambassadors! Qualifications include being able to talk glowingly about The Aliveness Project,

inviting tons of friends to your restaurant, and being able to smile and have FUN for 3-4 hours! Do be in touch about joining in for breakfast, lunch or dinner for Dining Out for Life on Thursday, April 29th!

– Monica

**JOIN US!**  
**February 25<sup>th</sup>**







## Veterinary Volunteers

I wish a Happy New Year to all of you. I have not written an article in quite some time, however, I feel compelled to write about our “angels” from Inver Grove Heights Animal Hospital. I want people to know about this beautiful group of women who generously give their professional skills and time to The Aliveness Project.

These doctors, certified veterinary technicians, staff, and volunteers have been coming to our agency and holding a pet clinic on Saturday afternoons since March 2006. Since then, our members received 317 appointments, during which the vets administered approximately 1051 vaccinations for rabies and distemper to the dogs and cats.

Watching the day’s activities during a Pet Clinic is truly impressive. On an average pet clinic day, anywhere from 32 to 45 animals are examined and treated, all within a 90-minute time frame. Three or four vets come to each Pet Clinic. The ladies usually rotate and take turns

coming out here. The process is amazingly time efficient and productive.

The lobby is full of members meeting each other’s animals and sharing stories about their pets. On one occasion, two little Chihuahuas started barking. This got the other dogs in the lobby barking. It was hilarious. We had a lobby full of dogs that barked for about seven minutes non-stop. I found it quite entertaining.

This year I want to give thanks for our wonderful volunteer vets and technicians from Inver Grove Heights Animal Hospital. They really rock. The doctors of veterinary medicine are Ann Valenti DVM, Jennifer Quast DVM, Heidi Mittelsteadt DVM, Sarah Wilcox DVM, and Heidi Hammel, DVM. The Certified Veterinary Technicians are Kathy Moore, CVT and Shari Cueto, CVT. In addition, we have had a volunteer named Cate Heimann. Thanks, ladies, for taking such loving care of pets of The Aliveness Project members.

– Johnny Herda-Anzaldo LSW

## ATTENTION MEMBERS!

There will be an all-member meeting for proposed by-law changes on **Tuesday, February 23, at 7 p.m.** ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

## Food Shelf News

by Dan Capelli - Food Shelf Director

Can you believe it's 2010! I hope everyone had a wonderful 2009 Holiday Season, and that 2010 will bring good health, cheer and happiness.

It has been a busy Holiday Basket season for us in the Food Shelf at The Aliveness Project and for all the volunteers that helped out. They were great! There are so many people that had food drives for us or just donated to our food shelf that I am just going to name as many as I can that have come in by today's date (12/16/09).

South Side Farm Store – 208 lbs plus cash

Joyce K. – 63 lbs and she helped us out for most of one whole day. Joyce you are the best!

St Joan of Arc Catholic Church – 1,389 lbs

Charlotte M. – 33 lbs

U of M Biostatistics Department - 136 lbs

Hmong MN Student Association - 130 lbs

Atons of Minneapolis – 311 lbs

Tom B – 90 lbs

Neal K - 30 lbs

Steve K and Aaron H - 17 lbs

Rachel S and Anne H - 79 lbs

Black Guard at their Gay 90s event - 118 lbs

Anne G - 37 lbs

If I left anyone out, please accept my apologies. We have had so many people helping in the food shelf and I know they were great, but it is difficult for me to remember all of you, again my apologies.

We hope to do our next food drive in **March at The Wedge Co-op** on Lyndale and Franklin. Let's just hope for warm weather. Thanks to all the folks who recycle their tall handle bags to The Aliveness Project. They save us a lot of money on paper bags.

I truly hope that this will be a very healthy year for all of us. We need one!

## Aliveness Project Wish List:

- **Colored copy paper**
- **New space heater for therapy room**
- **Chiropractor table**
- **Analog to digital TV converter box**
- **Basic 12" - 20" digital picture frame for event displays**



## Caritas VOCAL ENSEMBLE

### Giving Through Song

Caritas Vocal Ensemble will be doing a fundraising concert for The Aliveness Project!

**Sunday, February 28, 4 pm**

Lutheran Church of Christ the Redeemer  
5440 Penn Avenue S, Minneapolis.

**FOR SALE**



### Office and Retail Space

730 38th Street East; Mpls, MN 55407

Price: \$399,000

Total SF: 6,720 Gross

Contact: Mark Hulsey or Rick Wildtraut

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# Thanks, Donors!

**Thanks to everyone who gave financial and in-kind gifts between October 21 and December 21, 2009.**



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All God's Children  
Metropolitan  
Community Church  
Ameriprise Financial  
Employee Giving  
Campaign  
Apple Valley Medical  
Center  
Apres Party and Tent  
Rental  
Atons of Minneapolis  
Bachman's  
Beckman Coulter,  
Assay Technical  
Support Department  
BioScrip Pharmacy  
Black Guard of  
Minneapolis  
Bryant Lake Bowl  
Calvary Lutheran  
Church  
Cargill Rainbow  
Alliance  
Cars With Heart  
Central Lutheran  
Church - Hannah  
Circle  
Christian Brothers of  
MN Miguel House  
Coldwell Banker  
Burnet  
Communications  
Workers of America,  
Local 7250, AFL  
Community United  
Methodist Church  
Como Zoo &  
Conservatory  
Cretin-Derham Hall  
DailyMed Pharmacy  
David S. Ascher  
Charitable Foundation  
De LaSalle High  
School  
District 202  
Edward Jones

Faith Mennonite  
Church  
First Christian Church  
First Equity Mortgage  
Friendly Hills Middle  
School  
Glad Creations Quilt  
Block  
GoodSearch  
Hennepin Avenue  
United Methodist  
Church, Reconciling  
Committee  
Hennepin Theatre  
Trust  
Hiawatha Church  
Hillel House, University  
of Minnesota  
Hmong MN Student  
Association  
Homecare Assist  
Hot Plate  
Hunger Solutions  
Minnesota  
IBM Employee  
Services Center  
Ichiban Japanese  
Steak House  
Imperial Court of  
Minnesota  
Integrated Healthcare  
Strategies  
Inver Grove Heights  
Animal Hospital  
King Family  
Foundation  
Lavender Magazine  
Lucky Ladies Social  
Club  
Lutheran Church of  
Christ the Redeemer  
Macalester Plymouth  
United Church, Youth  
Macemon Photography  
May Day Café  
Minneapolis  
Foundation

Minneapolis Movie  
Bears  
Minneapolis South  
Rotary Club  
Minnesota International  
Center, International  
Visitor Leadership  
Program  
MN Department Of  
Human Services,  
HIV/AIDS  
New Spirit United  
Church of Christ  
Phresh Spa Salon  
Preferred Closings, LLC  
Preston Kelly  
Prime Timers -  
Minneapolis/St. Paul  
Chapter  
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Radiology Department  
Rivers Way Meditation  
Center  
Saint Paul Foundation  
Shir Tikvah, 7th Grade  
Sunday School class  
Smith Partners PLLP  
Southside Farm Store  
Spirit of the Lakes  
St. Anthony Park  
Lutheran Church,  
Confirmation  
Families  
St. Joan of Arc  
Catholic Church  
Target Financial  
Services, TFS Target  
Volunteer Council  
TCUL Summer  
League  
The Chair Salon  
The Medtronic  
Foundation  
The Saloon  
TRUST Youth Group  
TwinsCare, Minnesota  
Twins Baseball Club

University of Minnesota,  
Biostat Department  
University of Minnesota,  
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UPS Foundation, Inc  
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Mark & Shirley Mund	Jason J. Potasnik	Greg & Molly Sebold	Pierre Tardif & Eric Tollefson	
Donna J. Munro	Mary S Potter	William Seely	Bob & Linda Tomaschko	
Audrey Murray & David Barkmeier	Thomas M. Powell & Paul Hill	Pat Seger & John Dykstra	Tim Tormoen	
Colleen & Brett Murray	Jacqueline M. Preusse	Carlyn Shanley	Meredith Torres-Walsh	
Ruben Murray	James A. Quan	Bradley C. Shark	Laura Toth	
Erica Nego	Linda & Jeff Raines	Erika Shatz	Mark & Colleen Tracy	
Robert C. Nehotte	Kevin Rajotte	Nicky & Becky Simon Burton	Kelsey True	
Bob & Mary Nelson	Judy Ratliff	Ann & Wayne Sisel	Stacy Tuccitto	
Kendra Nelson			Tony Tuchscher & James Klahr	
Rachel Nieder			Ferno S. Urbina	
Michael T. Noble			Kathy Vader*	
			Lawrence G. Valley	

\*Denotes Friends of  
Aliveness Program  
donors, who pledge  
monthly gifts.



# 2010 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 participating in the Dining Out for Life event to be conducted in on Thursday, April 29, 2010 is between \_\_\_\_\_ (Restaurant) and The Aliveness Project, Inc. (Collectively "DOL").**

Your restaurant, \_\_\_\_\_, agrees to:

- Donate to The Aliveness Project your designated percentage (**indicate actual percentage on line provided**) of total food and beverage sales on Thursday, April 29, 2010:  
☐ **Platinum Level (35% or higher):** \_\_\_\_\_ %      ☐ **Gold Level (25 - 34%):** \_\_\_\_\_ %  
☐ **Silver Level (20 - 24%):** \_\_\_\_\_ %      ☐ **Bronze Level (15 - 19%):** \_\_\_\_\_ %  
**Check all meals applicable:** ☐ **Breakfast** ☐ **Lunch** ☐ **Dinner**  
**Check one:** ☐ **Food & Beverage (including alcohol)** ☐ **Food & Beverage (no alcohol)**
- Promote Dining Out for Life within the restaurant by hanging posters, and distributing other promotional material provided by DOL at least three weeks prior to event.
- On the day of the event, distribute to each patron informational material provided by DOL, including donation/feedback envelopes; **and** permit volunteer ambassador(s) at restaurant to thank patrons and answer questions about The Aliveness Project.
- Allow restaurant's name and/or logo to be used in promotional materials as per participation level.
- **Submit a check in the amount of restaurant's above-designated donation, made payable to THE ALIVENESS PROJECT by Friday, May 7, 2010.**

## **The Dining Out for Life Committee (DOL) agrees to:**

- Organize the event, including arranging restaurant participation and public relations.
- Promote Dining Out for Life and participating restaurants by placing advertisements in local media, distributing posters, sending a targeted direct-mail promotional postcard to potential diners, and press releases to local media.
- Solicit media and corporate sponsorship.
- Provide promotional materials to restaurants.

Restaurant Representative's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Aliveness Project Representative's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM BY FEBRUARY 5, 2010 AND SEND TO:**  
**The Aliveness Project – Attn: Tim Marburger, 730 East 38th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407**  
**www.aliveness.org      Tel: 612.822.7946      Fax: 612.822.9668**



**January/February 2010**

730 East 38th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
Change Service Requested

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U.S. Postage  
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Minneapolis, MN  
Permit No. 3134



# **DINING OUT FOR LIFE**

## **Mark Your Calendar!**



Mark your calendars now  
for the 16th annual  
Dining Out For Life event:

**THURSDAY,  
April 29, 2010**

Ambassadors, it is not too early to  
contact us about your restaurant  
choices and shifts!



**KARE 11 meteorologist and DOL diner Sven Sundgaard**