



Guiding Our Neighbors
Toward Self-Sufficiency

The Bread Line

MAY 2007

HIGHLIGHTS:

- ◆ ODB Volunteers!
- ◆ Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
- ◆ New Faces
- ◆ Do you have 5 minutes to help ODB?
- ◆ How close are WE to Homelessness

MISSION

To identify and address the unmet basic life needs of Fairfax County residents. Our goal is to empower the community to help our neighbors maintain self-sufficiency. We aim to prevent homelessness.

PROGRAMS

Food Program
Financial Assistance
Financial Mentoring
School Supplies
Holiday Assistance

ATTENTION FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Our CFC # is 7882
Please register
Our Daily Bread
Thank you!!

OUR DAILY BREAD
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Fairfax VA 22030-6903
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www.our-daily-bread.org

Your Work is Our Work

Our Daily Bread could not function without our hardworking volunteers. From individuals to groups, tweens to boomers, organizers to mentors, long time volunteers to one-timers, we appreciate them all!

We try and identify opportunities for teens and we use them whenever possible. For example, W.T. Woodson HS students assembled this newsletter.

In 2006, 6 interns assisted ODB staff with public relations, fundraising and coordinating our Back to School Program. Currently, a



One of the many W.T. Woodson HS students that assembled this newsletter!

George Mason University student is generating interest in Fairfax County schools and churches to conduct "mini-walks" as part of the Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Walk.

Some of our Food Coordinators and their church volunteers have been delivering food to families in need for over 10 years!

Volunteers that take referrals for assistance over the phone have been with ODB 1-5 years. Most of our Office Assistants have been here for 2-3 years.

ODB has added 5 new board members in the past 6 months. Others have served on the board for 8+ years!

The long term commitment of our volunteers is invaluable to ODB's

We LOVE Our Daily Bread Volunteers

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON '07



Financial Mentors, Jan Hamilton and Cheree Warrick

April is volunteer month across the country. It takes a special person to give their time and energy to others less fortunate.

In celebration for all our hardworking, dedicated volunteers, we hosted a lunch in their honor.



IT Guru, John Grannis



ODB Board Co-President, Jill Kerr



Check writers, Marge and Mel Youngwerth; GMU Intern, Erika Woodworth

**THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS**

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New Faces

New Food Coordinators

Reston Bible Church has generously offered to organize deliveries 3 times this year! **Calvary Church** has also come forward to deliver this summer. We are thrilled to have 2 new congregations assisting ODB!

New Interns

ODB is working with a GMU student, Erika Woodworth, in making contacts and generating awareness about our fall fundraiser, **Fannie Mae's Help the Homeless Walkathon** and mini-walks.

We also hired University of VA student, Rebecca Campione, as an intern through a joint venture with ExxonMobil and Volunteer Fairfax. Rebecca will manage our Back to School program and develop educational materials for social workers about our Holiday Program.

We will be hosting two Fairfax Unitarian Universalist Summer Experience (FUUSE) high school paid interns this summer. These internships, made possible by the generosity of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, will provide administrative help with the Back to School and Holiday Program.

We look forward to a very productive summer!

Take 5 minutes. . .

HELP SPREAD THE WORD

With the warm weather approaching, the winter holiday season is the last thing on your mind. Spring and Summer is the perfect time to plant the seed for a successful 2007 Holiday Program. We need your help to spread the word.

Please consider sharing the enclosed handout with a friend and asking your employer to:

- ◆ Distribute this handout to employees the first week of November
- ◆ Post this handout on company bulletin board during November and December
- ◆ Post a link from your company's website to ODB's during November and December
- ◆ Participate in or donate to ODB's programs
- ◆ Organize a company program to adopt families

ODB needs people to help our neighbors in need. Local businesses, civic groups and congregations can make a difference in Fairfax County. We have more families in need than we have families willing to adopt them for the holidays. If you are willing to help us with this endeavor, please contact Karen Elliott at odb.holidayprogram@verizon.net.

Be an active community member. Help guide our neighbors toward self-sufficiency!

Got to
www.our-daily-bread.org
for a link to the
NBC4 video
"Living Paycheck
to Paycheck"
aired 4/25/07.

How Close are you to Homelessness?

On April 25, 2007, NBC Channel 4 aired a story interviewing an ODB client, Elizabeth Heyerdahl and Executive Director, Pam Schadt, for a story about how close many of us are to homelessness. Think about it...if you got sick and were not paid for the work you missed, could you pay your mortgage? What if you were laid off, couldn't find a job, and had to choose between paying for food and rent?

The reality is that some families live on the brink of homelessness and may not fit a certain stereotype. This is particularly true in Fairfax County, where the costs of living are so high. ODB works with and

has helped many families at risk of homelessness. Elizabeth is one of these people.

Elizabeth is college educated, holds a steady job, and rents a modest townhouse. But she has had her share of challenges. She receives little child support and is burdened with significant debt, stemming in part from large medical bills. Financially, it would take very little to push Elizabeth over the edge and into homelessness.

But with ODB's help, Elizabeth is working hard to move herself away from the edge. She receives supplemental groceries to help with her immediate needs. In addition, she is working with an ODB Financial

Mentor and has crafted a plan to achieve a more secure financial future. She is certainly on the right track.

Another ODB client, Melissa (her name has been changed) has managed her finances and life without aid. But, after a series of unforeseen events, Melissa finds herself as the caregiver for three children. Her stable financial picture suddenly looks very different. ODB had been able to help her with supplemental groceries. She, too, is working towards financial stability, for her and the children for whom she cares.

Contact ODB to see how you can help!

OUR DAILY BREAD

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