



Filling the Gaps for People in Need

# The Bread Line

OCTOBER 2006

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- ◆ Holiday Program
- ◆ Back to School Program
- ◆ Help the Homeless Fundraiser
- ◆ Client Success Story
- ◆ Transitions at ODB

### Visit us at Borders

Our Daily Bread will be at Border's Book Store in Fairfax on Saturday, December 9 from 9am to 4pm to raise money for the Holiday Program and to solicit individuals to adopt families for the holidays.

Come see us and see how you can help!

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

OUR DAILY BREAD  
10777 Main Street, #320  
Fairfax VA 22030-6903  
p: 703-273-8829  
f: 703-273-7131  
www.our-daily-bread.org

## The Holiday Program

The holidays *can* be a wonderful time of year with all of the festivities, but if you're struggling to feed your family, the holidays become an additional financial burden. Our Daily Bread's (ODB) Holiday Program helps alleviate some holiday stress for these families.

In the heat of July and August, ODB began preparations for the 2006 Holiday Program. This year we anticipate an increased number of families requiring assistance. With your help, we can provide meals and gifts at Thanksgiving and Christmas to those Fairfax County families that need it most.

ODB has a dual role in the Holiday Program. Our biggest role is coordinating the countywide Holiday Assistance Program. ODB receives requests for assistance from school counselors, social workers and other agencies, then forwards the information

### ADOPT a FAMILY for the holidays

- ◆ Assemble a holiday food basket
- ◆ buy a gift or two
- ◆ buy store gift cards

### Great group or family project



Or  
simply make a financial  
donation to ODB

to the appropriate Community Based Organization (CBO). Last year, Fairfax County CBOs jointly provided food and gifts to over 7,000 families. A 10% increase from 2004!

Our second role is providing food and gifts to people that request assistance after the cut-off dates for service from

other organizations. Last year, due to our donors' generous support, ODB helped almost 550 families - a 45% increase from 2004.

Although we were able to reach 7,000 families, due to limited funding over 300 families received no assistance. Our goal this year is to ensure that everyone who needs assistance receives assistance. ODB thanks you for your generous past support and looks forward to continuing our partnership to "fill the gaps for people in need."

If you would like to make a financial donation to ODB specifically for the holidays, be sure to indicate it on your check.

Contact Janet Bradford at 703-273-8829 or [odb.holidayprogram@verizon.net](mailto:odb.holidayprogram@verizon.net) for more information.

## Where will you be on November 18th?

Join thousands of people committed to helping the homeless in the metro DC area.

In conjunction with Fannie Mae Foundation's Help the Homeless Program, ODB is seeking individuals and groups to participate in their Walk-a-thon on Saturday, November 18 on the Mall in downtown Washington, DC. Registering is easy: click on ODB's website listed below, follow the prompts and designate ODB as your beneficiary organization. ODB will then receive a portion of the proceeds from the event.



Help the Homeless  
Walk-a-thon

Your participation helps us continue our programs to provide supplemental food, financial assistance, and financial mentoring to families in Fairfax County. This assistance keeps families *in their homes* and develops stability and self sufficiency.

So, sign up your book club, your church group, your youth club, or just you and a friend. In addition to increasing awareness, participation gets you involved with your community at large. **Click on [www.our-daily-bread.org](http://www.our-daily-bread.org) and follow the prompts!**

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# Transitions

Hello! My name is Christine Rice and I am the new Food Program Manager at Our Daily Bread. I started working in July! My goal for 2007 is to expand the number of congregations and businesses that deliver food for Our Daily Bread. If you think your group would be interested in participating in this program, I would love to come speak to you. Give me a call at 703-273-8829.

Goodbye. The Board of Directors and Staff want to thank Sarah White for her 3 years of wonderful service. Sarah brought a new level of organization and professionalism to the Food Program. She raised the bar for all of us. We are sad to see her go and will miss her, but wish her all good things in her next endeavor.

# Off to School

Because of your generous donations, ODB sent over 90 children back to school with supplies this fall. Twenty nine of the children served were ODB clients, the remaining were new referrals from Fairfax County.

Special thanks to New Baptist Church and Emmanuel Lutheran who donated school supplies.

*Over \$4,000 was raised! Thank you!*



# Relief in the Heat

Summer is a difficult time to find organizations to deliver food. While many of us are enjoying summer vacations, many families still need food assistance.

We thank several groups that came to our rescue. The Catholic Work Group made deliveries from ODB's pantry. The West\*Group did a fantastic food drive which provided not only several bags of canned goods, but several bags of toiletries and cleaning products too! Knox Presbyterian Church had an excess of canned goods in their pantry which they willingly shared with us. The Villanova Alumni Group did an entire delivery to our families from the overflow from Knox.

Organizations like these actually make ODB's Food Program happen. If you belong to an organization that would like to "make it happen," call Chris Rice at 703-273-8829.

*"Thank you  
for all that  
you do for  
me and my  
family"  
~Elsa*

# Cheering on Our Clients

Kelly (name has been changed), is a single mother with 5 children. She has a steady job in a medical office that doesn't pay much and intermittently receives minimal child support. She drives an old borrowed van that requires constant maintenance. Kelly is also about to lose her housing.

ODB became involved with Kelly last winter by matching her with a Financial Mentor. Her mentor has helped her immensely. After Kelly and her mentor collaborated to create a frugal but viable budget, her mentor suggested that she

adjust her W-2's to increase her monthly take home pay. This has enabled her to save for a down payment on a more reliable vehicle.

In the meantime, Kelly's name came up on the list to receive Section 8 housing. The problem is that she cannot take advantage of this housing until she pays off outstanding debts of \$6,300. Kelly's mentor and social worker collaborated to help Kelly look for organizations that could help her pay off that debt. Kelly is able to pay half and ODB contributed a significant portion. Kelly and her

mentor approached a local church for help. The church was so impressed with Kelly's turn around and commitment to handling her finances responsibly that they agreed on the spot to pledge the remaining sum.

Financial Mentoring provides one-on-one assistance, encouragement and accountability for clients. Clients are more likely to reach goals when they know someone is cheering for them.

Your donations help ODB be there for such individuals.

**OUR DAILY BREAD**  
10777 Main Street, #320  
Fairfax VA 22030-6903

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