

Mission of Deeds, Inc.
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www.missionofdeeds.org



MISSION of DEEDS, Inc.

Transforming Generosity into Hope,
Providing Beds & Furniture for People in Need.

Anthony J. Triglione
Founder &
President Emeritus

WINTER 2007

6 Chapin Ave., Reading, MA 01867 • (781) 944-9797 • Fax (781) 944-7697

Carolyn B. Hollis
President

From Our Presidents...

Lynne M. Burrow
Vice President

We would like to first take this opportunity to thank all of you who make the Mission of Deeds so special. We are blessed to have such a dedicated group of very caring people who make the lives of our clients a little more tolerable.

We hope you will consider supporting these major challenges we are facing.

Ronald J. Milauskas
Secretary

In this upcoming year, we will be faced with new challenges and, consequently, we need a renewed commitment. The Board of Directors has come to the conclusion that Mission of Deeds needs a new facility and, as a result, we are in the process of looking for a larger warehouse. We are looking to expand our facility in order for the Mission of Deeds to continue its work for decades to come.

Lives depend on your ongoing support. Every gift, large or small, plays a crucial role in allowing Mission of Deeds to move forward and improve the lives of all who come to us for help. Your gift will help more than you can imagine.

Arthur J. Triglione
Treasurer

Thank you for all your support and for making it possible for us to share the Christmas spirit with our clients throughout the year.

Directors

Christopher J. Barrett
Catherine R. Kaminer
William J. Mulrenan
Julieann M. Thurlow
Jan Triglione

We wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with peace and joy.

Development Board
Jan Triglione
Chairperson

Charles R. Adelsberger
Sven Andersen
Brian Boyle
James Burrow
Steve Burton
Rev. Richard C. Messina
Ted Morang
Max Rabinovitch
Edward M. Sandford
John J. Sullivan



Marie N. Tucker
Director of Volunteers

Bruce C. Murison
Executive Director

The Kitchen Table

Sally arrived at our warehouse with a U-Haul truck arranged by her social worker. We went over a checklist with her to make a final determination of her needs and took her through the warehouse to pick out her furniture.

A man then appeared at our door. He said he was here to make a furniture donation. Could we use... a kitchen set?

She was excited to get beds for her children, linens, a nice living room set, bureaus and more. Starting over again after homelessness, as head of her household, Sally was grateful for everything she got. But, after a complete examination of all the furniture in our facility, there was no kitchen table that would meet her needs.

Our volunteers took Sally to look at it and she was amazed to see that not only was it a beautiful set, it was also just the right size for her family and her new apartment. The donor helped load it onto her truck and he was just as moved by the experience as was Sally.

These "coincidences" have happened here so often that we have to wonder if they are "coincidences" at all.



Christmas Spirit... Every Day of the Year

When Joan arrived at our warehouse, we were immediately impressed with her dignity. She was a tall lady, perhaps in her early seventies, who stood with perfect posture and carried herself with grace and quiet resolve. She received an assortment of furniture and kitchenware, but the letter that she sent us later was a greater gift than anything we gave her. We hope you will enjoy this as much as we did, because it shows not only the fine lady she is, but the circumstances of our clients and the way in which your donations are used.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of Mission of Deeds:

Please forgive me for being so tardy in thanking you for your wonderful generosity in helping me get furniture and housewares for my apartment.

May God richly bless you for your selfless service. I came to you in 2007. I am a woman who was accompanied by a very resourceful, wise, and helpful young man from Tri-City Outpatient Services. For over a year, my home had been barren of any furniture but a bed and one chair. There were two

major hurdles to me changing my situation. One was finding affordable furniture; the other was coming up with the money to pay for the delivery of any furniture. My caseworker's location of your wonderful warehouse solved the first problem. I was amazed that you offered your wares free of charge. I will hold you in my heart forever for that. The second problem was solved by the Department of Mental Health paying for the delivery of all the items to my apartment. I want to especially thank you for giving me a microwave, a crock pot, and a blender. You greatly expanded the list of foods I could eat and enjoy. Your Christian love shines so brightly through your deeds.

Again, may God richly bless each of you and the mission you have undertaken.

Love-in-Christ,
"Joan"

Clients like Joan visit us daily and many go away with even more than she did. That is why we say that the spirit of Christmas lives at the Mission of Deeds every day of the year.

Auction & Raffle Items Needed

The golf committee is at work planning our 11th Annual Mission of Deeds Charitable Golf Tournament in June. The golf tournament is our largest fundraiser, raising \$33,000 last year.

We are looking for auction items: services, get-away weekends, sports memorabilia, baskets and other interesting items. We are also looking for raffle items. Both of these events are an important part of the funds raised at the tournament. If you or your business would like to donate items for the auction or raffle, please contact Pat or Bruce at 781-944-8050. We need to start early!

From Our Mailbox

A CLIENT...

I want to thank you very much for all the help you provided me and my family. I am truly grateful for your warm welcome and all the goodies you provided me. I want to remind you that your work is not in vain. My children and I are making good use of the furniture and linen you gave us. Thank you, thank you, and thank you. God Bless you and your donors.

A SOCIAL WORKER...

Thank you for coming to the rescue of a needy family in Lowell. It is wonderful that an agency such as yours exists to help the poor of today. May God continue to bless you abundantly for all the good works you do.

ANOTHER CLIENT...

I wanted to let you know that the furniture and other items given to our family have made our house into a home. Before having the items you gave to us, I worried about not having furniture for my children. Now we walk around with a smile. Programs like yours change people's lives. Thank you.

CLIENT APPRECIATION...

We appreciate your time and certainly your patience in helping our family rebuild our lives. Thank you all so much.

A CLIENT...

I really appreciated your generosity. Thank you does not sum it up but, for now, it will have to do. There will come a time, hopefully, in my life when I will be able to return the favor and, instead of being the recipient, I will be the grantor. That's when I will know I've truly made it. Again, thank you. Your help was far more than I ever hoped for.



GOT BOOKS Drop Off

Mission of Deeds will now accept books, DVDs, videos and CDs. We are working in partnership with Got Books in North Reading to help raise funds to support our agency truck. You may drop your books off at the Mission or drop them in our Got Books container located at St. Athanasius Church, 300 Haverhill St., Reading, at any time. Got Books does not accept encyclopedias, magazines, newspapers, telephone books or catalogues.

Our Student Volunteers

During the year, but especially during the summer, we have the pleasure of working with students from local high schools or colleges. This summer, Kate King, a student from North Reading, joined our volunteer team. The following are thoughts from Katie about her experience at MOD.

“As a volunteer at MOD this summer, I learned the importance of ‘the comforts of home.’ I admit that I have always taken these things for granted - a warm bed with crisp sheets, a soft pillow, a place to sit, a lamp to light the way, and dishes to eat from. Now, I realize how important these items are to feeling safe, secure and comfortable.

I witnessed the extraordinary kindness of people who make donations to MOD. Every Monday and Wednesday when I arrived there would be fresh donations to be organized and stored - often just when we had run out of a certain item. I was inspired by people giving and decided to become a donor, too. It was a great feeling to know that I was helping people who really needed it. I



especially liked working with clients as they selected things for their new home. The clients were often excited about their new start and always very grateful for MOD's support.

I really enjoyed being part of the MOD Squad volunteer team! The volunteers were all different ages, from

varied backgrounds, some had been at MOD for years and some were newbies like me, but every volunteer was committed to making a difference, one pillow at a time.”

A SIDE NOTE: Upon receiving money for her birthday, Katie went out and bought several comforters to donate, as our shelves were bare. What an exceptional young lady, caring and compassionate. Katie was only one of several exceptional young people who volunteered at Mission of Deeds this year.

Who is the Mission of Deeds?

We are a local, non-profit, volunteer organization established in 1993. We provide furniture and housewares, without charge, to those in need in northeastern Massachusetts. We receive referrals daily from social workers and clergy. Since our inception we have made in excess of 9,000 pickups and provided furniture for over 5,000 households. We rely solely on the generosity of people for volunteer efforts and the donations of goods and funds.

Would you like to make a real difference? Please consider a tax-deductible donation this holiday season. Would you like to volunteer with us? Please contact Bruce Murison today at (781) 944-9797.

Would You Like to be Part of a New Beginning for a Family?

If so, please complete and return the following form.

NAME: _____ TEL.# _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

I am making a tax deductible gift of: _____ \$1,000 _____ \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 _____ Other

I want to be a monthly sponsor \$ _____

[] Check enclosed Charge to: [] Visa [] MasterCard

Credit Card Information:

Account # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Buy-A-Bed Campaign

Again this year, Mission of Deeds is launching its Buy-a-Bed Campaign. This campaign is designed to raise funds that will be used to buy beds for mothers and their children, many of whom are starting a new life after living in a shelter for homeless or battered women.

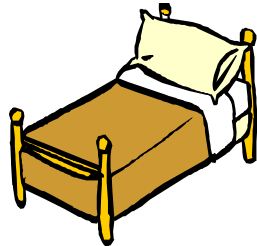
This holiday season, Nov. 15th through Dec. 31st, residents of Reading and neighboring towns can help Mission of Deeds provide beds for families by purchasing a "paper bed" for \$1.00 at the following locations:

READING: Eric's Plant Emporium, Dynamik Sports, Purple Door Paint Store, Reading Car Care, Bathrooms, Etc., Doyon's TV & Appliance, The Corner Closet, Mission of Deeds, Reading Cooperative Bank, NAPA Auto Parts, Sense of Wonder, Twin Seafoods, Calareso's Farm Stand, Chocolate Truffle, Christopher's Restaurant, The Green Tomato, McDonald's, Gregory's, Austin Prep. **NORTH READING:** Knights of Columbus, New England Bottle & Redemption Center, Reading Cooperative Bank, Got Books. **WINCHESTER:** Parkview Barber Shop, Winchester Savings Bank, Winchester Cooperative Bank, Fells True Value Hardware. **WOBURN:** Winchester Savings Bank, Woburn Elks, Irish American Club, People Fit, VFW. **WILMINGTON:** Reading Cooperative Bank, Woodbriar Nursing Center, Rapid Reproduction. **STONEHAM:** Stoneham Animal Hospital, Book Oasis, Gay's Florist. **MALDEN:** Shear Elegance. **BOSTON:** Village Automotive Group.

The price of our wholesale bed sets has increased from \$71.65 to \$78.00 per set. This was due to a new Federal Law, effective July 1, 2007, that requires all bed coverings to be of flame retardant material. The need for beds is growing as many families and children face difficult times, sometimes desperate circumstances. We project the need for 1,000 beds for 2008 - an expenditure of \$78,000.

"Helping people in need is our one and only mission," says Bruce Murison, Executive Director. "We are here to provide people with a chance at a better life, to give them hope, and to show them that someone cares about them."

When you see the yellow Mission of Deeds "paper beds," around town, please help us by purchasing them. Our goal is to sell 10,000 beds, with your help.



Memorial Donations

Memorial donations made in honor of a departed family member or friend are gratefully accepted at Mission of Deeds. Your donation will be held in perpetuity in an endowment fund. Also, your donation will be acknowledged to the family of the person remembered.

Gift of Giving

In lieu of a Christmas gift for those who have everything, Mission of Deeds offers a way to make a lasting gift that will support those in need. In place of a gift, make a donation to the Mission of Deeds and a card will be sent to the person who you are honoring with the following message: "A gift has been made in your honor to the Mission of Deeds to help purchase new beds for those in need." You may make a donation over the phone and charge it (781-944-9797), or mail a check to the Mission of Deeds, 6 Chapin Ave., Reading, MA 01867.

Matching Gifts

Does your employer have a matching gifts program? Name Mission of Deeds as your non-profit of choice and your employer may match your donation. Several of the businesses helping with the Buy-a-Bed campaign are matching the amount donated.

New Tax Incentive

The President signed into law new tax incentives for charitable gifts from eligible donors. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 provides incentive for donors who are 70-1/2 or older to use money in their traditional or Roth IRAs to make charitable gifts to tax-exempt organizations before the end of 2007. The law provides for otherwise taxable distributions of up to \$100,000.00 from IRAs to tax-exempt organizations to be excluded from gross income. The gift to charities must go directly from the IRA and the amount will count against a donor's minimum required distribution. The IRA withdrawal to the charity must be reported as income, but can be deducted as a charitable contribution, which generally results in a "wash" for federal income tax purposes. Mission of Deeds is an eligible tax exempt organization. You are encouraged to contact your tax adviser if you are contemplating making a gift under the new law.

Address Service Requested

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