

Events at Mission of Deeds

It is always busy at Mission of Deeds. Our fundraising events are a huge part of what we do and there is definitely something for everyone. Some people like to golf, others like to shop at a yard sale, others look forward to a night out with friends, while others enjoy a nice walk around a lake. You can do any or all of these at one of our fundraisers.

Winter Gala

On March 6 we held our Winter Gala “A Bed for Every Body” at the Hilton Woburn for the third year in a row. Once again, it was a great event as we had over 300 in attendance with live and silent auctions, a lovely dinner and fun dancing. We will be taking a year off this winter but will be back with another great Gala in Winter 2017!

Yard Sale

Mission of Deeds 4th Annual Yard Sale was held on Saturday, April 25. Unlike last year, we had beautiful weather and more people than ever stopping by who were able to find wonderful treasures. Throughout the year, volunteers set aside novel items that were donated to Mission of Deeds but not usually sought by our clients. We are busy tucking away unique items for 2016, so see you on April 30!

Golf Tournament

We can’t always be so lucky with the weather at our events. This year’s Bill Mulrenan Memorial Golf Tournament for Mission of Deeds on Monday, June 1 at Woburn Country Club was held under rainy skies and cold temperatures. We had an excellent group of golfers who stayed and played nine holes and enjoyed a great lunch, including lots of warm coffee, and then an exciting raffle. Whether under rays of sun or streams of rain, our supporters play golf enthusiastically every year in support of Mission of Deeds. Next year’s tournament is June 6.

The Tony Triglione Memorial Walk

Tony again smiled down on us as we had sunny and crisp fall weather for this year’s walk on Sunday, September 20. We were “competing” with the Patriots game and the Bill Belichick/Rex Ryan rivalry but still had a great turnout. There were many individuals as well as employee groups from businesses and banks who enjoyed the 5K walk around Lake Quannapowitt in Wakefield. This walk has something for everyone- live music, face painting, sensational raffle items, delicious appetizers and, of course, a chance to do some healthy walking. Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 18, 2016!

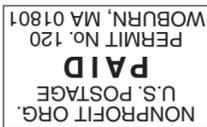
Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams Home Furnishings Grand Opening

Mission of Deeds was honored to be chosen as the charity partner of Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams at the Grand Opening of their Burlington furniture store on October 15. It was a wonderful party with great food, drinks and of course furniture! There was a silent auction for shopping sprees at the store as well as several great raffles. All proceeds went to Mission of Deeds. Mitchell Gold’s customer’s love of a beautifully furnished home helped fulfill the same dream for our clients in need!

Many thanks to everyone who made these events a success!

Need a Holiday Gift for the Person Who has Everything?

Don’t we all have that one person on our holiday gift list who doesn’t need or want a thing? You rack your brain to think of something thoughtful and meaningful but can’t quite come up with the right gift. Mission of Deeds can help. You can “Buy A Bed” for \$90 or make a contribution of any amount in their honor. We can provide you with a nice card to give to them, explaining that a child no longer has to sleep on the floor because a bed was bought in their name. The true meaning of holiday spirit!



A Helping Hand by Phil Fonseca

We in the Mission of Deeds family are a pretty generous sort. Though we come from all walks of life, our one common trait is a passion for helping those unfortunate enough to be unable to help themselves. Unsurprisingly, nothing frustrates us more than when we find ourselves incapable of helping someone.

Sadly, one of the most consistent troubles we face is getting our clients the proper transportation for moving all of the things they need. It is an unfortunate irony of our clients’ lives that whatever disarray has brought them to our doorstep often prevents them from renting a truck or scheduling helpers to assist them with moving. There are too many cases when we’ve been unable to follow our generous nature and give the clients everything they need simply because of insufficient space in their vehicles.

Recently we had a client who had been a translator for the U.S. military in Iraq, but due to the increasingly hostile situation there, he was given the chance by the U.S. to relocate his family here. We have had a number of clients with similar stories in recent months, all of whom have come to us in need of many of the basics to begin their homes again in a new country.

Once I sat down with this client to determine his needs, I quickly discovered that he and his family had come in nothing but a sedan because they had been unable to secure a truck. I discussed with them the possibilities of fitting certain items in their car, but obviously that wouldn’t have provided them with most of the things they needed. It was at that moment that our next client, who happened to be waiting nearby, stepped in to say that he would be happy to offer up any extra space in his own truck. Such an incredibly generous offer seemed too good to be true. Was he sure he’d have enough space for his own things? Was he alright driving miles out of his way to deliver the family’s items to their home? Was he okay with the time it’d take to unload all of the family’s things on their end? He had only one answer to all these questions: “I know what it’s like to be in need. I’m happy to do whatever I can to make things easier for someone else.”

Although those of us at Mission of Deeds help people every day, to see someone with no obligation step up to help a complete stranger like that was truly inspiring. More than that, I found it to be a terrific reminder that just because someone is in need of charity doesn’t mean they themselves can’t be charitable. One thing I can say for sure: the Mission of Deeds family gained a new member that day.



Why I Volunteer

by James Soucy

I started at Mission of Deeds about three years ago during my freshman year of high school. Volunteering there was a great opportunity for me because it got me out and doing something, but it also was very fulfilling in more ways than one. I feel like so much of what we do in our daily lives is for us, whether its school, work, sleep, working out or just relaxing. Those things were important to me, but I wanted to spend some time doing something that wasn’t just for me. Mission of Deeds gave me an opportunity to do something on a weekly basis that helps people in need and not just me. Not only do I get to help those in need but I also get to meet some of Mission of Deeds’ clientele. The satisfaction of helping someone furnish their living space and getting to meet that person face to face and be thanked by them is a very gratifying feeling.

Three years and hundreds of volunteer hours have gone by and I am now in my senior year. I continued to put in time over the years not only for the satisfaction of making a real difference in the lives of those less fortunate than me but also because I enjoy a challenge, and the more experience I gain, the more responsibilities I am trusted with. I also look forward to seeing what problems a couple of hours will present, and I jump at the opportunity to tackle more difficult tasks like fixing furniture or rearranging large pieces to maximize space in the warehouse. The last thing that makes Mission of Deeds a great place to volunteer is its staff and volunteers, who are every bit as dedicated, friendly, efficient and resourceful as they were when I first walked in three years ago. I am proud to count myself among them and if anyone reading this needs service hours or just needs to fill a hole in their life or their schedule, Mission of Deeds is a great place to volunteer, plus there’s always great food in the kitchen!

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1925 - 2011

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MISSION OF DEEDS, INC.
6 Chapin Avenue
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MISSION of DEEDS, Inc.
*Transforming Generosity into Hope,
Providing Beds & Furniture for People in Need.*

WINTER 2015

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

A Message from Our President

Mary and her two young boys had to move suddenly because of domestic violence. As is so often the case, they were not able to bring much with them and were referred to us to help make their new empty apartment into a home.

Coming here ill at ease, Mary left with her UHaul full of beds, furniture, linens and kitchen items. She also left far more relaxed, knowing she had been with people with no other purpose for that hour than to help her.

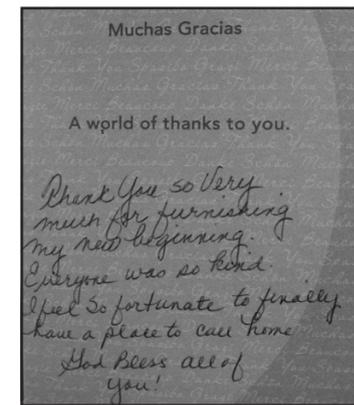
It may seem a simple process -- load what she needs into the truck and off she goes. Yet, there is so much more to it than that.

Our telephone staff sets Mary’s appointment. Meanwhile, our truck is at the homes of several of you, as our volunteers receive your generous furniture donations. Our client service coordinator orders and receives shipments of beds that your support provides. Our warehouse crews store the beds and furniture, then load the items Mary selects into her rented truck during her appointment.

Volunteers in our woodworking shop and our volunteer electrician check and, if needed, repair furniture and electrical items.

Drives for small items, as well as your individual donations, yield the linens and kitchenware we will give Mary. Groups of volunteers organize these items and, while she is here, prepare bags and boxes meeting Mary’s specific needs that are loaded onto her truck.

In Their Own Words



*Hello,
My name is Allie, my younger brother and I came in last month. We just wanted to say Thank you for all your help. We had only asked for a few things but got so much more stuff that we so desperately needed. Everyone we met with was so kind and helpful. Mission of deeds is an amazing thing, so many people like my brother and myself are able to have things like dishes, bedding, towels & even pictures to hang on our walls. I’m so grateful to the people who have donated their time, money & things. We hope to donate someday ourselves when we are able but until then please accept are many thanks for all your help it’s very much appreciated.*

*Thank you so much!
Allie*

6/11/2015



A Message from our Executive Director

Our founder, Tony Triglione, said repeatedly that one of his main purposes in starting Mission of Deeds was “to get people off the floor.” Tony was referring to the fact that so many of our formerly homeless clients have no beds and are often sleeping on the floor before they come here.

Purchasing mattresses and box springs has been the priority from the day Mission of Deeds opened in 1993. I remember a day in 1995 when we got a delivery of ten twin mattress/box spring sets on a Friday and on Saturday delivered all of them to three needy families in Lynn. In 22 years we have given over 15,000 complete beds, without charge, to people who could not afford them.

Yet the bed program has evolved. In early years all purchased beds were twin. We gradually added full and queen size over time. We have also expanded into purchasing new cribs and crib mattresses over the last couple of years. Our latest evolution is buying bunk beds for families with space challenges, which happen quite often. Making sure that infants and children, as well as adults, have safe, comfortable, clean places to sleep is our daily mission.

Yet it is today’s reality, not the bed program’s history, that mattered to a family Mission of Deeds serviced two days ago. This family had been victimized in another country

and was granted asylum in the US. Headed by a mom with children whose ages span infancy through teens, we gave them a crib, a bunk bed and three additional twin beds. We also gave them bureaus, a sofa and armchairs, a dining set, a desk, bookcases, as well as pillows and bed linens, plus a microwave and all the items needed to set up a functioning kitchen.

By the way, this family lives in the same city where, decades ago, Tony grew up poor before becoming successful in business and starting our charity. We know he would be proud.

When I say “we” gave things to our clients, I intend it in the truest sense, totally including you, our supporters, as the crucial part of “we”. Those of us here are only your agents, coordinating your generosity and channeling it to the families who need it most.

I wish you could see the smiles, hugs and sometimes happy tears that this process generates, time after time. Come down and visit; you may see it for yourself.

It is an honor and privilege to represent you in this work. You have our constant thanks.

Bruce C. Murison

Bruce C. Murison
Executive Director



Schwartz and Schwartz is on Team Mission of Deeds!

by Andrew Schwartz

Having the opportunity to contribute to Mission of Deeds on a regular basis and hopefully make a small impact financially on this local charitable organization is wonderful.

I have been living in Reading since 2000, and am partners with my brother Richard, in our Woburn based accounting firm Schwartz & Schwartz PC. Founded in 1993, we now have 18 employees, most who live in the local area. Our CPA firm focuses on the tax, accounting and payroll issues applicable to physicians, dentists, psychologists and their practices.

As our firm grew over the years, we found that we were making donations to various national charities on no specific timetable. Rick and I realized that making a monthly donation to a local charity instead would be much more impactful. As we learned more about the kind work being done locally by Mission of Deeds, we both agreed that this was the charity we wanted to support. Our firm now sends a check each month to purchase 3 beds, and

also supports their other fundraising campaigns including the September Walk and the June golf tournament.

For the past 5 years I have joined in on the September walk around Lake Quannapowitt along with Rick, some of our staff, and their friendly dogs too. A few years back, my firm’s staff unanimously decided to spend a few hours during the Holiday Party to volunteer at Mission of Deeds. And my two high-school aged children, Lizzie and Jonathan, have both spent time volunteering there as well.

What strikes me most about the great things that Mission of Deeds accomplishes is the respect, dignity, and genuine kindness that they routinely demonstrate to their clients. To be truthful, many of my firm’s clients could learn a lot by observing how Mission of Deeds operates. We plan to continue to support this wonderful charity for years to come by buying beds each month and contributing to their other fundraisers.



Mission of Deeds was greatly saddened when Susanne Martin, one of our most dedicated volunteers, and a dear friend to all, passed away peacefully on Friday, August 14, 2015. Susanne was known best for her caring and giving spirit to her family, her many friends and to the clients of Mission of Deeds.

Deep in our hearts you'll always stay...Loved and remembered every day!

* * * * *

Faces of Mission of Deeds

At Mission of Deeds, it’s all about people – clients, donors and the people who are here day to day. Please take a moment to meet some of these special people.

Meet Donna Snow

Donna Snow is the Volunteer Coordinator at Missions of Deeds. Like most of our small staff, Donna started as a volunteer. Over ten years ago, Donna and her daughter Nicole began working in our linens and kitchen area. Her work gradually expanded, and she began to organize and oversee the distribution of kitchen items and linens to our clients. Volunteers pack up these essential items while the clients are selecting their furniture. We take great pride in ensuring that clients receive everything they need including sheets, blankets, towels, pillows, plates, cups, utensils, pots, pans and a toaster.



As community service has become increasingly widespread, Mission of Deeds has been the lucky recipient of many people’s time and generosity. Volunteers range from teenagers to older adults. Coordinating and training these volunteers takes a special person. When Mission of Deeds decided to hire a part-time person for this position three years ago, Donna was the natural choice. She has a wonderful way of making sure each person feels valued, effective, and comfortable in their role.

In addition to her other activities, Donna conceived of our annual yard sale and has spearheaded the event since 2012. At times, Mission of Deeds receives items that are not useful to clients, but may be of interest to others. All year long, Donna sets aside these unique items. This yard sale has rapidly grown into a popular and fun community event, as well as a significant fundraiser for Mission of Deeds. We all are looking forward to the next one this spring!

Outside of Mission of Deeds, Donna enjoys spending time with her husband Dave, two grown children, and their new puppy. We hope she continues to be an integral part of Mission of Deeds for years to come!

Meet the Tuesday Boys

If the Mission of Deeds truck has picked up furniture at your home over the last dozen years, especially if you live in Wilmington, Burlington or Reading, there’s a very good chance that the Tuesday Boys are the volunteers who got the job done.

Named for the day they are here, week in and week out, the crew consists of Wilmington residents Brian King, Bernie Nally and Ed Torell. Their pal George Smith joins them from time to time.

We have lost track of how many pieces of furniture they have moved over the years, but it has to be more than 10,000,

a testament to their energy and dedication, as well as our donors’ generosity. Each piece of that furniture ends up in the home of a needy family, so the number of lives they have touched is just as incalculable, and even more important, than the quantity of goods they have handled.

All retired, the Boys’ exact ages are somewhat of a mystery and would not be believed anyway, as their energy seems unlimited and our teenage volunteers find it hard to keep up with them. Retired may not be the right word, as a full list of their community activities would take a good portion of this newsletter. Included would be the Wilmington United Methodist Church, the Masonic Hospital Equipment Loan Program and their volunteer efforts that have built handicap ramps at dozens of homes. Not surprisingly, they are dedicated to their families and have been known to spoil their grandchildren.

The Tuesday Boys

Mission of Deeds needs more volunteers like them. Getting our truck on the road more hours per week remains a priority. Please call our office if you are interested. But, if you decide to volunteer on Tuesdays, be warned that keeping up with the Boys is quite a challenge.



A Fighting Spirit



by Brian Quinn

Often our clients want to tell us of the struggles they face and many have life changing medical issues. One recent client had spent several years doing service work in another country. He had contracted malaria and HIV there and lost his wife to HIV. After returning to the US, he has also been battling spinal and respiratory issues and has been moving between various relative’s homes, sleeping on their couches. He finally was able to find an apartment of his own. We were able to provide him with a comfortable bed to sleep on and a power recliner to relax in. He didn’t need much else, but as he was leaving he wanted us to know that when he was feeling better, he would find a way to contribute something back to us. We thanked him and assured him that is never necessary, but I am always impressed when people make the offer, especially when they are facing such difficult issues in their lives.

Taking a Year Off from our Winter Gala

For the last 3 years Mission of Deeds has held its Winter Gala in March at the Woburn Hilton. They have been wonderful events, filling the room with over 300 people each year and raising lots of money to purchase beds for those in need. Our guests have enjoyed catching up with one another while bidding on great items in our live and silent auctions.

However, we recognize how busy everyone is and have decided to take a year off with every intention of having a Gala in March 2017. So this year, instead of bidding on an auction item, buying a table and inviting your friends, or shopping for that new dress, perhaps you will consider a year-end holiday donation which will directly help us support our clients in need.

HELP BUY-A-BED A DOLLAR AT A TIME

If you are doing business in our local communities, you may see the Mission of Deeds Buy-A-Bed boxes at stores and banks. While all the furniture and household goods we give to our clients are donated, so far in 2015 we have given our clients over 1,000 beds and cribs that we purchase.

We know that many of you already support Mission of Deeds, either through your donation of goods or funds, and we are so appreciative. However, if you happen to see one of our boxes during your travels and you find you have a dollar or two in your pocket or purse to spare, you will be helping us buy a bed, or a crib, a dollar at a time.



Who is the Mission of Deeds?

Mission of Deeds began with the simple dream of one man: to provide basic home essentials to those in need.

Tony Triglione, our founder, was a successful businessman and resident of Winchester when he founded Mission of Deeds in 1993. Having grown up poor himself, he was haunted by images of children and their mothers sleeping on floors and eating on milk crates because they could not afford to buy basic items such as beds, tables, and chairs.

Determined to improve the quality of life for these families, Tony founded Mission of Deeds as a place where people could not only receive new beds and donated household essentials free of charge, but also be treated with kindness, respect, and compassion.

The furniture is donated by people like you and we buy the mattresses and box springs from your donations. We receive no government or United Way funding – it’s all neighbors helping neighbors.

Today, with the help of our dedicated volunteers and the generous donations from the community, Mission of Deeds serves thousands of families and individuals throughout Middlesex and Essex counties. Our clients include the previously homeless, survivors of domestic abuse, refugees, the elderly, displaced veterans, victims of fire or other tragedies, and those with disabilities.

With Tony’s vision as our constant guide, we look forward to serving the community for years to come.