

Repairers of the Breach October 2014 Newsletter.

We, again, thank you for any ways you have reached out through prayer, visits, volunteering, cards, letters, emails, and donations. They each have been a tremendous help to the homeless at Repairers of the Breach. You truly are a "repairer," and you are making a huge difference.

Our formerly homeless individuals who are now in RotB center management, security, clothing, cooking, cleaning, conferencing, and off-site speaker positions are doing very well with their responsibilities. On October 30th at 2:00pm after everyone has showered, been fed, clothed and cared for we will close the center to the public. At 2:00pm ALL these *formerly homeless* staff members will meet and take an active part discussing how we can improve even more in our commitment to help the homeless. As always these inclusive combined sharing sessions are invaluable in that they connect all of us, and *together* we remain focused on improving our mission through shared discernment and shared decision-making. If you have a reason to come to the center on Oct. 30th we ask that you try to arrive before 2:00pm that day.

We continue to meet with other well functioning non-profit organizations that are also working diligently to serve the poor and homeless coming to them. The dual exchange of good ideas and the collaborative professional relationships being developed are healthy and very beneficial to all involved. Instead of being isolated we are creating bridges between our organizations by sharing our expertise and resources, and as a result we all are able to serve those in need on a much broader basis. Our invitation is wide open to any group wishing to meet with us in the future. We are eager to share what we are accomplishing and are enthused about obtaining good ideas from others who share of our mission. There are many excellent organizations functioning very well in Milwaukee and we are intent on connecting with them and learning from them.

Our healthy breakfast program of oatmeal, cheerios, milk, and fresh or canned fruit has really taken off. If you can help us continue this effort please consider bringing us boxes of oatmeal or boxes of individual variety pack oatmeal, cheerios, gallons of milk or fruit, packages of sturdy 20 oz. paper bowls, and napkins to the center. Anything you donate we don't have to purchase, and that reduces our operating budget expenses. Due to your donations we have rarely been unable to serve our homeless a healthy breakfast. Naturally they are hungry in the morning and some eat as many as 3 bowls of oatmeal, and the fresh or canned sugar-free fruit is a real treat.

We are preparing for winter. For men and women we especially need *warm* clothing such as underwear, white socks, sweatshirts, head coverings, jackets, pants and slacks, gloves, shoes, hand-warmers, blankets, sleeping bags. Cases or cans of whole kernel corn, carrots, peas green sliced beans or kidney beans, boxes of rice, packages of noodles/pasta, large cans of fruit, coffee and cases of water are a huge help to us. We have obtained shelving to store these items.

A reminder that we continue in our desire to invite individuals to consider becoming a candidate for our board of directors. Contact Joyce Roesler at roesler2@wi.rr.com if you have questions or desire more information.

Like you, our utility bills have increased. We are hoping to start repairing some of the outside of our old 3 story building yet this fall, with completion next summer. If we must open our warming room 51 times again this winter that will, again, drain our finances and resources. If you can manage a financial donation checks must be made payable to Repairers of the Breach and mailed to Repairers of the Breach, PO Box 13791, Milwaukee, WI 53213 or you may visit our website at www.repairers.org for an electronic means to donate financially. Thank you in advance.

Come visit us soon. We send our sincere appreciation and very best wishes to you.

The RotB staff, volunteers, and members of the Board of Directors.