

Urban Ministries Update

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WHAT'S GOING ON AT PUM?



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Welcome to the Urban Ministries Update!

Exciting Items in this issue:

1. From the Director
1. Now for the Numbers
2. Door Stepping
2. A salute to our Volunteers
2. New Blessings at PUM
3. Christmas Distribution
3. Client-Tell
4. Upcoming/Ongoing Events
4. Accomplishments 2009

NOW FOR THE NUMBERS (Q4/ANNUAL)

New Clients: 1,042 ID's: 324 Tools/Boots: 84*
Food Bags: 693 Bus Pass: 27 Blankets: 42
Clothing: 2,518 Snack bags: 1,376 Prescription: 11
Hygiene Kit: 794 Job Search: 76 Mail/CVM: 286
Total Clients Seen: 3,923 Total Services: 6,023

Total Clients '09: 9,796 Total Services '09: 19,260

PUM was able to see 4,415 clients in 2008 as compared to 9,796 clients in 2009. This represents more than double the number of clients that were in need that we were able to offer Hope, Faith and services to during 2009

*PUM was blessed to be able to help 189 individuals with Steel Toed Boots

FROM THE DIRECTOR

What an amazing year PUM has had! Can you believe we saw more than double the number of clients we saw last year? You can see all of the numbers in our "now for the numbers" chart. PUM has been truly blessed, as have our clients this year. At Christmas time PUM was truly blessed with the ability to distribute Christmas gifts to 649 children through the donations of gifts by congregations of the churches in the San Diego Presbytery, the Marines, via the Toys 4 Tots program and the Groups or Individuals that adopted 39 families. With the gracious donations of food and funds for VON's gift cards, PUM was able to distribute Christmas Food bags to 293 families. If you weren't here on the distribution days you truly missed out. Many clients told us how they didn't know what they were going to do for their children during Christmas but because of PUM, their children had presents to open on Christmas morning. The big smiles, thankful hearts and blessings that each of our families brought to us during these times of distribution were blessings for all that were here. A huge thank you to all that were able to help us out this year with gifts of food, clothes, toys, funds and especially with your time volunteering! PUM has had many accomplishments this year. All of our accomplishments can be seen on Page 5 of this publication. As mentioned in previous newsletters, we have started a wonderful bible study (that is currently standing room only), through gracious donations from the La Jolla Tithe fund we were able to replace our leaky roof before it started raining and paint the exterior of the building – Thank you again La Jolla Tithe Fund Committee! Through the generosity of the Pt. Loma Endowment Committee, PUM has been able to upgrade our client data server which is allowing us to continue serving our clients in a very efficient manner – Thank you so very much Pt. Loma Endowment Committee! Through the absolutely wonderful volunteers' time and talents we have been able to keep up with the dramatic increase of clients and still keep our Christ centeredness intact. We created a new year-round "victory" garden, whose "fruits" (or vegetables in this case) have been a blessing to our clients, found the wonderful hard wood floors underneath our carpet (some of which, with much elbow grease and time, have been stripped, sanded and re-finished). Through the very generous gifts from the churches and individuals we have been able to purchase and equip 189 individuals with safety boots (steel toed boots) and other safety equipment. A small note about the boots, all of the clients that received boots had verified new employment that the boots were necessary for, so this number also reflects 189 clients that were able to find gainful employment with PUM's helping or hand up approach! Speaking about our wonderful volunteers above, we have another number for you. During 2009 our volunteers logged over 4,500 hours! Our volunteers are truly wonderful and such a blessing to PUM. Should you have time in your schedule to volunteer with us please let us know – you can call us at 619-232-2753 or email us at info@pumsd.org for more information. We would love to talk to you about these wonderful opportunities to help serve His children.

Blessings,

Roger



“DOOR-STEPPING”

Did you know that PUM hosts a Bible Study each week? That's right, we have a wonderful Bible Study that is scheduled for our clients every Wednesday at 10:00 that lasts for an hour. This Bible Study, which started in July, 2009, with a handful of clients, now meets on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. Average attendance is 10 clients; the largest group had 15 participants! Ros Marver and Linda Sunderland are working through the book of Mark. The group now meets in the newly-redecorated front room close to the front door. The location makes it easy for clients to attend, to receive services when it is their turn, and to return to the Bible study if they choose to do so.

One of the reasons for the good attendance in Bible study is our door-stepping ministry. The leaders and other volunteers spend time outside with the clients from 8:30-9 and from 9:15 until 10 a.m. talking with them and inviting them to join the Bible study. Christ-centered conversations result in praying for clients who may not be ready to attend the group as well as those who are comfortable participating. If you have time to talk to clients for an hour once a week and want to observe door-stepping in action, join us on Wednesday mornings. If you are not available on Wednesday mornings, call PUM at 619-232-2753 to schedule a time for door-stepping. It makes a world of difference to our clients: a Christ-centered conversation DOES make all of the difference to our clients!

Linda

A SALUTE TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

“This is our special duty, that if anyone specially needs our help, we should give him such help to the utmost of our power.” - Cicero

Volunteers are an integral part of making this ministry to the less fortunate happen. Over 40 wonderful people volunteer thousands of hours each year as receptionists, caseworkers, food packers, grounds keepers and clothes distributors. Our volunteers are very much the foundation of this ministry. Without them, we would not be able to accomplish what God has commanded us to do. It's because of their love and passion for the hurting, that we have been able to meet the needs of our community for over 40 years!

Our volunteers are committed, compassionate and unselfish in every way. They love without expecting love back. They give with nothing in return. They care when others don't. They invite to pray for our clients' needs. Their smiles warm the hearts of everyone that come through our doors.

Presbyterian Urban Ministries' staff salutes all our wonderful volunteers for countless years of service to the community of San Diego!

We truly appreciate you!

A NEW BLESSING AT PUM

PUM has a new office manager. Diana started working with us just recently and has been such a blessing to us at PUM.

The office manager at PUM has many duties and she has really jumped in with both feet to have our office running very efficiently. If you have a chance, please stop by and say hello to her. Diana is also responsible for coordinating all of our volunteers so please give her a buzz at 619-232-2753 X-105 or email her at officemgr@pumsd.org

Thank you Diana for blessing us with all of your many talents!

CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION

PUM was extremely blessed this year by the very gracious gifts, food and especially the talents from many individuals representing so many of the Presbyteries churches. This year, as mentioned in the accomplishments, we were able to provide 649 children Christmas gifts that probably would have just seen Christmas as “another day”. The gifts came in from the Toys4Tots program sponsored by the US Marines, and the generous donations from individuals and Churches within the Presbytery. These children’s families, 293 in all, were also blessed by receiving a special food bag (Christmas basket) allowing them to have a couple of “special” meals over the holiday season and including a \$20 gift card from VONS so they could purchase fresh produce and even a turkey or ham.

You may be asking yourself, how does PUM do this? Well, first off it takes a lot of volunteer effort. During the weeks prior to the distribution, volunteers and staff put together over 300 of our special food bags. We had two Saturday work days where all of the toys were sorted and bagged up for these children by name! Then during our distribution week, PUM scheduled all of the clients that had been signed up during the year to come in and pick up the toys and food baskets. Our wonderful volunteers came in and joyously handed out this wonderful gift packs.

We took many pictures of all of these wonderful experiences and I am including just a few in hopes that in 2010 you too may want to help us out in this wonderful and truly fulfilling event. If you would care to help us, please give us a call at 619-232-2753 x 105 and Diana will be happy to get your name on the list!

Thank you all that helped us in 2009 and know that the blessings you extended to our clients will certainly be extended to you!



URBAN MINISTRIES UPDATE VOLUME: 7, ISSUE: 1 - JAN 10

CHRISTMAS 2009



CLIENT-TELL

Recently at PUM we had some real excitement that ended up as a real blessing to not only our client(s) but also for our staff. This Client-Tell is actually about two different clients that came to us in less than 24 hours. The first client, a younger man that is going to school full time and also working full time as an RN was referred to us by one of the social services agencies I frequently have meetings with. When he got to PUM he told the front desk worker that he needed to talk with someone about some real personal problems. The staff jumped to the ready and over the next several hours of speaking with him we were able to talk to him about Christ, give him specific phone numbers to help if he ever felt this way again and listen to his story. As it turned out this was the first time he had ever thought about something like this and appeared that all he really needed was to talk through his problems. When he left he was smiling, joking around and feeling much better about his situation. When we prayed with him his whole “being” was radiating with what can only be classified as the “glow” from the Holy Spirit. This gentleman has stated that he would love to come back and volunteer with us after he finishes up his schooling in a couple of months and we would be blessed to have him. The second client, another man in his early thirties came to us the next morning telling our door-stoppers that he too had some real personal problems. Once again the staff pulled together and over several hours accessed the situation. This one however, was much different than the one the previous afternoon. This client had a laundry list of diagnosed mental issues and being homeless had ended up losing all of his belongings (including his medications) - Actually they were stolen from him. He really needed help. We first called his wife in Washington, who thankfully was able to calm him with her soothing voice. While speaking with her on speaker phone with this client we suggested that it would probably be a good idea if we called PERT (the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team). They were called and this client was able to get the care he needed. He came back a couple of weeks later looking like a new man and filled with His Spirit. All in all the PUM staff did a wonderful job of maintaining our professionalism, Christ Centeredness and helping two lost souls find their way back from a potentially deadly situation,

Blessings, Roger

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Boot Drive

During the month of May you have the opportunity to help us help persons that normally would not be looking for work in the labor field and are being guided there so they can work. As an anonymous client told us, he was totally unprepared to have to procure protective work boots before he got paid. PUM has seen a drastic increase in stories just like his, requiring us to try every way possible to help. Now we are asking for your help, would you consider "kicking in" \$1 or more a week for a year. PUM has negotiated with a local shoe store to purchase new steel toed boots for around \$30/pair this year, but the need is so much greater than last year we are already over budget. Our goal is to raise \$6,000 so that we can meet this need throughout the rest of the year. Please prayerfully consider "Giving Unemployment the Boot" by Kicking in a buck a week!

Urban Angels Club

In recognition that the current economic climate impacts many, and to broaden the field of donors, we have developed the Urban Angels Club's structure to have three tiers of annual giving. The Seraphim level is for donations of \$500 or more per year; the Cherubim level for donations of \$250 or more per year; and the Archangels level for donations of \$150 or more per year. Our goal is for Urban Angels Club gifts to generate \$100,000 or more for PUM's general operating account. Operating expenses are integral to providing services. Our 2009 budget of \$189,000 covers all aspects of our mission. About \$150,000 of that budget is needed for operating expenses – pay and benefits for PUM's small, dedicated staff of four; utilities; postage; and office supplies. Your support is needed in order to continue our Christ-centered services for \$100,000. You may indicate your willingness to participate in the Urban Angels Club in several ways:

* Send your check payable to "PUM Urban Angels Club" to PUM at 2459 Market Street, San Diego, CA, 92102.

* Join the Urban Angels Club by signing up on-line at pumsd.org

Whichever method is chosen you may pay your entire pledge at once or donate on a monthly, quarterly or semi-annual basis. We will recognize your gift and send a friendly reminder when your next installment is due. Please contact us with any questions by email at info@pumsd.org, or by telephone at 619-232-2753 x-105. We ask that you prayerfully consider supporting our mission by joining the Urban Angels Club.

Golf 4 Good

This years annual golf tournament is really exciting. The tournament will be held at the Sea 'n' Air golf course, NAS, North Island on September 10, 2010. We are still looking for some Ambassadors to help raise interest at the local churches. If you feel "driven" or are just "putting" around and would like to help, please contact Rick Moore - rickmoore@golf4good.org - please take a chance and visit our website that is specifically designed for this event - www.golf4good.org

Accomplishments 2009

Many Blessings have come to PUM during 2009 and this article shows a few of those blessings and accomplishments. Others were also referenced in the Directors corner article.

We filled two positions on the PUM Steering Committee with highly skilled and motivated individuals. Linda Sunderland has assumed responsibilities as the Christ Centered Sub Committee Chair. Rev Ian Farrell has accepted the position of Co-Chair (Pastor).

We continued to increase PUM's Christ Centeredness by:

- Conducting a weekly Bible study, bilingual as required. Average attendance is 11 individuals.
- Holding devotions and prayers prior to each volunteer shift (twice per day) for Staff and Volunteers.
- Conducting Communion once a month for staff, volunteers and clients. Client Communion is administered to those attending the bible study. Staff and Volunteer Communion is done during devotions.
- Continuing a Doorstep Ministry to share the faith with people we serve. A number of people accepted Christ as a result of our efforts
- Offering to pray with all clients who were willing to participate
- Making Bibles, Christian literature, and Bible tracks available
- Offering spiritual counseling

We served 9,796 clients during 2009, compared with 4,415 clients served during 2008. PUM services included:

- Clothing assistance to 6,547 individuals at an average of 5 articles of clothing per individual.
- Steel toed safety boots to 189 individuals, representing new jobs and a fresh start for each of these 189 individuals we gave a "hand up" to.
- Identification card assistance to 824 people as well as providing reduced fee forms to the Uplift Mission that helped to serve an additional 203 individuals with ID assistance. Many recipients were parolees looking for employment and a new start to life.
- 1,848 emergency food bags.
- Christmas gifts for 649 children and Christmas food bags for 293 families.

We continued to offer an upgraded computer laboratory at Market Street for use by clients in conducting job searches on line.

- Additional Community Voice Mail stations (for a total of 15) were made available for communications from prospective employers to clients
- A bulletin board is maintained for posting job opportunities

We increased PUM awareness among Churches of the Presbytery by:

- Conducting 19 meetings with Church Committees and Social groups
- Providing 16 presentations to Congregations during Moment for Mission engagements.
- Participating in 14 Alternative Christmas/ Christmas Markets/ Mission Fairs at Presbytery Churches

Other Wonderful Blessings at PUM

Former clients have volunteered to "give back" to PUM by working to upgrade the appearance of the PUM building grounds. Included in former client volunteer's projects is a vegetable garden that they have established, planted, and maintained. Items harvested are used to supplement client food bags with fresh produce. Other projects include upgrading the front yard and building a patio area in the back yard that includes a table used by the staff for lunch.

A pilot plan to enroll clients in Grupo Despertar, a 4 month substance abuse and job training was launched and is working very well so far.

The State of California has granted permission for PUM to prepare selected candidates for GED examinations. Further progress depends upon receipt of necessary funding for program materials.

Volunteers from Mt. Soledad Presbyterian Church painted two thirds of the first floor interior spaces of the PUM building. We have plans for further interior upgrades by volunteer groups in 2010.

Volunteers from various churches removed half of the carpet on the first floor, sanded the hardwood, and refinished the floors.

Through a generous gift from Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church, upgraded the Client Data Server and Database Software used to maintain client data in order to serve them better.

Through the generosity of congregations and individuals, funds earned from investment of the Pratt-Kurz Bequest and by the efforts of Committees who conducted two highly successful fund raisers, Presbyterian Urban Ministries was financially self sufficient for 2009.

We witnessed the joy and gratitude of our clients for services they received.

Blessings, Roger