

# Father Woody's Newsletter

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Father Woody's Haven of Hope  
operated by The Franciscan Friends of the Poor  
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## YOU'RE INVITED! OCTOBER 17, 2007 10:30 AM DEDICATION OF NEW HAVEN OF HOPE

Start by doing what is necessary.  
Then do what is possible.  
And suddenly you have done the  
impossible.

—St. Francis

No one wants to go down and live  
under a bridge the rest of his life.  
Something happened and when  
that something happens, we lose  
something within us. That's why we  
need one another. —Fr. Woody



St. Francis and Fr. Woody shared the same philosophy about how to live the Gospel. Woody's creed was simple: Help those in need – *without judgment*.

That philosophy has been carried on for the past several years at Fr. Woody's Haven of Hope. Started by the Franciscan Friends of the Poor, the services provided to the homeless from a century-old house have grown daily.

Now, thanks to the help and support of literally hundreds of donors and volunteers, we're ready to take the next step. And a big step it is.

In October, we will celebrate the grand opening of the new Haven of Hope, a brand new three-story structure directly adjacent to our original house at 7<sup>th</sup> and Lipan.

**And all of you are invited to the dedication.  
Without your help, this dream would not have turned into reality.  
We indeed have done what some said was impossible.**

Father Charles Woodrich – better known as Father Woody – dedicated his life to helping the poor and homeless. With the opening of the new facility, his work and spirit continue on.

The new 5,700-square-foot building has a half-dozen showers. There was just one tub in the old house. The food will be prepared in a modern, efficient kitchen instead of a cramped room with one old stove.

The heart of the new building is a large dining room where as many as 200 people a day can gather for a warm lunch. As many of you know from visiting us in the past, lunch had been served outside in a tent, even on the coldest days.

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This effort has been grassroots, supported entirely by our generous donors. In fact, when the building opens in October, it will have been completely paid for, entirely through donations. This is a remarkable blessing.

However, for the promise of this building to be truly fulfilled, we need your help.

**OUR JOURNEY DOES NOT END HERE**

The reality is that our journey to help the homeless has just begun. Volunteers are needed everyday to help cook, serve meals, do laundry, clean.

Volunteer work is essential and so are financial donations. The mission of the Haven of Hope is to directly help those in need. Every donation, large or small, helps fulfill that mission.



News reports remind us that the economy is far from being strong. More foreclosures. More people on the streets. Forecasts of a recession.



In times like these, especially with cold weather approaching, your financial support is critical.

Thank you for your support in the past. You have helped make the impossible a reality. Now, help us continue Fr. Woody's work.

*We are here to serve, not to judge—Fr. Woody*

**PLEASE ALSO JOIN US FOR THE FR. WOODY MEMORIAL MASS WHICH WILL BE HELD HERE AT FR. WOODY'S HAVEN OF HOPE ON NOVEMBER 10, 2007 AT 2 PM.**



**HELPFUL HINTS FOR COMING TO THE GRAND OPENING**

- Dress appropriately for the weather. The dedication will be held outside.
- Ride the light rail to the 10<sup>th</sup> and Osage station. Shuttle service will be provided between 9AM and 1:30 PM via "Fr. Woody's Wheels"
- Allow time to park. Limited street parking is available on Lipan & Mariposa. Or park in the AGC lot on the SW corner of 7th & Lipan (enter on Lipan), the Micro Business Development lot on the NE corner of 7th & Kalamath or the vacant lot at the NW corner of 7th & Kalamath (entry for both on 7th). Valet parking will be available.



*Thanks to your generosity, we have provided the following since January 1, 2007:*

- Utilities Assistance for 21 families
- Rental Assistance for 50 families
- 13 Bus tickets for stranded guests
- 4,000 RTD bus tokens for our guests
- Medical co-pays for 13 individuals
- Gas vouchers for 45 people
- More than 9,800 breakfasts
- More than 11,900 hot lunches
- 2,430 Showers for guests
- 1530 bags of laundry for guests and neighbors
- 7 others with miscellaneous assistance
- 15,000 loaves of bread delivered to the poor

**Please join us  
Wednesday,  
October 17  
at 10:30 a.m.  
for the official  
dedication with  
our very special  
guest, Colorado  
Gov. Bill Ritter.**



**GOVERNOR RITTER  
TO PARTICIPATE  
IN DEDICATION**

*Make me a channel of your peace -  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope. Prayer of St. Francis*

## **Mission Statement**

**To provide food, shelter, clothing, counseling, rehabilitation and hygienic services to the homeless and indigent.**