

Father Woody's Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 4

October 2008

Father Woody's Haven of Hope
Operated by The Franciscan Friends of the Poor
www.fwuodyshavenofhope.org

Email info@fwuodyshavenofhope.org
303.607.0855

Father Woody's Haven of Hope – One Year Later

It is hard to believe that a full year has passed since we opened our new building. Even harder to believe is the significant, and concerning, increase in the number of homeless guests we serve every day.



From this

Word quickly spread among the homeless community and it soon became apparent that the small, old house simply wasn't adequate to meet the needs. The dream was to build a new facility on adjacent land. Last year, after countless prayers and donations, the dream became reality.

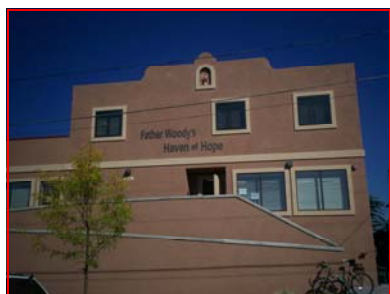
First, a look back. It was October 17th, 2007 that we celebrated the completion of our new, three-story Haven of Hope. What a difference it made in being able to help the poor! A spacious indoor dining hall (no more serving meals in tents), a modern kitchen, a half-dozen private showers, a laundry facility – all made possible by your generous gifts.

Of course, the story of the Haven of Hope really goes back to 2003 when a small, dedicated group of volunteers began preparing hot meals for the homeless from a small kitchen in a tiny house on the corner of 7th and Lipan. They did so in the memory, and spirit, of Father Woody – Msgr. C.B. Woodrich.



....and This

Here is a snapshot of what we have accomplished in our first year:



.... To This

- Served over 8,000 meals a month – over 100,000 a year.
- Provided over 12,000 showers.
- Washed more than 7,500 loads of laundry.
- Given out over 20,000 pieces of clothing.
- Provided over 500 haircuts.
- Delivered countless rolls and bread to nearby low-income housing units.
- Provided 11,000 bus tokens.
- Given out 1,350 rosaries.
- Treated our guests with love and compassion.

The compassion we provide our guests may be our greatest gift. All of our actions are done in the spirit of Fr. Woody who preached "We are here to serve, not to judge."

What is truly astounding is how the need for our services continues to grow. Just consider that in all of 2006, we provided just around 25,000 meals. Our meal service has grown four-fold.

We see new guests every day --- Guests who have recently lost their home, their job, their dignity. We see the news stories every day of how another financial institution has gone under; how more people are out of work. At Fr. Woody's, we see their faces. We see people who are frightened and don't know what is going to happen next. At least, through the Haven of Hope, they will be assured of getting their next hot meal.

Help Us Qualify for the Giving First Challenge Grant



Last month we introduced you to the GivingFirst website, who processes credit card and direct withdrawal donations for us at no fees to us! This is a savings of 3-5% of each gift that we receive in this way! Now for the next three months, for the first 24 charities who receive a total of \$5,000 of donations through the

GivingFirst website, the Community First Foundation will match these gifts at 50% — up to an additional \$2,500 to us! If you are considering a gift by credit card now, please use the donation button on our website that directs you to Community First, and help us meet our goal! You can even set up an automatic monthly donation to us through the GivingFirst website too!

Of course, we always accept checks and credit card donations, here at the office, and can now offer **pre-authorized automatic withdrawals from your checking account** for your convenience. Please contact Jason at 303-607-0855 ext. 5 if you are interested in making a regular monthly donation.

Meet the Staff



Meet Sr. Francine Schwarzenberger, OP, our new Receptionist. Anyone who has visited Fr. Woody's knows what a demanding position this is!

A Dominican Sister of the Great Bend, Kansas community, Sister Francine has enjoyed a variety of ministries in her years of service. She began as a teacher in elementary schools, but also has served in parish team ministry, diocesan co-director of Parish RENEW, Dominican leadership team, retreat ministry,

and started a Habitat for Humanity affiliate. The one ministry that surprises most people is that she worked in construction at Habitat for Humanity in Georgia for 13 months, and was privileged to build houses with Jimmy Carter several times.

She recently completed a Master in Specialized Ministry from Iliff School of Theology. She states that being part of the staff at Father Woody's Haven of Hope is a wonderful experience for which she is most grateful to the other staff, volunteers and guests. "God continues to bless my life," she says.

Jay Gould, Fr. Woody's Board member and one of the "brothers" as we are often called by our guests, made his profession into the Secular Franciscans (Third Order) on Sunday, October 5, 2008 at St. Patrick's Mission Church in Denver. He will be attached to the Saint Elizabeth Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans. Jay is a regular volunteer here at Fr. Woody's three days per week.



Board of Directors

- Richard (Dick) Campbell
- Alexandra (Sandy) Delargy
- Don E. Gallegos
- Jay Gould
- Pat Heaton
- P. Daniel Hopkins
- Fr. Vince Hovley S.J.
- Mike McManus
- John Metsker
- Joe Phillipps
- Vincent Vecchiarelli
- Matthew Zeman



☆ ENTERPRISE ☆
 ☆ ZONE RE- ☆
 ☆ MINDER ☆

☆ Father Woody's is ☆
 ☆ certified as an ☆
 ☆ Enterprise Zone project ☆
 ☆ because of the services ☆
 ☆ it provides to the home- ☆
 ☆ less. ☆

☆ Donating a minimum ☆
 ☆ amount of \$100, one ☆
 ☆ time or cumulative for ☆
 ☆ the year, provides you, ☆
 ☆ the donor, a 25% tax credit ☆
 ☆ on your Colorado income ☆
 ☆ tax, in addition to any ☆
 ☆ other deduction you are ☆
 ☆ eligible ☆
 ☆ to take for ☆
 ☆ the donation. ☆



Fr. Woody's Staff

- Kathleen M. Cronan
President
- Jason Dix
Office Manager
- Deborah Reynolds
Head Chef
- Marla Kay Townsend
Kitchen Asst.
- Sr. Francine
Schwarzenberger
Receptionist
- Yolanda Amaro
Laundry Mgr.
- Don Benavidez
Maintenance

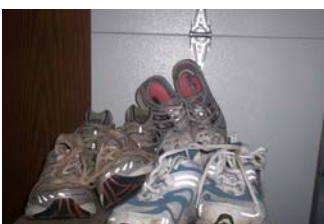
Cont'd from p. 1

I recently came across a survey done by Baylor University's Institute for Studies of Religion. One of their findings was that more than half of all Americans believe they have been helped by a guardian angel sometime in their lives. I believe guardian angels are bringing people in need to our doorstep at Father Woody's. And I also believe that guardian angels are helping us find ways to serve them.

You are an important part of our mission. We depend entirely on donations to accomplish our goals. All of us at the Haven of Hope – especially the homeless – thank you so much for your past generosity. And we truly appreciate any help you can provide us in the coming winter months.

It is your support that allows us to continue the work of Father Woody.

—Kathleen Cronan, Executive Director



Winter Season Wish List

Wondering why we are featuring a picture of used running shoes? Boulder Running Co. now regularly

donates their used running shoes to us! Our guests are very appreciative of the “new-to-them” footwear. If you have any other sources of new or gently used items for our guests, please let us know.

With winter quickly approaching, Fr. Woody's will certainly be needing items unique to the season. The critical items needed by our guests who live outside include: **Coats, coats, and more coats...blankets (no king-size please), gloves, stocking caps, thermal underwear, regular underwear and socks, socks and more socks!** If anyone is cleaning their closets, or making a trip to the discount store, please remember that Fr. Woody's will be happy to receive any sturdy and usable clothing. Thanks for all you do -- God Bless!

**DID YOU KNOW
THAT MORE THAN
1800 PEOPLE USE
OUR SERVICES?
WE SERVE MORE
THAN 250 MEALS
EACH DAY**

In Memory
Please remember in your prayers our guests who have died on the street in this last month:
Glen Vaverik
Larry Pantera

Late Night Catechism

We recently participated as the featured "charity" at the performance of Late Night Catechism on September 20th.

Although no proceeds from ticket sales went directly to Fr. Woody's, "Sister" did ask for a "collection" at the end of the show. We were able also to display our brochures, newsletters, and other information regarding the Haven of Hope in the front lobby area. We want to say thank you to Comedy Works, Denver Civic Theatre, "Sister", and all of you who were able to attend.



A pen and ink sketch of Fr. Woody's by one of our guests.



Golf Tournament



An awesome foursome

Thanks to everyone who participated in and helped with our first annual charity golf tournament. The Father Woody Haven of Hope tournament, in memory of Harry King, attracted 124 golfers and raised over \$25,000. Held at City Park Golf Course on September 10, all of the proceeds from the tournament will help provide food, clothing, counseling and hygienic services to our homeless guests.

Many of those who played were friends of Harry King, who passed away in January. Harry was recognized as one of the best amateur golfers in Colorado, and was also known for his commitment to serving those in need.



Is this the 19th hole?

Our Thanks to all those who participated and to all the volunteers that helped make this outing a success!

Sponsors included ACH Foam, The Gould Family, Cressy Nakagawa, Italco Food Products, Homer Dunn, Mike Naughton Ford, Hank's Auto Body, Judicial Arbitrator Group, D G & S Electric, Wells Fargo, Steele Street State Bank, Pollard Friendly Motor Company, Maureen Cain & Frank Moya, Caruso Kitchens, Blackman & Levine, Wedgle & Kukreja, PC, Sarah and John Finn., James Gillies PC, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Fischer Construction, Campbell Killan Brittan & Ray, Arthur Margolis DDS, Floyd and Peterson Benefits, GL Specialties, Joseph Grieve Trucking, You and I Designs Limited, Montgomery Little Soran & Murray PC, AAA Emergency Tree Service, and Pozner & Reilly.

Mission Statement

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

**Father Woody's
Haven of Hope**
Operated by the Franciscan
Friends of the Poor

1101 W. 7th Avenue
Denver, CO 80204

Nonprofit org
US Postage Paid
Denver CO
Permit No. 1165



**"We are here to serve not to judge."
Rev. Monsignor Charles B. Woodrich
"Father Woody"**