

PARTNERS



The Newsletter of Community Partnership for Homeless

Spring 2005

Success Story: Resident Gains Control of Life

My name is Eric. I muddled along for 42 years on a continuing downward path, fueled by alcohol and drugs.

I suppose that my story is not much different than millions of others except for the part played in my case by Community Partnership for Homeless.

In simple terms, my basic problem from the age of 15 was alcohol. I now know that I had an alcoholic mind and that willpower or character was irrelevant. But I didn't know this for all the years I struggled. I thought I was helpless, and I was.

I have now been "dry" for well over a year. I am employed at a first-class restaurant and have had three raises in less than a year.

It did not come easy. There were slips and failures and more than one effort by Community Partnership for Homeless before the realization, or awakening, came that the only answer, and the only hope, for me, was to "let go and let God."

That phrase is the basic message of a twelve-step program, and any of its variations, requiring an unconditional acceptance of its terms and a rigorous self-honesty. It has been a never-ending learning process of who I am, simple but not easy.

IT DOES WORK IF YOU WORK IT!

In order to survive, I have had to get into these steps, apply them as best I can, and ask for help from some power greater than myself. This power may be whatever I choose to call it, inanimate or otherwise. But I must believe it, and I do.

At first I had trouble with the concept until I was asked the question: "Well, can you do it by yourself?" and the answer, of course, was a clear negative.



"With each little triumph comes a little more peace of mind."

-Eric

Aside from the help, which I had to request, the question then became what must I do personally. I had to recognize that any life run on self-will could hardly be a success. Even with

the best of intentions, on that basis, collisions occurred regularly with something or somebody.

Otherwise, I would continue on my downward spiral, marked by anger, self-pity, indignation, delusions, self-centeredness, fear, retaliation, hatred, and despair.

Since this is supposed to be a success story, in addition to recounting the negatives, there should be an account of what happened to brighten the future.

With guidance from the professionals at Community Partnership for Homeless and others,

I began a review of my life and habits, searching for flaws in my makeup, any one of which might trip me up, and land me back in the clutches of booze and drugs.

Eventually, I found the greatest offender. In one word: RESENTMENT. From it stems countless forms of mental, physical, and spiritual disease.

Resentments, themselves, can be counted in the thousands, i.e. I am misunderstood; I am ugly; my wife is a nag; I don't make enough money; I hate my job; that girl snubbed me; I hate myself; and so on.

There is much more and the effort continues. With each little triumph comes a little more peace of mind. My life is a new model to be lived one day at a time.

Story compiled by Earl Barber.



Our Mission

We offer dignity
and hope to all
so that no persons
sleep on the streets
of our community.

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Chairman's Message



Community Partnership for Homeless has hit the ground running in 2005 – there is no better way to describe the talent and energy that staff and volunteers have devoted to our mission in recent months, just as there was no better way to have started the year than with two benefit races this past January.

As the charity partner for Marathon Weekend, our organization was the beneficiary of the Great Florida Bank Tropical 5K and the Toyota Prius Tropical Marathon and Half-Marathon. Perhaps more importantly, however, Community Partnership made new friends at these events as thousands

came out to raise money and awareness for the homeless. Amy Osorio's leadership (and persistence) were key to making the races such a resounding success, and we thank her for her dedication.

We also give special thanks to Carlos Fernandez-Guzman of BankUnited for underwriting one of our most exciting new projects. Renowned Miami-based artist Romero Britto has designed a special wristband to raise awareness and funds for the homeless, and BankUnited has agreed to sell them at branches throughout the area. Pollo Tropical has decided to join BankUnited in this effort and will be selling the wristbands at its retail outlets, which will help us take our message further into the community.

These impressive results are far from surprising given the example many members of our board directors are setting for us all. Founding Chairman, Alvah Chapman, has been relentless in his pursuit of table sales and sponsorships for our fall Gala. With the help of his Table Sales Committee, he has so far received commitments for four \$50,000-table sponsorships. It seems a new record for gala revenues may be in the making.

Paula Brockway, our new Events Committee Chair, has brought countless ideas to the organization of the gala, as well. She is a bundle of energy and has extensive experience coordinating community events. Get your tickets soon, for the gala promises to be a fantastic evening.

While Tim Adams, one of our directors, has had to wear many hats lately, his Community Partnership for Homeless hat has never been far from reach. Tim was first Chairman of Burdines, then Florida Chairman and CEO of Burdines-Macy's, and now the head of Macy's in Florida. He is a leader in our local business community and an outstanding ambassador.

Other friends have also been helping us meet our goals. The Health Foundation of South Florida has renewed its commitment to fund our Chapman Center health clinic through June 2006. The Foundation has been our partner since the Chapman Center opened, and we are grateful for its continued support.

As we settle into 2005 with important accomplishments already behind us, we look to the coming months with excitement and the hope that we will move ever closer to our ultimate goal of eradicating homelessness. Both of our centers continue to show very successful outplacement rates. At Chapman Center in February, for example, the outplacement rate was 70% and at the South Dade Center, it was 73%. The life-to-date rate is 58.8%. These numbers tell us two things: (1) our staff is doing a superb job, and (2) the overall continuum of care is working. If we should grade ourselves on the outcomes, then we deserve high marks.

Sincerely,

R. Ray Soode

Wishing Upon a Star

The need for these items continues to grow every day. You may donate items or money to purchase them. Drop-offs are accepted at 1550 N. Miami Avenue or 28205 SW 125 Avenue. For additional information, please call our Donation Hotline (305) 329-3030 or e-mail tbflowers@cphi.org

PERSONAL HYGIENE:

Shampoo/Bath Soap
Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
Deodorant/Shaving Cream
Feminine Hygiene Items
Diapers (children and adults)
Hair Brushes/Combs
Baby Powder/Lotion/Baby Wipes/Formula

GENTLY USED CLOTHING FOR MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN:

Men's and Women's Business Attire
Shorts
T-Shirts
Shoes
Plus-Sized Women's Clothing
Maternity Clothing
Socks
Infant Clothing
Underwear

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:

Beds
Cribs
Dressers
Mattress/Box Spring/Frame
Kitchen Tables w/Chairs
Lamps
Sofas
Coffee Tables
Night Stands
Dishes/Glasses
Pots/Pans/Silverware
Small Household Appliances (microwaves, toaster ovens, coffee pots, toasters)
Towels/Wash Cloths
Sheets/Blankets/Pillows

KITCHEN NEEDS:

Baked Goods (pre-packaged: sweet rolls, cookies, cakes, pies or doughnuts)
Milk
Juice

Canned Goods (potted meats, vegetables, soups, fruit)
Soda

MISCELLANEOUS NEEDS:
Arts & Crafts Supplies (glue, construction paper, markers, pens, paper, scissors)

Board Games/Decks of Cards/Educational Games/Balls
Videos/DVDs (G and GP rated please)
Backpacks/Vinyl Bags
Computer Software Games
General School Supplies
Books (children and adults)
Suitcases/Overnight Bags
Baby Bottles
Pacifiers
Wheel Chairs (children and adults)
Walkers (tri and quad)
Canes/Crutches
Baby Blankets
Car Seats
Strollers (double and single)

SPECIAL ITEMS:
Mother's Day Gifts
Father's Day Gifts
Special Activities for Children (parties, event tickets, etc.)
Summer Camp Items (bathing suits, towels, sunscreen)

Family Resource Center Partners Help Children Reach New Heights

Two local non-profit organizations, Kids with Character and All-Aboard, are key to helping Community Partnership for Homeless develop and deliver strong programs to the children of the Family Resource Center.

Kids with Character, a not-for-profit organization, works with Community Partnership for Homeless' Family Resource Center as a volunteer organization to help the children residing at the Chapman Center acquire and build character and good manners.

Kids with Character founder, Kathryn Johnson, teaches the children, "Your character is your intellectual property. It is the most valuable property you will ever own." Johnson has been working with the organization for more than four years. She devotes two to three hours, twice a week to the children of Community Partnership for Homeless. While working on-campus, she teaches "attitude adjustment ©" by developing good manners to define good attitudes. Johnson works with children of all ages, from five year-olds through teenagers. "Class sizes vary but are kept small – no more than six – so they learn better," says Johnson.

"I teach through a pyramid of characters, which has nine principles," said Johnson. "These principles are excellent thoughts to think of when you have to make a decision," she tells her children. The principles: honesty, compassion, appreciation, patience, discipline, humor, humility, generosity and respect, creates strong characters. These principles are words on the pyramid. "The children color and build the pyramid of characters step by step to learn how principles give them strong character," explained Johnson.

All-Aboard Educational Services also partners with Community Partnership for

Homeless' Family Resource Center with a special program for children. They provide all the children of the Chapman Center with a monthly story hour. The fourth Tuesday of every month, volunteers from Hands on Miami and the Junior League of Miami along with the staff from All-Aboard visit the center for a full hour of story time and arts and craft activities with the center's children.

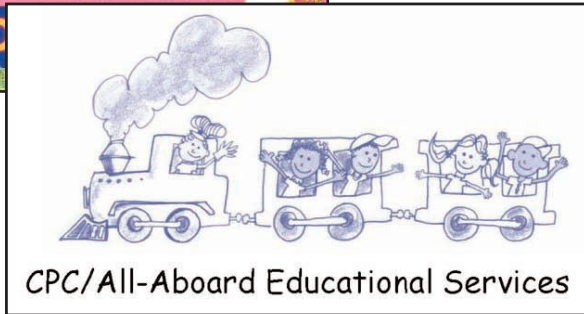
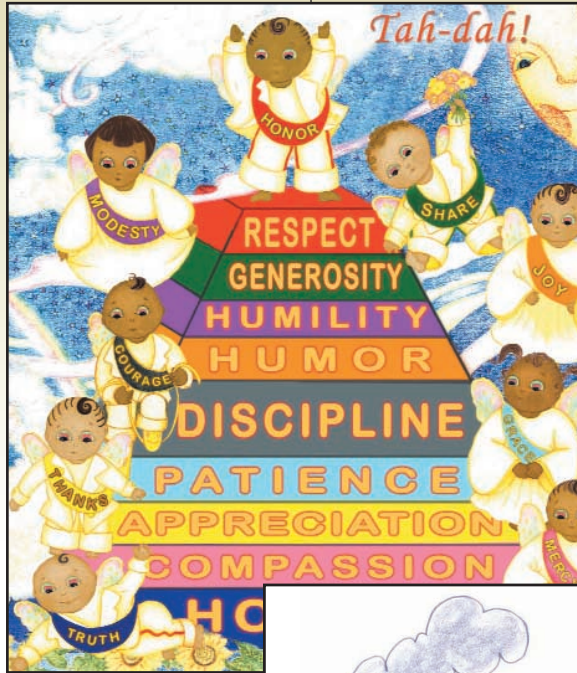
Program coordinator of educational services, Marta Fernandez, loves working with the children and "they look forward to our visits," she says. "The kids come running up to me and say, "You're the book lady, right?" says Fernandez.

Anyone is welcomed to story time, but the sessions are geared toward the younger ones. "We also don't limit the class size," said Fernandez, as she pushes for more and more of the children to take part of

the activities she offers. "Our activities are opened to everyone," she says.

The now five year-old program is currently offered at the Chapman Center. Fernandez hopes to expand it to the Homestead Center soon.

"The relationship and bonding these women have built with the children in the Family Resource Center is an amazing aspect of their program," said Trev Flowers, director of community relations at Community Partnership for Homeless. "The building of self-esteem these programs provide to the children is something they will bring with them forever," Flowers added. "Our children have been put through a lot in their short lives, and many people have broken their trust. The warm hearts of these volunteers have gained the trust of our group, and now they are able to share and learn," she said.



Three Named to Board of Directors



John Krousouloudis is vice president of Marine Operations for Celebrity Cruises, where he is responsible for all nautical, technical, safety and environmental issues for Celebrity's fleet of ten ships. Prior to joining Celebrity, Krousouloudis served as group vice president in Greece and England for ABS Group (American Bureau

of Shipping), a risk consulting, engineering and management systems company. Krousouloudis has over 28 years of shipping and business experience in Europe and the United States, including 17 years as an engineer and systems manager.

Stefan H. Zachar III is vice president of Goldman Sachs. Zachar was vice president at Prudential Investments where he headed the institutional, third party and individual asset management business for the Southern United States and Latin America region. A third generation Miamian, Zachar has been aware of the homeless issue since he was a teenager when he befriended a homeless amputee Vietnam veteran named Rex. Being involved with CPH and serving the community has held a spiritual meaning for Zachar ever since. He also started the Tropical Pioneers "Tropes" support group of young professionals of the Historical Museum of South Florida.



Reverend Thom Shafer is a senior pastor of First United Methodist Church of Coral Gables and has served in the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church for 27 years. During this time his appointments have included, Senior Pastor, Temple Terrace United Methodist Church in Tampa, Pastor of the First United Methodist Church of South Miami and most recently, District Superintendent of the Jacksonville District. Reverend Shafer also cast a vision for creating new partnerships with the YMCA

and twenty community agencies in the Tampa Bay area to help build assets in children through seven "Success Centers."



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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2005 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Meetings are scheduled on the second Thursday of the month at 8:00 a.m. at 1550 North Miami Avenue, unless otherwise advised.

April 14	September 15 (3rd Thursday)
May 12	October 13
June 16 (3rd Thursday)	November 10
July 14	December 15

First Annual Great Florida Bank Tropical 5K a Runaway Success!

Community Partnership for Homeless, PR Racing and Wragg & Casas Public Relations, worked tirelessly for months in preparation for the first annual Great Florida Bank Tropical 5K, whose proceeds would benefit the efforts at Community Partnership for Homeless.

As an official event of the Toyota Prius Miami Tropical Marathon and Half Marathon, the 5K run raised more than \$150,000 for Community Partnership for Homeless and received a great deal of publicity in local newspapers and television, increasing awareness of the homeless community in Miami-Dade County.

More than 1,500 runners and walkers including board member Amarilis Osorio, Emilio Estefan, Jon Secada, Shalim, and City of Miami Mayor Manny Diaz gathered outside of the Miami Children's Museum for the start of the race on Saturday, January 29, 2005.

At 7 a.m., famed artist Romero Britto, who designed the logo and donated the artwork, stood before the large crowd as the official 5K-race starter. At about 7:30 a.m., the gun fired and everyone began the 3.1-mile race alongside the cruise ships on MacArthur Causeway. Crossing the finish line on Collins Avenue, participants were greeted with much needed water, a photo and a commemorative medal.

Nikki Beach hosted the post-race festivities, which included a free breakfast buffet, drinks, massages and award ceremony for winners in a variety of age groups.

Congratulations to all, and be sure to get your running shoes on now and join us for next year's 5K run.

The Gift of Giving

NOVEMBER 2004

Anonymous	\$500,000
Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida	\$122,275
HFSF Grants Management, Inc.	\$ 85,540
The Ware Foundation	\$ 50,000
Susan and Larry Kahn	\$ 10,000
Samuel E. and Mary W. Thatcher Foundation, Inc.	\$ 5,000

DECEMBER 2004

1997 Charitable Lead Unitrust (Endowment)	\$ 25,000
George B. Storer Foundation	\$ 20,000
William A. and Irene M. Kaynor	\$ 15,000
The Calvin & Flavia Oak Foundation (Endowment)	\$ 5,000
Stephen Jackman	\$ 5,000
Reyes & O'Shea, P. A.	\$ 5,000
Bruce D. and Sandra L. Parker	\$ 5,000
Allan J. Pekor	\$ 5,000
Braman Management Association	\$ 5,000

JANUARY 2005

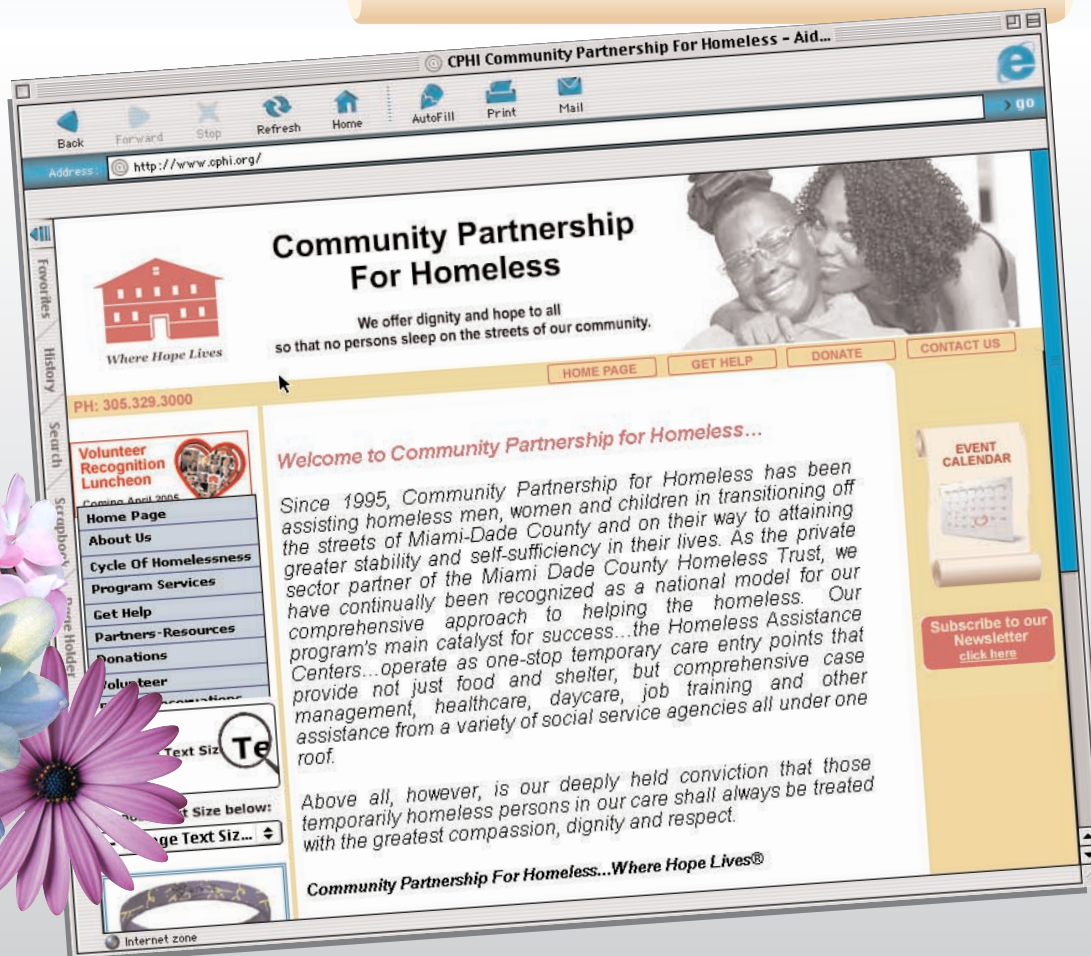
Great Florida Bank	\$ 65,000
Pollo Tropical	\$ 10,000
PR Racing, Inc.	\$ 5,480
Braman Family Foundation	\$ 5,000

FEBRUARY 2005

Peacock Foundation	\$ 50,000
The Chatlos Foundation	\$ 25,000
Samuel E. and Mary W. Thatcher Foundation	\$ 25,000
PR Racing, Inc.	\$ 5,700

New Website Launched

This past winter we re-designed and launched our new website. New sections, graphics and a user-friendly interface were added for a more comprehensive and easier to navigate website with broader appeal.



The heart of a volunteer
is not measured in size,
but by the depth of the commitment
to make a difference in the lives of others.
— DeAnn Hollis



Each year Community Partnership for Homeless honors its dedicated Volunteers, without whom we could not exist and accomplish our mission of serving the many men, women, and families in our two Centers.

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to the thousands of volunteers that made this past year an overwhelming success for Community Partnership for Homeless. For more information please call 305/329-3042.

Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

... Tuesday, April 26, 2005 ...



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FOR HOMELESS

Where Hope Lives

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Miami, Florida 33136

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