



Valley Interfaith
Food and Clothing Center

VIFCC Newsbreak

This issue contains our 2009 Annual Report

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Volunteers are Priceless

You cannot hope to build a better world without improving the individuals. To that end each of us must work for his own improvement, and at the same time share a general responsibility for all humanity, our particular duty being to aid those to whom we think we can be most useful.

~Marie Curie

A Year in Review

In today's world, we are daily confronted by the term "CRISIS", whether it's health-care, unemployment, the Gulf oil spill, the deficit, the Greek default, etc. Within this precarious environment, VIFCC is finding itself managing a very real crisis of its own.

As cited in our somewhat belated 2009 Annual Report (We've been busy!), the Center has experienced a 24% increase in its number of clients, while In-Kind Donations and Revenues improved by only 3%. In short, we've been struggling with a "fishes and loaves" scenario. Despite this challenge, we're pleased to report we have been able to maintain our operation without decreasing the level of client services, in any way.

This successful outcome is largely attrib-

utable to learning our lessons from the 2008 results, and planning ahead. In that year, we experienced a dramatic decline in individual and organizational donations, 21% and 41% respectively.

We thus launched a year-long concerted effort to improve the performance of both sectors, with significant success. We also realized that while our Sponsoring Faith Communities performed admirably in 2008, the recession would take its toll on their contributions, which, in turn, would negatively impact the Center. We therefore launched a broad based cost cutting initiative to offset potential losses in contributions. This included a dramatic cut in Administrative expenses, by being able to substitute one of our paid staff with a very generous, capa-

ble and dedicated volunteer. This "leaner but not meaner" approach allowed us to fully sustain our clients during a very dark moment in their lives.

We're frankly proud of this accomplishment, but also recognize that the crisis is far from over. In fact, we're now at a point where we've exhausted our internal improvements, and are very much dependent on increased revenue to sustain our current level of services. The probability of continued high levels of unemployment will, inevitably, increase the demand for our critical services. We therefore appeal to your generosity and kind hearts in helping us help your neighbors in need. Your kind assistance has never been more critical than at this moment.

Review of 2009 Special Programs

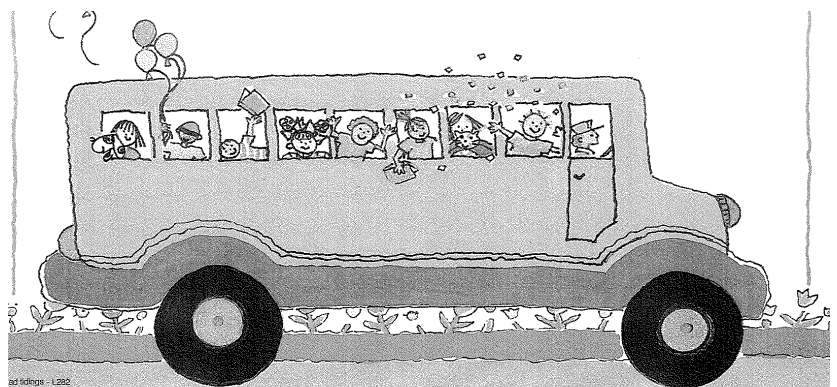
In addition to providing critical daily services, the Center conducts two annual “special programs”, designed to support families in need during potentially stressful seasons. Over the years, these programs have also served to proactively and broadly engage various elements of the community, including the young, in the conduct of our outreach mission. As such, they have been, and remain, particularly gratifying for both clients and volunteers.

The Back-2-School (B-2-B) program is aimed a “leveling the playing field” for needy students, as they embark into another academic year. The focus is to engender a positive attitude by providing students with school supplies, sneakers, clothing and backpacks. In 2009, under the leadership of Marne Kappes, almost 800 students were served. The funding was provided by our sponsoring faith communities and a grant from the Dater Foundation. The event took place

from August 3 - 9 at the Reading/Lockland Presbyterian Church, which generously offered its facilities and enthusiasm. The bulk of the volunteer cadre, which assembled and distributed the supplies, was composed of middle school, high school and college students, who faithfully attended every day of the event. On the last day of distribution, a pee-wee football team, coached by Olaf Strom, and assisted by coaches and dads, manned the entire operation. As always, the entire occasion was marked by a good deal of laughter, gratitude and camaraderie among all participants.

The Christmas Program is dedicated to ensuring that families and individuals in need are provided with food, clothing and gifts to enable them to properly celebrate the season. The 2009 effort was chaired by Ann Taylor, who literally “saved the day” by assuming the leadership role in the midst of the program. As in previous years, over 40 area

faith communities, businesses and community groups volunteered to sponsor the Sharing Tree and Food Basket programs, and to shop, wrap and organize over 1200 new clothing and toy gifts. This broad based initiative was coordinated by a cadre of over 60 volunteers, who dedicated their time and talent, over a 5 month period, to ensure successful execution of a complex and challenging endeavor. In the end, a total of 446 families, with more than 830 children, were served. 350 households were provided with holiday food boxes, filled with the ingredients for a complete turkey dinner, and various food staples for the winter break. Special thanks to Trinity Baptist Church for sponsoring the food box distribution at its facility. The joy, gratitude and positive feelings that this program generates, in a particularly delicate period, serves as the greatest reward for the participating volunteers. It’s a wonderful way to proclaim “Joy to the World!”.



Committees Forming

The board of Trustees just recently established committees to better meet the needs of the clients and volunteers. These newly formed committees are a chance for you to get involved. They are designed to develop and recommend policies, and further our commitment to serve our neighbors in need. We believe many hands make light work.

Volunteer Support:

Enhance our in-house communication about events, or programs Valley is involved in; i.e.: Kroger gift cards, 5K Walk, etc.

Sponsor volunteer "Fun-Raisers" Organize the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

Please contact Bobbi Hosmer at 522-2966 or

bhosmer@cinci.rr.com

Publicity:

Generate articles, cover special programs/events for use in media; newspapers, television, church bulletins, newsletter, etc.

Please contact Marne Kappes at 604-8406 or mom2btandj@aol.com

Client Services:

- Enhance our efforts to better understand the short and longer term needs of our clients.

Evaluate current services offered, based on client input, agency reports, and determine if any improvements are needed.

Please contact Tammy Brown at 884-1834 or

browncinc@aol.com

Finance Committee:

- Oversee the funding of the funding of the Center.
- Focus on increasing the donations of individuals, gaining new corporate and/or organizational sponsorships, and identifying other sources of income.

Maintain current donor base

Please contact Morgan Blavatt at blavattm@gmail.com

As you can see, there is something for everyone! Please take a moment and prayerfully decide which group best suits you. Each committee will establish their own schedule upon meeting. Our targeted goal for each committee formation is August 15, 2010.

Remember VIFCC in Your Will

Remembering VIFCC in your will is the most enduring statement you can make about your belief in our mission. The support you have offered throughout your lifetime can go on for years to come.

Your gift can be a specific asset, such as a certain amount of cash, securities or property, or a percentage of your estate. Plus, not only is a

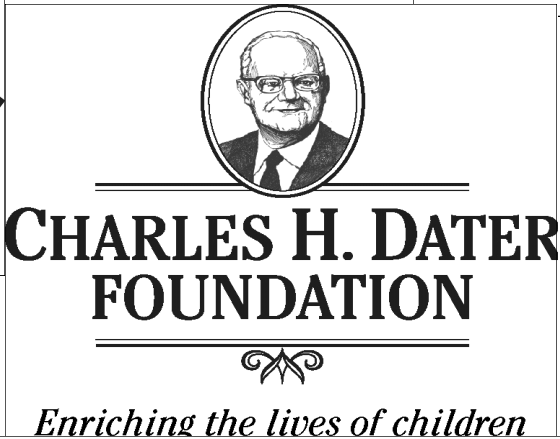
gift in your will flexible (you can change your mind at any time), but it can be accomplished in as little as four easy steps:

1. Determine whether you'd like to leave a specific amount or if you'd like to leave a percentage.
2. Decide if you want to direct your gift to help a particular program or leave your gift unrestricted, allowing it to

be used for our most pressing needs.

3. See your attorney to include your gift in your will or revocable living trust.
4. If you desire, please notify us of your intention so we can thank you and keep you informed of ongoing activities. We are happy to adhere to your wishes regarding anonymity.

With the Help from these Local
Businesses and Partnering Agencies,
we are able to Fulfill our Mission of
“*Helping our Neighbors in Need*”



Thanks to Sara Lee for donating bread whenever our clients need it!

Thanks to the Wyoming Pastry Shop for providing pastries for our clients & volunteers everyday



Angels Amongst Us...



We are truly thankful for the Annual Food Drive Valley Temple provides for us each year. This Food Drive takes place during **Yom Kippur**, also known as **The Day of Atonement**, and it is the Jewish tradition to observe this holy day with a 25-hour period of fasting and intensive prayer. In 2009, they donated 4,244 items, which equates to \$5,305. This picture is of their lobby filled with bags of food staples for our clients.

Thank you Valley Temple for "Helping Our Neighbors in Need" year after year!



Barb Campbell, VIFCC Executive Director, with Christy Brown and Leah, Tori and Kira Brown dropping off the proceeds from the girls 4th Annual New Years Day Hot Chocolate Sale. (left)

Kira, Leah, Tori and friend Karly manning the stand on a very frigid New Years Day. They raised \$490, which was 75% more than the previous year! (right)

Keep Up the Great Work, Girls!



Girindus is one of the newest local business to help us with our mission and they did an outstanding job!
Not only did they collect 167 items for our "Choice Pantry", which equals \$207 worth of food staples, they also collected money.

Girindus®
Solvay Organics

Girindus collected \$1021, which was matched by an anonymous supporter. With \$2,041, we were able to purchase \$26,533 worth of food staples. This is because for every dollar donated, we can purchase \$13 worth of food, due to our partnership with the **FreeStore/FoodBank**.

Thank you Girindus employees for supporting our mission.

Marne Kappes, VIFCC Board President, with the Wyoming Cowboys Pee Wee Football team. The team raised \$844, which allowed us to purchase almost \$11,000 worth of food staples.

Way To Go Team!!!



Although we get help from SO many generous individuals, local business and churches, these are just a few that blessed us this year and we wanted to give them a special "Thank You"!

Valley Interfaith Food & Clothing Center 2009 Annual Report

In 2009 the Center distributed **\$1,952,496** worth of food, clothing and financial assistance to **22,803** people. We served a total of 8,333 households. That is a staggering **24% increase** over last year!

Despite the economic crisis by individuals, churches and foundations, our loyal supporters did not loose their sense of charity.

By holding food drives, a New Year's day hot chocolate stand, a local middle school football team sold La Rosa's buddy cards, to coat drives, and personal hygiene collections are just a few of the many creative actions taken that enable the Center to meet the needs of our growing clientele.

Along with our regular client services we continued our partnership with **Community Action Agency (CAA); Prevent Blindness; Job Placement and Interview Skills from Goodwill Industries; and Job Re-Entry for Ex-Offenders through CAA.** We have also started **English as a second language** for our Latino clients. Our Wednesday evening hours (5-7) offer an additional benefit for our working clients and volunteers. The many services and programs offered at the Center provide a vital community resource for our neighbors in need.

This past year has seen many challenges. Thankfully with generous supporters and the many volunteers at the Center, our commitment to our clients has been steadfast. As always we will continue to be diligent in our fiscal responsibility.



Marne Kappes
Board of Trustee President

Valley Interfaith Food & Clothing Center

Operational Data for Period January 1 Thru December 31, 2009

Client Data

	2009	2008	Diff	Percent
Number of Households Served	8,333	6,757	1,576	23.3%
People Served				
Seniors (90+)	1,375	1,241	134	10.8%
Children (Birth to 17)	8,648	7,175	1,473	20.5%
Adults (17-59)	12,780	10,039	2,741	27.3%
Total	22,803	18,455	4,348	23.6%

Financial Data (in dollars)

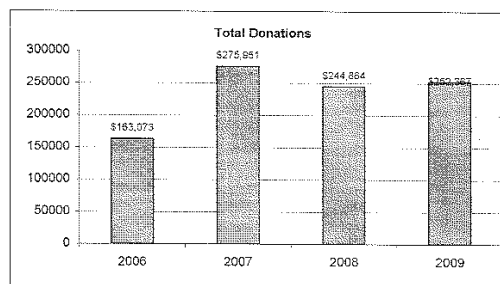
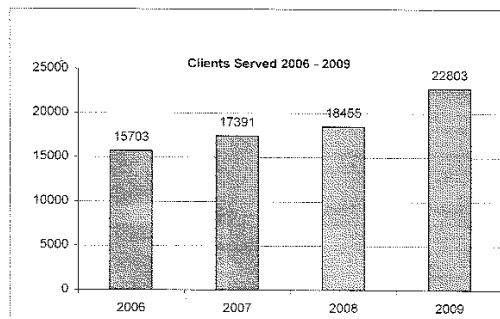
	2009	2008	Diff	Percent
In-Kind Donations				
Food and Personal Care Products	237,486	232,145	5,341	2.3%
Clothing and Household Goods	1,556,610	1,512,176	44,434	2.9%
Volunteer Services	158,400	144,000	14,400	10.0%
Total	1,952,496	1,888,321	64,175	3.4%
Estimated Value Distributed	1,952,496	1,888,321	64,175	3.4%

Revenues

	2009	2008	Diff	Percent
Sponsoring Faith Communities	75,519	88,800	(13,281)	-15.0%
Individuals	99,393	87,898	11,495	13.1%
Organizations	48,077	32,195	15,882	49.3%
Grants	25,000	24,683	317	1.3%
Interest on Reserve Fund	2,440	3,128	(888)	-22.0%
Sale of Clothing	4,328	5,602	(1,274)	-22.7%
Legacies & Bequest	-	1,192	(1,192)	-100.0%
Fund Raisers	4,378	11,288	(6,910)	-61.2%
Misc. Income	-	225	(225)	-100.0%
Total	259,135	255,011	4,124	1.6%

Expenses

	2009	2008	Diff	Percent
Food Pantry	24,717	17,721	6,996	39.5%
Housing Assistance	19,369	22,855	(3,486)	-15.3%
Utility Assistance	45,140	43,135	2,005	4.6%
Special Programs	22,448	21,467	981	4.6%
Fundraising	63,779	60,059	3,720	6.2%
Other Client Assistance	4,805	4,022	783	19.5%
Administration	15,405	44,412	(29,007)	-65.3%
Occupancy Expense	38,951	38,485	466	1.2%
Capital Equipment/Vehicle	3,254	7,560	(4,306)	-57.0%
Other Misc. Expense	3,799	1,462	2,337	159.8%
CIP Expansion Reserve	15,000	-	15,000	-
Total	258,658	261,169	(4,511)	-1.7%



Statement of Financial Position (in dollars)

Assets as of 12/31/2009		Liabilities & Equities as of 12/31/2009	
Petty Cash	200	Equity	347,316
WesBanco Checking Account	85,564	Retained Earnings	(157,712)
Spring Valley Money Market	121,317	Net Income	2,477
		Expansion Reserve	15,000
Total	207,081	Total	207,081

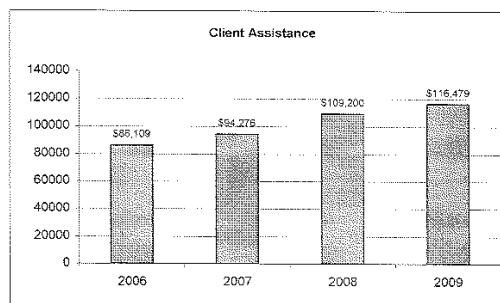
Assets as of 12/31/2008		Liabilities & Equities as of 12/31/2008	
Petty Cash	200	Equity	347,316
WesBanco Checking Account	70,178	Retained Earnings	(151,554)
Spring Valley Money Market	119,226	Net Income	(6,158)
Total	189,604	Total	189,604

(Comprehensive Financial Statements are available upon request)

Distribution of Revenues and Expenditures

	Categories	Amount	Percent
Revenues	In-kind Donations and Services	1,952,496	88.3%
	Sponsoring Faith Communities	75,519	3.4%
	Individuals	99,393	4.5%
	Organizations	48,077	2.2%
	Grants	25,000	1.1%
	Interest on Reserve Fund	2,440	0.1%
	Sale of Clothing	4,328	0.2%
	Fund Raisers	4,378	0.2%
	Total	2,211,631	100.0%

	Categories	Amount	Percent
Expenditures	Value of Distributed Good & Services	1,952,496	88.4%
	Client Services	116,479	5.3%
	Administration	15,405	0.7%
	Fund Raising	63,770	2.9%
	Occupancy Expenses	38,951	1.7%
	Capital Equipment/Vehicle	3,254	0.1%
	Other	3,799	0.2%
	Expansion Reserve	15,000	0.7%
	Total	2,209,154	100.0%



This issue contains our
2009 Annual Report

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*Helping Our
Neighbors
In
Need*

We're on the Web!
www.vifcc.org

Did You Know...

- With every \$1 donated, we can purchase \$13 worth of food staples because we are a member of the FreeStore/FoodBank.
 - VIFCC operates with 130 dedicated volunteers and only (1) paid employee.
 - We served almost 23,000 people in 2009.
 - 66% of the people we serve are women.
 - The majority of our clients live in Lockland (23%).
 - 18% of our clients live in Lincoln Heights.
 - 88% of clients receive food when they visit VIFCC.
 - 68% receive clothing monthly.
 - 20% receive emergency financial assistance to forestall eviction or utility shut-off.
 - The majority of our clients (20%) are between the age of 18-30 yrs old.
 - We experienced a 20% increase in Senior Citizens served in 2009 vs. 2008.
 - We had an overall 23.3% increase of clients in 2009.
 - 39% of our annual budget comes from individual donations; 30% from sponsoring faith communities; 19% from local businesses and organization; and 12% from grants and fund raisers.
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