



The Family Fridge



JUNE 2007

JUNE MENU

Tuesday 6/5

3PM Prayer Gathering
Bainbridge Street

Thursday 6/7

3PM Prayer Gathering
North Broad Street

Tuesday 6/12

3PM Prayer Gathering
Spruce Street

Thursday 6/14

Philly Farmers
Cranaleith (Meet at MBH at
9 AM, back by 2:30 PM)

3PM 12-Step Prayer Gathering
Sanctuary

Tuesday 6/19

3PM Prayer Gathering
Bainbridge Street

Thursday 6/21

11AM Community Life Council
Meeting
1630 Admin Office

3PM Prayer Gathering
North Broad Street

Tuesday 6/26

3PM Prayer Gathering
Spruce Street

Thursday 6/28

Philly Farmers
Cranaleith

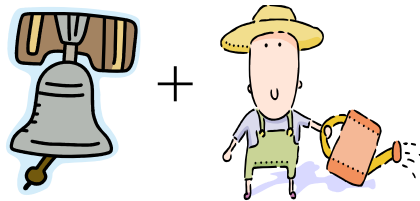
3PM 12-Step Prayer Gathering
Sanctuary

ANOTHER BETHESDA - PHILLIES WIN!

Bethesda Project's 10th Annual Auction & Party hit a GRAND SLAM, raising over \$151,000! With the Philadelphia Phillies as our lead sponsor again this year and more than 60 other businesses and individuals also supporting the event, we welcomed over 325 guests to the Diamond Club at



Citizens Bank Park. They enjoyed a sumptuous buffet dinner, live music performed by the Girard Academic Music Program jazz ensemble, and vigorous bidding on extraordinary auction gifts. Top items included a trip for two to London and LASIK eye surgery. Honorary Chairman Jim Eastwood, Chairman of Granary Associates and Event Chairman Jim Mulvihill were awarded Bethesda medals in recognition of their leadership of this year's fundraiser, our biggest ever. In a brief ceremony before the event, Development Director Beth Palubinsky also presented medals to Joe Giles of the Phillies and Harmon Bryen of Aramark, in recognition of all they and their organizations do to make the annual event such a success. Thanks to all our sponsors, gift donors, guests, event staff and volunteers – we couldn't have done it without you!



Philly Farmers a Wonderful Success

The Philly Farmers program at Cranaleith Spiritual Retreat Center has begun! This program offers our residents the chance to get out into nature, do some gardening for the Sisters of Mercy, and grow their own plants. Nora Spriggs, Sister Kathleen Waugh, and longtime volunteer Susie Farrell have accompanied residents Jack Welch and Joe Williams from Sanctuary and Richard "Country" Shott from My Brothers' House twice already. Our residents and volunteers have thoroughly enjoyed working in the nice weather, relaxing with Midas the dog, and spending some good time with each other.

If you are interested in joining the fun as a volunteer driver, or as a resident participant, please contact Nora Spriggs at 215.985.1600.



AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Gearing up for summer volunteers!

It's that time again: schools are letting out, and students are looking for good ways to spend all their newfound free time, and nothing beats a fun trip around the Bethesda neighborhood. Nikolais Shumer-Decker, a student all the way from upstate New York took quite a tour during his four-day stint with us. He volunteered at My Brothers' House, Bainbridge, and even helped Community Life Assistant Nora with the shopping for the staff retreat.

Erika Funk, the new youth initiatives director for our friends at Broad Street Ministry stopped by for a planning visit with her student intern Jonathan Kruse who comes to us all the way from Germany!

Bethesda Project is looking forward to three solid months of good weather, good volunteers, and lots of community building (AKA, "food").

Thanks to all those who serve us; we could not do our work without you!

If you know a community or school group that would like to get involved, please call Nora Spriggs at 215-985-1600 x 16 or email: nspriggs@bethesdaproject.org to find out more information about volunteering.



Nora and Michael look forward to the summertime



Jonathan and Erika get excited to join the Bethesda family with Broad Street Ministry's new youth initiatives



Nik Shumer-Decker relaxes for a moment during his service at Bainbridge house



WELCOME new hires:
Rev. Wesley Garrett and Rodney Wyatt!

Happy Birthday to Elnora McMullen 6/1, Lydia Walker 6/10,
Valena Williams-Tull 6/14, Faye Fullman 6/20, Tyrone Foster 6/22,
Skip Glover 6/23,





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Reverend William Taylor III Relocates; Reverend Garrett Joins Bethesda



Shelter Coordinator Reverend William Taylor III is relocating to Texas, which marks the end of an era at Our Brother’s Place. Reverend Taylor accepted the enormous responsibility for running the shelter when Bethesda Project first took it over in 2003, and has been at the helm since then. His efforts and hard work have set a wonderful example for the rest of the Bethesda family and OBP is now a model for emergency shelters all over the country. We wish Reverend Taylor the best of luck in this next part of his life’s journey, and thank him for all he has done for us!

Thank you, Reverend Taylor!

Celebrating a job “nicely done” at the Staff Retreat

And, when one door closes, another opens:

Bethesda Project welcomes Rev. Wesley R. Garrett, our new Shelter Coordinator at OBP. Wesley comes to us from the Greater Philadelphia Baptist Association, where he was the Director of Church and Community Ministries. Only a week after coming on board Wesley joined us at the staff retreat, where he showed his leadership, humor and yes, even artistic vision during a rousing game of Win, Lose or Draw.



We are excited to welcome Wesley as a new leader in the Bethesda Family.



Bethesda is Cooking!

Bethesda Project sends SPECIAL Easter and Memorial Day THANKS to Pam, Suzy, Phyllis, Patty, Alice, Judy and Karen, the volunteers who make up “Bethesda Cooks.” These generous women make sure that no one in our houses goes without a four star meal on the any holiday!

Thank you all so much!

NEEDS!

Bethesda’s Bainbridge house would love some small plants and gardening supplies if you have these, please contact case manager James McShane at 215-732-2470 or by email:

jmcshane@bethesdaproject.org



Our Brothers’ Place needs furniture (couches, chairs, etc...) with vinyl coverings. Please call the main office at 215-985-1600 or email Diana Coleman at dcoleman@bethesdaproject.org if you are interested in donating these items.



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Annual Staff Retreat in Sea Isle City

Bethesda's hard-working staff headed east in May for the annual retreat in Sea Isle City. Over 50 of our members enjoyed the sun, sea and quiet of the shore as we reflected once again on Bethesda's mission and vision. This year's focus highlighted care of the staff and our sense of job satisfaction.

To Linda Green, Emma Lee Johnson and Kevin Jackson: **THANK YOU** – for the wonderful Southern and Thanksgiving Dinner meals that brought so much delight to the participants. We could taste the love you brought to our kitchen!!



And special accolades of gratitude and appreciation to the Retreat Committee: Nora Spriggs, Kathleen Waugh, Skip Glover, Beth Palubinsky, Tina Pagotto, James McShane, Misty Sparks, Kate Colameco, Jessica Bayer, and Tony Medwid for another restful, refreshing and healing visit to the Bethesda Pool. And a special thank you to Ralph Pasceri and his colleagues at the Ocean Drive for their huge donation of food and beverages for the retreat!!