



Person-to-Person

Fall 2011 Newsletter

Building for the Future...

Person-to-Person Continues to Enhance Its Ability to Deliver Help and Hope

In 2009, Person-to-Person launched a series of initiatives to build upon its tradition of helping people who lack the basic necessities or resources to improve their lives.

We conducted an in-depth assessment of our programs and services and developed new ways of evaluating their impact and implications.

Noting a national trend we built a food pantry that allows clients to self-select their own groceries, thereby empowering them to make their own food choices.

We recognized the need for a larger facility and doubled our work space allowing us to handle the large increase in clients and do so in a manner that offers privacy and dignity.

And this year we have completed a strategic plan which develops organizational and operational priorities that enable us to continue delivering our programs and services most effectively.

Throughout our history, our work has been distinguished by core values that advance our mission – we are a *diverse community*; we are *volunteer-driven*; we develop *creative solutions*; we are *continually-evolving*.

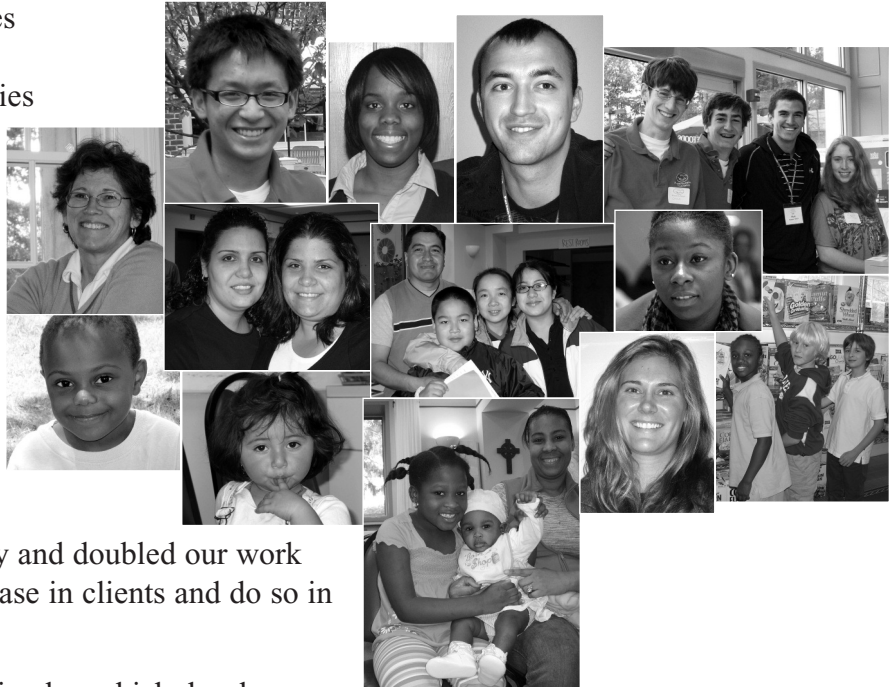
Understanding how we can reach more clients, enhance our programs and expand our development initiatives not only has a positive impact on those who come to us for assistance, but also produces outcomes that ultimately benefit the larger community.

But with all the work we have done – investing in the future of those who need our help and our ability to meet their need – perhaps our most significant accomplishment has been the long-term collaborations we have established to expand our reach.

Our collaborators include the board members who guide our efforts to better serve our clients, the partner agencies that allow us to offer on-the-spot access to our services, the donors that fund named scholarships for college students and the organizations that connect us with volunteers.

None of what we do to help others would be possible without your help.

We thank you all for joining with us to make Person-to-Person the place where hope thrives and lives are transformed.



Helping School Children (and their Families)

Summer Food Program: 350 Families

A growing number of families in the Stamford Public elementary schools qualify for the free lunch program during the school year. But because this program is not available during the summer months, many parents are forced to stretch already overburdened budgets in an effort to feed their children each day. This past summer, in collaboration with school social workers, P2P provided these families with groceries from the Emergency Food Pantry. To ensure greater food security, families were able to select groceries for a full two weeks of meals.

Back-to-School 'Backpacks': 60 Children

Many of our families find there is no money left over for school supplies in their tight budgets once basic needs are met. This past fall, we reached out to donors to help us give the children of low-income families a first-rate first day of school by donating a backpack full of school supplies – giving the children the tools to facilitate learning and a great start to the school year.



Community Connections

With an initial grant from the Fairfield County Community Foundation, P2P launched the *Outreach and Innovation* program to reach more families and individuals in need of emergency assistance. Through this pilot program, a bilingual caseworker from P2P is working alongside Domus' Family Advocates to offer access to our services – including assessments, referrals to the agency's Emergency Food Pantry, appointments at the P2P Clothing Center – and meet emergency financial needs. Through this program, P2P has been able to reach, and help, more people.



In partnership with VolunteerSquare.com, P2P is able to communicate quickly and easily and reach out to – and connect with – individuals who are looking to positively impact their communities by volunteering to help others.

At P2P, we have the privilege of awarding two named scholarships to college students each year: the *Lockhart Family Charitable Trust Scholarship for Academic Excellence* and the *Napolitano Family Scholarship Fund*. This year, another member of the P2P family expressed a desire to increase their support of our educational initiatives by funding a scholarship. Reception volunteer Michelle Buscher and her husband Michael, founders of MB Sport, provided last-minute financial assistance to a college student who would not have been able to attend school this year were it not for the Buschers' support.



According to the USDA, 25% percent of the food produced in the United States is wasted while millions of working Americans and 1 in 5 children go hungry every day. Community Plates "food-runners" rescue healthy surplus food from grocers, restaurants, caterers, farms, hospitals and cafeterias before it ends up in trash cans and dumpsters and delivers it to the places where it can make a difference for food-insecure families.

By partnering with Community Plates, and through other food-rescue initiatives with area grocery stores, P2P has been able to offer more fresh produce and meats on a regular basis to clients of the Emergency Food Pantry.

**For more information about how you can help,
visit our website at www.p2pdarien.org or call us at 203 655-0048**

Working Behind the Scenes: The P2P Board of Directors



Last year, more than 2,000 people volunteered nearly 60,000 hours of their time to Person-to-Person. Many of these volunteers work on the front lines at our agency – in our Reception area, the Clothing Center and the Emergency Food Pantry.

But there are many other volunteers working behind the scenes at P2P. These include our Board of Directors, who formulate policy and provide oversight to ensure accomplishment of our mission. We are fortunate to have the expertise and insight of these dedicated community members.

This year, 18 board members are returning for another term: Board Treasurer Steven Buller; Kristen Edwards; Mary Yvonne Faulkner; Maritza Garcia; Polly Geller; Board President Wilder Gleason; Elizabeth Hearle; Holly Kelly; Campership Chair Liz Koons; Emergency Assistance Chair Susie Lindenberg;

Patricia Phillips; Dr. Hossein Sadeghi; Vice President Per Sekse; Scholarship Chair Jay Sequeira; Bill Taggart; Kimberly Tapscott; Board Secretary Liz Whitney; and Rebecca Wilson.

And P2P welcomes 12 new members whose vision and enthusiasm will enhance the agency's ability to launch the initiatives that will serve clients now and in the future.

A Connecticut native with a long history of philanthropic endeavors on behalf of children in New York City, Avery Whidden is now focusing his efforts on Connecticut-based charitable organizations along with his wife, Elena, who has been involved with OPUS.

With a wife who is an OPUS member, David Upson has been a strong supporter of Person-to-Person and has expanded his involvement to include board service.

Martina Tucker first volunteered with P2P in 2007 when she joined the Scholarship Committee and has increased her volunteer activities over the years.

Reginald Roberts currently serves as assistant principal at Stamford's Westhill High School.

As members of OPUS for Person-to-Person, Missy Radin and Stacy Smith have been actively involved in activities and events designed to raise awareness and funds for P2P.

Marie Radcliff brings considerable experience in human resources and legal compliance from her work at Pitney Bowes, as well as a commitment to community service.



Ed Petner focuses his time on coaching, education, and working to support a number of non-profits, including Person-to-Person.

Dr. Judy Nemeec, a former P2P Board President, returns after a two-year hiatus.

A P2P volunteer for 16 years, Lisa Field brings a wealth of knowledge to her board work.

And just this year, the board voted to include two ex officio members from the agency's Youth Group. Serving on the board in this capacity are Youth Group leaders and Darien HS students, Sarah Graves and Justin Lee.



P2P Congratulates Scholarship Recipients

For the 2011/2012 school year, P2P awarded financial assistance to 160 college students, including five students selected as recipients of our named scholarships.

Lockhart Family Charitable Trust Scholarship for Academic Excellence: Kamruz Ahmed; Karine Henriquez; Felix Irizarry

MB Sport Scholarship: Clifford Magloire

Napolitano Family Scholarship Fund: Karina Perez



Kamruz Ahmed



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***There Is Still Time for You to Deliver Help and Hope to Your Neighbors.
Give to the 2011 Annual Campaign.***



For more than four decades, Person-to-Person has been providing basic necessities and a path to self-sufficiency for its neighbors in need. And with each passing year, the need has grown.

We continue to provide services for the working poor, but a broader array of people are reaching out to us for assistance as they grapple with the cascading effects of reduced incomes, long-term unemployment and a decline in the value of their homes, savings or investments.



To continue meeting the growing need for our services, we rely on the generosity of people like you.

Every dollar you donate will have a significant impact, because more than 90% of all donations go directly to client programs and services.

We appreciate all that you do to support the work of Person-to-Person and hope that you will help us make a difference in the lives of your neighbors by making a tax-deductible donation before the end of the year.

***Donations may be made by using the enclosed envelope or by going online to www.p2pdarien.org/donate.html
We also appreciate donations of non-perishable food and gently-used clothing***

We are grateful to Saint Luke's Parish in Darien for its longstanding commitment and support
Person-to-Person, Inc. is a non-profit charitable agency with a 501(c)(3) tax status