



ORGANIZATION, INC.



Newsletter



Mission Statement:

"We, who acknowledge God's providence and fidelity to His people, especially those in poverty, do dedicate our efforts toward the support of those who are homeless. Our goal is to deliver to the homeless those basic human needs, care and compassion that is not usually received from other organizations."

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FROM THE PRESIDENT - JOE KORDALSKI



Greetings, Happy Holidays and Thank You for your continued support and choice to be apart of the Uplift family.

The first signs of winter hit me on November 11th as I ran around town, two kids in tow. The rain, occasional sleet and cold wind were all harsh reminders of the winter months ahead. As I sheltered my face from the cold rain my mind quickly made the connection to the homeless men and women who endure these conditions day in and

day out. I continue to be amazed with the level of commitment and depth of the relationships that our volunteers make every night that we're on the streets in the cold rain, the warm shine of the sun, the wet, heavy snow and all that lies in between. I will be forever grateful for the countless hours that our dedicated volunteers give of themselves and their talents to demonstrate their care and compassion toward others. This commitment has allowed us to conclude our 21st year of service to the community. Truly amazing!

Our Executive Team and Board of Directors hope that you will continue to support Uplift's Mission, efforts and growth into the New Year and beyond.

PROFILE OF A VOLUNTEER

Mary Morin-Six years ago I was encouraged by John Bach to take some of our Just Faith group out on an Uplift route. I remember going home that night thinking, "I've got a hot shower, a refrigerator full of food, a clean bed, and a lock on the door." Later that night when I woke up to thunder and rain I added, "And a roof over my head to keep me dry. I'm very fortunate. God bless those I met tonight and keep them safe."

I tell my friend Barb Johnson who goes with me each month, "This is our attitude adjustment. We know we don't have any problems after an evening on the truck."

THANK YOU THANK YOU

Church of the Resurrection
13720 Roe Boulevard
Overland Park, Kansas

Thank you For your Donations on Behalf of The Homeless

Board Meeting - Tuesday, January 15, 2013

7:00 P.M.

At Uplift, 15th & Prospect

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www.uplift.org

Important Upcoming Dates			<p>A non-profit organization may elect to apply for the federal tax exemption status under 26 USC § 501(c)(3). An organization receiving a “501(c)(3) status” gains certain privileges and obligations. A 501(c)(3) organization is exempt from paying federal income taxes (but still may be required to file annual income information). Additionally, all persons and organizations that make contributions (money or property) to a 501(c)(3) organization will be able to claim deductions for their donations to the organization on their individual federal income tax (amount of deduction to the extent allowable under federal statute, 26 USC § 170(c)(2))</p>
November 22, 2012 Thursday		Thanksgiving Day	
December 8, 2012 Saturday	9:00 A.M.	Work Day	
December 25, 2012 Tuesday		Christmas Day	
January 12, 2013 Saturday	9:00 A.M.	Work Day	
January 15, 2013 Tuesday	7:00 P.M.	Board Meeting	
February 9, 2013 Saturday	9:00 A.M.	Work Day	<p>When making your United Way Contribution, please be aware that You may designate Uplift as the recipient of your gift through the donor choice program. This program is another way you can help us to help others.</p>

Uplift Organization, Inc.

Board of Directors

Jim Burton
 Chevy Cargol
 Kathy Dean
 Joe Kordalski
 Greg Lebold, Chairman
 Heather Rowe
 Dan Schipfer
 Jennifer Schmidt
 Jim Schmidt
 Kathy Smith
 Lisa Snead

Officers

Joe Kordalski, President
 Kathy Dean, V.P. Internal Ops
 Lisa Snead, V. P.Outreach Ops
 Dan Schipfer, V.P. Administration
 Suzie Isreal , Chief Technology
 Andre Logan, Treasurer
 Kathy Smith, Recording Sec.

Volunteer Opportunities

Outreach

Visit the homeless, Monday and
 Wednesday 6:00pm, Saturday
 5:00 pm, 2-1/2 to 3-1/2 hours

Call Jo Bustamante at
 (816) 524-0024

Prepare Meals

Recipes and instruction provided
 Prepare and deliver meals for 60
 people to Uplift

Call Margo Yerk at
 (816) 516-1304

Sorting Donations

Cleaning Distribution Center
 Every second Saturday 9:00 to
 11:00 am

Excellent service project for middle
 and high school students
 *Appointment not necessary

Published by Uplift Organization,
 Inc. for its members and friends.

News and changes of address
 should be sent to the editor: Jennie
 Wheeling Jen3x9@hotmail.com

One of the most memorable moments was finding out when Luther’s birthday was. We decided to take him a small cake and a card. As we sang “Happy Birthday”, his face lit up with a smile. We stood along side the road and shared the cake with him. Such a small gesture made a difference in another person’s life.

* * * * *

HOLIDAY WREATH EVENT:



Uplift is proud to celebrate the second annual Holiday Wreath Event. For those members of our community who do not have shrubs to adorn lights or a living room to display a tree Uplift volunteers are decorating holiday wreaths to distribute. The beauty of a wreath is its ability to be displayed in a variety of ways. May that be on the entrance to a tent, hanging from a tree upon entry to a homeless camp or attached to a backpack it is our hope that the wreaths will symbolize the joy associated with the holiday season.

The wreaths were decorated by a group of dedicated volunteers headed by Recording Secretary, Kathy Smith. Kathy and a team gathered at the warehouse on Tuesday, November 27th to partake in mastering the perfect bow and enjoying the fellowship that has been fostered by their connection to Uplift. Their goal was to decorate 25 individually decorated wreaths for distribution during the first week of December.

After the overwhelmingly positive response that Kathy received on the streets last year she knew that hosting a second event this year was necessary. Kathy shared, “Everyone was so excited to receive them because it is something that they never get. People give them food, clothing, etc., but never something like a wreath that we all take for granted.”

Uplift Organization, Inc. -- 2012 Second Quarter Stats

Number of Volunteers.....	599
Number of Volunteer Hours.....	2,396
Number of Homeless Served.....	6,569
Number of Camps Visited.....	1,206

THANKSGIVING MEAL

This Thanksgiving marks the 5th year that Faith Lutheran Church in Prairie Village has prepared the Thanksgiving Holiday meal. Under the direction of Pastor Brenda Crossfield, Patty Buck with the Community Outreach programs and in partnership with Advent Lutheran Church in Olathe, Kansas the meal will be as home cooked as one can be.

Faith Lutheran Church began volunteering in 2005 and is one of the reasons why Uplift is able to provide outreach services. Their care and consistency in providing quality meals are an amazing example of what it takes to provide volunteers cook services to Uplift. Without the contribution of volunteer cooks Uplift's outreach services would not be the same.

Over the 5 years of their service to the Thanksgiving meal preparation the number of meals needed to meet Uplift's demand has increased from 100 to 180. This year 24 volunteers are involved in meal planning, shopping, baking turkeys, and other food preparation. This is a significant increase to the prior year when the food prep required 12-15 volunteers. 4 additional member of the Faith Lutheran Community plan to be apart of the evening's outreach to distribute their meal.

On the menu for the night of November 21 is baked turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry salad with apples and oranges and a slice of pie.

In anticipation of the meal several of the individuals we serve shared their thoughts about Thanksgiving and the importance of receiving a traditional meal.

"Just looking forward to seeing the volunteers who come out to see us on the holiday." Carrie

"Looking forward to real potatoes rather than instant." Paul

"It was always my favorite meal when I was a kid and it makes me feel like I'm there again." Mary

"Makes me thankful for people that care about me" Tom

"I love pumpkin pie!" Robert

* * * * *

SOCIAL MEDIA FOR SOCIAL GOOD

Over the last couple months, Uplift has been developing a footprint in the social media world. For starters, we've renovated the website – uplift.org – to make it easy for you to see the impact we're making in the community and also how you can get involved. Whether you are looking to volunteer, want to donate, or just want to find out more about Uplift, the website has answers to all of your questions. Just start clicking around and you'll find what you need!

In addition to the website, we've started a blog and are now updating our Facebook page on a consistent basis. The results? Fantastic! Uplift has already gained new volunteers and new supporters through these efforts, and we believe this is only the beginning. Our goal is to continue building the Uplift community with enthusiastic supporters who want to stay involved after experiencing what we are all about. And as our web presence grows, so does the message of Uplift's mission.

What can you do?

1. "Like" Uplift Organization Inc. on Facebook.com. You'll stay up to date on Uplift's current activities and needs.
2. Check out our website – uplift.org – and subscribe to our blog. You'll receive updates, volunteer features, and other news via email.

Thank you for your involvement with Uplift and Happy Networking!



**Monetary Donations
Are always welcomed:
By Mail at
Uplift Organization, Inc.
P. O. Box 270175
Kansas City, Mo. 64127-0175
Or
From our website at
www.uplift.org via Pay pal
Click on Donations**