



## Volunteer Committee

*Ourplace* has a volunteer committee. The basic function of the group is to oversee the welfare of volunteers regarding training, support, procedures and any other matters pertaining to the volunteer. Representatives are:

**Gail** from *ourplace* Pandora

**Robert** from *ourplace* Johnson

We plan for this group to become a strong voice for the growth of the volunteer team. Satellite teams will spur out from this central group: eg. Newsletter, Appreciation Events etc.

Members of the Volunteer Committee meet on the first Thursday of each month. One of the activities of these meetings is to prepare for the move into the new building next year and especially to foster relationships between the now physically separated Pandora St. facility and the Johnson Street drop-in centre. The Committee is also looking at ways to improve the Reception Area; looking at operating procedures, for example having a person in authority present for all shifts.

## Looking for people.

Christmas week: Dec. 24 - 31: Full time staff is on break and the drop-in centre will be operated by part-time staff augmented by volunteers. Please give serious consideration to helping out at this most important time!

(Centre will be closed on Dec. 28/29.)

## How do I volunteer?

Would you like to volunteer at Our Place Johnson Street or the Upper Room? Please contact Bob, Volunteer Coordinator at 385-2454.

## Volunteer Help Line

Volunteers wishing information about any aspect of their work at *ourplace* are encouraged to call 385-2454 or 388-7112. Either Bob or a volunteer team leader will be happy to call back and help in whatever way possible.

## Safety Corner

**KITCHEN STAFF:** Band-aids on fingers need to be covered. You will find finger cots for this purpose pinned on the bulletin board in the kitchen. If they are too small, please ask a staff member for a latex glove from the first aid supply. If your wound dressing is too large to be covered by either finger cot or glove, please ask to be relieved. All food handlers need to be able to thoroughly wash and dry hands.

# “Unconditional love given in a non-judgemental way.”

## The “parts” of *ourplace*

*Ourplace* drop in centre - 713 Johnson

- Office
- Coffee Bar
- Outreach workers
- Clothing & toiletries room
- Outreach programme
- Individual assistance:
  - advocacy, referrals, emergency medical aid, transportation to detox, visitations to home, hospital or jail.

*Ourplace* - 919 Pandora

- Administrative Office
- Soup kitchen 2 meals a day, 6 days a week
- Rooms: 22 short term furnished rooms for men
- Small clothing room & toiletries
- Counselling services

Many thanks to  
**ANDY & STEVE**

for their donation of **5000 new pairs of socks!**

**New!** The Drop-in Centre is open on weekends from 7 - 3.  
**We need Volunteers.**

## Still Needed!

Drivers willing to **pick up bread** from local stores and deliver it to the drop-in centre both on weekends and weekdays. Back-up driver volunteers are also needed.

## Ask Vickie

Dear Gentle Readers,

Let me tell you a little about myself. As a vain woman, I first have to object to the picture of me-it doesn't do justice to either the thickness of my lenses or to the shininess of my braces. We'll deal with my "hairdo" later. My lawyers have also told me to inform you that I do not pretend to have all the answers so don't even think about suing me if something I suggest doesn't work! I have watched many of you work in both locations and am amazed and humbled by the kindness and care that many of you show as you serve...hopefully I will just encourage what most of you do already. However, if you think I've blown an answer, please tell me and include your home address.



To last month's question: This is a constant challenge. It so depends on the condition of the person sleeping at the table-when awakened a person can be pleasant, drowsy or very angry. It's hard to balance the needs of the person with the center's need to have clean available tables. Sooo..let's first acknowledge that for the time this is his/her "home away from home" for whatever the reasons or for how brief the stay including their stuff, their crumbs and their dog. It's best not to disturb. (If I can't stand my kid's mess in his room I close the door.) Alert staff, not to complain but to tell them you are going to leave them alone unless staff chooses otherwise. If the person is asleep beside their VCR, cellphone and cash tell staff you plan to cover it all with a garbage bag-out of sight, out of mind!

love Vicki

Dear Vickie, "I can't believe it-I've been a company executive, yet working at the Upper Room really stretches me. I sometimes see a few people lined up at the door for a meal. They look so cold and hungry I just want to go and let them in myself"

## Volunteers needed at *Ourplace* - Pandora

	Lunch	Dinner
Mon	none	1-2
Tues	1-2	none
Wed	2	none
Thurs	2-3	none
Fri	3-4	none
Sat	2-3	3-4

## How do I volunteer at Pandora St.?

Please call Cheryl at 388-7112 and ask for an appointment for volunteering.

## DONATIONS

### We need Seasonal Clothing!

Our space is limited and we can no longer accept all the donations we used to. (Please, no household items, large or small.)

#### WE DO NEED:

- Towels, Clothing- seasonal garments, trousers, shirts, under garments, footwear, belts.
- Bedding- blankets, sleeping bags, ground mats.
- Toiletries- feminine hygiene products, razors, toothbrushes, tooth paste, deodorant, brushes & combs.
- Knapsacks, backpacks, small tents.
- Non-perishable foods: Canned or other dry packaged foods, coffee.