



A Ministry of the
Capuchin Province of
St. Joseph

House of Peace

House of Peace Newsletter

www.houseofpeacemilwaukee.org

"Serving Christ's Poor"

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Issue 2, Volume 2 • June 15, 2007

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The House of Peace is a
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donations are tax deductible
as allowable by law.

House of Peace
1702 W. Walnut St.
Milwaukee, WI 53205
Phone: (414) 933-1300
Fax: (414) 933-0395
Donations accepted
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

CLINIC GIVES GUEST RENEWED HEART

UW-Milwaukee College of Nursing cares for uninsured at House of Peace

Healing the heart of the community is one way of expressing the House of Peace's ministry. For Renee Hoover-Hicks it has been that and a path to healing her own heart.

As a high school student she appeared in plays directed by Br. Booker Ashe, O.F.M., Capuchin, at North Division High School. Renee said, "Br. Booker always told us the best way to respect the gifts God has given us is to polish our skills. He helped motivate us to develop our talents."

Renee was able to earn an AA degree from the Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) with the support of Br. Booker and the House of Peace. Today she is a certified Childcare Director.

"Most Childcare agencies do not provide major medical insurance," Renee said, "so that is why I go to the HOP-UWM Nursing Clinic. I needed to have an exam and TB test. When I went there, Beth Peterman (Nursing Clinic Director) took wonderful care of me."

During the exam Beth discovered that Renee's heart rate was irregular. On a subsequent clinic visit Beth noted a continued problem with the irregular heart

rate and ordered a cardiogram at the clinic for Renee. "We learned that I had two possible areas of damage in my heart muscle and that I may have had a 'silent heart attack' sometime in the past," Renee commented. "What I really appreciated is the way Beth and her staff helped me with a care plan. They did not just say, 'here is the situation' and then tell me to leave."



Renee Hoover-Hicks poses in front of Br. Booker Ashe's picture in one of the House of Peace's murals

After losing weight Renee has seen a significant drop in her blood pressure as a result of the clinic's care. Renee's husband and five children have also benefited from her new heart-healthy lifestyle. "I have changed how I cook for the whole family," she said. "They have cut back on sugar without complaining and we now exercise together regularly," she continued.

"At a difficult time for me the House of Peace was there for me. I appreciated getting good information and did not have to go home that day confused," Renee commented.

Beth added, "Renee is only one example of the many uninsured, ill clients we see each year. UW-Milwaukee College of Nursing's commitment is to provide quality health care services onsite for clients like Renee, four days a week, each week of the year."

Dove Notes

Summer, 2007



House of Peace Ministry Council

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Judge Maxine White

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Frederick Muth, Jr.

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Thomas Fischer

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O.F.M., Capuchin

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Thelma Sias

Br. Bob Smith,
O.F.M., Capuchin

Sr. Shawnee Sykes, SSND

Fr. Al Veik,
O.F.M., Capuchin

Executive Director:

Br. Mark Carrico,
O.F.M., Capuchin

P.S. Are you, or do you know of, a man aged 18 - 50 who you think would make a good Capuchin Friar? If so, please contact our Capuchin Vocation Director, Fr. John Holly, at (920) 915-4400. He's waiting for your call.

Dear Friends of the House of Peace,

Peace be with you! I hope you are well. Isn't it nice that it is finally summer? A day at the zoo, fishing on a warm day, even just taking a walk outside in the evening as people gather on their porches to visit. Summer brings its special treats and I hope you get to enjoy them.

On May 12th we enjoyed having our House of Peace (HOP) Teen Program

graduation luncheon at St. Martin de Porres Church. We had eight seniors graduate, and all of them are bound for various colleges.

As I consider each of them I feel like Merlin, King Arthur's teacher in Camelot. If you remember, Merlin lived backwards and thus could remember the future. I can't do that exactly, but when I look at our graduates

I certainly see a wonderfully bright future for each of them. I really believe they are going to make the world a better place as their lives are lived out. I have to say that had I been more like them when I was a teen my parents would have fewer gray hairs today. Did I ever tell you about the time I was the getaway driver in the family car for my friend who streaked at a high-school dance? To make a short story of it I think I can report with accuracy that my parents gave me neither prior authorization nor gentle absolution. Of course from my current perch in life I now no longer find fault with their position!

We had the graduation at St. Martin de Porres because the HOP is torn apart from stem to stern with our construction project underway. The work started in late February, and is slated for October completion. In the meantime we work amidst the noise and dust but have been keeping all services going. I've got to hand it to our staff and volunteers for



Volunteers from Waukesha County area churches and House of Peace staff pose after unloading Easter Food Bags at Cross Lutheran Church.

that! They've been amazing. We've also had to rely on the kindness of others. In addition to St. Martin de Porres' hospitality, East Side Child & Youth Ministry hosted a number of our Teen Program meetings, and our good neighbor just one block away - Cross Lutheran Church - is housing our HOP-UWM Nursing Clinic while the dust flies here. Cross Lutheran even provided us with space to distribute over 200 Easter boxes of food to needy families! The Marquette University Volunteer Legal Clinic that is normally housed in our basement had to move all their supplies and equipment to the HOP's second floor

and is 'making do' for the duration. I thank God for good neighbors who are helping us out and good folks who are putting up with some serious hardships so that together we might continue to serve our guests.

Recently a mother was in here seeking some help with her son's funeral expenses. He had died at a very young age and left behind an infant son. The deceased son's mother was understandably overwhelmed by the events and by the fact that she would now have to raise the baby alone. I don't know where the baby's mother is and I didn't ask.

We received a desperate phone call for rent assistance from a lady who had been off work after getting hit by a car. She had taken her elderly aunt grocery shopping and was struck while putting the groceries in the trunk. The driver never stopped.

A trio of homeless young people with a puppy showed up at our door needing something to eat and a change of clothes. We haven't seen them since and I worry about them.

Yet another person with hypertension and hepatitis and other health problems came in needing help to get much needed prescription medications. The help she usually got with that was unavailable because her paperwork had gotten tied up in some bureaucratic snafu. (I

don't know who, but someone recently donated some drugstore gift cards that came in handy that day.)

The people who come to the HOP in need often remind me of the blind beggar named Bartimaeus in Mark's Gospel. With nothing to go on but faith, 'Bart' cried out in desperation to Jesus as he passed by, "Jesus...have pity on me!" Scorned and chided by the crowd to shut up, again he cried out, "Jesus...have pity on me!" With his blindness healed by his faith, the story ends with Bart becoming a follower of Jesus.

I like to think that Bart's story gets repeated daily here at the HOP. The people who come here are often those who are in many ways scorned and

chided to shut up and go away by our world. Like Bart, all they're asking is for some help to improve their lot in life. They come to the HOP because they have faith that will happen here, and their faith is rewarded by your love and generosity. Do they leave as followers of Jesus like Bart did? I like to think that it happens.

But what I know for sure is that when we have eight kids graduate from the HOP Teen Program ready for college and who readily speak unabashedly of their relationship with God; when we're able to help a grieving mother bury her son; when we can extend kindness and aid to an injured victim of violence;

when we can clothe and feed a young homeless trio; and when we can facilitate a person with illnesses getting necessary medication; then what I know for sure is that all of this happens because of your love for God and because of your compassion for the plight of God's children in need. Does faith make that love and compassion occur? I like to think so, but everybody really has to answer that for themselves. All I know is that its occurrence does wonders

for the conversion and faith of an old getaway driver like me!!

The HOP wouldn't be here if it weren't for you. Your prayers and financial support sustain us. Please continue to pray for us and those we serve, and please never doubt how much we appreciate your monetary support. Enjoy the summer! You're in our prayers.

Your Capuchin brother,



Br. Mark Carrico, OFM, Capuchin
Executive Director

“...all of this happens because of your love for God and because of your compassion for the plight of God's children in need.”



Marquette University Law School students volunteer to help guests at the House of Peace each week.



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EIGHT HOP TEEN LEADERS GRADUATE

Eight seniors graduated from the HOP Teen Leadership Program on May 12. The graduates and the schools they will be attending in the fall are listed from left to right.

Lindsay Jungers: UW-Madison
DeLeasia Conley: UW-Whitewater
Jasmine Boone-Philon: Kentucky State University
Emilio Coates: UW-Parkside
Deresha Ricks: Milwaukee Area Technical College
Royce Taylor: UW-Madison
Maura Metz: UW-Milwaukee
Sarah Muwonge: University of St. Thomas-MN



Also pictured are Lisa Calderone-Stewart, HOP Youth Leadership Minister (3rd from left), and Br. Mark (2nd from right).

The HOP and our Teen Leaders **Thank You** for your investment in their future and making the HOP Teen Leadership Program a reality.

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Back to School Drive

Our annual school supplies drive runs through August 31, 2007. The need is always significant so please consider making a donation. New school supplies can be dropped off Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. There is a special need for book bags and backpacks.



Any of these items would help!

book bag or backpack
package of #2 pencils
pink eraser
ball point pens
pencil sharpener
crayons
glue sticks
Elmer's glue
child safety scissors
colored markers

index cards
ruler
pocket folders
Kleenex
hi-lighters
notebooks
3 ring binder
loose leaf paper
construction paper
Scotch tape
Combination lock
calculator



Thank you to all individual, church, corporate and foundation donors. Your support helps us to serve the poor at 17th & Walnut.

The following organizations help support the HOP:

- The Lynde & Harry Bradley Foundation
- Archdiocese of Milwaukee Catholic Community Foundation
- Mother Caroline Mandate Fund, School Sisters of Notre Dame
- Marshall & Ilsley Foundation

Please consider including the House of Peace in your will. To discuss other giving options, call Jim Van Hoven, Development Director, (414) 416-4284.