



Volunteer Newsletter

AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK

Hear Ye, Hear Ye

Come One, Come All to the first AIN Town Hall Meeting for Volunteers! If you are a volunteer in the Buddy Project, the Care Team Program, or the Pastoral Services Network, we invite you to a very special Town Hall Meeting where YOU, our volunteers, give us your feedback. We want to hear from you—to know your feelings about our volunteer service; better understand your challenges as a volunteer with us; hear your positive thoughts about the program; and gather your ideas about how we may continue to improve our volunteer programs.

Since YOU are most directly connected to our clients in this program, we want to know what you think. A panel of staff members will conduct the meeting and facilitate the discussion. The panel includes Linda Lewis, Program Coordinator, Mary Marshall, Volunteer Coordinator; Xzandria Pipkins, Social Worker; Maria Flippen, Director of Development, Georgia Toliver, Assistant Executive Director; and Steven Pace, Executive Director.

We are sure to learn a lot from YOU as you let us know how you're doing and what you think. Likewise, YOU will learn a lot of new information from us. Please plan to attend this very important and informative meeting on Tuesday, March 18th from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas, 75204, in the Oak Room. Seating is limited and we ask that you please RSVP to Mary Marshall or Linda Lewis at 214-941-7696 no later than March 14th. We will serve light refreshments.

CALENDAR

March 8th	2003 DIFFA Dallas Collection Nuestra Familia Dallas Apparel Mart	March 18th	Mailing 9:00 a.m. - 4:00p.m. 329 Centre Street	April 15 & 16	Volunteer Training 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (Must attend both nights) 2900 Live Oak Street
March 15th	Volunteer Training 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 2900 Live Oak Street	March 18th	Town Hall Meeting 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. 2900 Live Oak Street The Oak Room	May 3rd	Volunteer Training 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 2900 Live Oak Street
March 17th	Mailing 9:00 a.m. - 4:00p.m. 329 Centre Street	April 1	AIN Moves to: 501 N. Stemmons Fwy Suite 200 Dallas, TX 75207	July 19th	2003 Summer Heatwave "An Evening at Union Station. Celebrating the 1940's. 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Attention Volunteers

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

If you know anyone who would be interested in serving as a volunteer in the Buddy Project or Care Team program, please let him or her know about our volunteer trainings. We are always looking for more volunteers to help us provide Hope and Help to our clients. The following dates and times are the next trainings in 2003:

MARCH: Saturday the 15th from 9:00 A.M. till 4:30 P.M.
(Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided)

APRIL: Tuesday and Wednesday the 15th and 16th
from 6:00 P.M. till 9:30 P.M.—You must attend both nights
(Dinner will be provided)

MAY: Saturday the 3rd from 9:00 A.M. till 4:30 P.M.
(Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided)

Trainings are held at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak Street in Dallas, 75204. Location, dates, and times are subject to change, so please contact Mary Marshall at 214-941-7696 to register or if you have any questions.

MORE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The following volunteer opportunities help benefit both the clients and our agency in a number of ways:

OFFICE HELP NEEDED If you or someone you know has daytime hours available, we need assistance with a mailing. The dates are Monday, March 17th and Tuesday, March 18th from 9:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. at 329 Centre Street. We need 4-5 people who can work the entire time labeling and stamping newsletters.

We have an ongoing project for individuals who can provide data entry. We have over 14,000 names to enter, and need your help between 9:00 A.M and 3:00 P.M. Monday through Friday at 329 Centre Street.

FUNDRAISING HELP NEEDED

We need volunteers to help with an upcoming fundraiser: Nuestra Familia—The 2003 DIFFA Dallas Collection. This event is a black tie affair and is held at the Dallas Apparel Mart on Saturday evening March 8th. Various shifts and duties are available for this event.

Please contact Mary Marshall at 214-941-7696 or email her at mmarshall@aidsinterfaithnetwork.org to volunteer or for more information.



Volunteers In Client Services

WELCOME New Volunteers!

For those volunteers who are entering service through the volunteer program in client services, we welcome you to AIN. We are genuinely glad that you chose our agency for your volunteerism. As you prepare to be assigned to a client; we will assist and support you. If you have questions, please either contact Linda K. Lewis, Program Coordinator, or our Social Worker, Xzandria Pipkins.

New Volunteer Opportunities in Client Services

VOLUNTEERS! VOLUNTEERS!

Throughout the last year, we expanded our programming by placing volunteers in households or other settings where women, children, and youth clients are served. These assignments create an additional need for volunteers. We recruit and train new volunteers to help meet the needs of these clients; but this is also an opportunity for our existing volunteers who may want a change of assignment.

We need you to help mothers, children, and youth—these assignments may include emotional support for a single mother; outings with children and/or the family; providing homework assistance for children and/or youth; or other ways of helping within the household. If you or someone you know is interested in this type of volunteerism, please call our Social Worker, Xzandria Pipkins, at 214-941-7696 for more information.

THE SPRING PICNIC

Spring is almost here, and that means it is time to start planning the spring picnic for Volunteers and clients of the volunteer program in client services. As I look back on the 2002 picnic, I remember the magnificent food and games that everyone enjoyed; such things have become the expectation of this occasion. But more than that, I think of the wonderful volunteers and clients who helped us plan and present the picnic. The planning and preparations make the picnic a fun and successful event for everyone, and I look forward to sharing the planning with Care Team and Buddy Project leaders during the month of March, 2003.

Linda K. Lewis, Program Coordinator

Combine two or more people in the pursuit of a common purpose and you can achieve more with less. Together we are able to accomplish what none of use could achieve alone.

- D. Zandra

Formidable Faith

Thank you for continuing to faithfully give of yourselves during these uncertain times. As threats of war, terrorism, and problems with our economy swirl around us, it is tempting to turn inward and just focus our attention on our own lives and on finding our own reassurance. But human needs continue despite anything else that is going on in the world. You, our volunteers, have not turned away—rather, you are continuing to respond to our clients by helping them meet their needs. You are faithfully giving your time so that others may be uplifted.

We appreciate your faithfulness.

We appreciate your willingness to help others at a time when all of us could use some relief from uncertainty. There is a universal truth to be recognized: something amazing happens inside of people who give from their hearts to others who are in need. The gift of self that you give will be returned to you—by helping someone else, you will also find your own peacefulness in the midst of uncertainty.

Marianne Williamson said, "...In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it." In the midst of your humanity, you invest your heart in giving to our clients. Faithfulness is formidable faith.

Thank you for your faithfulness.

Steven Pace, MSSW
Executive Director

Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect a nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another...

—Erma Bombeck

Are You Ready for the 2003 Summer Heatwave?

Can you believe it's that time already? The AIN Summer Heatwave (SHW) moves downtown to Union Station, and is going to be hotter than ever! Get ready for "An Evening at Union Station—Celebrating the 1940's"! This year's event has an expanded format that includes entertainment; silent and live auctions; a quiet lounge with seating and entertainment; and over 20 of Dallas' top-rated restaurants will serve delectable dishes to titillate your taste buds. All funds raised will help us to continue to provide quality care to over 1,200 men, women, children, and youth clients who depend upon us.

The SHW is Saturday, July 19th from 7:00 P.M.-11:00 P.M. at Union Station. We are already recruiting volunteers to help with the event, and we have various duties and schedules available. One of our goals is to recruit teams of volunteers from at least five corporations to partner with us. If you work for a corporation that has an employee-matching fund and could put together a team of 15 or more volunteers, we would like to hear from you. We ask that you sign up to volunteer prior to our July 7, 2003 cut off date by contacting Mary Marshall at 214-941-7696 or by email at mmarshall@aidsinterfaithnetwork.org. We will place individuals who volunteer in time slots that are not filled by volunteers from corporations.

We Also Need Auction Items

The SHW Auction Committee continues to search for donated items to sell in our live or silent auctions. If you or anyone you know can donate something, please contact Sandra Hitz at 214-943-4444.

For information on corporate sponsorship or tickets to the event, please call Maria Flippen, Director of Development, at 214-943-4444, extension 208 or by email at dallasain2@aol.com.

See you at the Station!



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1005 W. Jefferson Street • Suite 301

Dallas, Texas 75208

(214) 941-7696