

Something New! Take a look at our new logo tagline: *Helping neighbors in need since 1985*. This tagline reflects the assistance our supporters have enabled us to provide to families for over 3 decades! You'll also notice this newsletter is a bit shorter than previous versions. The change is intentional! We know there are many demands on your time, and we want to bring you the most pertinent news about how your support is helping us meet needs in our community in the most concise way possible!



Jenny Carswell

ONE THOUGHTFUL ACCIDENT

While driving back to Georgetown from Colorado, I was sitting at a traffic light on the main road through Lubbock. Next to me was an 18-wheeler, and next to him was another truck. When the light turned green, I moved forward and immediately hit a car that had either run a red light or had cut it too close crossing the intersection. Because of the 18-wheeler next to me, I did not see the car approaching. I was not going very fast as neither the seat belts nor the air bags deployed. My husband and I are both fine, but the front end of the car is badly damaged.

I called 911 and a young policeman arrived. He was courteous, kind and helpful. The officer called a wrecking service and took us to a hotel where we spent the night.

While all of this is upsetting, we started looking on the bright side. If I

had been poor or struggling to make ends meet, it would have been disastrous. I probably couldn't have afforded to stay in a hotel. I would not have been able to rent a car or get home or to work, probably causing me to lose my job. This would be a worst case scenario,

but I know that at The Caring Place, we help people in similar situations.

Thanking you for all the work done by The Caring Place.

Jenny Carswell

COATS FOR KIDS

"I have been a school counselor for many years. It appears that families are struggling more than ever before. When a student receives a new coat, their eyes light up and I see an increase in their confidence. -GISD Counselor"

You can light up a child's eyes this winter.

DONATE TO COATS FOR KIDS!

\$20 buys one child a new coat!

Walmart gift cards for coats are distributed beginning November 14th. We appreciate your timely response.



SEE INSIDE
FOR MORE...

- Service Improvements
- Deep in the Heart of Caring
- Hunger Free Holidays



- Holiday Meal Assistance
- Sweets, Treats and Trees
- Message from the President

Service Improvements for Clients

Throughout this year, Client Services has seen a steady increase in the number of people in crisis seeking assistance. As we experience this influx of clients, our direct service staff are constantly evaluating ways to improve and expedite our service delivery. Our clients seeking the most basic of needs, food and clothing, no longer have to wait to meet with a volunteer Client Advocate for approval of food and clothing services. This change not only speeds up the process for clients seeking financial assistance, but also en-

sures that clients who need food and clothing do not experience delays. Since the fast tracking of basic needs assistance began, Food Pantry use has increased by 9%. Each day in Client Services, we strive to support the mission of The Caring Place to "serve the community as a welcoming and purposeful organization, responding to the basic human needs of people in Georgetown and rural Williamson County." By expediting and removing barriers to basic services,



and with the help of our volunteers, donors and supporters, we are reaching that goal.

Deep in the Heart of Caring!

Deep in the Heart of Caring has to be one of the most fun FUNdraising events of the year. This year, 300 supporters and their guests gathered at the expansive Schwertner Ranch Event Center. Guests were bedazzled by trick roper, Gay Chargualaf, as they entered the property. Sultry autumn breezes flowed across the lawns, brushing the hems of skirts and jeans.

A live auction, led by Dan Gattis,

auctioneer, and called in familiar rapid-fire pace by Jimmy Doerfler, bid-caller extraordinaire, had paddles (and funds) raising to support The Caring Place and our neighbors in need.

As nightfall descended, and the full moon softly illuminated the stage, the Radney Foster Band latched onto their guitars and drums and swooned the crowd with heart-warming favorites like *Nobody Wins* and *Just Call Me*

Lonesome. The evening patiently awaited the last few two-steppers to claim their exquisite silent auction prizes.

Deep in the Heart of Caring was a fun night but most important, it was evident, once again, just how supportive our community is of The Caring Place. Thank you and we hope to see you again next year!



A Special Thank You to our Deep in the Heart of Caring Sponsors



The Benold Company



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Schwertner Ranch Event Center



Steger & Bizzell ♥ Cook Walden Davis Funeral Home ♥ GREX ♥ Suddenlink ♥ The Flower Box

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Schlotzsky's ♥ Legacy at Georgetown ♥ Carl & Dolores Doering ♥ Trade Winds Dental ♥ Wag-A-Bag

Atmos ♥ Jacque Smith ♥ Eagle Bank ♥ Novak Brothers ♥ Saving Grace Christian Bible Fellowship

Senator Charles Schwertner ♥ Karen Cole ♥ Maxwell, Locke & Ritter ♥ Brown, Graham & Co.

Northstar Bank ♥ Hog Alley ♥ DataMax ♥ Cimtex Rods, Inc. ♥ Golden Chick

Announcements

Hunger Free Holidays: October 1– December 31, 2016

Every pound of food you donate to The Caring Place Food Pantry helps ensure that families in our growing community enjoy food for the holidays. Financial donations may also be made to the Food Pantry: \$1.00 purchases 3½ pounds of food!

This year, our goal is to receive 200,000 pounds of food!

For further information, or to organize a food drive at your business, organization or neighborhood, please contact David Earl, Food Programs Director, at 512-943-0710 or dearl@caringplacetx.org.



Holiday Meal Assistance – November and December, 2016

Because of your generous financial donations, we are able to provide HEB gift cards to families to supplement their holiday meal. The cards enable families to purchase food items based upon their family traditions and culture.

Sweets, Treats and Trees – Thursday, November 10, 2016



Early Shopping Hours for Financial Donors and Volunteers

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Open to the public at 6:00 p.m.

Please bring the enclosed ticket with you.



It's just about time for another dazzling night of holiday shopping at *The Shops at The Caring Place*. Each year, we deck out our expansive thrift store with every sort of holiday accessory you can imagine. From ornamental Christmas tree bulbs and collectibles to nutcrackers, both large and small and most every size in between; you're sure to find what you're looking for at *The Shops at The Caring Place*! We'll even have a spread of complimentary homemade desserts, coffee and hot cocoa for you to sample. You won't want to miss this event! Bring a friend along for the fun.



Message From The Board President

Dear Friends,

Your contributions of gently used items, treasure, time and talent make a direct impact on people's lives every day at The Caring Place, and with your help we continue to meet the growing need.

These last few months have been exciting ones at The Caring Place! In June, we began our Pilot Outreach Initiative, and, for the first time, are working with partners in the rural parts of our service area to bring direct assistance to families in Florence, Granger and Jarrell. In September, we added Bartlett to the Outreach Initiative in response to the need expressed by leaders in that community. To date, the outreach efforts have been well received by the communities we're serving; a full program evaluation and next steps will be determined in late fall.

In July, The Caring Place Food Pantry was identified as one of 5 food pantries out of 248 partners, to receive a "Platinum" designation from the Central Texas Food Bank for its efficiency, accessibility and ability to connect clients with additional resources. This designation means a 33% reduction in the cost of food orders The Caring Place makes with the CTFB, which allows us to purchase more food for less money. Volunteers and staff at The Caring Place make it possible for us to achieve these efficiencies.

Our Client Services Staff and Focus Group have developed a more efficient process for seeing families who are in need of only food and clothing. As a result, we are serving more families faster.

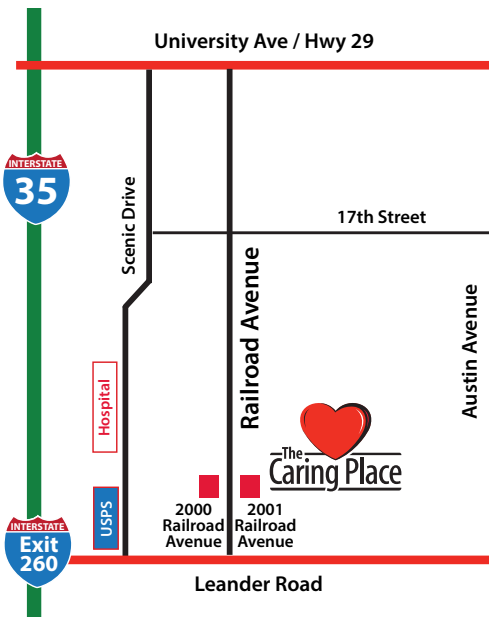
Whether you are a volunteer, donor, staff or support The Caring Place in other ways, I thank you for helping us help others!

Barry Haag

President, Board of Directors

Thank you to the following contributors to this newsletter:

Ginna O'Connor
Erin Becnel
Alicea Jones



Our courtesy truck will pick up your larger item donations to be sold in *The Shops at The Caring Place*. To schedule a pick-up, please call our donation line at 512-943-0711 and leave a message for our Donations Coordinator. Your call will be returned within 24 hours. **Please allow at least one week of advance notice when you call to schedule your pick-up.**

Vision Statement

The Caring Place is a local, faith-based non-profit organization that addresses the basic human needs of people within its service area, and collaborates with community partners to improve the quality of life of every client.

Mission Statement

Honoring its faith-based roots, The Caring Place serves the community as a welcoming and purposeful organization, responding to the basic human needs of people in Georgetown and rural Williamson County.



WE ARE HONORED TO HAVE BEEN VOTED

Best Place to Volunteer / Give

for the Best of Georgetown 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015



2000 Railroad Avenue • P.O. Box 1215 • Georgetown, Texas 78627 • 512-943-0700 • Fax 512-943-0740 • www.caringplacetx.org

Caring Place Hours

Client Services Offices
Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Open Thursdays until 7:00 p.m.

Donation Drop-Off Area
Monday – Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Shops at The Caring Place
Monday – Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Open Thursdays until 7:00 p.m.

512.943.0700
www.caringplacetx.org

*We are here because of you.
Thank you for making our
work possible!*

Helping neighbors in need since 1985
P.O. BOX 1215
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