

Discover Poverello's Thrift Store



Between the thousands of items that arrive daily from our non-profit partners and individual donations to our seasonal promotions and sales, no two visits are ever the same. With an ever changing selection of used and vintage clothing, household items and collectibles, every day at the Poverello Thrift Store

is a treasure hunt. The store is stocked with clothing for all ages which is organized by size. Other items such as jewelry, accessories, furniture, linens, small appliances, books, music, kitchenware, toys, baby items and collectables are readily available in the store. Anything can turn up at the Poverello Thrift Store, from designer and vintage clothing to unique home décor, that hardcover classic novel you've been looking for, and finds from within our vast selection of electronics and small appliances- just about everything.

Thursday's and Friday's are always Senior Citizens Days at Poverello. Seniors take an additional 33% off our already low low prices.

Offer not valid on sale items



The thrift store operates through the generous donations from Poverello supporters and other community donations. When you donate to the Poverello Thrift store, you do more than offer a new life to your used furniture, clothing or artwork. You help to support the purchase of food for men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS in Broward County, who are clients of the Poverello Food Bank. Donation drop offs are accepted during business hours only (Monday – Saturday 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM). The Poverello Center will also arrange for pick-up of donated household goods, clothing and furniture. To schedule a donation pick-up, please contact the thrift store manager at (954) 561-3663 ext. 113.



The Poverello Center - 2292 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors, FL. 33305
phone: (954)561-3663 - fax: (954)566-7868



The Poverello Center

Serving the Nutritional Needs of People with HIV/AIDS

December, 2007



Hope is made of Dreams!

From: Father Bill

Over the years when there was a quiet moment, the mind would wander. Piecing these nostalgic moments, I'd ask myself pertinent questions, "What am I doing? Does anyone care? Is there any benefit to being here and passing out food? There were moments of rude awakening when as the Catholic Chaplain for Imperial Point Hospital I saw that the third floor was filled with young people racked with fever - often abandoned by relatives and friends, dreading leaving the hospital because they had no food.

A patchwork of activities and ideas woke within me. How could I preach a Gospel I wasn't living? The good book doesn't say be rich but it clearly says "feed the hungry". Clearly I was not to be judge nor jury, for that same book says "judge not". The ideas soared through my head and finally hit my heart.

What happened? I bought food and delivered the food. I went begging for more. People each with their own agenda joined in and we gathered food and made it available. Protestant Clergy, Catholic Nuns, retired and tired individuals came forward. Some had lost a brother, a son, a lover, and wanted to make sure no one should be in need. The Food Bank, Thrift Store, Fitness Center, came into being.

Expansion was the name of the game. More space was needed for the food, refrigerators, shelving, records - it never ended. Each time I thought this is it, we gave out food, 1,000 meals in that month. 2,500 meals very often now is a daily number. Almost 20 years and the numbers increase. We are proud that we have never turned a HIV positive person away empty. Volunteers give of their time generously. But the worries remain.

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The worries are different from 20 years ago, but they still cause concern. We have rented property for the Thrift Store, The Food Bank the Gym and storage space. We grew and are still growing. Sadly funding programs are being reduced– the powers that be don't believe that food is essential

So for many years now the cost of food has become overwhelming. Food costs for a month can surpass \$100,000.00. The rent for our space becomes unbelievable. The monies we receive from Government grants are cut back.

What are we going to do? We have fund raisers. We meet our friends with an out stretched hand. And we worry.



But this is not a personal worry. We all mull over the difficulties, seeking an answer. For years members of the Poverello Board have been hunting for a permanent residence. A spot that Poverello could call home.

2056 South Dixie Highway is the place. What prayers have been answered, what dreams became a reality, what satisfaction knowing that we will have a place of our own!

Then reality hit – the building must be brought up to code, the space must be laid out and refurbished, and on an on it goes. We are really trying to have a place the clients will be proud to come to. We are truly looking into the possibility of a “Green Building”. Why? The county, state and federal governments are asking everyone to conserve energy, etc. and there are grants for which we can apply to help offset the cost of a Green Building. We are not wishing for the impossible but we also would like to have a facility that we can all be proud of. I look back at a dream and smile because with our volunteers, staff, managers, Board, and many others, together we created a family of loving people. I look ahead and worry - the new home, the growing numbers of clients, the lack of care for those who have the virus. I close my eyes and the difficulties seem almost insurmountable. They are and I worry, but then I realize that I'm not alone. I have all of you, and let's not forget we have God - without Him we would be just a group who really lost their way. Together just watch our smoke. Hope still springs eternal!

Florida Gay Rodeo Association

The Board of Directors for the Florida Gay Rodeo Association (FGRA) present a donations check for \$7,000 to the Poverello Food Bank The funds represent the proceeds from this year's Sunshine Stampede Rodeo at the Bergeron Rodeo Grounds. More than 4,000 persons attended the rodeo and related weekend events including over 120 rodeo contestants from across The United States and Canada, making it one of the largest events on the gay rodeo circuit.



Fr. Bill was also the FGRA Rodeo Grand Marshall for this year and was recognized for his leadership in helping the community. This is the second year in a row that Poverello has received funding from the rodeo.

Poverello's Role

Incorporated in 1987 in response to the rapid spread of the disease, The Poverello Center has maintained a focus on a simple mission: “to feed, clothe and love people affected by HIV/AIDS in Broward County.” Through the Center's outreach efforts and the generosity of its family of donors, the Poverello Center has:

- Served over 10,000 individuals and families.
- Provided over 882,000 meals per year.
- Enrolled over 400 clients in our Nutrition Program.
- Enrolled over 2000 clients in our Friends Fitness Center.
- Provided free and confidential HIV testing.
- Empowered our clients by offering alternative therapies such as acupuncture, massage therapy and yoga.



2056, the Future of Poverello CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

By Thomas M. Smith



In October of 2006, the Board of Directors of The Poverello Center, Inc. took a bold new step toward expanding our ability to service the ever expanding needs of our clients. That Bold Step was the purchase of a permanent home to be located at 2056 Dixie Highway, Wilton Manors, Florida 33305. This facility, to be completely refurbished and ready for occupancy by June 1, 2009 will create a solid future for Poverello in many ways. By increasing organizational capacity with additional square footage and additional service facilities, Poverello will be able to accommodate larger client bases and offer additional services to our client base. By streamlining processes with a building designed for our specific purposes, Poverello will increase efficiencies in processing thereby reducing wait time and increasing client satisfaction. By building to LEEDS Green Building Standards, Poverello will be able to reduce energy overhead costs by up to 35% per year as well as reduce overall negative “urban warmth” impact on the environment of our local area. Poverello will be the first LEEDS “Green Building” in Wilton Manors. By ownership of our location, Poverello will no longer be tied to the normal market rental increases. In addition, this ownership provides a solid, appreciable asset for Poverello to grow upon.

In fact, we strive to make every dollar count towards helping the clients we serve. This is where you, our most ardent supporters provide the foundation upon which this new home will, figuratively and almost quite literally be built. Over the course of the next 18 months the 2056, The Future of Poverello Capital Campaign will swing into full force. Everything from long term planned giving to celebrity events are figured into the equation to make this

a successful campaign. But it is you, and only you, that can make this work. You are our ambassadors. You are our beacons of light spreading the news about the invaluable services we provide to the community and the need to expand. Only you can express your passion for us to your friends and family and those within your “circle of influence”. Only you can make this happen.

The Capital Campaign has multiple methods by which one can contribute to the 2056 campaign, including plans specifically designed to provide lifetime income for same sex/unmarried partners at retirement while providing an immediate tax benefit in the year of contribution. Charitable Lead Trusts and Charitable Remainder Trusts, and other estate planning vehicles are available as well that can protect loved ones, provide solid tax benefits and provide a great foundation for those in need of Poverello’s services.

We also have naming opportunities that will provide significant monies toward the 2056 campaign, including;

- 24” X 24” Laser Inscribed Pavers
- Virtual Remembrance Web Page Panels
- Park Benches
- Water Fountains/Features
- Sculptures
- Garden Gazebos
- Ground Floor Gardens
- Wellness Center
- Administration Center

And last, but certainly not least, the Main Campus. This naming opportunity is what each of us aspires to in life. To be remembered not for what we had but rather for all those we touched. This naming opportunity provides the recipient with recognition on all letterhead, business cards, correspondence, logo, etc of the new Poverello. This “partner” becomes an integral part of what we are and what we do here at Poverello.

Now we put our future in your hands. For more information regarding the capital campaign, please contact 2056@poverello.org we will be glad to send you some information on all of the ways you can become a permanent part of 2056, The Future of Poverello.

Thomas M. Smith
Chief Financial Officer

FOOD BANK TURNS AWAY NEW CLIENTS

by Thomas M. Smith

Many of you may have seen this recent article "Federal aid to South Florida's food banks dwindles as the need grows" in the News & Sun Sentinel. The fact is that for the first time in twenty years, Poverello faces the real possibility of having to tell new clients living with HIV that we cannot feed them.

Poverello gives love free, too!



In the month of October this year the cost of food was over \$109,000.00. The number of clients served has now risen to over 700 a week. I see the overwhelming sadness in Father Bill's eyes when as the treasurer I tell him that we cannot continue to provide food to the number of people that are coming to our door. With the rising costs of food and other related expenses we cannot continue to feed

all of our clients and take on new ones.

The big worry is that the Federal Government may reduce the amount of funding to the States and they tell us that food not being a core service, may be eliminated completely. If this happens, the generosity of the support community will be all that we have to rely on.

We ask each and every one of you that support our mission to be as generous as possible as we approach the holiday season. While we enjoy Thanksgiving and the other holiday meals, we need to remember that hunger is a daily reality for many men, women and children. A Broward County food survey revealed that one out of six County residents suffers from hunger. Imagine what effect hunger has on the child who is HIV positive.

Help us feed those in need and make sure that no one is turned away. The only thing that will prevent new clients from being turned away is new funding steams and the continued generosity of our supporters.

The complete article "Donations decline as more residents suffer from hunger" can be viewed at:

http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/southflorida/sfl-flpfoodbank1110nbnov10,0,7697973.story?coll=sofla_tab01_layout



HIV/AIDS Awareness Days

A number of national and global observances are held annually to help us understand and fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic. HHS is using all of its resources to combat the disease, and one way it is doing so is by supporting these observances, which help raise awareness and spread information about HIV/AIDS.



May 19
National Asian & Pacific



June 8
Caribbean American



May 18 HIV Vaccine
Awareness Day



October 16 National
Latino AIDS Awareness



March 21 National
Native HIV/AIDS



February 7 National
Black HIV/AIDS



June 27 National HIV
Testing Day



March 10 Women
And Girl HIV/AIDS



December 1
World AIDS Day