

Summer 2008



# Tulsa Day Center News

A Newsletter for Friends of the Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless, Inc.

*Our Mission: to provide a safe, healthy environment for people who are homeless, to provide them with opportunities and encourage participation to help them achieve self-sufficiency.*



415 West Archer Street  
Tulsa, OK 74103  
Phone - 918-583-5588  
Fax - 918-583-6745

[www.tulsadaycenter.org](http://www.tulsadaycenter.org)

*Baseball is the only field of endeavor where a man can succeed three times out of ten and be considered a good performer.*

*Ted Williams*

#### **In This Issue:**

**Page 2.** Letter from Sandra

**Page 3.** Home Run for the Homeless Tickets

**Page 5.** One Hundredth Served



## *The Second Annual Celebrity Softball Game Benefiting the* **Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless**

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Gates Open at 6:00PM

Game Starts at 7:05PM

Drillers Stadium

**Come Out to Cheer on Your Favorite Celebrities!**

*Buy your tickets today on Page 3!*

## Board of Directors 2008

### **President**

David M. Poarch  
Pinnacle Investments

### **Vice President**

Jeff Sanders  
Bank of Oklahoma

### **Treasurer**

Jay Bennett  
Samson

### **Secretary**

Leslie Hoyt  
Community Volunteer

David Adelson, M.D.  
OU College of Medicine  
Tom Biolchini  
Crowe & Dunlevy  
Tom Byers  
Magellan Mid-Stream Partners  
Jan Capehart  
Retired Psychologist  
Derek Gates  
D.W. Gates Engineering  
Lisa Gerow  
Tulsa Community College  
Douglas F. Gorman  
Home-Mart, Inc.  
Herb Haschke, Jr.  
Attorney at Law  
David A. Hentschel  
Community Volunteer  
Melanie Hill  
State Farm Insurance  
Clarence W. Knippa  
Retired Minister  
Jamie Marchesano  
QuikTrip  
John A. Minielly M.D.  
Community Volunteer  
Lynnwood R. Moore, Jr.  
Conner & Winters  
John Nikkel  
Unit Corporation  
Larry Payne  
SemStream, L.P.  
Michael C. Tramontana  
Smith Barney  
Maynard I. Ungerman  
Attorney at Law  
Robert Webber  
Community Volunteer  
Rebecca Woodward  
Attorney at Law

### **Executive Director**

Sandra Lewis



## This I Believe

If you ever listen to National Public Radio, you know the show “This I Believe”. I heard a story of a man who said he was an Atheist; his comments were very interesting to me and made me think about the limitations of words. His point was that the label Atheist described what he did not believe more than all the many things he does believe.

It made me reflect on the word “homeless”. Which, when you think about it describes the thing a person does not have instead of the many things they have and the many qualities they possess.

Who are the homeless in the United States?

- 3.5 million people (1.35 million of which are children) will experience homelessness in a given year.
- Children under the age of 18 account for 39% of the homeless population. 42% of these are under the age of 5.
- 43% of the homeless population are women; 40% of these women are unaccompanied. 22% of homeless women claim domestic abuse as reason for homelessness. 25% of these claim to have been abused within the past year.
- Families with children comprise 33% of the homeless population.
- 40% of the homeless population are Veterans
- 1 in every 5 homeless persons has a severe or persistent mental illness.
- 25% of the homeless nationwide are employed.

Who are the homeless in Tulsa, Oklahoma?

(Statistics gathered in a point in time survey on January 31, 2008)

- 933 people in Tulsa completed the survey
- 69.5% male 30.5% female
- 53% Caucasian, 26% African American, 10.8% Native American, 13.9% Other
- 54.5% reported that they lived in Tulsa County prior to becoming homeless
- 22.2% reported being employed at the time of the survey; of those 51.1% reported full time employment

Turning those numbers into stories is the easy part. We have Welders, Teachers, Information Technologist, Biologist, Psychologists, Child Care Workers, Certified Nurse Assistants, Registered Nurses, Auto Mechanics, Plumbers, Law Enforcement, Retail Sales, Customer Service Workers, Food Service Workers, and Janitors just to name a few. So how did they come to be here?

- **Poverty** – difficult choices must be made when limited resources cover only some of your necessities. Living in poverty means an illness, an accident or a paycheck away from living on the streets.
- **Eroding Work Opportunities** – stagnant or falling incomes and less secure jobs with fewer benefits will quickly lead to homelessness.
- **Decline in Public Assistance** – currently benefits from public assistance; Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and food stamps combined for a family of three is 1/3 of the poverty level. Welfare does not relieve poverty.
- **Housing** – lack of affordable housing and limited scale of housing assistance programs have contributed to the current housing crisis and homelessness.
- **Health Care** – lack of affordable health care can cause a serious illness to begin a spiral into homelessness.
- **Domestic Violence** – 22% of women living in shelters say they became homeless because of domestic violence.
- **Mental Illness** – 29% of people participating in our survey indicated mental illness was a cause of homelessness. These surveys are self reporting and often the person does not admit that mental illness is an issue.
- **Addiction Disorders** – the combination of poverty and addictions, the shortage of treatment beds and long term treatment lead many addicted people to homelessness.

(Continued on Page 5)



# HOME RUN FOR THE HOMELESS

JUNE 19, 2008 7:05PM DRILLERS STADIUM



Gates open at 6:00 PM  
Games starts at 7:05PM

Tickets available at the Gate,  
at the Day Center  
or by mail.

We'll see YOU at  
Drillers Stadium!

## HOME RUN FOR THE HOMELESS TICKETS

JUNE 19, 2008 7:05PM DRILLERS STADIUM

Adult Tickets \_\_\_\_\_

@ \$5.00 each

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Kids Tickets \_\_\_\_\_

FREE!!

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate payment method  
on reverse side.

Please sign me up to receive the E-mail Newsletter.

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Hallie Green, Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless, 415 W. Archer Street, Tulsa, OK 74103 or call (918) 583-5588.

# Home Run for the Homeless 2008

## Celebrities include:

Julie Chin – Channel 2 - Emcee  
 Russ McCaskey – Channel 2  
 Beth Burnett – Channel 2 - Emcee  
 Chris Wright – Channel 6  
 Scott Smith – Channel 6  
 Frank Mitchell – Channel 8 -Coach  
 Clint Boone – Channel 8  
 Burt Mummolo – Channel 8  
 Sunny Leigh - KVOO  
 Jean Heatherington - KVOO  
 Joe Kelley - KRMG  
 Dave Weston - KRAV  
 Nina Valente – KRAV  
 Corbin Pierce – The Beat  
 Phil Stone – KMOD - Play by Play  
 Brent Douglas – KMOD - Play by Play  
 Chris Plank – The Buzz  
 Jeremie Poplin – The Buzz  
 Don King – The Buzz  
 Kevan Seal - KOOL  
 Betty Casey – Tulsa Kids  
 Chuck Foshee – Tulsa Kids  
 Mike Strain – Tulsa World  
 Jason Ashley Wright – Tulsa World - Emcee  
 PJ Lassek – Tulsa World  
 Rod Thompson – TU  
 Shea Seals – TU/LA Lakers  
 Kiley Tetley – PGA  
 Craig Walker – PGA  
 Mike Daniel – PGA  
 Anthony Phillips - OU  
 Jerry Ostroski - Buffalo Bills  
 Garrett Mills – Minnesota Vikings



Julie Chin and Dave Weston emceeing last year's event.



## Parade of Uniforms

*Bring your sports team in uniform to run the bases like the celebrities!*

## Thank you Sponsors!

### Home Run Sponsor

George Kaiser Family Foundation

### Triple Hit Sponsor

Bank of Oklahoma  
 QuikTrip  
 SemGroup  
 PennWell Publishing  
 Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation  
 Mark and Jan Capehart

### Double Hit Sponsor

Unit Corporation  
Nordam

### Single Hit Sponsor

Bob Sullivan  
 American Bank  
 Crowe Dunlevy  
 Kantor Oil  
 Samson

### Hosting Sponsor

Tulsa Drillers



Celebrity Softball Game Benefiting the  
Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless, Inc.

## Home Run for the Homeless

June 19, 2008

Gates Open at 6:00PM Game Starts at 7:05PM

Drillers Stadium

- Please send me tickets indicated on reverse side! Enclosed is a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
 I can not attend. Enclosed is a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Charge my credit card for \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Card Type:  Visa  MasterCard Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank You for  
Your Support!*

**Play Ball!**

*For additional information, please contact Hallie Green at 583-5588 or [hgreen@tulsadaycenter.org](mailto:hgreen@tulsadaycenter.org). Thank you!*

(continued from Page 2)

Homelessness results from a complex set of circumstances which require people to choose between food, shelter and other basic needs. Only a concerted effort to ensure jobs that pay a living wage, adequate support for those who cannot work, affordable housing and access to health care will bring an end to homelessness.

So you see the word homeless is limiting...the problems are great, resources are limited but our resolve is also great! **This I believe...we are doing great work here at the Day Center.** We are growing and changing and trying to deliver services that can lead to the end of homelessness. Work with us, support our program and together we can make an amazing difference!

Thank you as always for your support of the Day Center and your care and concern for our clients.

*Sandra*

*Limitations live only in our minds.  
But if we use our imaginations,  
Our possibilities become limitless.*

*Jamie Paolinetti*

## "Celebrate a Life"

### Gift From:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

or

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

### Send Acknowledgement To:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Enclosed is my gift of

✂

Gifts to the Tulsa Day Center are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. **Please send the completed form along with your gift to: Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless, 415 West Archer Street, Tulsa, OK 74103**

# One Hundredth Served

On April 25<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated the distribution of 100 Community Voice Mailboxes to clients at the Day Center. After only two months, one hundred CVM local numbers have been given out by our case managers, helping folks stay connected with potential employers, housing contacts, their health care providers, as well as with their family and friends.

With the increased distribution, have come more successes – as six clients have become recently employed! Each of them have personally reported that having a CVM number to put on their job applications, and to receive messages of interview call backs, has been imperative to their successful re-entry into the working world! In addition, we have a client who was able to receive safe housing, free from a domestic violence situation, by using her Community Voice Mail number. She is our second person to find housing with CVM. And sometimes, success simply comes from the joy of hearing a family member's voice, as a Day Center fellow found out when he was able to receive messages from his sister in Oregon who was struggling with cancer.



The interest in CVM is increasing all the time and people are beginning to make requests for their own number. In addition, the Day Center, acting as Host Agency, is reaching out to social service agencies within the Tulsa community so they may also provide this valuable service to their clients. So far, 19 organizations have agreed to become Participating Agencies and are now distributing CVM numbers as well.

Community Voice Mail is being made possible in part by grants from the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation and the Cox Connects Foundation. With these grants, we have also recently opened a new phone bank area, adding five additional phones for client use and it has room for future growth.



415 West Archer Street  
Tulsa, OK 74103  
Phone - 918-583-5588  
Fax - 918-583-6745

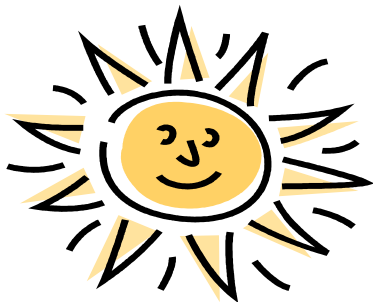
[www.tulsadaycenter.org](http://www.tulsadaycenter.org)

Member Agency



Printing Courtesy  
McNally Printing

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Tulsa, OK  
Permit #316



## Summer Kids!

Summer Kids! is a program we are offering to the children who will be at the Day Center this summer. Its purpose is to allow them playtime and a much-needed break from the stress, unpredictability and boredom of homelessness.

We have lots of toys and supplies, but we are still looking for a few items, such as — child-height tables & chairs, an easel, a playhouse or child-size kitchen. If you know of anyone or anyplace that could donate those items to us or could loan them to us for the summer, please contact me!

If you would like to know how you can supply snack foods for kids during the summer, please contact Debra Dester at [ddester@tulsadaycenter.org](mailto:ddester@tulsadaycenter.org) or at 583-5588 x 218.



Thursday, June 19, 2008

Gates Open at 6:00PM

Game Starts at 7:05PM

Drillers Stadium

Come Out to Cheer on Your  
Favorite Celebrities!

*Buy your tickets today on Page 3!*