

# TRANSITIONS

The Newsletter for Volunteers & Friends of the Lincoln Park Community Shelter

Summer 2009

## PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LAKEVIEW PANTRY BENEFITS LPCS GUESTS

By Suzanne Powers, Assistant Volunteer Coordinator

Each year, over 1,500 people come to LPCS to volunteer their time in various capacities. In the spring of 2006, to honor of the work of LPCS' volunteers, the guests of LPCS started the GIVE program: Guests In Volunteer Experience. As part of their stay at LPCS, guests volunteer their time at various organizations around Chicago, giving back to the community that gives so much to them. From PAWS to the National Runaway Switchboard, guests are encouraged to find something they are passionate about.

Currently, a handful of guests volunteer their time helping at the Lakeview Pantry through the GIVE program. Last year, the Lakeview Pantry distributed over a million pounds of food to over 28,000 clients. LPCS guests participated

in assisting clients with groceries, in the clothing closet, and restocking shelves. Through volunteering at the Lakeview Pantry, guests are able to give back to those in need and are able to make a difference in the community.

Erin Stephens, Director of Volunteers at the Lakeview Pantry, says "It is very clear when first coming to the Pantry that this will be an active job and the benefits that it brings our community members is immediately observed." The hope of the GIVE program is to create ties in the community and give guests a chance to use existing skills and develop new ones. As Stephens said, "We are all interconnected in this community, but volunteers are here to help take on part of someone else's struggle."

## JOIN US FOR TASTE OF FALL 2009!



### Join us for an evening of beer edification!

LPCS presents A Taste of Fall 2009 on Thursday, September 24, 2009 from 6:30-10:30pm at Goose Island's Wrigleyville pub. Enjoy beer and appetizers that are paired to bring out the best in each other. Sip on special brew pub selections and Goose Island classics while listening to live music. Bid on unique silent auction items, and enter for your chance to win a fabulous raffle prize! Upgrade to a VIP ticket and enjoy an interactive Goose Island "Beer Academy" session with reserve tastings, brewmaster insights, and specially paired cheeses by Pastoral Artisan Cheese, Bread & Wine.

### Ticket prices:

**\$60 ticket** includes food and six tasting tickets, good for Goose Island Classics or Brew Pub Selections.

**\$80 VIP ticket** also includes interactive Goose Island "Beer Academy" featuring Pastoral Artisan Cheese pairings.

Only 80 VIP tickets will be sold!

**All proceeds benefit the Lincoln Park Community Shelter.**

Go to [www.LPCSONline.org](http://www.LPCSONline.org) for more information and to register, or mail your payment to the Lincoln Park Community Shelter, 600 W. Fullerton Pkwy., Chicago, Illinois 60614, Attn: Heather Reynolds. **RSVP by September 15!** Tickets will be held at the door.

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Erin Ryan, MSW



We often talk about how the Lincoln Park Community Shelter is only possible through the multitude of community partnerships we enjoy with other social service agencies, neighborhood groups, and volunteers. A look at a typical month of “Track Activities” – a series of classes and groups facilitated by volunteers for the benefit of our guests – confirms this. Guests enjoy connecting with experts on a variety of topics, building their self-esteem and their support networks in the process. To highlight a few:

- Mental health services are provided on-site, free of charge to our guests, by Northwestern Memorial Hospital’s Satellite Clinic. Guests receive private counseling and referrals to psychiatric services as needed, all within the comfort and convenience of their own “home.”
- A personal banker from First American Bank comes regularly to teach a class on the basics of banking and budgeting.
- Organizers from Lakeview Action Coalition get our guests and staff involved in advocacy issues around affordable housing and access to healthcare, giving guests a voice in shaping policies that will directly affect their lives.
- Guests, Graduates, Staff, and Volunteers all work together to help staff neighborhood festivals sponsored by Mid-North Association, Sheffield Neighborhood Association, Wrightwood Neighbors, and the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce. In return, proceeds from these festivals partially benefit the LPCS!
- Volunteers from the Chicago Photography Center teach a weekly photography class for guests and graduates, encouraging a new way of expression and even supplying the cameras and film.
- Colleagues from Ernst & Young facilitate a multi-session series on interviewing skills, job search, and other employment related topics.

This is just a sampling of the breadth of activities taking place at LPCS on any given night, and doesn’t take into account the dozens of individuals teaching life skills classes, staying overnight, and preparing meals each day and evening. In fact, over the past year, volunteer participation has increased nearly 10%, both in the number of volunteers and in the hours contributed!

LPCS enjoys one of the most active and engaged volunteer bases in the city, with more than 1,500 volunteers giving nearly 14,000 hours of service last year! With a paid staff of only nine in a 24-hour, 365-day facility, this enormous contribution of time, talent, and energy is invaluable! Thank you to all of you who are making our guests’ experiences at LPCS much richer, helping to prepare them in so many ways for the transition out of homelessness.

## THANK YOU LPCS VOLUNTEERS!

LPCS would like to thank all of our volunteers who have volunteered extra hours this summer. On several occasions, overnight volunteers have stepped up and stayed overnight when it appeared that staff members would have to stay at the cost of the shelter.

We would also like to thank the more than 60 volunteers, guests, graduates, and staff who helped out with Summerfest, the Sheffield Garden Walk, Taste of Lincoln Avenue, and the Lincoln Park Arts and Music Festival. By all accounts, the festivals were a success and everyone had a great time volunteering!

LPCS would also like to thank the Chicago Photography Center for putting on a wonderful show of guest artwork. Volunteers from the CPC teach monthly classes in photography to LPCS guests. The Satellite Show featured work from LPCS guests and graduates, as well as from women at Deborah’s Place. This was the first show featuring CPC’s outreach work. Thanks to all our volunteers who came and viewed the show! CPC will continue to volunteer at LPCS and hopefully put together more shows in the future.

THE LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SHELTER  
BRINGS OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER  
TO EMPOWER HOMELESS MEN AND WOMEN  
TO MAKE LIFE CHANGES.

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## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: JOHN WILSON



John Wilson began volunteering at LPCS in June 2008 when members from his church, Park Community Church, recommended LPCS to him. Since then, John has become involved in several aspects of LPCS. John is a personal banker for JP Morgan Chase and has used his financial background to benefit the guests of LPCS. He volunteers with the One on One Program—a series of courses and one on one mentoring that teach individuals how to better manage their finances in preparation of moving out of homelessness. He also teaches Track Activities on topics such as budgeting and how to go about

repairing your credit. He also on occasion cooks dinners with a group from his church. When John isn't volunteering with LPCS, he helps teach kids at his church as well as other shelters in the Chicago area.

With all that John does, it is hard to imagine that he has time to do more! However, John is also a valued member of the Volunteer Committee. The Volunteer Committee helps steer the direction of LPCS' volunteer program. Since volunteers are an integral part of every aspect of the shelter, it is not surprising that the Volunteer Committee deals with many different aspects of LPCS. As a committee member, John was instrumental in gathering donations for the annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch held last April. He helped keep the costs of the event to a minimum which meant that LPCS could refocus the funds towards its programs. He has helped so many guests and volunteers and we greatly appreciate all the hard work he puts into LPCS. Thank you, John!

## WELCOME CLAIRE!



Claire Hannemann joined the LPCS staff as Interim Housing Manager in late August. A Midwestern native with roots in St. Paul, Minnesota, she is a University of Wisconsin graduate with degrees in biology and women's studies. Claire comes to LPCS through the Lutheran Volunteer Corps, and through which she is currently participating in a year of volunteer service as a Social Activities Coordinator in several senior buildings in Berkeley, California. In her spare time, you can find Claire biking, reading and studying languages. Her current linguistic challenge is Spanish. Overnight volunteers can expect to see Claire's smile relieving them on weekday mornings!

## WISH LIST

- New men's & women's underwear (all sizes)
- Men's and women's dress socks
- Dress shoes (men/women)
- Men's shoes that are good for maintenance work
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Razors (men/women)
- Cereal
- Ground coffee (regular)
- Non-dairy powdered creamer
- Sugar

**Please call ahead to arrange drop off of donations, 773-549-6111. Thank you!**

## FOR RYAN, VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE IS THE KEY TO EMPLOYMENT

By Suzanne Powers, Assistant Volunteer Coordinator

When Ryan came to LPCS, he had nearly 12 years of experience in the insurance industry. When he found himself unable to afford an apartment after he lost his job, he moved into a hotel and started working odd jobs in order to get by and keep a roof over his head. Ryan moved into LPCS with the hopes of utilizing the services available to get a full-time job. Upon arriving, Ryan was told about the GIVE program (Guests In Volunteer Experience). He was hesitant to volunteer because he wanted to focus on spending his time interviewing and finding a job. He was encouraged to find an organization that utilized his experience and to network within that organization.

Being the motivated individual that Ryan is, he took to his GIVE position at Illinois Masonic Hospital with great drive. Within a few months of starting, the

staff at Illinois Masonic told him they had a contract position available that they would hopefully be able to offer him. Although not full-time, Ryan was excited about the opportunity and continued to volunteer awaiting word of the position. Ryan was ecstatic to find out shortly after that they would instead prefer to offer him a full-time position working with a new computer program.

Within a few weeks, the position officially opened and Ryan received a formal offer to officially work for the hospital. While not every volunteer experience will become a full-time position, Ryan's experience reminds LPCS guests and staff about the power of being active in the community. In early August, Ryan found housing and moved into his own apartment again.

# METAMORPHOSIS PARTY 2009 A SUCCESS!



Nearly 200 people gathered to support the LPCS on a beautiful June evening at the Chicago Illuminating Company. Attendees enjoyed fabulous food by Limelight Catering, signature summer cocktails, and music spun by members of Chicago-based Kill Hannah. Guests vied for fabulous silent auction items and raised their paddles high during the live auction, emceed by Jim Miller. This year's special appeal was to fund Graduate Services. Visit our website to hear Graduates, in their own words, describe the importance of these services, why they stay connected to LPCS, and to make a special gift. The evening was a huge success, raising more than \$70,000 to support our programs!

## Special Thanks to Our Longevity Sponsors:



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Clockwise from the left: Models from Elite Model Management joined us once again to sell raffle tickets and serve signature cocktails from our "Butterfly Bar." Bidding heats up at the Silent Auction, as JoAnn Reynolds and Gay Guthrey eye the same prize! Event sponsor Missy Lavender of the Women's Health Foundation celebrates with friends Gina Marino and Nancy Kranzberg.

## LPCS WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER ROGER STETSON



In July, LPCS welcomed Roger Stetson to the Board of Directors. Roger is a Senior Litigation Associate at Barack Ferrazzano, et. al. and attended the University of Michigan Law School and the University of Southern California (USC) for undergraduate studies. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the BFKPN Foundation,

which was created in 2005 to facilitate the firm's goal to become more active in the community and dedicate time and resources to those most in need of this commitment.

Roger was introduced to LPCS by (former Board member) Shermin Kruse, a good friend and a greatly respected colleague, when he was invited to cook one evening at the shelter. Since that evening, he has enjoyed learning more about LPCS and introducing his network to the organization through nights of cooking and a number of the fundraising events. Roger is looking forward to developing a "a long term relationship in which I participate in varying roles that best fits the organization's needs," and is eager to get involved in his new capacity as a Board member.

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## ADD BLUE & YELLOW TO GO GREEN

By Heather Reynolds, Community Relations Manager

LPCS is on the move with the "Blue & Yellow Project" to go green. The new Blue & Yellow Policy was recently implemented to encourage the participation of guests, staff, and volunteers to conserve resources and recycle materials within the facility. The timing came perfectly as the city of Chicago began the Blue Cart Recycling Program in Lincoln Park at the end of June.

With the Blue & Yellow Project, LPCS has committed to becoming more environmentally aware, disposing of recyclables for recycling purposes, and conserving resources whenever possible. Some of the steps LPCS has taken include downloading EcoFont, which uses less ink than standard fonts, purchasing recycled paper, and learning how to "multi-up" print. In addition, there are now a number of recycling containers around the facility for guest, staff, and volunteer use.

Whether it's printing double-sided pages, buying food items in bulk or simply discarding recyclables into separate bins, it will take both individual and collective efforts to do its part towards great environmental contributions. If you have any environmentally conscious suggestions for LPCS, they are more than welcome! You can email suggestions to [lpinfo@lpcsonline.org](mailto:lpinfo@lpcsonline.org).

Don't forget you can also sign up to receive *Transitions* in electronic format! To sign up, simply send an email to Heather Reynolds at [hreynolds@lpcsonline.org](mailto:hreynolds@lpcsonline.org) with the email address you would like it sent to, along with the current mailing address being used. Prefer a hard copy? That's ok too! LPCS prints *Transitions* on recycled paper with soy-based ink! Thanks for helping LPCS go green!

## LPCS PROGRAMS REMAIN STRONG DESPITE WEAK ECONOMY

By Betsy Carlson, MSW, Program Director

Fiscal Year 2009 was a busy year at LPCS. As one would expect in a failing economy, more individuals sought our services through our Community Engagement Program – which provides case management and basic services such as food, clothing, and laundry to those currently living on the streets or on the brink of homelessness in the community – more than twice as many individuals sought services this year compared to last! This program often serves as a first step for those who have recently become homeless, and once individuals became guests of the Interim Housing Community, it has taken them longer to find living-wage work and permanent housing, and overall employment rates are down. Twice as many guests have some college education, and nearly 25% already have income when they arrive, but can't afford housing. Even the graduate food pantry has seen bare shelves in recent months, as graduates – those who have become re-housed – more frequently shop for canned goods and other non-perishables.

Nevertheless, despite the tight economy, LPCS programs have remained strong and have helped many people start to rebuild their lives. An increasing number of individuals are engaging in the On Track Program, setting goals with their case managers to achieve progress toward a more independent life. In fact, a higher percentage of guests than ever before are taking these life-changing steps, as more than 80% of guests with a history of addiction engaged in treatment and/or recovery support groups; 95% of guests with a mental or chronic physical illness connected to healthcare; 79% of guests looking for work enrolled in employment programs to improve their employability. And, although slower than in years past, these steps are making a difference: 56% of guests in the On Track Program made the transition to permanent housing, with an average length of stay of 191 days.

Likewise, LPCS' One on One Program – which provides classes and mentoring in financial management and budgeting – although maintaining a high number of participants, has seen fewer applications for housing grants. Participants are looking for work and affordable housing for increasingly longer periods after completing the program requirements and, often, job training programs. One on One Program participants, like On Track Program graduates, remain successfully housed (82%), thanks to budgeting skills learned within the program. The Graduate Community, too, has seen waves of graduate participation in evening dinners, shopping in the food pantry, requests for rental assistance, and requests for CTA passes to be mailed in order to take advantage of these resources. Fortunately, for many, this assistance has filled the gap in income and 88% of graduates have remained housed after one year.

Because even optimistic economists predict that it will be a slow recovery for the U.S., LPCS has taken our own steps to continue celebrating the daily accomplishments of our guests, building a model of increased program flexibility and responsibilities outside of LPCS as guests spend more time at LPCS and progress toward their goals (see the related article in the "Board Corner!") LPCS staff are excited to continue implementing new ways to prepare guests for independent living and to celebrate their steps toward regaining self-sufficiency.

# DONORS JULY 1, 2008 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009

The Lincoln Park Community Shelter would like to acknowledge and thank the following donors for all your generous support over the past year.

▲ Stability Builders - those who give on a regular (weekly, monthly, or bi-monthly) basis

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Dennis Kmetz	GoodSearch	John and Aileen Schloerb	Lesley Smith	Meredith and Tyler Emerick
	Gordon and Meridyth McIntosh	John and Janet Bogdanor	Leslie and Eric Whinery	Merrill Lynch
		John and Kathleen Kenefick	Liberty Mutual	
			Linda Gibson	

## Good Neighbors, continued

Micaela Klein  
Michael and Elizabeth Cole  
Michael and Helen Arkes  
Michael and Mary Claire Kastenholz  
Michael and Sharon Claffey  
Michael Bond  
Michael Brody and Elizabeth Ester  
Michael Claffey  
Michael Hersick  
Michael Phillip  
Michael Rosinsky  
Michael Schubert  
Michael Zink  
Michelle Stone  
Mike and Jessa Vahey  
Mike and Shari Albert  
Miriam Weller  
Molly Boschert  
Monica Mahan  
Monica Thompson  
Monique Fouant  
Monna Ray  
Morton Arnsdorf and Rosemary Crowley  
Moxie  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Howerton  
▲ Murray and Robin Manus  
Nancy and G. Nicholas Textor  
Nancy and Sean Heffernan  
Nancy and Terrence Tighe  
Nancy Bingaman  
Nancy Bufalino  
Nancy Wilke  
National City - Riverpoint Office  
New Balance Chicago  
Nicholas DePetris  
Nicole and Steve VanderVoort  
Nicole Miller  
Nicole Wilson  
Nikita and Elizabeth Zelensky  
Ninon Freeman  
Noelle Overly  
Norman and Helene Raidl  
Olga Janos  
Owen MacBride and Linda Diekman  
Pamela Brunstrom  
Patricia Coutre  
Patricia Ebbers  
Patricia Fishman  
Patricia Martin and David Schmidgall  
Patrick and Monika Nevis

Patrick Hain  
Patrick S. and Judith Lauth Casey  
Paul Hamann  
Paul Sorensen  
Paula Klein Zeid  
Pauline Javorcic  
Pauline Villapando  
Peter Drake and Lys Miller  
Peter Eklund  
Phil and Sally Meno  
PJ and Laura Brennan  
Randall Kooistra  
Randy Hayden  
Raymond Harris and Elizabeth Kurman  
Rebecca Blank and Hanns Kuttner  
Rebecca Burton and Charles Range  
Regan Leahy  
Rev. Robert Oldershaw  
Richard Brozenec  
Richard Clarke  
Richard Ferguson  
Richard Lorenc  
Richard N. Peterson and Rev. Wayne T. Bradley  
Rick and Janice Bail  
Rick and Ruby Lowes  
Rick Vescio  
Rita Poley  
Robert and Cheryl Kuba  
Robert and Melanie Halvorson  
Robert and Susan Houston  
Robert and Victoria Noonan  
Robert Bruce  
Robert Eaman  
Robert Raccuglia and Elaine Cerny  
Robert Zahm  
Rodney and Polly Sippy  
Roger Zanchetti  
Ron Costephens  
Ron Nunziato  
Ronald and Sally Kinnamon  
Rotary Club of Chicago - Lakeview Foundation  
Rowan and Annette Carroll  
RR Donnelly Foundation  
Sally Smith  
Samuel Fifer  
Sarah and Robert Isaacs  
Sarah Goalstone  
Sarah Griffee  
▲ Sarah Hughes  
Sarah Jolie  
Scott and Kelly Hales

Scott and Nancy Kranzberg  
Scott Horning  
Scott McClung  
Scott Orr  
Sean Etheridge  
Shannon Ryan  
Sharlene Crawford  
Sharon and Robert Barton  
Shelley and Martin Brody  
Shelley Smith and James Gatziolis  
Shuhana Khan-Rahman  
Sr. Marie Orf  
St. Clement School  
St. Pauls United Church of Christ  
St. Vincent dePaul Parish  
Stacey Zupec  
Stephan and Mary Wyers  
Stephanie Soergel  
Steve Anrod and Lynne Allen  
Steve Koellner  
Steve Kovack  
Steve Warsh and Ellen Adelman  
Steven Adams  
Steven Hunter and Naomi Bank  
Stritch School of Medicine  
Sudip Bose  
Sue Gries  
Susan and Larry Howell  
Susan and Richard Goldman  
Susan Berger  
Susan Herring  
Susan Schaffrath  
Susan Weissman and Doug Reifler  
Suzanne Mills  
Suzanne and Tony Bazarko  
Tamara and Simon Maple  
Tammy Ryan  
Terese and Robert Sommer  
The Dedelow Family  
The Erwin/VanKoughnett Family  
Therese M. Mierswa  
Thomas and Lydia Murray  
Thomas and Maxine Stinchcomb  
Thomas Javorcic  
Thomas McCarthy  
Timothy Christy  
Timothy Egan  
Tobin and Elizabeth Richter  
Todd and Ann Worley  
Todd Young and John Dally  
Tom and Colleen Henry  
Tom and Maria Connolly  
Tom Floyd

▲ Tom McKenna  
Toni and Deborah Landi  
Toni Merrick  
Traci Kerlin  
Tryst  
Van Taylor  
Victor Miller  
Wade and Joan Rowland  
Walter Meyers  
Watson Wyatt Worldwide  
Wayne Parman  
Wendy's  
William and Carol Cade  
William and Donna Jones  
William and Judith Piccione  
William Burson  
William O'Leary  
Yolanda and Robert Simonsis

## Gifts made in honor of:

Andrea Barnhart  
Brent Carstensen  
Brigitte Brozenec  
Charles Rich  
Chris Sloat  
David Chittenden  
George Kuhlman  
Gilaad Matar  
Hannalee Isaacs  
James and Barb Javorcic  
James Regan  
Jean Unsworth  
JoAnn Reynolds  
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Mai Nguyen  
Marcia Tarabori  
Marina Reyes  
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Nancy Sharky  
Nii Lantey Addy  
Patrick Doyle  
Peg Wander  
Ray Powell  
Robert Burson  
Roger Stetson  
Sean Dwyer  
Sherry Schlickman

Susan Howell  
Triton College Nursing Faculty

## Gifts made in memory of:

Fred Weihs  
Jerry Reedy  
Margaret Shanahan  
Mary Gylfe  
Nancy Carlson  
Peter J. Bellew  
Sarah Allan  
Susan Dobslaf  
Thomas J. Skeffington

# BOARD CORNER: SETTING THE STAGE

By Brendan Foster, Chair, Program Committee



Many of you who have been involved with the Lincoln Park Community Shelter over the years are well aware of the fantastic programs offered to our guests. Our programs are designed to “empower homeless men and women to make life changes.” The core program for guests staying at LPCS is our On Track Program. This program

helps guide our guests to address the issues that may have led them to becoming homeless.

The Program Committee has been working to enhance the experience of our guests and continue to improve upon the already tremendous outcomes of our programs. Over the last several months, we have been exploring and integrating a new “Stages” model into our current On Track Program. The goal of the Stages Model is to provide a tangible guide for guests as they make their individual life changes and transition from homelessness back to independent living. There are four stages

in the program each with goals, objectives, and timeline that must be met before moving on to the next stage. Goals and objectives include meeting with case managers, enrolling in job readiness programs and developing a personal plan for moving into permanent housing. As an individual guest accomplishes goals and progresses through the stages, he or she also gains privileges such as having nights out to attend social networking and self-improvement activities, and more flexible curfews.

Our goal at LPCS continues to be to provide the greatest opportunities for our guests, and to empower them to make the life changes necessary to break the cycle of homelessness. The Program Committee and staff are committed to developing programs that fulfill the mission of LPCS, are in line with “best practices,” and address the needs of our guests. We are very excited about the Stages Model! Not only does it meet these criteria, but it also provides valuable guidance, incentive, and empowerment for our guests.

## LPCS STAFF: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Remember these names and faces? Ever wonder what happened to them after leaving LPCS? Read on for some brief updates!

**Evan Farrar**

**Former position at LPCS, dates:**  
Community Social Worker (1998-2001)

### What have you been doing since you left LPCS?

Many things! I left LPCS to direct the Elam Davies Social Service Center at Fourth Presbyterian Church. Then we decided to leave the cold winters of Chicago for the sunny Gulf Coast of Florida. So I now live in Sarasota, Florida. Initially, I served as the Pastor of North Port Community Church before leaving to help establish a new substance abuse program for the homeless in Sarasota. Since then, I've been working with people with disabilities and currently am the Acting Executive Director of the Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (USA) where I previously served as a Crisis Intervention Counselor. Prader-Willi syndrome is a rare, complex, and life threatening genetic disorder that impacts the hypothalamus causing, among other symptoms, an insatiable appetite. It is the number one cause of genetically-based childhood obesity in the United States.

### What do you miss most about LPCS?

People! I miss working with the most talented colleagues I've ever known (Barb Beckman, Amy Zaremba, Erin Ryan, and Fred Kowalski in particular). I also miss the residents who taught me so much about courage and grace. Finally I miss being part of an organization that is so mission focused. I am delighted, with Erin's guidance, LPCS has continued to grow to meet the needs of its residents.

### Family updates...

As some of you may remember, while on staff at LPCS, I married Laurie Colton at Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church with several shelter residents in attendance. We are approaching our 10th Anniversary. Our only “child” is a small rat-terrier/mini-pin named Grace.

### New hobbies, interests...

I am back in school pursuing a Masters in Mental Health Counseling.

### Future plans...

To become a licensed mental health counselor and open a private counseling practice which will, in part, offer reduced or no cost services to homeless people and programs in the Sarasota area. And to take a swim in the ocean later today!

## LPCS IS TURNING 25!

On February 12, 1985 the Lincoln Park Community Shelter opened its doors to guests for the first time. This means LPCS is turning 25 in 2010! To mark our twenty-fifth anniversary, LPCS is planning a year of celebration. We will be hosting a series of events to celebrate the history and successes of the organization over the last 25 years. Look for details in the next issue of *Transitions*!



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## GOING GREEN

In an effort to reduce our footprint, LPCS would like to send *Transitions* out electronically to those who are interested. If you would like to receive our newsletter via email, please send an email to Heather Reynolds at [hreynolds@lpcsonline.org](mailto:hreynolds@lpcsonline.org) along with your current mailing address.

## FOCUS ON FUNDERS

### The Charter One Foundation

The Charter One Foundation recently provided Lincoln Park Community Shelter with a generous grant of \$5,000 to support the On Track Program.

Charter One's support of not-for-profit organizations is focused on housing, community development and basic human needs, so the bank immediately saw the value LPCS' services bring to the local community.



"The Lincoln Park Community Shelter's On Track Program serves as a critical resource for the area's homeless who wouldn't otherwise receive the guidance necessary to turn their fate around," said Stacey Sather, Charter One Senior Vice President and Director of Public Affairs. "By assisting worthy organizations such as LPCS, we are able to help those most in need in our community."

The grant provided by Charter One will allow for the continued success of the On Track Program as it focuses on substance abuse recovery, mental and physical health, and job training and employment to lead guests on their return to self-sufficiency.

### The Dewan Foundation

The Lincoln Park Community Shelter has been privileged to receive support from the John and Susan Dewan Foundation for several years. A family foundation that was created by the sale of a sports information company, the Dewan family decided not to concentrate on support of athletics, but to support agencies working with individuals in poverty.

Of special interest to the Dewan Foundation is LPCS' On Track Program. The Foundation supports this program because it works directly with individuals to transform their lives. Each year, a representative of the Foundation visits with LPCS staff, inquiring about guests success in the Addictions Recovery, Mental & Physical Health, and Employment Tracks, LPCS' housing rate, and encouraging LPCS staff to remain at the forefront of services to homeless individuals.

Beyond helping Chicagoans experiencing poverty, the Dewan Foundation collaborates with other organizations to provide relief from crises and overseas, collecting and organizing thousands of pounds of donations for distribution to the people of Honduras and supporting efforts educational institutions in the New Orleans area in the aftermath of Katrina. LPCS thanks the Dewan Foundation for their long-standing and increasing support of the On Track Program and our guests.