

The Milwaukee Outreach Center



SEPTEMBER 2005

Blessed are the Peacemakers

This summer young people gathered daily at Hephatha Lutheran Church in Milwaukee and prayed, "Lord, Make me an instrument of your peace." After praying they studied Jesus' words in Matthew 5:9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." They also studied Romans 12:17-18: "Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of everyone. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with everyone."

The motivation for this topic is easy to pinpoint. Hephatha is located at Locust and 18th Street, a very violent part of the city where the ministry of this church dates back to 1911. Fourteen years ago, as a recent graduate of Yale Divinity School, Reverend Mary-Martha Kannass accepted the call to be their pastor. God has given Reverend Kannass and Hephatha an important ministry in this neighborhood with many young people. She stated, "God's love for the neighborhood, in the midst of drug and violence problems, is the message and experience we have to share. We want people who desire a church home to have one."

The Milwaukee Outreach Center (TMOC) has been a partner with Hephatha's student ministry program for over ten years. We have provided grants and matching funds that started with ten children in 1992 and this summer some 60 students were involved. By completing each lesson, students were able to earn points toward gift cards for fall school items.

One part of the lesson included assignments from the workbook *Let's Talk About Living in a World With Violence*. Written by a child psychologist, the students considered everything from violence in war to violence in their own homes. They expressed in writing their thoughts and feelings about violence and how they

would be an instrument of God's peace. At the end of the summer, before receiving their gift cards, each student reviewed their workbook and writing from each day and used them to write a full prayer on being peaceful and an essay on how they will live as a person of peace.

Reverend Kannass noted, "TMOC has given us support to keep working with young people year after year. You have strengthened our local efforts for the Gospel and we are grateful to God for you."



Led by their pastor, Reverend Mary-Martha Kannass (front row, far right), some 60 students completed the summer work ministry program at Hephatha Lutheran Church. Three of the students will attend college this fall. With the partnership of TMOC and other organizations, \$20,000 was raised for this program and the educational needs of their students.

A Moving "Thank You"

We want to say "Thank You" to our many friends who packed and moved us to our new facilities on August 15. Our excellent packing team came from Rawhide Boys Ranch and West Layton Assembly of God. Roy Cobbs of Rawhide and Rod Denetz of West Layton used their experience from Fed-Ex and UPS to pack two 20 foot trucks. Cobbs was assisted by two students and a staff member from Rawhide. Denetz was assisted by Howard Phillipson and Jerry Vogel, fellow members at West Layton. This was an all-day effort. At the end of the day Don Scharninghausen from Teen Challenge and 11 of his students unpacked the trucks. Within two hours everything was in our new building.



Men of faith and action, Rod Denetz (left), Howard Phillipson (center) and Jerry Vogel (right) from West Layton Assembly of God blessed TMOC with their packing and moving skills.

A special thank you also goes to Debbie Schlagenhauf of Siva Trucking. They are a great company to work with. Please mark your calendar for our open house on September 19.



Surrounded by his students from Teen Challenge, Don Scharninghausen (center on bench) led the charge in moving TMOC into its new facilities on West Mill Road.

A New Look for The Milwaukee Outreach Center



August brought The Milwaukee Outreach Center to its new home. We have shared with you how our new location will better allow us to focus on the services we are best prepared to provide our community. But there is another change that has taken place during August. TMOC has a new logo.

Our logo is the first contact many people have with TMOC. Whether it is a letter thanking a generous donor, or a grant proposal designed to tell our story, our marketing materials need to reflect our redefined positioning.

The distinguishing change in our logo is the shift in focus on the word "outreach" instead of "Milwaukee". While we are committed to ministering to the people of Milwaukee, our mission is not defined by borders, but by need. This new logo reflects the true focus of our program on reaching out to the community through programs that "penetrate lives for lasting change".

Watch for our new look on everything from our newsletter to our other printed materials.

Open House

OPEN HOUSE

You are invited to an open house to celebrate our new facilities.

Monday - September 19, 2005
3:00 - 8:00 PM

Refreshments and Tours

New Address and Phone Number

The new address and phone number of The Milwaukee Outreach Center is:

The Milwaukee Outreach Center
6647 W. Mill Road
Milwaukee, WI 53218
414.760.0334
414.760.0399 (FAX)

Count On Me!

Today I'm enclosing:

- My monthly commitment of \$ _____
- A special offering for _____ \$ _____

United Way Donor Choice Giving

The United Way has a community-wide approach to both raising and distributing charitable gifts. Within this broader context, donors can choose to designate to a specific organization like The Milwaukee Outreach Center or give an unrestricted gift to help a broad range of health and human development agencies. United Way's single community-wide campaign is a means for individuals to support many worthwhile services with a single gift.

I would like...

- to find employment by attending the Phoenix Life Skills Program (September 12 - 16)
- to schedule TMOC at our missions fair/conference
- to visit with a Christian counselor

Partners with Rawhide

For over seven years The Milwaukee Outreach Center (TMOC) and Rawhide Boys Ranch have worked together in reaching boys for Christ. We recently visited with Roy Cobbs, area coordinator for Rawhide. He has an office at TMOC.

TMOC: What is the purpose and mission of Rawhide?

ROY COBBS: *Our mission is to aid at-risk youth and to help them mature both naturally and spiritually. We have committed ourselves to help young men go through the program so they can be successful for life.*

We are an openly Christian organization for boys ages 13-18. Our ranch is located near New London, Wisconsin. In our long-term program boys live and go to school at the ranch and are assigned in small groups to house parents. They also have resident instructors who serve as big brothers and sisters to model a Christian home. This program can last from six months to a year and a half.

Our "About Face" program is for 120 days. This is a very structured program with wake up times, physical training, volunteer work, marching, teaching of respect and devotions from the Bible.

TMOC: How does a student become a part of Rawhide?



Roy Cobbs of Rawhide keeps a busy schedule from his office at The Milwaukee Outreach Center.



ROY COBBS: *Most of our students come as referrals from various county social service agencies. Students also come through the courts and the Ethan Allen and Lincoln boys homes. Some of our students come directly from families who are able to sponsor them.*

TMOC: What is your role with Rawhide? Why do you have an office here in Milwaukee?

ROY COBBS: *I've been with Rawhide for four and a half years as their transition coordinator. I cover an area from Fond du Lac south to Lake Michigan and to western Wisconsin. When a student completes the program or is released from the program, I work with this student and his parents. I see that he enrolls in school or finds employment and I also counsel with him and his parents.*

TMOC: What makes Rawhide and TMOC a good partnership?

ROY COBBS: *TMOC has been a mainstay for my office here in Milwaukee by providing both individual and family counseling for my clients. The Phoenix readiness to work program is also great for my older students, alumni of the program and parents of my students.*

TMOC: Why was it important to relocate with TMOC to its new facilities?

ROY COBBS: *I see TMOC and its staff as a family so when they moved, I moved. The new location is a better location for Rawhide and the clients that we serve. The relationship that we have with TMOC over the years is a good relationship and it's nice to work with people you know and not have to guess about anything. I'm comfortable and confident with the integrity and faith of the TMOC staff.*



Roy Cobbs (left) and Gary Shoults (right) work together to meet the counseling needs of families from Rawhide.

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Michael Rintelman
Executive Director

Executive Director's Update

I was once told that I'm living in the wrong era and that I hold to values and principles that aren't as important today as they were in the past. One of those principles is that of partnership. While growing up I had some close friends who remain friends to this day. At that time my model for relationships was my all-time heroes The Lone Ranger and his

partner and friend, Tonto. They were always better when they worked together and when one was in trouble, you knew the other would arrive just in time to save the day!

At TMOC we have committed ourselves to developing strong and committed partnerships with like-minded churches, ministries and supporters. In this newsletter you can read about some of the great partners that God has given us. And God does those kinds of things. I believe that he yokes us together to better impact the world for His glory. When we partner together, He takes and uses our strengths to create synergy. This means that what we do together is greater than the sum total of what we could do alone. Our efforts united together multiply our impact upon the lives we are reaching for Christ.

In August I was privileged to be invited to a meeting in Virginia Beach to meet with Operation Blessing International Relief and Development. I was there because TMOC had been chosen to be one of seven cities to be included in their City Reach initiative. The

work that we have been doing through our Phoenix Program and the potential of our character development curriculum has been recognized as having a national impact. As well as partnering with Operation Blessing, we will be in close relationship with the other six City Reach centers.

I'm amazed at what God is doing through the ministry of The Milwaukee Outreach Center. What we have been doing with our partners here in Milwaukee is having an impact on our nation. All of you – our partners – have played a vital role in our mission of penetrating lives for lasting change.



In front of the entrance of the new facilities of TMOC, Michael Rintelman (center) is joined by his partners in ministry: Bill Lange, Director of Phoenix Life Skills (left) and Will Hope, Director of Development (right).