



# Winter 2009 NEWS

“The underlying premise of Bean’s Café is a deep belief in the inherent dignity of every person, a belief that people respond with kindness when treated kindly, with trust when trusted, and respectfully when respected.”

Copied from the original proposal to organize Bean’s Café - 1979

### **Cafe Wish List**

**Paper  
Towels**

**Sandwich  
Bags**

**Coffee**

**Disposable  
Hot Cups**



## In Memoriam 2009

We have been deeply troubled by the high number of deaths this year in our homeless population. Each name on the list is someone who has been part of our community. This past year, as of November 2009, we regret to report that 56 individuals have died. Before the end of 2009, this list will grow. Bean’s Candlelight Memorial Ceremony on Dec. 21 at 10:00 a.m. is for our community to remember those whom they have loved and lost. All are welcome.

~Maggie Carey, Social Services Director~

*Rick Shane Sumdum  
Donald King III  
Karen Booshu  
Michael Caddell  
Ron Braxton  
David Westcoast  
Garith Solomon  
Michael L. Lesniak  
Mark Mumchuck  
Marilyn “May” Carlson  
Laurie John  
Dennis Trump  
Kimberlee Hurst  
Harry Kuzakin, Jr  
Laura Gayle Cowan-Sands  
David W. Wright  
Stanley Ivey  
Wesley Small  
Simeon Boots  
Wellington”Frenchie” Grant  
Danny “Papa Smurf” Wright  
Ruth Carter  
Edwin “Fast Eddie” Wheeler  
Robert Lee  
Moody Charles “Iglak”  
Joseph Ferreira  
Geoffrey Scott Humphries  
James G. Lockery*

*Larry Melovedoff  
Mamie Qalhaq Mouse  
Martha Rose Lake  
Walter Savok Outwater, Jr.  
Helen S. Hensley  
James F. “Jim” MacKay  
Theresa O’Brien  
Elouise Apigi Okakok  
Eugene C. Williams  
Bart L. Treiber  
Christopher Joseph  
Fred Ronald Ezukameuw  
Douglas J. E. Friday  
Gerald L. (Jerry) Felder  
Evan Waskey  
Melvin Erickson  
Charlie G. Bergamaschi  
Karen “Naniq” Martin  
Katie Prunes  
Jacob Otten  
Daisy Echuck  
Jacob Byayok  
Carroll A. Nelson, Jr.  
Catherine Solomon  
Kathleen Sullivan  
Charles P. Seeganna  
Jesse S. Westcoast  
John Admire*

**The Season for Giving**

Joy, hope, laughter, family, presents, and happiness are all the things that you and I associate with the holidays Thanksgiving and Christmas. We all look forward to these times to celebrate all the things we are thankful for.

Many people this holiday don't have the good fortune that many of us have. They have lost their jobs, lost their apartment or housing, have little hope of obtaining a job or an apartment. The number of people in these situations is increasing. Bean's Café has seen a steady increase in number of people for the 2009 calendar year.

So what can we do to help these people that are in a state of confusion, chaos, and most important in need of support of basic services and a friendly ear to listen to their stories?

Bean's Café answer is to provide the basic services, a hot nutritious breakfast and lunch, a warm safe day shelter from the outside elements, clean toilets and social services outreach for all the clients to meet their various needs at a cost effective and efficient manner.

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**A Word from the Board****Jimmy Hillig**

Homelessness is on the forefront of everyone's mind in Anchorage, especially with all of the news coverage this past year. It's troubling to see, but it's also a great reminder that people are homeless year-round, and not just during the holiday season. I don't mean to insinuate you consciously believe that, but it's true the holiday season brings a dramatic increase in food donations and volunteers.

The number of homeless in Anchorage has increased considerably. Our nation's economic downturn has certainly had an impact here. A very disturbing trend is the number of families and working poor who walk through the food line every day at Bean's Cafe. These are folks who pay rent, utilities and gas to get to and from work, have but nothing left for food. Costs for everyone have increased. Even if you're making twice the minimum wage it's still a fine line to walk. A small increase in charges from the utilities company can place a family in crisis.

It's more important than ever to help your fellow brothers and sisters. Volunteering at Bean's Cafe, The Food Bank of Alaska or Brother Francis Shelter are very popular things to do during the holiday season. These are incredible ways to connect with the plight of the homeless. But there are other ways you can help. Yes, all of our piggy banks have shrunk but there are many who have lost everything.

Benefits from a financial contribution can have a long-term impact. A donation of \$10 provides two meals, in addition to referrals for housing, employment, and social services.

This holiday season, after you have dropped off your turkey and finished your volunteer shift in the food line, please take out your checkbook and help others for the whole year.

## DESPARATELY SEEKING SOCKS

High demand for socks, and few returns from clients in any kind of shape for our laundering program, has left us low in socks stock. We need crew length or longer socks as shorter lengths lead to blisters on the ankles. We also welcome clean gently used socks. Please help us. A sock drive makes for a great work place project, book club project, or scouting, school, or congregation drive.

## JV S – WELCOME TO KATE AND TREVOR!

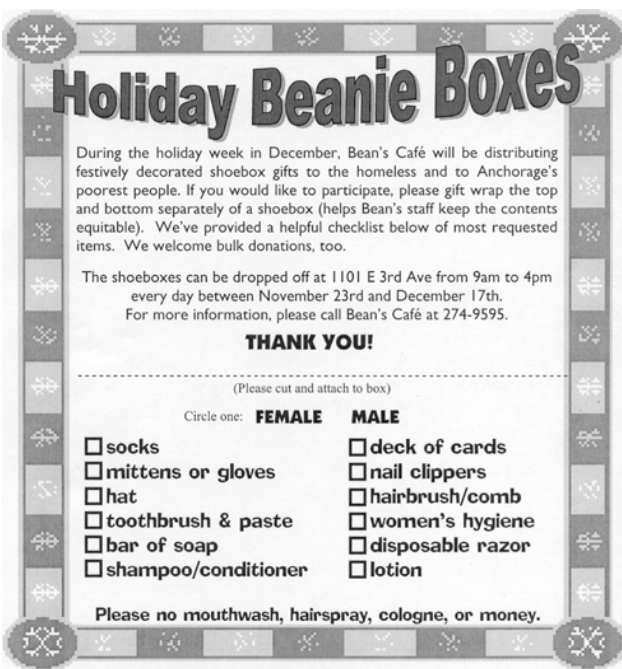
We are again privileged to have two great Jesuit Volunteers from the Jesuit Volunteer Northwest join us this past August. Trevor Lane hails from the Seattle area, and is a graduate of Seattle University. He has been active in the University Presbyterian Church's college ministry and their ministry outreach programs. Trevor is a runner enjoying dog running, and recently participated in a half-Marathon. Kate McGrain comes to us from Baltimore, Maryland, a graduate of Loyola University. She too has a history of working with the homeless and was a volunteer on the Hurricane Katrina Relief team. She too is enjoying our great Alaska outdoors with hiking, biking, and appreciating our coastal trail. Please welcome Kate and Trevor.

### Social Services Wish List

**Women's Sanitary Pads**  
**Travel Size Toiletries (especially shampoo and soap)**  
**Disposable Razors**  
**Crew & Long Cotton Socks (new or gently used)**  
*~Please help with these practical and necessary items~*

## Community Generosity Fulfills Needs and Wishes

The Holiday Beanie Boxes have been a wonderful and giving tradition at Bean's Café. Generous folks from the community provide festively decorated shoeboxes, full of practical, thoughtful and fun gifts for the poorest among us. These festive and fun boxes will be distributed to our clients (80% male and 20% female) in December. Rich Owens of Taste Freez has again provided a drop off for your boxes at 3901 Raspberry Road, please deliver by December 16th.



**Holiday Beanie Boxes**

During the holiday week in December, Bean's Café will be distributing festively decorated shoebox gifts to the homeless and to Anchorage's poorest people. If you would like to participate, please gift wrap the top and bottom separately of a shoebox (helps Bean's staff keep the contents equitable). We've provided a helpful checklist below of most requested items. We welcome bulk donations, too.

The shoeboxes can be dropped off at 1101 E 3rd Ave from 9am to 4pm every day between November 23rd and December 17th.  
For more information, please call Bean's Café at 274-9595.

**THANK YOU!**

(Please cut and attach to box)

Circle one: **FEMALE**    **MALE**

<input type="checkbox"/> socks	<input type="checkbox"/> deck of cards
<input type="checkbox"/> mittens or gloves	<input type="checkbox"/> nail clippers
<input type="checkbox"/> hat	<input type="checkbox"/> hairbrush/comb
<input type="checkbox"/> toothbrush & paste	<input type="checkbox"/> women's hygiene
<input type="checkbox"/> bar of soap	<input type="checkbox"/> disposable razor
<input type="checkbox"/> shampoo/conditioner	<input type="checkbox"/> lotion

Please no mouthwash, hairspray, cologne, or money.

We've made a checklist with requested items, and we hope that you will be able to help out with these items. We know they'd welcome other fun and surprise items. In addition to cards, folks enjoy other fun board games such as portable chess and checker sets; Sudoku, crossword, and word game puzzle books are also prized. Hair ties, scrunchies, chap stick and deodorant are also welcome additions. During the long winter months, we are especially grateful for gifts of gloves and hats. We welcome bulk donations of any of these items, which help us even out the boxes for folks.

## News From the children's lunchbox

The Children's Lunchbox is in high gear working on feeding kids! Through our prepared meals program we have had to reduce the number of full meals to our CampFire locations. Rather than five 4-component meals (Monday - Friday) we are serving three 4-component meals and two 2-component meals. For some of these kids, this afternoon snack is their dinner. If anyone would like to help us fund these two CampFire locations we would greatly appreciate the assistance.

The "Just a Little Extra" weekend food program at Mountain View Elementary is in full swing ~ the whole school now has the opportunity for weekend meals. One third of the \$96,000 needed to fully fund this program (100% privately funded) has been raised - THANK YOU! There is still a lot more to go.

We are very thankful to all of you who have been donating time, money and food to help feed hungry kids. Your donations are utilized very carefully to feed as many children as possible. As soon as one program is fully funded we immediately move to feed additional hungry kids in Anchorage.

Happy Holidays!

*~Becky Thompson, Program Director~*

### the children's lunchbox Wish List

***Canned: Peaches, Pears, Pineapple, Mandarin Oranges,  
Green Beans, Corn, Peas, Soups, Stews, Chili,  
Baked Beans, Ravioli, Tuna,  
Individual Fruit Cups and Applesauce,  
Instant Oatmeal, Macaroni & Cheese, Pasta, Rice,  
Cup 'O Noodles, Top Ramen  
~Please help with these practical and necessary items~***



### Christmas, A Time of Giving

Christmas time is approaching and the kindness of food donations at the holidays is one of the ways we are able to make it a truly special day for the homeless and less fortunate. Bean's Café prepares Holiday feasts that have served over 1,200 meals. The feasts would not be possible without the wonderful support of the Anchorage Community. Bean's Café needs hams, turkeys, gravy, bread stuffing, vegetables, coffee, red punch, and cream pies. Homemade dishes are always welcomed and appreciated. Please continue to help Bean's Café provide a feast at the holidays for so many that would otherwise go hungry. For more information contact Kathi Adkins at 297-5604.

**You can sign up for Bean's Cafe email updates at  
BeansCafe.org.**

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We believe that many of our people can contribute their efforts to make our operation cost effective. Over 60 volunteer duties need to be filled before the café is open for business. Most of these volunteer positions are filled by clients. Additionally, many of the food supplies are donated by the community on a regular basis.

We as the Anchorage community can contribute our financial resources to ensure that the less fortunate in Anchorage are provided the basics. Through your generous giving, we can make joy, hope, laughter and happiness become part of our clients life for the holiday seasons. We appreciate your past support of Bean's Café and know that you know future support is very important to individuals, families and the community of Anchorage.

Thank you again for your generosity

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## **Pick Click Give The PFD Charitable Contributions Program**

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to Bean's Café through their 2009 Permanent Fund Dividend. Nearly 100 donors contributed a total of \$10,570 to Bean's Café. The funds help us to advance our housing referral and job training programs while we continue to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless of Anchorage.

The first year of the PFD Charitable Contributions Program was a tremendous success raising a total of over \$545,000 for Alaskan nonprofit organizations from approximately 5,500 individuals. Thanks to the fact that the Rasmuson Foundation is covering all of the administrative costs, 100% of funds donated by individuals go directly to the organizations they have selected.

Please think of Bean's Café and our important mission as you file for your 2010 PFD in January. When you go on-line to sign up for your dividend, you will see the option called "The Gift of Giving" Search for us by name, Beans Cafe, we are located in Judicial District 3. Click and follow the instructions to make a new donation, or an additional gift. Additional information on this program can be found at [www.PickClickGive.org](http://www.PickClickGive.org) or by calling us at 297-5612. Thanks again!

*~Matt Kropke, Development Director~*

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### **Great Alaskan Wipe Out**



Bean's Café uses 50 rolls of toilet paper daily and annually 18,250 rolls. The TP is rationed to the clients: 8 to 9 sheets are bundled together for the client's use.

This is a great project for schools, churches, military and Girl Scout troops. It's a fun and inexpensive fundraiser that everyone can participate in. For more information please call Kathi Adkins at 297-5604.

### **Bean-A-Fits!**



Bean-A-Fits are a great way for business organizations, churches, and individuals to get people together, have some super soup, corn bread and good company while raising money for Bean's Cafe. We would like to encourage as many groups as possible to host a Bean-A-Fit. For more information call Kathi Adkins at 297-5604.



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 www.beanscafe.org

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

If you would like to be removed from the mailing list, please contact Kathi at 274-9595 or ohbeans@alaska.net

Sign up for Bean's Cafe email updates at BeansCafe.org



Bean's Cafe Board of Directors

Chairperson	Leslie Ellis
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Treasurer	Bernie Washington
Jacque Evans	Greg Cooke
George Laurito	Dianne Tarrant
Jimmy Smith	Mike Prozeralik
Marty Howard	Jimmy Hillig
	Pam Guerrero

The Staff at Bean's Cafe

Executive Director	James Crockett
Dir. of Development	Matt Kropke
Cafe Manager	Michael Bailey
Operations Manager	Kathi Adkins
Social Services Dir.	Maggie Carey
Jesuit Volunteers	Trevor Lane
	Catherine McGrain
Asst. Cafe Manager	Grady LeBlanc
Cooks	Allen Wells
	Gary Smith
Monitors	Charlie Kinneveauk
	Daniel Ayagariak
Inventory Control	Jamie Mark
	John Whitley

**Events & Projects**

*Candlelight Vigil*  
 10 am, December 21st

*Holiday Dinner*  
 1pm-3pm, December 25th

*"Best of the Beans"*  
*Soup Contest*  
 January 8, 2010

*18th Annual Health Fair*  
 Feb. 24, 2010 Need Volunteers

*16th Annual Empty Bowl Project*  
 March 13, 2010 at Egan Center

*Golf Tournament*  
 June 18th, 2010 @ O'Malley's on the Green

