

New client database software improves information, analysis

The volunteers and staff members who work with NAM's database will soon have a host of new tools to streamline data entry and to manage that information once it is collected.

NAM will begin the shift from the current database to ClientTrack software this summer. The plan is to have ClientTrack in place for the start of the new fiscal year Oct. 1, said Pampi Bartels, NAM Information Technology Director. Now, staff members are working to make the transition and to raise funds to help pay for the software.

"NAM's database, in many ways, is NAM," Bartels said. "Our ability to track and analyze information directly impacts client services, potential funding opportunities and our ability to respond to the community's needs."

"The volunteers and staff members who enter information into the database really are unsung heroes in NAM's operation," she said. "The database includes information that is used for service plans and recommendations, determining service needs and service outcomes, case management, grant and regulatory compliance, client eligibility and many other things."

Since the old software was installed five years ago, NAM has experienced tremendous growth and with that growth, the need for tracking information, generating reports and analyzing information has also increased. The old software doesn't meet the organization's present needs.

IT created a "dream team" of staff and volunteers to determine the data needs of each NAM program and to evaluate available software packages. The team met over six months. The effort was spearheaded by Sonja Smith who has volunteered at NAM for 13 years including time

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Sandra Lopez, from left, and daughter Sandy Marrero along with Alyseia Alegre and her father Jose Alegre recently helped prepare living quarters, including stuffed animals, for Interfaith Hospitality Network families at Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Community. The two families completed the program and returned to help others.

IHN grads return to help others

Many memories of their NAM experiences have faded for teenagers Alyseia Alegre and Sandy Marrero.

As they volunteered to help homeless families in NAM's Interfaith Hospitality Network, they considered whether they wanted their friends at area schools to know they also once were homeless. The girls decided it was ok because their story could help other people.

Alyseia and her father Jose Alegre and Sandy and her mother Sandra Lopez are graduates of NAM's Interfaith Hospitality Network for families in transition from homelessness. Recently the two families were at Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Community volunteering to help families who now are in the IHN program.

Jose was a single parent with two children in 1999 when he was in the IHN program. Today, he is a manager

with Wal-Mart. Sandra was a single parent in 1997 when her family was in IHN. Now, she owns her own cleaning company. Both have come a long way and both feel it is important to give back to the community that helped them.

Sandra's family was from New York. They relocated to Houston and her husband left. She found herself on the street after being put out of her apartment.

"I didn't know anybody here. I didn't want to wind up in a regular shelter with my daughter," Sandra said.

The apartment manager suggested she contact NAM. "I'd never been in that kind of situation before and I wanted to get out as soon as I could. This was not the kind of life I wanted and it pushed me even harder to get

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High food and fuel prices boost need for Pantry

We've all felt the impact of rising fuel costs and increasing food prices. Most of us just tighten our belts, so to speak, and dig a little deeper in our pocketbooks to cover the cost. The increases happen over time so we tend not to think about the ripple effect those costs can have.



Fuel costs go up, so trucking companies consolidate routes and lay off drivers. Companies that have products shipped, cut back orders and raise the prices on the items they sell. Fewer shipped goods also means a reduced need for warehouse workers. Corn is diverted from the food supply to make fuel so food products containing corn increase in price. The overall impact can be devastating on families who have trouble making ends meet during the best of economic times.

Maria G. came to NAM for the first time last week. Her husband works full

time, and they usually just manage to make ends meet. She said this summer, with rising gasoline and food prices, they are struggling to keep food on the table. Two of their four children can participate in the free lunch program during the school year, but now that school is out for the summer, Maria and her husband are struggling to provide those meals.

Terrence H. is a short-haul trucker who recently came to NAM for the first time. He has always been able to pay his bills and take care of his family. Because of rising fuel prices and the resulting downturn in the trucking industry, he hadn't worked in more than a month. Several of his bills were past due. NAM paid part of his rent, gave him a food order, enrolled his children in the Back-to-School project and gave referrals to other agencies for help with his utility bills. His prospects for the immediate future didn't look good with diesel prices hovering around \$5 a gallon.

The number of new people seeking NAM Food Pantry services each month is up by over 20 percent from January

through May. Pantry food purchases have nearly doubled to meet community needs while buying power is down. Last year, a case of beans cost \$4. That same case costs \$12 this year.

The community has always been generous in supporting NAM. Yet, the dollar value of food donated January through April has dropped over \$39,000 from last year. The number of Senior Food Program participants is up 20 percent and the number of Meals on Wheels Program participants who receive groceries is up over 16 percent.

We're seeing a big increase in demand for food. Many people who in the past donate food this time of year now need food themselves. More individuals have to decide between gasoline and food. If they don't put gas in their car, they can't get to their jobs. Without their jobs, they can't pay their rent and that could put their families on the street. There's that ripple effect again. Other families are making similar

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Correction

Information in the March issue of NAM Notes incorrectly referred to the Cultural Hall of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as the Kingdom Hall. The congregation is located at 16535 Kleinwood Drive and has for several years made its Cultural Hall available for NAM's Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.

NAM Statement of Activities for the 8 months ended 5/31/08 (unaudited)

Total Support and Revenues	\$6,092,113
Expenses	
Program services	\$5,317,344
Management and General	\$377,060
Fundraising and Development	\$188,566
Total Expenses	\$5,882,970
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$209,143

NAM's current fiscal year runs Oct. 1, 2007 to Sept. 30, 2008. In NAM's last fiscal year, 89 cents of every dollar went to direct services.

NAM Programs and Services

Assistance Office	281-583-5600	Workforce Development.....	281-885-4506
Children's Clinic	281-885-4630	NAM Resale Shop & Donation Centers	
Development	281-885-4605	FM 1960.....	281-897-8952
Donations Hotline	281-898-8398	Jones Road	281-880-9000
Family Violence Center	281-885-4673	Corner Resale Shop	281-885-4544
Interfaith Hospitality		Other agencies at NAM	
Network	281-885-4567	Harris Co. Soc. Services	281-885-4591
Meals on Wheels	281-885-4622	Harris Co. Hospital Dist.....	281-587-8596
Rotary Learning Center.....	281-885-4616	Even Start	281-586-1888
Senior Services	281-885-4600	Gulf Coast Community	
Shelter & Energy Assistance.	281-885-4531	Services	281-397-0176

NAM NOTES

Northwest Assistance Ministries
15555 Kuykendahl
Houston, TX 77090

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Jeans & Jewels luncheon offers mother-daughter styles

Jeans & Jewels...A Texas Size Party will present a Mother/Daughter Luncheon and Style Show benefiting Northwest Assistance Ministries on Thursday, Sept. 11, at Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road.

The style show will feature fashions from *Scruples* and *Romancing the Range*. Activities begin at 10:30 a.m. with a social hour followed by the program.

The master of ceremonies is Dana Tyson of Sunny 99.1 Radio. The luncheon honoree is Cindy Doyle.

Luncheon organizers include former and current gala co-chairs Margie Crump, Pauline Adams, Nita Bedford,

Kathy Carson, Peggy Jo Coker, Susan Diehl, Suzanne Ellis, Raelene Hill, Jackie Riley, Lou Shirley, Louise Slater, Kathy Stevens, Sue Stewart and Valerie vonBerg.

Luncheon tickets, tables and sponsorships are available. Individual tickets are \$50. Tables start at \$500 and go up to \$1,500. Tickets can be purchased online at www.namonline.org/jeansandjewels.

The Jeans and Jewels gala is set for Saturday, Oct. 18, at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott. The gala co-chairs are Nita Bedford and Susan Diehl. The honorees are Lindy and Steve Hamblin.

This year's gala raffle item



The Jeans & Jewels Raffle Committee held a kick-off party July 2. On hand for the event were, from left, gala honorees Lindy and Steve Hamblin, gala co-chair Susan Diehl, kick-off party hosts Susan and Art Byram, gala co-chair Nita Bedford, raffle co-chair Thelma Marsh and NAM President & CEO Carole Little. Raffle co-chairs are Marsh and Pam Hughes.

is a pendant and earring set designed by Gadi and donated by Thomas Markle Jewelers. The pendant is on a 20-inch gold chain and has a 4.75 CT fantasy cut garnet and it is surrounded by diamonds at .25ctw. Diamonds also surround 4.80 CT fantasy cut

garnets in each earring. The total value is \$6,200.

Pre-purchase gala raffle tickets are \$20 or 6/\$100. Only 5,000 tickets have been printed.

Call 281-885-4608 for luncheon or gala information.



Thomas Markle Jewelers staff members James Ward and Cathy Whitehead present the raffle prize to gala co-chairs Nita Bedford and Susan Diehl and NAM Events and Design Specialist Tanecia Snid. Thomas Markle donated the pendant and earring set featuring garnets and diamonds.

Sign up now for Team NAM

Registration for the marathon training program benefiting NAM will be 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Saturdays, July 12 and 19, at Meyer Park, south entrance. NAM is an official charity of the Chevron Houston Marathon. For information, email Marathon-TeamNAM@gmail.com or visit www.marathonteamNAM.org.

'Dinner with Dierker' men's event benefits NAM Endowment

NAM's Endowment Board is hosting "Dinner with Dierker," a men's only event to be held Wednesday, July 23, at Champions Golf Club, 13722 Champions Drive, featuring former Houston Astros' pitcher, manager and broadcaster Larry Dierker.

"Larry Dierker has been a headliner in the Houston community for more than 40 years," said Eddie Harrell, Endowment Board member and an organizer of the dinner.

"He was a great pitcher, manager and broadcaster for the Astros. He is also a columnist, author of two books and a good storyteller. We are fortunate to have his help in our efforts to raise money for NAM. This should be a very enjoyable evening."

Endowment Board Chair Pat Riley said, "The dinner is a unique way to spread the word about NAM to people who may not be contributing and let them know what NAM does.

We want them to understand NAM's value to the community and the importance of donating so NAM can continue providing services over the long term."

NAM helped over 103,000 people in need last year. The men's only event will benefit the NAM Endowment Fund which is designed to ensure the future services of NAM by providing a permanent source of income from endowed funds.

The dinner starts with cocktails at 6 p.m. followed by a 7 p.m. dinner. Individual tickets start at \$250. Table sponsorships are also available. Guests will each receive a signed copy of Dierker's book, "This Ain't Brain Surgery: How to Win the Pennant Without Losing Your Mind."

For tickets or table sponsorship information, call NAM Events and Design Specialist Tanecia Snid at 281-885-4608 or email tsnid@namonline.org.

Reaching out to NAM as a Development Volunteer

By Shatonya Watts

Being a Development Volunteer for Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM) has helped me learn more about NAM's services and projects and how it reaches out to the community. I can honestly say that I have become a more enriched volunteer because of my experience in NAM's Development Office and I hope that others will have the opportunity to share in this same experience.

I first began volunteering for NAM in September 2004 as a volunteer for the Second Chance Resale Shop on Saturdays. I continued to do this for three months. I then became a volunteer for NAM's business office during the following summer for two months. After that, I took a two-and-a-half year hiatus from NAM until a volunteer project that required a minimum of twenty hours of volunteering at a nonprofit agency prompted me to return in March 2008. It was then that I became a volunteer in the Development Office. My primary duties consisted of calling past and potential donors to schedule tours and do research on some potential corporate donors for NAM.

It was not until becoming a Development Volunteer that I knew the impact of corporate support for NAM. I worked most closely with Julie Anderson-Smith, the Corporate Liaison for NAM, who says that her primary duties include: increasing corporate giving, and educating corporations and businesses about NAM. The research that I performed was aimed at aiding her in carrying out her duties. "I look for corporate sponsors who have marketing objectives, then I match them up with programs



Shatonya Watts, a volunteer from Sam Houston State University, helped in NAM's Development Department.

that have a specific vision or a specific need," she said. NAM currently has over 100 corporate sponsors. The purpose of these tours is to keep these sponsors informed and educated about NAM and the impact of their support.

Development is not the only area in which there is a great need. NAM is always in need of volunteers.

"Volunteers are extremely important to NAM," said Maria Magee, Development Director, "Simply put, NAM could not carry out its mission without volunteers. We have over 2,000 volunteers and a paid staff of only 85. Not only do volunteers carry out much of our work in the community, they keep our administrative overhead very low."

According to Magee, the volunteers in the Development Office typically perform regular clerical duties, assist with the Jeans and Jewels gala, and introduce new individuals and companies that may be interested in volunteering for or donating to NAM.

To recruit new volunteers, Magee says that volunteer opportunities are advertised in NAM's newsletter, on NAM's website, in local papers, and

various Internet sites. Volunteer opportunities are also communicated to NAM's 48 covenant congregations, its service partners, business community partners, local school districts, and other community groups. "The Development

Now's the time to help neighbors

Continued from Page 2

decisions regarding their utility bills. NAM's Food Pantry can help, but the demand is quickly depleting our resources.

The problem isn't unique to north Houston. Pantries in the heart of California's wealthy Silicon Valley report a 20 percent increase in clients. The American Farm Bureau Federation Market Basket Survey tracks the cost of 16 basic food items. The cost of those basic items rose 8 percent or \$3.42 in the first quarter of the year. For example, five pounds of flour rose 69 cents, a dozen eggs rose 55 cents, and cheddar cheese increased 61 cents a pound. People throughout the country are dealing with rising costs.

The situation is serious and NAM's founding concept of neighbors helping neighbors is more important than ever.

Most families seeking help

Committee is comprised of 6 volunteers," Magee said, "Approximately 87 volunteers work in some capacity on the Jeans & Jewels gala."

So far, my experience as a Development Volunteer has gone extremely well. I am able to learn more about NAM and build better relationships and contacts. Because of this experience, I have a broadened interest in the field of nonprofit organizations and the services that they provide to the community.

If you think that you would be interested in becoming a volunteer for NAM, you may contact Linda Fullerton at 281- 885-4609 or email her at lfullerton@namoline.org.

at NAM would rather be self-sufficient. The current situation is especially difficult for families who have always paid their bills and taken care of themselves and who now are forced to seek assistance for the first time.

During this critical time, I hope area residents will consider sharing their resources with their less fortunate neighbors. People can help by donating food to the Pantry or conducting a food drive in their neighborhood, place of employment or congregation. Individuals can also donate cash via NAM's virtual food drive at www.namonline.org under Special Projects.

Sincerest thanks,

Carole Little

A + E = M

(Attitude + Effort = Mission)



Making Change project raises funds

Dr. Ralph Draper, left, Spring Independent School District Superintendent, and Regina Curry, Sisd Assistant Superintendent for Communications and Community Relations, right, recently presented a \$3,536.22 check to Maria Magee, Northwest Assistance Ministries Director of Development. The funds represent coins collected by Spring ISD elementary school students and staff through the Making Change Project sponsored by the school district, Bank of America and NAM. The project was designed to teach children the importance of fiscal management, saving money and giving back to the community.

Learning Center seeks literacy tutors

NAM's Rotary Learning Center is seeking qualified literacy tutors to volunteer their time to help adults with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and other learning disabilities.

A tutor's schedule can be flexible; however, a commitment to tutor at least twice a week is preferred.

The Center has specific needs for tutoring in the areas of spelling, grammar and composition. Interested

individuals should contact the Rotary Learning Center at 281-885-4626.

Sidelines with Sarah: The hopeful come to NAM

*By Sarah Fisk
Volunteer Assistance Counselor*

In the first five months of last year, NAM averaged 64 families new to NAM every month. This year, that number increased to 81 new families per month. In January through May of this year, NAM's food

Shot Blitz immunizes children in August

NAM's Children's Clinic will hold a Back to School Shot Blitz from Aug. 11 to Aug. 21 at the NAM building, fourth floor.

The clinic will offer the immunizations needed for children to attend area schools at a cost of \$10 per child, cash only. Parents are advised to bring their child's shot record so the clinic staff will know which shots the child needs. Cypress-Woodlands Junior Forum members are helping coordinate the event.

The program will operate from noon to 4 p.m. Aug. 11, 13, 15, 18 and 20; from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 14 and 21 and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 12 and 19. Call 281-885-4630 information.

Back-to-School Project seeks donations to help kids in need

Northwest Assistance Ministries is seeking cash donations to provide over 2,000 needy children with basic school supplies and clothing to help prepare them for school in the fall.

NAM is asking the community to support its 2008 Back-to-School Drive. Donations will help make a difference in the lives of area children in need. NAM needs a total of \$65,000 to pay for the project.

Educators say they can see the damaging impact low self esteem has on youngsters and their ability to succeed. For young people to start this school year feeling good about themselves and ready to learn, they need the required school supplies and clothing.

Supplies and clothing vouchers will be distributed to pre-screened families Aug. 16. Last year, NAM helped over 2,400 students from the

Spring, Klein, Aldine and Cy-Fair school districts with the support of donors like the Cypress-Woodlands Junior Forum.

NAM is seeking cash donations rather than contributions of clothing or supplies. Cash donations enable NAM to buy items pre-packaged by grade level, in bulk so the dollars help more children. A \$20 gift will provide school supplies for one student. A \$35 gift will provide clothing and shoes for one student and a \$55 gift will provide supplies, clothing and shoes for one student.

Donations can be made online through the virtual Back-to-School Drive at www.namonline.org under Special Projects or they may be sent to NAM, 15555 Kuykendahl Road, Houston, TX 77090. Donations also can be made by telephone via credit card by calling 281-885-4605.

donations to the food pantry were down by over \$39,000 in value while NAM's food pantry purchases nearly doubled.

Families come to NAM hoping for the best because most have not been able to provide for the worst. They all hope for NAM's help, such as last Tuesday when another client, new to NAM, sat in my office. A college educated woman and a foster parent, she had loaned her cousin a portion of her rent money for a burial and then lost her job.

Surprise, surprise...her cousin did not pay her back. And so, my client hoped NAM could help her. Yes, my client made a bad decision (who hasn't), yes, she assured me

that she had learned from it, and yes, she claimed that it was the first time she had been late with her rent. Her apartment manager confirmed that assertion. NAM was able to pledge a portion of her rent and give her food.

Every day NAM's Assistance offices are full of men and women who are struggling to pay bills, feed their children and stay out of debt to family and friends. To quote Helen Keller, "I am only one, but still I am one. I can't do everything, but I can do something." And so, many of us donate to NAM and volunteer at NAM. We give those who come to NAM a bit of hope. Maybe now is the time to "do" a little more.

New database software offers information tracking tools

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in the Assistance Program, the Rotary Learning Center, the Accounting Department and the IT Department. She taught Learning Center computer classes, and she wrote the training manual for the old database software.

“What I really like about NAM is that of the money that comes in...the vast majority goes back into the community. The staff is really conscious of making sure the money goes to meet community needs, and we took that into account when evaluating software,” she said.

“The old software was slow and tedious to use and it has poor reporting capabilities – that is, it is cumbersome for staff members to create reports from the information,” Smith said. “Entering information was extremely frustrating and time-consuming for volunteers and staff members.”

The old software doesn't

have a link between individuals and families or households. Each transaction requires nine entries and putting information about a mom and her eight children into the database requires 64 entries. The new software enables data entry people to put information about a mom and her eight children into the database one time with the software making the link between family members and duplicate or unduplicated records.

“The new software is a big leap forward in functionality and user friendliness,” Smith said.

“NAM's programs have different data tracking and reporting requirements and we had demonstrations of the different software packages on site to make sure they could address the needs of each program,” Bartels said. “We've seen ClientTrack do everything we need it to do.”

NAM will have an annual maintenance fee, but leasing the software means NAM can take advantage of ongoing software development, the company's online servers, security and data back-up. “In addition to the information tracking and case management capabilities, we expect the software to enable us to pursue new funding opportunities and to pay for itself in the long

term,” Bartels said.

For information on the database project or to volunteer, contact Bartels at 281-885-4598 or email pbartels@namonline.org. To make a donation to help pay for the software, contact NAM Development Director Maria Magee at 281-885-4605 or email mmagee@namonline.org.



Young adults help resale shop

Young adults from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints volunteered to help sort and price items at NAM's Resale Shop and Donation Center. The shop needs more volunteers. To sign up, call NAM Volunteer Coordinator Linda Fullerton at 281-885-4609, email her at lfullerton@namonline.org or go to www.namonline.org and click on 'I want to Volunteer.'

IHN grad: 'I feel grateful to have been given a second chance'

Continued from Page 1

out,” she said. “NAM gave me a lot of help when I needed it, financial support, emotional support when I needed it,” she said. “I thank God I wound up in this program.”

IHN program participants apply to participate in the program and they must demonstrate a willingness to address the issues that led to their homelessness, said Karen Weakly, IHN Program Director. Participants also receive drug and alcohol testing as well as background checks. The program operates in partnership with 18 of NAM's 48 Covenant Congregations. Those congregations provide a safe place for participants to

sleep, and they provide food and fellowship a week at a time. Program participants spend their days at NAM where they receive counseling, support, training, parenting and life skills and job search assistance.

Circumstances can force a middle class family onto the streets and cause them to move from shelter to shelter. Traditional shelters can be unsafe and unstable. “This program is different. I was lucky. They make you feel so comfortable, so like family,” she said. “I wound up in this church (Christ the Good Shepherd) and it was like seeing the light again...I volunteer time to give a little bit back because

of what they gave me when I needed it. Also I can be an example that you can get out of here and do well. Helping people is a good thing.”

Jose had relocated to Houston from California with his two children. “I'd found work, but it wasn't sufficient to support my family,” he said. “I was working two jobs, 40 hours each, and couldn't maintain a roof over our heads. I was at my wits end caring for my daughter.” The Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints referred him to NAM.

IHN provided a time to regroup and heal. The program provides for basic needs. “What you earned you could put it aside so you had enough

funds to make that step into your own place,” Jose said. When he was ready to make the move, NAM helped with the furnishings.

Now, he volunteers when he has time available from his work schedule.

“I speak with other families and let them know there is light at the end of that tunnel. If you focus on what you need to do, you can be successful,” Jose said. “With NAM, the opportunity is there. If there wasn't a program like NAM, who knows where we'd be today. If you support NAM, people will be helped and I'm an example of it. I feel grateful to have been given a second chance.”

NAM's Wish List

Donations of cash or in-kind donations welcome.

Organization Needs

Payment for the first phase of development of a phenomenal new client database software to help volunteers and staff (\$14,000)

Development Department

Digital video camcorder (\$500)
Adobe Creative Suite 3 Software Design Standard (\$400)
Corporate sponsor for Annual Report (\$10,000)

Food Pantry

Nonperishable Food Items especially dry pasta, rice and dry beans (900 families per month)

Building Maintenance

Walk Behind Automatic Floor Scrubber - 28-inch (\$7,000)
Upgraded security monitoring (\$15,000)
New Box Truck for IHN, Food Pantry and Resale Shops (\$45,000)
Relamp and Clean Marquee (\$5,000)
Upgrade landscape sprinkler system (\$15,000)
New carpet on 2nd floor hallways, 3rd floor clinic file room, 4th floor learning center (\$15,000)
New tile (\$25,000)
Clean and seal four air handlers (\$30,000)
Expand parking lot to add 200 parking spaces (\$450,000)
Replace window gasket system on entire building (\$1,000,000)

Business Office

Heavy duty paper shredder (\$2,000)

Interfaith Hospitality Network

Toiletries/hygiene items (15-20 items monthly/ \$150)
Baby clothes/bottles/blankets/wipes/bath tubs (\$200)
2 new large capacity washing machines (\$700)
2 new large capacity dryers (\$700)

15 Pillows quarterly (\$75)
5 sets of towels quarterly – face, hand and large bath towels (\$100)
Computer for families (\$500)
Printer for families (\$300)
2 Bassinets (\$200)

Family Violence Center

6 Matching Rolling Desk Chairs for Hotline (\$200 each)
Toy box for waiting room (\$70)
Construction to divide group room
4 5-drawer metal filing cabinets (\$200)
Lighting added to hallway
Photo printer with color photo viewer and SD memory card reader. (\$250)
Used cell phones for 911 access, no service required
Full-size toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, etc.)
Manila Paper (\$5)
“Don't Pop Your Cork” book series by Adolph Moser (\$100)
Punching Bag (\$80)
Soft mood music for kids to relax by (\$15)
Nerf bat and ball (\$10)
Miniature castle with princess and prince (\$30)

Fifty Plus Senior Center

Van drivers, especially on Fridays
Senior Wheels volunteer drivers
Ride-along volunteers to assist drivers on Wednesdays and Fridays
Back-up bingo caller
Dart baseball board (\$400)

Meals on Wheels

Coolers - 28 or 32 size (25 @ \$17 each)
Volunteer drivers

Information Technology

Surge protectors for workstations/equipment, (Belkin - 3540 joules rating) - 30 (\$1,200)
Server – (\$6,500)
Telephone system - NAM – (\$75,000)
Ten flat panel monitors (\$5,500)

Children's Clinic

Baby wipes (\$250)
Shelving for medical records (\$750)

Antibiotic ointment (\$300)
Syringes for Shot Blitz (\$250)
Tylenol, antibiotic ointment and misc. small clinic drugs (\$100)
Bicycle Helmets (50 @ \$20 each)
Breathing treatment medication (\$100-\$300 each month)
Moving file cabinets in Clinic file room so it can be recarpeted (\$1,200)
Bilingual volunteers

Rotary Learning Center/Workforce Development

2 locking file cabinets (\$1,000)
New PCUs in the computer lab (30 computers @ \$600 each)
Sheetrock to build room divider (\$500)

Rosetta Stone licenses (\$200 each)

Resale Shops

Copy machine (\$600)
Rolling racks (16-20 racks @ \$75 each)
Shopping carts (30-40 carts at \$400 each)

Shelter & Energy Assistance

Battery-operated doorbell or buzzer for office
Paint and labor to repaint the office walls
Four large screen computer monitors
TV/DVD player to show training videos to clients



Caldwell Companies staff members donated over 6,000 food items and \$1,024 in cash to help NAM's Food Pantry this summer. NAM Corporate Liaison Julie Anderson-Smith, right, accepts a check from Rebecca Thompson, Caldwell Companies HR/Payroll Coordinator. The office drew names for teams and turned the food drive into a contest.



KB Home again donated furniture from two model homes to NAM. On hand to move the furniture were Julia Hashaw, NAM Resale Shop Manager; NAM Corporate Liaison Julie Anderson-Smith and KB Home representative Jennifer Botts.



Northwest Nazarene Church, 6819 Louetta Road, has become NAM's 48th supporting Covenant Congregation.

Corporate & Foundation gifts

All Seasons
Carl C. Anderson Sr. & Marie Jo Anderson Foundation
The Brown Foundation
Cardinal Health
Cypress Woodlands Junior Forum
Ray C. Fish Foundation
Greater Houston Community Foundation
Handyman Jim
Houston Endowment Inc.
HP Invent Corporation

Kinder Morgan Foundation
Labrada Nutrition
John P. McGovern Foundation
The Methodist Hospital
Shell Oil Company
Simmons Foundation
Spring Klein Electrical Company
The Strake Foundation
STUP Commercial Realty
Valero Energy Foundation
Willowbrook Rotary Foundation

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Fingers

Houston's #1 Furniture Store

Finger Furniture celebrated the opening of its new-concept store in Willowbrook by donating \$35,000 to Northwest Assistance Ministries.

The Finger Furniture donation was based on a percentage of sales from the Willowbrook store's first month of business.

NAM cuts ribbon on new Resale Shop on Jones Road

Friends, staff, customers and Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce members cut the ribbon at the June 27 opening of NAM's Resale Shop and Donation Drop-off Center at 10505 Jones Road at Fallbrook.

The new location offers 10,500 square feet of store space with parking and easy access for shoppers. The shop was previously located at Highway 249 and FM 1960.

"Our customers should find the new store easier and safer to access because we are located at a traffic light," said Julia Hashaw, NAM Resale Store manager. "We are in a free-standing building so the parking is much more convenient. We are close enough to the old location to continue serving our existing customers while attracting new ones."

The new location has a lot of traffic, is surrounded



NAM President & CEO Carole Little, left, and NAM Executive Board Chairman Andrew S. Cochrane were on hand along with Cy-Fair Chamber members to opening NAM's new Resale Shop and Donation Drop-off.

by homes and the area is still growing which makes it a great location for NAM, she said.

Resale shop sales fund approximately 17 percent of NAM's operating budget. NAM provides vouchers to qualifying families in need so they can get clothing and household items at no cost at

the resale shops. The shops are also open to the public where shoppers can get great deals on clothing, artwork jewelry, furniture, household items and other things.

NAM also operates the Corner Resale Shop inside NAM's main facility at 15555 Kuykendahl, as well as the

Resale Shop, Donation Drop-off and Distribution Center on FM 1960.

The resale shops have a need for regular volunteers to help sort and price donated items. To volunteer, call Linda Fullerton at 281-885-4609 or visit www.namonline.org and click on "I want to volunteer."