



Interfaith Hospitality Network Director Karen Weakly thanks Jerry Blaker for donating the dollhouse he built to the IHN program. IHN guests Phoebe Hearn and Margaret Kayia Fryar look on admiringly.

Building dreams with dollhouse

Jerry Blaker builds homes and fosters dreams.

The Spring business consultant designs and constructs dollhouses as a hobby. He donated his latest project to NAM's Interfaith Hospitality Network for families in transition from homelessness.

"We have different families from different places who are guests in our program for different reasons. I've already seen the children from these different backgrounds play together and

build a family through the dollhouse," said Karen Weakly, IHN Director.

Jerry said, "I love kids, especially kids who haven't had a stable situation. A dollhouse is the essence of a home. Boys as well as girls play with the dollhouses. They make up stories and decide what should be in the rooms. The kids can dream about the home they'd like to have."

Jerry started building dollhouses when his daughter was born in the

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Planned gifts leave a legacy for the future

Husband and wife Jack and M.J. Hardison had never had wills, but after careful consideration, they crafted wills to make sure their wishes are carried out after they are gone.

"You reach a point in your life when you start thinking about what will happen when you're not here. It is the prudent thing to do," Jack said.

The Hardisons included a bequest to the NAM Endowment Fund in their wills. "We determined the things we wanted to support along with our family. We wanted to benefit individuals and families not only now, but into the future. We considered organizations that benefit people the most, from our perspective," Jack said.

The Hardisons, long-time Spring residents, were familiar with NAM as volunteers, as members of a supporting covenant congregation and as donors. Jack worked as an executive in the oil and gas industry before starting a second career in the non-profit sector. Now, Jack is NAM's Congregational Liaison. "We've seen first hand the good work NAM does. NAM's base of support is broad. Its work is recognized for being beneficial. NAM's work will continue in the future, and it will need even more support," Jack said.

M.J. said, "NAM touches so many lives in so many ways...it's not one-dimensional. We wanted to do what we can to ensure that work goes on. There will be a demand well into the future for NAM services and for NAM to be there to meet that demand, it will need support. We want to do our small part to see that it continues."

The Hardisons' bequest is only one type of planned gift that can be made to NAM's Endowment Fund, said Maria Magee,

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A Day in the Life of a Non-profit CEO

Have you ever wondered about a day in the life of a non-profit CEO? NAM is a large, multi-program social service agency and NAM's CEO must wear many hats. Take a virtual walk with NAM's President & CEO Carole Little through a typical day at the office...



Monday

5:00 AM – 7:00 AM: Conference Call Professional Development. Non-profit CEOs must stay informed of best practices in their fields. Education is a lifelong process.

7:00 AM – 7:55 AM: To take advantage of the long morning commute, she enables the “hands free” feature on her cell phone to begin making calls to various staff:

- Call Building Superintendent regarding replacing carpet in the 2nd floor Conference Room. The room is desperately

needed and has been out of commission since the toilet overflowed from the floor above. Work needs to be approved before he can start, but there's no money in the budget. Building maintenance is not the most glamorous part of the job, but it is critical to the well being of NAM staff, clients, volunteers and visitors.

- Contact Director of Development regarding article for upcoming newsletter.
- Find a donor willing to help pay for new carpet.

7:55 AM: Arrive at NAM and answer email and voice mail. Forward appropriate calls to various staff alerting them of upcoming funding trend messages. Review and sign contract for A/C Contractor.

- Consult with HR. NAM out-sources its Human Resources function to Admini-staff. NAM's CEO has seven direct reports including Grants, Administration, and is responsible ultimately for all 85 staff members and more than 2,000 volunteers.

9:10 AM: Schedule Board and Development Committee meetings. NAM's

CEO reports to and works closely with the Executive Board, The Endowment Board and the Board of Trustees and coordinates their various committees.

9:12 AM: Briefly coordinate with a Program Director regarding foundation site visit scheduled today at 10:00 AM.

9:14 AM: Review draft grant proposals and authorize completed grant requests. Foundation and government grants account for 28% of NAM's \$9 million budget. The CEO is the chief fundraiser for the organization and responsible for meeting budget each year. The majority of her time is spent visiting with foundations, requesting funding, and reporting on how funds were used.

9:28 AM: Check mail, review two funding rejection letters, route request from a former donor who no longer wishes to be on mailing list. Do a follow up.

9:35 AM: Brief meeting with Director of Development regarding check presentation with corporate donor.

9:37 AM: Visit with Director of IHN - Caldwell Companies demolishing kitchen in preparation for a complete makeover. Site visit with representatives of the National Center for Family Violence and homelessness.

9:30 AM: Quick email to affirm obtain-
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NAM Statement of Activities for the 4 months ended 1/31/08 (unaudited)

Total Support and Revenues	\$3,074,722
Expenses	
Program services	\$2,709,209
Management and General	\$188,991
Fundraising and Development	\$99,548
Total Expenses	\$2,997,748
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$76,974

NAM's current fiscal year runs Oct. 1, 2007 to Sept. 30, 2008. In NAM's last fiscal year, 90 cents of every dollar went to direct services.

NAM Programs and Services

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




NAM NOTES

**Northwest Assistance Ministries
15555 Kuykendahl
Houston, TX 77090**

NAM Notes is the newsletter of Northwest Assistance Ministries. NAM Notes is published periodically throughout the year.

Carole Little	President & CEO
Rita Fryer	Chief Financial Officer
Maria Magee	Development Director
Alma Duldulao-Ybarra	Director of Service Programs
Randy Cypret	Editor

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Planned gifts help provide for NAM's future

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NAM Development Director.

"Planned gifts are a wonderful way to leave a legacy to NAM through the Endowment Fund, and they also offer tax benefits for the donor's family," Maria said.

NAM's Endowment Fund Board of Directors created the Legacy Society to recognize individuals and families who make planned gifts benefiting the NAM Endowment.

Planned gifts are non-cash gifts that include appreciated securities, bequests, life insurance policies, and retirement assets. NAM President & CEO Carole Little became the first member of the Legacy Society through her gift of a life insurance policy. The Hardisons are

the second members.

The Endowment Fund was created to enhance NAM's financial stability and to ensure the future of NAM's programs and services.

The NAM Endowment Fund Board has pursued those goals with a variety of activities and initiatives, with the goal of providing NAM with a permanent source of income in the future.

"We hope that others see that NAM's need is not just a right now need. The need for support will continue," Jack said.

For information on the Legacy Society and making a planned gift, contact Magee at mmagee@namonline.org or at 281-885-4605.



Planned giving donors M.J. and Jack Hardison

Save the Date for the annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon Thursday, April 17

at the Kingdom Hall, The Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints, 16535 Kleinwood



Community marks NAM's Silver anniversary

The community celebrated NAM's 25th anniversary Feb. 10 with an Inter-faith Service held at Cypress Creek Christian Church. Service participants included Dr. Glenn Wilkerson, NAM President & CEO Carole Little, Rabbi Robert Sharff, Cantor Jane Kliakhandler, Rabbi Seymour Rossel and Rev. Stewart McColl.

Planned Giving Options

Gifts of Bequests

Your will is the easiest way to distribute your estate. By having your attorney create or revise your existing will, you can provide for the needs of your loved ones as well as choose how you would like to help NAM through the Endowment Fund.

You can leave a bequest of a certain dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or of the remainder of your estate after you have taken care of your loved ones.

Gifts of Life Insurance

A life insurance policy can be used to make a gift to the NAM Endowment Fund. Designating NAM as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy is an excellent method of demonstrating your philanthropic beliefs and fulfilling your legacy as a caring member of the community.

You may name the NAM Endowment Fund as the owner and beneficiary of a new or existing policy.

Gifts of Retirement Assets

Your largest asset may be your retirement plan — your 401(k), Keough, or other such accounts. Name the NAM Endowment Fund as the beneficiary of your retirement plan, and use other assets (not subject to income tax) to make gifts to your heirs.

The IRS considers the balance left in your retirement account to be untaxed income. The income tax is in addition to estate tax on the account balance. For estates fully subject to the estate tax, up to 75% of the value of the retirement plan can be consumed in taxes before the beneficiary receives it.

Planning your estate and your charitable gift enables you to maximize your estate's value.

CEO handles a variety of roles, issues throughout the day

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ing a letter of corporate support needed from a foundation in order to consider a grant proposal.

9:40 AM: Quick email to confirm future Development Planning meeting with staff.

9:43 AM: Review program services management and tasks as program accountability shifting to me as Program Director goes on intermittent medical leave for 5 months. The buck always stops with the CEO. When one of her key management staff is gone, she must find a way to cover their duties – even if that means doing it herself.

9:50 AM: Review more bids with Building Services regarding cost to replace carpet in main Conference Room. Cannot afford to do hallway as bid doesn't include the installation.

9:53 AM: Send off thank you note to major donor. This is a fun part of the job. NAM's

donors make our work possible, and it is a joy to thank them.

9:55 AM: Quick hello to seniors in Fifty Plus.

10:01 AM: Quick email to IT.

10:10 AM: Site visit begins.

10:59 AM: Sign timesheets and route to payroll. Routine paperwork can take up a lot of time.

11:10 AM: Call to major foundation requesting an extension to expend unused funds.

11:11 AM: Consult with HR regarding Policy and Procedures for employee benefits.

11:15 AM: Answer emails.

11:20 AM: Consult with Fifty Plus Director.

11:21 AM: Troubleshoot login issues for Staff Development session in one hour. Our staff continually participate in professional development

activities. NAM never has enough funding for training, but we try to provide as much as we can so our staff can maintain and enhance their skills.

11:55 AM – 12:40 PM: Visit as many program areas as possible before a quick lunch at the desk.

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM: Staff Development session.

2:00 PM: Return calls.

2:20 PM: Negotiate, review, execute and fax over agreement to Staffing Co. to hire Resale employee.

2:30 PM: Answer emails and return phone calls to staff, donors, board members and congregations.

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM: Staff Development Session.

4:15 PM – 5:00 PM: Review, revise, and authorize grants. Approve pending requests for payments and return emails.

5:00 PM: Commute home. Return call to foundation. Foundation has changed funding focus to encompass single

woman and at risk children.

An explanation of Family Violence Center Services and Interfaith Hospitality Network yields a decision to fund Family Violence Center. Will inform grants writers to submit proposal.

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM: Answer emails to staff, funders and board members.

8:00 PM – 9:00 PM: Teleconference.

9:00 PM – 10:00 PM: Thank you letters to donors and newsletter article.

10:00 PM – 11:00 PM: Review daughter's homework, do dinner dishes, fold laundry, make tomorrow's lunches and take out dog.

It's all in a day's work here at NAM! The life of a non-profit CEO may seem challenging, but the rewards are priceless. Seeing a needy family receive much-needed service, watching the smiles of volunteers hard at work, witnessing staff grow and develop professionally, and thanking generous benefactors are deeply fulfilling.

SOS Project needs your help

John walked into NAM's Food Pantry seeking food. He was homeless and hungry. Over time he visited the pantry for food and resale shop vouchers for clothing.

Volunteers built a relationship and eventually learned where the man had set up his "home" in the woods. John didn't visit the pantry for a while, but eventually he returned to tell the volunteers about his success. "I could tell people at NAM cared about me," he said.

NAM's assistance enabled him to survive while he got training. With a skill, he was able to get a job and with the a job, he could get a bed and a roof over his head.

Donating food or cash to NAM's pantry may seem like a little thing, but it means hope for the future and a new start at life. NAM's Art for the Hungry competition at Willowbrook Mall March 30-April 13 kicks off the Survival Over the Summer Project (SOS) to help the needy get through the summer.

Help the SOS Project and donate to our virtual food drive at www.namonline.org under Special Projects. You also can mail cash or drop food off at NAM's Food Pantry.

Contact NAM Events and Design Specialist Tanecia Snid at tsnid@namonline.org or call 281-885-4608 for more information.



Valero Energy Corp. donates golf proceeds

Valero Energy's Director of Public Affairs Fred Newhouse, left, presents a \$21,000 check to NAM Development Director Maria Magee. NAM volunteer Joe Ellis was also on hand representing Tim Glasgow, a former Valero employee who nominated NAM for the award. Valero awarded grants from its Valero Texas Open Golf Tournament to 13 Houston charities.

Interfaith Quilting Bee participants donate 292 quilts

The 12th annual Interfaith Quilting Bee, "A Gift of Hope," benefiting NAM drew quilters from 24 groups who produced 292 quilts.

The Quilting Bee is a coalition of volunteers dedicated to creating quilts for families in need, said Becky Black, Quilting Bee Chairman. The Quilting Bee was held at the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints' Kingdom Hall on Saturday, Feb. 16.

Approximately 220 attended the event. New groups participating this year included LDS Maplewood 2nd Ward, Tizertom Quilt Club, Cub Scout Pack 293 – Wolf Den 1, Chartered by Faith United Methodist Church, Deseret Homeschoolers and Northside Christian Church.

Community quilters have created 2,116 quilts since the project began. Last year, quilters from 22 congregations and community groups participat-



NAM Interfaith Hospitality Network Director Karen Weakly was at the Quilting Bee to accept the quilts from Quilting Bee Chair Becky Black.

ed. The quilts will be donated to NAM programs including the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN), Meals on Wheels, the Children's Clinic and the Family Violence Center.

Many quilters work on projects throughout the year and gather every February to display their work, meet other quilters, enjoy a lunch and hear

more the importance of their donations.

People can participate in next year's bee by donating quilting supplies, volunteering to assist other quilters or sponsoring their own quilt. Quilt sizes may range from lap quilts measuring 30 inches by 36 inches up to king quilts that are 100 inches by 92 inches. Quilts

may be quilted or tied.

Civic or religious organizations, businesses or individuals are welcome to participate. Groups that sponsor their own quilt will design the quilt top and complete it before the event. A few pieced quilt tops have been donated for use by quilting groups.

"The Interfaith Quilting Bee is truly a symbol of the mission of NAM, which strives to meet basic human needs through neighbors helping neighbors," said Carole Little, NAM President & CEO.

"The quilting bee goal is to create a heartfelt gift that provides warmth and security to the recipients. What better expression of love for our neighbors in need?"

For information and photos of last year's event, visit the web site <http://tc3.hccs.edu/publicservice1/>.

Sidelines with Sarah Fisk:

What happened next?

I have been volunteering at NAM for over 20 years. Most of the time I don't know what happens to my clients after they leave my office. Sometimes I get to find out.

Recently a client walked into my office needing food. She had missed some work because of illness and, after paying her bills, she had no money until her next pay check. As I updated her file, her answers sounded familiar. I asked if I had seen her before and she smiled and said, "Yes, you helped me with my rent last year when I first started my job. I'm now a manager and taking managerial classes."

I remembered that she had a daughter in college. My client told me that her daughter graduated and now planned to be a pediatrician. She said, "I'm so proud of her." I am proud of both of them.

My second client was an accountant who quit her job, thinking she would get a new job before her mortgage came due... it didn't happen. And so, she found herself sitting in my office, asking for help. She had no savings because she was trying to pay down very high credit card bills. I suggested that she cut up those cards. The advice was so foreign to her that she kept asking "cut up all

my credit cards?" and I kept saying, "Yes. All of them." NAM pledged help with her mortgage.

She called the next day to thank NAM, but added that she was hired for a job with an excellent salary so didn't need NAM's help with her mortgage. She also said, "And tell Sarah I cut up my credit cards."

We, as NAM Assistance Interviewers, hope that our clients are able to restart their lives after coming to NAM. That is what NAM expects from its clients. That is what I expect as a volunteer.

Volunteer orientation schedule changes

The schedule for volunteer orientation sessions is temporarily changing meeting times this spring.

Orientations will be held at 8:45 a.m. and at 5:30 p.m. on March 20, April 10, May 15, and July 17.

The sessions will be held only at 8:45 a.m. on April 3, May 1, and July 3.

No open orientations will be held in June.

For information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Jamie Hartwell at 281-885-4609 or at jhartwell@namonline.org. Information is also on NAM's website, www.namonline.org.

Dollhouse helps kids have fun

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1970s in New Orleans. “She never played with it, but my sister and her kids played with the dollhouses all the time,” Jerry said. After the children outgrew them, he continued to build dollhouses and sell them in the French Quarter. “I made enough to pay for tools,” he said.

After relocating to Houston, he built the dollhouses for his grandchildren. Eventually, his grandchildren all had dollhouses, and he still wanted to pursue his hobby. He was familiar with NAM through his bicycle club, the Bent Sprockets. The group goes wassailing during the December holiday season and donates the proceeds – \$9,500 over the last five years – to NAM. “I like the idea of what NAM does,” he said. He donated the house to NAM’s Interfaith Hospitality Network. “I thought I could maybe make a little difference

there,” he said.

Jerry usually spends about 300 hours on each house. He developed the house he donated from a photo in a magazine. “I made this one open in the back, wide and tall so a lot of kids could get at it at the same time,” he said.

“I love the idea of my dollhouse being used by kids who don’t have a lot so they have an opportunity to play with it and just be kids,” he said.

Along with the dollhouse, Jerry’s wife Nancy, with the help of the Champion Forest Garden Club, donated over \$200 worth of dollhouse furniture.

Club members and other community residents have expressed interest in continuing to help Jerry and Nancy collect furniture and materials for this and other potential dollhouse projects that enable kids to just be kids.

Team NAM, marathoners raise over \$15,000 at Chevron Houston Marathon

Team NAM participants and other runners at the Chevron Houston Marathon and Aramco Half Marathon raised over \$15,000 to support NAM programs and services.

Team NAM is a marathon training program that starts in the summer and continues through the actual marathon. The team is coached by volunteers Leland Anderson, Andrew Chow and Lynn Wilson. This is the first year NAM has been an official marathon charity.

Team NAM members include: Margo Alford, Tim Ballew, Brandi Bliss, Barbara Brown, Lisa Burnett, Trey Burnett, Reyna Cabrera, Carolyn Cochrane, Lara Crouch, Howard Decker, Christine

Dice, Helen Fiore, Alex Flores, Kathleen Grant, Suzi Guenin, Amanda Hardwick, Galen Hedlund, John Hemphill, Norma Holleman, Matt Horak, Molly Hudson, Jo Anne Hudson, Shelly Jackson, Joan Johnson, Manette Maddox, Chowdary Marri, Jay McManus, Sandy McManus, Dave McRoberts, Karen McRoberts, Jackie Mills, Natalie Moloney, Brooks Myers, Kate Price, Donna Rebhorn, Karen Robertson, Roger Souders, Barb Velotas, Mike Velotas, Stacy Vollands, Kevin Warman, and Mary Willis.

The coaches plan to conduct the training program for the 2009 marathon. For information, contact Chow at MarathonTeamNam@gmail.com.



NAM Executive Board Chairman Andrew Cochrane, NAM President & CEO Carole Little and NAM Resale Shop Manager Julia Hashaw along with members of the Houston Northwest, Cy-Fair Houston and Greater Greenspoint Chambers of Commerce were among the crowd celebrating the grand opening of NAM’s resale shop on FM 1960 between Walters Road and T.C. Jester in the Incredible Pizza shopping center.



Spring ISD’s Clark Primary School Principal Debbie Klemcke, left, and students Joslynn White, Phillip Hill, Christopher Spooner and Farris Ricks listen to Bank of America Vice President Trudy Nix explain the Making Change Program. The program is a collaboration between NAM, Bank of America and Spring ISD and is designed to teach children about money management and philanthropy. A portion of the proceeds will go to NAM’s Back to School Project.



Finger Furniture Executive Vice President Mike Even, left, presents a \$35,000 check to Northwest Assistance Ministries Director of Development Maria Magee, NAM Corporate Liaison Julie Anderson-Smith and NAM President & CEO Carole Little at the company’s new Willowbrook store at 17355 Tomball Parkway. The company donated a percentage of sales from the store’s first month of business to NAM.

NAM's Wish List

Donations of cash or in-kind donations welcome.

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 (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)
2 large Crockpots (\$100)
3 sets of silverware (\$50)
3 sets of dinnerware – plates, bowls, etc. (\$150)
15 Pillows quarterly (\$75)
5 sets of towels quarterly – face, hand and large bath towels (\$100)

Educational DVD's – math, reading etc. – for all grades (\$70 each)
Computer for families (\$500)
Printer for families (\$300)
1 year subscription to children's magazines (\$80)
2 Bassinets (\$200)

Family Violence Center

6 Matching Rolling Desk Chairs for Hotline (\$200 each)
Toy Box/Toys for Visitors (\$15)
Construction to divide group room
4 5-drawer metal filing cabinets (\$200)
Puppet Theatre
Manila Paper
"Don't Pop Your Cork" book series by Adolph Moser (\$5)
Dinosaurs Divorce book by Laurene Brown and Mark Brown (\$5)
Punching Bag (\$25)
Soft mood music for kids to relax by (\$10)
Nerf bat and ball (\$10)
Bendable family for doll house (\$10)
The Talking, Feeling, Doing board game by Richard Gardner (\$15)
The Talking, Feeling, Doing card games for anger, good behavior and divorce published by Childswor/ Childsplay (\$15)
Paint (\$10)
Miniature castle with princess and prince (\$25)

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)

Children's Clinic

Stickers to reward patients (\$250)
Shelving for medical records (\$750)
Antibiotic ointment (\$300 worth of individual tubes to go home with patients)
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)

Shelter & Emergency Assistance

Six 17-inch flat screen color LCD computer monitors (\$2,100)
Laptop computer (\$1,000)

Information Technology

Surge protectors for workstations/equipment, (Belkin - 3540 joules rating) - 30 (\$1,200)
Printers - 10 (\$2,000)
Server – (\$6,500)
Workstations - \$700 ea. 10 @ \$7,000; OR Thin clients, \$500 ea.; 10 @ \$5,000
Telephone system - NAM – (\$75,000)
Volunteers - priceless!

Resale Shops

Copy machine (\$600)
Rolling racks (16-20 racks @ \$75 each)
Shopping carts (30-40 carts at \$400 each)
Gently used items: furniture, houseware items, dishes, small appliances, linens, toys, books, clothes.
Volunteers

Meals on Wheels

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

Rotary Learning Center/Workforce Development

2 locking file cabinets (\$1,000)
New PCUs in the computer lab (30 computers @ \$600 each)



H-E-B Director of Public Affairs Cyndy Garza-Roberts, H-E-B Regional Vice President Tom Jarvis, NAM's Corporate Liaison Julie Anderson-Smith, H-E-B Houston Division President Scott McClelland and H-E-B General Manager David Hamilton from H-E-B Vintage Park presented NAM with a \$5,000 check in honor of the store's grand opening.



Newfield Exploration's Chairman, President & CEO David Trice and Newfield employees volunteered for NAM's Holiday Project and helped sort gifts for children. Newfield is also a major corporate donor supporting NAM programs and services at the \$35,000 level.

Corporate & Foundation gifts

A-OK Transmission
Bank of Texas
Baylor Methodist Community Health Fund
Hubert E. Clift Foundation
Compass Bank
ConocoPhillips
Discount Tire
DorBarLeo Foundation, Inc.
ExxonMobil Foundation
God's Share Foundation
The Hamill Foundation
J.R. Gandy and Company

KB Home
Lane Furniture
Looper Foundation
The Lyons Foundation
The Methodist Hospital
New York Mercantile Exchange
Healthcare and Nursing Education Foundation
Lulu Bryan Rambaud Charitable Trust
St. Mary Land & Exploration
Salners Family Foundaion
Union Pacific Foundation
The Edith and Robert Zinn 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.

Literacy Carnival offers children books, games and entertainment April 5

The Reading Road Trip Literacy Carnival will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 5, at the Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM) playground, 15555 Kuykendahl.

The Junior League of North Harris and South Montgomery Counties, Inc. in partnership with NAM is sponsoring the free event which is designed to be a day of fun, food, games and books for children and their families.

Festivities include food, books, a storyteller, clowns, story-book characters, a petting zoo, face painting, moonwalks, music, a fire truck and more. Most games and booths promote literacy, and each child who attends will receive several free books.

The Junior League of North Harris and South Montgomery Counties, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

NAM's Rotary Learning Center offers courses in General Educational Development (GED) test preparation, English as a Second Language, reading skills development, computer classes and American Civics for U.S. citizenship testing.

The carnival rain date is April 12. For information, call NAM's Rotary Learning Center at 281-885-4616.



MOW receives improvements

NAM's Meals on Wheels Director Cheryl Green thanks John Carson, Chairman of Brookstone - Construction Managers and Building Contractors, for the new awning outside MOW and improvements to the inside offices that unified the space and provided better access. Carson is a longtime supporter of NAM and plans upgrades to the Interfaith Hospitality Network restroom facilities.