2007 RUDY BRUNER AWARD
PROJECT DATA
St. Leonard's Ministries

The Michael Barlow Center
2120 W. Warren Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60612

Rebuilding lives through education & employment
St. Leonard's Ministries
Michael Barlow Center

Abstract

Project Data
Project Description

Perspective Sheets

Visual Representation of the Project

Supplementary Information
PROJECT DATA

Please answer questions in space provided. Applicants should feel free to use photocopies of the application forms if needed. If possible, answers to all questions should be typed or written directly on the forms. If the forms are not used and answers are typed on a separate page, each answer must be preceded by the question to which it responds, and the length of each answer should be limited to the area provided on the original form.

Project Name Michael Barlow Center
Location 2120 W. Warren Blvd.
Owner St. Leonard's Ministries - 2100 W. Warren Blvd., Chgo 60612
Project Use(s) Education, training, counseling & job development center
Project Size 18,460 sq. feet
Total Development Cost $3,000,000
Annual Operating Budget (if appropriate) $460,000
Date Initiated summer of 2004
Percent Completed by December 1, 2006 100%
Project Completion Date (if appropriate) Full staffing in summer 05
Attach, if you wish, a list of relevant project dates see attached list

Application submitted by:
Name Bob Dougherty
Title Executive Director
Organization St. Leonard's Ministries
Address 2100 W. Warren Blvd.
City/State/Zip Chicago, IL 60612
Telephone (312) 738-1414 (x/13)
Fax (312) 738-1417
E-mail slhouse@comcast.net
Weekend Contact Number (for notification): 773/374-3991

Key Participants (Attach an additional sheet if needed)

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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Key Participant</th>
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<tr>
<td>Public Agencies</td>
<td>Chicago Dept. of Housing</td>
<td>Ellen Sahli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Architect/Designer</td>
<td>Weese Langley Weese</td>
<td>Dennis Langley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developer</td>
<td>Illinois Facilities Fund</td>
<td>Ayse Kalaycioglu</td>
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<td>Professional Consultant</td>
<td>Maureen O'Connor</td>
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<td>Community Group</td>
<td>Near West Community Development Organization</td>
<td>Wilma Ward</td>
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<td>Mile Square Com'ty Health Cntr</td>
<td>Dr. David Freedman</td>
<td>312/355-1027</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>Polk Bros. Foundation</td>
<td>Nikki Stein</td>
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☐ Direct Mailing ☐ Magazine Advertisement ☐ Previous RBA entrant
☐ Professional ☐ Online Notice ☐ Previous Selection Committee member
☐ Organization ☐ Bruner/Loeb Forum ☐ Other (please specify)

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Signature Robert J. Dougherty 11/27/06
**Project Dates**

**May/01**  Conclusion of a Feasibility Study conducted by Stephanie Sommers which focused on the need for ex-offender employment services in the community, SLM's potential for undertaking such a project and possible areas of employment development.

**Sept/01**  Focus Group of various community constituencies, with James Compton of the Chicago Urban League as Honorary Chair, convened to further develop and discuss the Feasibility Study.

**Jan/02**  Study of internal resources and potential for project success conducted by an outside consultant, Maureen O'Connor.

**June/02**  SLM Board of Directors formal approval of the project.

**Nov/02**  Illinois Facilities Funds adopts the Michael Barlow Center project in its Community Asset Builder Program.

**Jan/03**  Local Alderman gives her support to the project.

**June/03**  Capital Campaign initiated to develop funding; Maureen O'Connor hired as consultant for the campaign.

**July/03**  Community input from funneled through SLM Board members to project architect, Dennis Langley.

**Sept/03**  Pepper Construction Company agrees to be the project's General Contractor.

**March/04**  Ground breaking for the Michael Barlow Center takes place on the same day as SLM celebrates its 50th Anniversary at a luncheon sponsored by the LaSalle Bank.

**June/04**  Mayor Daley visits St. Leonard's to announce is support for the project, a grant of $500,000 form the City of Chicago.

**Dec/04**  Construction completed and facility keys turned over to SLM Administration.

**March/05**  Final Construction reviews completed; MBC Administrator moves into the building.

**Spr-Sum/05**  Full staff complement in place and programs initiated.
RUDY BRUNER AWARD
ABSTRACT

2007
ABSTRACT

Please answer questions in space provided. Applicants should feel free to use photocopies of the application forms if needed. If possible, answers to all questions should be typed or written directly on the forms. If the forms are not used and answers are typed on a separate page, each answer must be preceded by the question to which it responds, and the length of each answer should be limited to the area provided on the original form.

Project Name  The Michael Barlow Center at St. Leonard's Ministries
Address  2120 W. Warren Blvd.   City/State/ZIP  Chicago, IL 60612

1. Give a brief overview of the project, including major project goals.

The Michael Barlow Employment Center, constructed and staffed by St. Leonard's Ministries, meets short and long term employment needs of formerly incarcerated men and women. Building on its fifty plus years of service provision to this particularly marginalized population, SLM called together a number of community resources to initiate development of the Center and create a vision for its future. The need for employment services for ex-offenders in SLM's Near West Side Community was apparent to all. Continuous refining of programs and a major capital campaign readied the Center to open in 2004. Major goals are to: (1) engage formerly incarcerated men and women in preparation for the real world of employment as quickly as is reasonable; (2) provide a diversified array of program offerings so participants can exercise some degree of personal choice in regard to their futures; (3) provide educational opportunities with required skills that will result in reasonable expectations of securing and retaining employment; and (4) further develop the potential of the immediate community to address the needs of its citizens - even those frequently isolated and mistrusted by the community.

2. Why does the project merit the Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence? (You may wish to consider such factors as: effect on the urban environment; innovative or unique approaches to any aspect of project development; new and creative approaches to urban issues; design quality.)

Urban communities across the Country are experiencing an influx of formerly incarcerated men and women - communities often ill-equipped to meet the needs of this population. The Michael Barlow Center, in the holistic context of St. Leonard's Ministries comprehensive service provision, is a singular example of a creative and positive response to the needs of those re-entering communities after debilitating time spent in prison. Individuals who would otherwise be homeless, on the streets and likely to return to prison, are given a chance to examine their lives, make personal changes and develop the skills needed to secure and retain employment. Providing this hope-filled opportunity in a "one-stop-shopping" setting is unique. Individuals exiting prison literally have all their essential needs met in one setting: residential and case management services provided through St. Leonard's House and Grace House; employment and educational needs addressed by the Barlow Center. Through an extensive network of collaborations SLM also prepares the urban community to welcome our men and women into the work place and their neighborhood communities. An inviting and neighbor-friendly campus provides a gracious setting for this unique version of urban renewal.
Rebuilding lives through education & employment
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Please answer questions in space provided. Applicants should feel free to use photocopies of the application forms if needed. If possible, answers to all questions should be typed or written directly on the forms. If the forms are not used and answers are typed on a separate page, each answer must be preceded by the question to which it responds, and the length of each answer should be limited to the area provided on the original form.

1. Describe the underlying values of the project. What, if any, significant trade-offs were required to implement the project?

Creation of the Michael Barlow Center was grounded in St. Leonard's Ministries' philosophy that no one wants to lead a life of desperation; that no one wants to move in and out of prison in a cycle of hopeless frustration. Yet, this revolving door phenomenon is omnipresent in large urban settings. In some communities, three out of four young men have had more contact with the criminal justice system than they have had with schools. At a basic level, economics plays a part: if I haven't had a solid educational background, if I have no skills, if there isn't much promise for employment - then there is little in the system to engage me in its more acceptable patterns of behavior.

St. Leonard's Ministries has always felt that rebuilding one's life can't occur overnight. Just as socially unacceptable patterns took time to develop, so they need time to "un-" developed. Fifty years plus of experience has taught us that, provided with viable options and a realistic timeframe, formerly incarcerated men and women can and do make dramatic changes in their lives. Statistics bear this out: SLM's recidivism rate is 20% while that of the IL's Dept. of Corrections is 54.7%. The Barlow Center was designed to broaden the parameters of this time for rebuilding one's life in a professional and inviting setting that builds on the external strength of the Community and the internal vision of each program participant.

2. How has the project impacted the local community? Please include relevant information on urban context.

The Near West Side is composed of two groups: those who have for years invested their lives in the Community and those who have more recently invested in the real estate of the Community. This is just another way of defining the urban process of gentrification and all its ramifications. The Michael Barlow Center, by joining these two constituencies, has had a deep impact on the local Community. The Center is inviting; it makes a business-like and professional statement to all see it, reflecting sound investment in the future of the Community. And clearly, the Center responds to the Community's continued pressing need of assisting formerly incarcerated individuals make successful transitions back into the Community.

As a result of the varied programs of the Michael Barlow Center and the talented staff and volunteers who conduct these program, participants living in the Community receive high school diplomas, train for jobs, receive counseling and, most importantly, remain out of prison at very positive rates. These are the real building blocks for creating a whole and healthy community. This is authentic community impact.
3. Describe the key elements of the development process, including community participation where appropriate.

Early on in the MBC process, the immediate community of formerly incarcerated men and women played a critical role in its development as they repeatedly called for employment services as part of SLM's programming. This need was validated at key levels in the neighborhood as community spokespeople voiced their support for the project and added their thoughts to the plans formally and informally. A Focus Group was convened to examine the project's feasibility and SLM's potential; the make-up of this group reflected broad community participation. The governing community body of St. Leonard's Ministries was critical to the decision-making process as the project grew. And finally, community members referred from neighboring service providers on a regular basis and local families have shown support for the Center by coming on a continuously to make use of its comprehensive services.

4. Describe the financing of the project. Please include all funding sources and square foot costs where applicable.

Total construction and development costs for Michael Barlow Center project were $3,000,000 or $160 per square foot. Financing the MBC project was no small feat for a relatively small social services agency such as St. Leonard's Ministries. A major capital campaign included securing resources from all areas of the private and public sectors. Chicago's Mayor, Richard M. Daley, and IL State Senator Emil Jones each provided $500,000 in public sector resources. Episcopal Charities, the IL Dept. of Human Services and State Representative Annazette Collins provided funding. Several Chicago area foundations contributed to the project: The Rice Foundation, Polk Bros. Foundation, Field Foundation, Chicago Community Trust, the Driehaus Foundation and LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation). The remainder of the funds were contributed in varying amounts from individual donors and families in the immediate and wider communities. A $700,000 mortgage is carried with the Illinois Facilities Fund.

5. Is the project unique and/or does it address significant urban issues? Is the model applicable to other urban settings?

The entire approach and delivery of services through St. Leonard's Ministries, including the newly established Michael Barlow Center, are unique. Such a holistic approach to helping formerly incarcerated men and women rebuild their lives is a rarity. The vision of the founders of St. Leonard's, that everyone deserves a respectful and reasonable second chance in the community, is lived out daily in the life of the Michael Barlow Center. These characteristics make the Barlow Center an unusually responsive social service setting for a marginalized population.

In spite of its unique nature, the Michael Barlow Center can easily serve as a model to be replicated in other communities addressing the return of large numbers of formerly incarcerated men and women. The scope of services provided is nothing more than a common sense response to the employment needs of formerly incarcerated women and men. Collaborating with a variety of interested partners makes the Center's work a perfect bridge between the halfway house setting of SLM's programs and the reality of living in the community. The Barlow Center, typical of all SLM endeavors, is run within very modest economic constraints. SLM invites other interested parties to come visit in order to learn just how its program can best be replicated in other communities.
2007
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ARCHITECT
OR DESIGNER
PERSPECTIVE

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FOR URBAN EXCELLENCE
This employment center is located in a historic residential area on the west side of Chicago. The immediate neighbors include two and three flats buildings from the late 1800's. The program for the training center required large rooms around a central service core which required a wide proportioned building that was incongruous with the existing proportions and scale of the residential buildings. Being the only educational type building in the immediate area, it was the desire of the client to “fit in” as much as possible out of respect for the existing character of the neighborhood. To accomplish this, the front of the building has a central predominate, bay like, projection which is in scale with the other properties. This element is then detailed with brick, stone bands, projected lintels, and a stone base course, in a way that relates to the scale of the neighborhood. The resulting other two portions of the building are treated with residential style windows and stone details and are also in proportion and scale with the neighborhood buildings. The overall appearance is residential that belies the institutional educational use with in.

2. Describe the most important social and programmatic functions of the design.

The program called for a multitude of different uses that would allow for a large variety of job training options in the facility. The ground floor is designed to accommodate a loading dock for work trucks, an exterior oriented storage area for tools and equipment, and a staging area and office dispatch area that would work in conjunction with the other spaces. In addition there are administrative offices and a large vocational classroom. The second floor has a couple of specialized areas including an area for restaurant training complete with a commercial kitchen with student work areas and a computer instruction area. Also on this floor are a large conference area for hosting various education events, support offices and meeting rooms. The third floor has the typical classroom and office spaces but was also configured in a way that would allow for an in house service business to be established at the rear third of the building with direct access to an elevator that then leads directly to the loading dock area at grade.

The main thrust of the program was to provide a large variety of different job training functions that would be the most beneficial to the ex-offender population that it serves, as well as adding the value of the neighborhood with a commitment to quality construction that is scale appropriate.
3. Describe the major challenges of designing this project and any design trade-offs or compromises required to complete the project.

The first challenge was to design to fit the context while providing a large variety of large job training spaces. The other major challenge was to build in an affordable manner, within the capabilities of the funding, to meet our goals of; a maximum number and variety of spaces that would work for current and future job training opportunities; provide for a quality of construction to insure the buildings longevity; and to build an exterior worthy of its historic residential location. The project developer and architect worked in close conjunction and negotiated with a General Contract and were able to examine every aspect of the project, from foundations systems; structural systems mechanical systems etc through final finishes to build in an extremely efficient manner that allowed for the project to meet all of the goals. We were able to meet further needs of support space and storage by incorporating a full basement served by an elevator. This kept all job training spaces on the upper three floors large and flexible. A simple and quick structural system of steel with steel wall framing and a brick veneer allowed the Contractor to build in a quick 7 months deriving additional significant cost savings for the developer.

4. Describe the ways in which the project relates to its urban context.

It shares the values of historic architecture by relating to a type of details and scale consistent with the neighborhood. It looks at the historic context with a fresh eye to offer some reinterpretation of historic details and say that a good neighbor in a historic context can look forward and acknowledge the present as well. The site location of the building addresses and projects toward the street and deals with new yard zoning requirements by placing the building forward and keeping the side yards at a comfortable and respectful dimension to the neighbor to the West while creating and adding to the clients green space to the East. This placement visually links the building with all of the neighboring properties.

All service functions are from the rear alley, keeping the front clean with a clearly defined entry of stone and brick detailing at a location close to the street and walks. Parking is kept at a minimum in recognition of the urban transportation in the neighborhood as well as the fact that most users are coming from the neighboring property. A decorative low fence, paving, street trees in cast iron grates, gives definition, scale and interest along the front property.
St Leonard's House, a not for profit organization for the housing of ex-offenders, has a campus of transitional and permanent housing. Adjacent to this campus a Job Training Center is being developed to serve these clients along with clients from similar organizations in other locations. The building includes facilities for computer and restaurant training; classrooms for GED courses; and facilities to serve in house business such as mailing services and landscaping. The building was designed to fit the varied existing historic town house streetscape with its placement close to the street, stone and brick detailing articulation and a reduced residential scale.

Completion Date: 2004
Project Team: Dennis Langley
Dan Weese
Ben Matteson

Weese Langley Weese Architects Ltd.
PROPOSED 2ND FLOOR PLAN
MICHAEL BARLOW EMPLOYMENT CENTER

WEES LANGLEY WEES
ARCHITECTS LTD

drawn MBM/CG job no. scale 1/10" = 1'-0"
checked DWL date 06.25.03 sheets
2007
RUDY BRUNER AWARD
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE
PERSPECTIVE

RUDY BRUNER AWARD
FOR URBAN EXCELLENCE
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE PERSPECTIVE

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This sheet is to be filled out by someone who was involved, or represents an organization that was involved, in helping the project respond to neighborhood issues.

Name Wilma Ward
Title Secretary of the Corporation

Organization Near West Community Development
Telephone (312) 738-2280

Address 216 S. Hoyne St.
City/State/ZIP Chicago, IL 60612

Fax (312) 738-2308
E-mail wardgoodar@aol.com

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Signature

1. How did you, or the organization you represent, become involved in this project? What role did you play?

As a community resident and one of the founders of the Near West Side Community Development Organization, I have known of and supported St. Leonard's Ministries for many years. When I began my work in the community years ago with a vision to redevelop and help change the quality of life for the better, I learned of St. Leonard's presence and history in the community. I was impressed with SLM’s ability to work with a sometimes very difficult population and yet always remain sensitive to its presence in the community. A colleague of mine here at the NWS-CDA, Ernest Gates has been a member of the Michael Barlow Employment Center’s Advisory Board since the board came into being through the efforts of Chicago’s Executive Service Corps.

2. From the community’s point of view, what were the major issues concerning this project?

The Near West Side, like so many other communities, has a disproportionately high number of ex-offenders coming back to the neighborhood in one way or another. These men and women are desperately in need of help but that help has to be provided in a setting that doesn’t intimidate the community, that helps the community emerge stronger and healthier. All this had to be accomplished in a building that fit in with the urban design and texture of the community and through solid programming that did not subject the community to an influx of people coming to and from the Center.

3. What trade-offs and compromises were required during the development of the project? How did your organization participate in making them?

The Michael Barlow Center sits in the midst of a residential block with some homes dating back to the late 1800's. The concept of creating a "school for ex-offenders" generated a certain degree of concern in the community. A NWS-CDA staff member sat on the Board of St. Leonard's Ministries during the Michael Barlow Center planning stage; her wisdom and insight resulted in the front of the facade of the Center looking just like a series of town homes rather than something more institutional. At this stage of planning, it was also decided that program components would be scheduled in such a manner as to provide life to the community but not to overwhelm it with students coming and going at concentrated times.
4. Has this project made the community a better place to live or work? If so, how?

Through its program services and physical presence in the community, St. Leonard’s Ministries has always made our community a better place to live in. The various SLM buildings have constantly stood out as model settings in the neighborhood with well-kept structures and inviting gardens. In one case, a former crack house was taken over by SLM; it has become the Grace House women’s residence program - certainly a far cry from its unsightly and dangerous previous condition. The Michael Barlow Center has taken its rightful place on a block that is comprised of new and old construction, of new neighbors and those who have been in the community for decades.

Putting people to work always makes a community a better place for potential employers to invest financially and with work sites. The Michael Barlow Center is known for its high level of moving program participants into the real world of work, local and around the City. This will surely strengthen the Near West Community as a sound place in which to work.

5. Would you change anything about this project or the development process you went through?

Although there was a strong community presence in the project’s development, having a greater variety of individuals involved might have given the project a higher level of visibility in the Community. However, the Community is currently marked by a high degree of residential growth with many people living here now who resided in other parts of the City in the early days of developing the Michael Barlow Center; the Center is creating a strong publicity process in the Community to address this.

Creating a higher level of participation at a wider level might have helped the Community and the project. Richard M. Daley, the Mayor of Chicago, and Emil Jones, IL State Senator, helped providing capital funding and this was no small feat. But a broader public sector base of funding might have helped the project, would surely have reduced its debt and would have brought a positive focus on the Community.
2007
RUDY BRUNER AWARD
DEVELOPER
PERSPECTIVE

RUDY BRUNER AWARD
FOR URBAN EXCELLENCE
DEVELOPER PERSPECTIVE

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This sheet is to be filled out by the person who took primary responsibility for project financing or is a representative of the group which did.

Name Gabriella DiFilippo Title Vice President of Real Estate Services

Organization Illinois Facilities Fund Telephone (312) 596-5102

Address 1 North LaSalle Street (#700) City/State/ZIP Chicago, IL 60602

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1. What role did you or your organization play in the development of this project? Describe the scope of involvement.

The Michael Barlow Center is a project of the IFF’s Community Asset Builder (CAB) program. The CAB program targets high-risk, high-reward projects with nonprofit agencies that would most benefit from integrated financing and real estate project management to develop new facilities for vital community programs. As project manager, IFF assisted with developing operating pro forma, tested operating assumptions, provided oversight of the design process, coordinated real estate professionals on the project, prepared budgets, financing packages and contracts, negotiated and secured project financing, managed construction, including securing all permits, managed construction escrow and all construction payouts, and oversaw the project close-out.

2. What trade-offs or compromises were required during the development of the project?

The IFF project team challenged St. Leonard’s senior managers to examine whether the size and use of the building was financially feasible. This process saved St. Leonard’s over $100,000 by eliminating design elements deemed unnecessary and enabled its executive director to justify to funders the use and expenditure on every aspect of the facility. The project budget was tight and the IFF worked diligently with the general contractor, the architect, and St. Leonard’s to create a functional, yet attractive, building that will meet the long-term program needs of the organization.

3. How was the project financed? What, if any, innovative means of financing were used?

The IFF provided a $500,000 bridge loan as part of the CAB program against St. Leonard’s capital campaign. In addition, the IFF provided a $35,000 grant to help pay for a capital campaign consultant. St. Leonard’s secured sufficient capital grants for the project but, as is the case with most capital campaigns, the funds were committed over a period of several years and there was a significant gap. In response, the IFF made an additional $350,000, 15-year loan to cover a portion of the construction costs. As a partial bridge to the capital campaign, the general contractor agreed to self finance a portion of the construction costs. The IFF was actively involved in restructuring its funding commitment and negotiating the parameters of the financing from the general contractor. This allowed the project to start on schedule.
4. How did the economic impacts of this project on the community compare with or differ from other projects you have been involved in?

The 16,200-square-foot facility was completed two months early and under budget. The Michael Barlow Center is realizing its full potential serving formerly incarcerated men and women with tutoring, an alternative high school, a computer lab, job skills training, and job placement and retention services. St. Leonard’s worked hard to ensure every space, though not fully programmed, contemplated a myriad of programs in its placement and design to ensure the building could meet the long-term needs of the organization and its clients.

The physical structure was built as the final piece of St. Leonard’s campus and blends nicely with the local architecture. A vacant lot was improved and the space functions as a hub for activities that further St. Leonard’s mission.

5. What about this project would be instructive to other developers?

The early planning and critical analysis was particularly important. The IFF challenged St. Leonard’s to think strategically and critically about the project and to allow for as much flexibility as possible. The IFF team questioned many of the early operating assumptions to test the project’s financial viability. This forced the executive director to be even more creative with program development, and programs evolved even as the building was under construction.

St. Leonard’s goal was to raise sufficient capital through a campaign so that no debt service would be required, but at the same time the goal was to start the construction project quickly. This created a timing problem for funding and interim financing was necessary. Because it is difficult to lend money against a capital campaign that is not 100 percent pledged, creative financing was needed. The IFF bridged the gap quickly and creatively several times during the project. The CAB bridge investment was the first form of bridge financing, the additional IFF loan added another layer, and finally Pepper Constructions’ bridge loan jumpstarted the project.

6. What do you consider to be the most and least successful aspects of this project?

Most successful – the project was delivered on time and under budget, the building offers flexible space to meet the long-term needs of the agency; the building was built prior to and during program development; unique facility that provides a model for other agencies offering programs and services to the formerly incarcerated.

Least successful – the project financing would be difficult to replicate because of extraordinary programs and support (CAB Bridge Investment and loan from Pepper Construction).
2007
RUDY BRUNER AWARD
PROFESSIONAL
CONSULTANT
PERSPECTIVE
PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT PERSPECTIVE

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This sheet is to be filled out by a professional who worked as a consultant on the project, providing design, planning, legal, or other services. Copies may be given to other professionals if desired.

Name: Maureen O'Connor  Title: President
Organization: AOC Associates, Inc.
Address: 5555 N. Sheridan Rd. #608
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Fax: (773) 769-1871
E-mail: mocmail@sbcglobal.net

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Signature: __________________________

1. What role did you or your organization play in the development of this project?

I worked with St. Leonard's Ministries between 2001 and 2004 to help raise funds to construct the Michael Barlow Employment Center, drawing on more than a decade of resource development consulting with nonprofits in Chicago around homelessness and poverty-related issues. My work focused on planning and preparation for a capital campaign for the Center, including board development and organizational positioning, and campaign implementation.

3. Describe the project's impact on its community. Please be as specific as possible.

The Michael Barlow Center responds to an urgent challenge in American cities today. In recent years, we as a society have "gotten tough on crime." What we have not figured out is how to reintegrate into society the men and women who return from prison, typically to urban communities. High recidivism rates suggest that we are largely failing at this task. The stakes are mounting as the sheer number of formerly incarcerated men and women continues to grow.

The Michael Barlow Center gives ex-offenders a chance at one of the essential keys to rebuilding their lives and avoiding a return to prison: employment. Ex-offenders have significant barriers to employment. Many of these men and women had limited education and work history before going to prison, and they now have the added burden of ex-offender status—what some call "the X on my back." Through the Michael Barlow Center and other services, St. Leonard's Ministries breaks through these barriers, resulting in a recidivism rate of 20 percent among its participants, compared to 50 percent statewide.
Within my profession—fundraising and organizational development for nonprofit organizations—there are two aspects of the Michael Barlow Center that might be particularly instructive. First, it serves a clientele—ex-offenders—that is controversial, evokes negative feelings for many people, and may be seen as undeserving. We attempted to overcome this challenge through public education and organizational positioning. This included approaching opinion leaders—e.g., best-selling author Alex Kotlowitz, city officials, philanthropic leaders—to express why they thought the project was important. We then used their words to help open other minds and hearts.

Another challenge was that the Board of Directors of St. Leonard’s Ministries, which needed to secure more than $3 million for the Michael Barlow Center, had never conducted a capital campaign of that size. Board members had traditionally given generously of their time and talents while providing limited financial support. With education, encouragement, and support, the Board was able to step forward into a leadership role in the campaign, vastly exceed their previous financial support, and tap new funding for the campaign.

One of the most successful aspects of the Michael Barlow Center is that it embodies in-depth knowledge both of the ex-offender population and of the realities of employment barriers and opportunities for them. It works to engage participants at the outset, and then methodically builds their skills and readiness for specific employment opportunities it has identified and will help them pursue. At the same time, the Center rebuilds participants’ sense of self and self-respect after the dehumanizing experience of prison—by offering choices, clearly defined expectations and consequences, pragmatic support, and a firm belief in each individual’s potential. Equally important, the Center offers these opportunities in a single location, understanding that fragmentation of services can be particularly detrimental for formerly incarcerated individuals.

The Center has also worked to mobilize a host of other resources for its participants, through collaboration and partnership. While this is a worthwhile endeavor, it has been one of the least successful aspects of the project. Organizations that do not specialize in serving ex-offenders often cannot respond adequately to their unique needs, challenges, and motivations.
2007 RUDY BRUNER AWARD
PUBLIC AGENCY PERSPECTIVE
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This sheet is to be filled out by staff representative(s) of public agency(ies) who were directly involved in the financing, design review, or public approvals that affected this project.

Name         John G. Markowski       Title          Commissioner
Organization  City of Chicago - Housing   Telephone (312) 742-0440
Address       33 N. LaSalle, 2nd floor    City/State/ZIP Chicago IL 60602
Fax           (312) 742-1397       E-mail          jmarkowski@cityofchicago.org

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Signature

1. What role did your agency play in the development of this project? Describe any requirements made of this project by your agency (e.g., zoning, public participation, public benefits, impact statements).

   The Michael Barlow Center is part of the larger St. Leonard's Ministries campus for men with a history of incarceration. Each element of the campus represents a strategic area of investment by the City of Chicago and reflects the increasing commitment that we have made to improving the lives of those men and women with histories of incarceration. The City of Chicago played a major role in parts of this campus and we consider each of the programs of campus to work in concert to support the goals of positive re-entry. The transitional housing programs, the first elements of this campus, have been funded through the City Department of Human Services for a number of years through the homeless services division. Based on the tremendous need for permanent housing for the men served through this program, St. Leonard’s developed St. Andrew’s Court, a 42-unit permanent housing development for men who have experienced incarceration. We provided $1.2 million in financing to support the construction of this development. Finally, we provided $500,000 in financing for the Michael Barlow Center. The support for the Barlow Center provided critical capital resources to realize this full campus for St. Leonard’s.

2. How was this project intended to benefit your city? What trade-offs and compromises were required to implement the project? How did your agency participate in making them?

   Mayor Daley has made improving the lives of individuals with histories of incarceration a priority for his administration. As a result, the City has allocated resources and public support to engage communities to develop concrete strategies to address the challenges that this group faces. Securing employment is one of the biggest challenges facing those individuals with a criminal record. Not only is it difficult for individuals to secure a job but many lack the skills that make them "good employees." The Barlow Center provides a concrete resource for those who need job skill training, job placement services, and ongoing support to help individuals keep the hard fought job.
3. Describe the project’s impact on your city. Please be as specific as possible.

The impact of the Barlow Center and the campus are numerous:

1. 450 individuals with difficult personal histories and challenges are served annually through St. Leonard’s Ministries, providing a holistic solution to a complex problem that is often addressed in a piece meal fashion.
2. Created affordable housing and brought much needed employment and supportive services to a community with one the highest numbers of individuals returning from incarceration.
3. Created a beautiful campus with green space that conveys the strong message that the men served through the programs deserve dignity and compassion.

4. Did this project result in new models of public/private partnerships? Are there aspects of this project that would be instructive to agencies like yours in other cities?

Construction of community centers, such as the Barlow Center, are difficult to finance. St. Leonard’s leveraged public and private resources to build a Center that will serve as a venue for employment programs – also funded with public and private resources.

With this Center and the ability to intentionally address the employment needs of formerly incarcerated individuals, we expect that St. Leonard’s will be well positioned to increase their relationships with employers. While employers will likely be “sold” on high quality employees, we expect that through St. Leonard’s work with employers that we will secure support for the Mayor’s public commitment to give those with histories of incarceration a real chance at success.

5. What do you consider to be the most and least successful aspects of this project?

The completion of the Barlow Center adds the last critical part of the supportive services framework to help formerly incarcerated individuals make a successful transition in community living. This Center capitalizes on the housing and social services components provided by St. Leonard’s and really puts the individual in the best position to succeed.

St. Leonard’s Ministries also operates highly successful programs for women although a number of blocks south of the main campus. Perhaps the least successful aspect of this project is really an issue only for the women’s program - in that it is physically closest to and part of the men’s campus. While the physical proximity to “home” will support the men with a strong sense of support, it may not be as strong of a support for the women simply due to the few blocks that separate the Barlow Center from their home. St. Leonard’s staff is deliberate in their service delivery and uses engagement strategies to mitigate this risk for women served through the Barlow Center.
2007
RUDY BRUNER AWARD
OTHER
PERSPECTIVE

RUDY BRUNER AWARD
FOR URBAN EXCELLENCE
OTHER PERSPECTIVE

Please answer questions in space provided. Applicants should feel free to use photocopies of the application forms if needed. If possible, answers to all questions should be typed or written directly on the forms. If the forms are not used and answers are typed on a separate page, each answer must be preceded by the question to which it responds, and the length of each answer should be limited to the area provided on the original form.

Name  Nikki Will Stein  Title  Executive Director
Organization  Polk Bros. Foundation  Telephone (312) 527-4684
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Signature  Nikki W. Stein

1. What role did you play in the development of this project?

The Polk Bros. Foundation made a capital grant of $150,000 to support the construction of the Michael Barlow Center. The Foundation board approved this grant on the strength of its long-time support for the programs of St. Leonard’s Ministries (SLM). The Barlow Center, as presented to the Foundation, was the logical, critical next step that would enable the men and women who came to SLM to prepare for employment as they worked to build futures in their communities and with their families.

Since the Barlow Center opened, the Foundation has supported the salaries of a job developer and retention specialist who find employers who will interview ex-offenders, help Barlow Center clients gain employment and continue to support them so they can stay employed and move up the jobs ladder.

2. Describe the impact that this project has had on your community. Please be as specific as possible.

The Michael Barlow Center is a key part of the St. Leonard’s Ministries comprehensive program to help some of the approximately 30,000 prisoners who return to Chicago each year, many to the west side communities around St. Leonard’s. They come to one of the SLM residences and find an array of programs to help them reintegrate into the community and stay out of the criminal justice system. At the Barlow Center they can get their high school diploma, pick a jobs training program that will lead to employment in a field they have chosen and find help to deal with some of the issues that may have led to their imprisonment.
3. What trade-offs and compromises were required during the development of the project? Did you participate in making them?

I am not aware of any significant trade-offs that were required. Finances, in part, defined the scope of the building but it is very attractive and seems to be adequate to housing the desired programs and also serving as a valuable resource for the community. It was necessary to phase in some of the training programs as resources were found, but I believe the building is functioning as it was hoped it would.

4. What do you consider to be the most and least successful aspects of this project?

Perhaps the most successful aspect of the project is the manner in which it presents itself to its surrounding community and the broader community of formerly incarcerated individuals. Its footprint on the geographic community has been very positive increasing the eye-appeal of the block on which it sits and the whole SLM campus. Judging by its use of the facility, the ex-offender community feels welcomed and adequately challenged by the activities of the Center.

If there is a least successful aspect of the project, it might be that it is the only such facility in the entire area that is part of a comprehensive approach to assisting formerly incarcerated individuals address all the problems faced as they re-enter the community.
2007
RUDY BRUNER AWARD
OTHER PERSPECTIVE
OTHER PERSPECTIVE

Please answer questions in space provided. Applicants should feel free to use photocopies of the application forms if needed. If possible, answers to all questions should be typed or written directly on the forms. If the forms are not used and answers are typed on a separate page, each answer must be preceded by the question to which it responds, and the length of each answer should be limited to the area provided on the original form.

Michael Barlow Center
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1. What role did you play in the development of this project?

As former resident of both St. Leonard's House and St. Andrew's Court, I have been aware of the development of the Michael Barlow Center from its very beginning. Ever since the possibility of an employment center was first talked about around St. Leonard's, I was one of the encouraging voices. I knew, from firsthand experience, that finding employment is a key question when you get out of prison. I knew we, both the neighborhood and ex-offenders, needed some way of getting better prepared to find work.

In addition to having been an SLM program participant, I have been a staff member for almost eight years. As the plans for the Barlow Center began to be more solid, I wanted to be a part of the Center so I applied for an office position. I began working at the Barlow Center when its doors opened and I am now the Administrative Assistant responsible for, among other things, data management for the entire Center.

2. Describe the impact that this project has had on the your community. Please be as specific as possible.

The impact on the neighborhood community has been very positive. Many people from the neighborhood have taken advantage of the opportunities provided at the Center and they have bettered themselves through education and being able to find jobs. This has been a reason for them to stay away from negative behavior that they might have been involved in before.

I also believe that the whole idea of the Michael Barlow Center has brought a great deal of hope to the community of ex-offenders. There hasn't been much set aside especially for this group of people and we surely need help to move forward. When you've just gotten out of prison, it's harder than just not having an education or being jobless - you have the whole stigma of being an ex-offender to deal with. The Michael Barlow Center helps people deal with this.
3. What trade-offs and compromises were required during the development of the project? Did you participate in making them?

One compromise that took place with the development of the Michael Barlow Center was the fact that it would be open to the neighborhood community. For the most part, SLM programs and buildings are open only to those who are currently or were at one time residents of St. Leonard's House, Grace House or St. Andrew's Court. So encouraging "non SLM folks" to make use of the Center's programs and services took some adjusting. We had to get to know people that we didn't know before. Although most neighborhood folks have known of St. Leonard's for many years, they got to know the us through the Michael Barlow Center in new ways.

4. What do you consider to be the most and least successful aspects of this project?

The most successful aspect of the Barlow Center is the high school program and the training classes. These are the ways - education and skills - that will help ex-offenders make progress and better their situations. Education in all its forms is the only sure thing. And the Barlow Center does this very well.

The least successful thing about the Center is that fact that we have to turn people away from time to time because we can't run all the classes all the time or there is no room left in a class. It's too bad the Center can't be bigger and take care of more people.
2007
RUDY BRUNER AWARD
OTHER PERSPECTIVE
OTHER PERSPECTIVE

Please answer questions in space provided. Applicants should feel free to use photocopies of the application forms if needed. If possible, answers to all questions should be typed or written directly on the forms. If the forms are not used and answers are typed on a separate page, each answer must be preceded by the question to which it responds, and the length of each answer should be limited to the area provided on the original form.

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Signature: [Signature]

1. What role did you play in the development of this project?

While I had no direct role in the development of the Michael Barlow Center, I have for many years witnessed the very difficult work that St. Leonard's Ministries accomplishes with men and women returning to the community from prison. This population frequently finds its way to our Mile Square Community Health Center and the James Jordan Community Center; both are facilities where I am on staff. Ex-offenders have many concerns in the area of health issues that must be addressed as they re-integrate into the community. These concerns are just one part of the larger picture of issues that various staff members of St. Leonard's Ministries help program participants address. In this context, I was happy to see the Michael Barlow Center take shape on the St. Leonard's campus as a concrete and practical response to the employment needs of formerly incarcerated members of the Community.

2. Describe the impact that this project has had on your community. Please be as specific as possible.

The Near West Side Community is experiencing gentrification that in many ways is altering the demographics of the area. There is still, however, a large number of individuals being released from prison who return to this Community. Without comprehensive programs to address needs, a large number of ex-offenders will re-offend and return to prison. St. Leonard's Ministries has addressed this problem consistently and thoroughly with a dramatic reduction in recidivism rates. The Michael Barlow Center provides a key component in this process - assistance with employment preparation and the job search. A high school program, specific skills training programs, pre-employment and employment development services are provided in an inviting and professional setting. Having one place to go for this variety of services not always available for ex-offenders has a very positive impact on the Community.
3. What trade-offs and compromises were required during the development of the project? Did you participate in making them?

I'm not aware of any trade-offs or compromises that were required in the development of the project. While programs focusing on ex-offenders can be troublesome in some Communities, St. Leonard's long standing presence in the Community allayed any such concerns.

Surely the Community needs affordable housing; this need seems to be receiving a great deal of attention. There are plenty of schools and recreational spaces in the Community and retail space is in the making. So, from the perspective of a Community service provider, this project was welcomed as is.

4. What do you consider to be the most and least successful aspects of this project?

As a health-care professional, I realize that physical health is touched by many other life issues. The holistic nature of the Mission of St. Leonard's Ministries and its vital presence in the Community serve well as a foundation for including physical concerns of program participants in case management services. The fact that SLM has broadened its focus to include employment related concerns can only make this community resource stronger and more responsive to the needs of its program participants. In some ways, it's unfortunate that the Barlow Center can't be larger and include many more individuals in service provision. But that might lessen the effect of SLM's desire to create a setting that is truly individualized and one that builds on a family model of addressing needs.
Michael Barlow Center

Approaching MBC from the front...

Looking at the side garden...
Michael Barlow Center

Come on in - Lots to see...

An inviting foyer welcomes you.
Michael Barlow Center

Future cooks in the Food Services Class

Building maintenance skills in the making
Michael Barlow Center

State of the art computer lab at your service.

Large open spaces for meetings and classes.
Michael Barlow Center

Clothing Room - something for everyone!

Conference Room plans in the making...
Michael Barlow Center

Ready to listen in an inviting office space.

The Administrator and Job Developer hard at work.
The campus of St. Leonard's Ministries is located in the West Haven Community on the Near West Side of Chicago, about two miles directly west of Chicago's downtown business and recreational area. It is directly accessible by way of public transportation and the City's main thoroughfares and expressways. SLM's campus is composed of six buildings, three built in the late 1800's, one built in 1950 and two constructed within the last eight years. An additional program site is located just three blocks from SLM's main campus. A series of very attractive and inviting gardens dots both the main campus and the second site.

Formerly Incarcerated Men and Women Graduate Food Preparation Training Program

Kenya Nalls

St. Leonard's Ministries, a halfway house on Chicago's Near West Side, recognized 13 graduates of their Food Services Preparation Training Program on Friday November 10. The graduation ceremony was held at The Michael Barlow Center located at 2120 West Warren Boulevard.

For over 50 years, SLM has provided residential and case management services for formerly incarcerated men and women in Chicago. It was not until a few years ago, however, that they realized the battle to help ex-offenders transition back into society was only half won.

"We realized that we needed to do more than provide a place to live for the residents," said Bob Dougherty, Executive Director of St. Leonard's Ministries.

"We wanted to help people prepare themselves to get jobs so that they can provide their own place to live," Dougherty said.

In 2004, SLM broke ground on the Michael Barlow Center. The center provides 250 ex-offenders every year with a variety of services, including a high school, computer lab, job development, job retention counseling and various skills training. Among the skills the students are trained in is food services preparation.

The Food Services Preparation Graduation ceremony, attended by about 30 family members and friends, honored the men and women who completed the nine week 180 hour course, in which they learned the basics of food services preparation by working in a restaurant.

The students received a certificate of completion and are awaiting their Chicago Sanitation License. The license will allow them to work in a restaurant, continue their training at the center, or work as a chef.

"This is the highlight of my day to see men and women who have worked very hard at getting to a point where [they are] better than they were before and ready to move forward," said Dougherty.

The graduation speakers emphasized to the graduates that they could do anything they wanted to do if they identify their goals and work hard towards achieving them. The students acknowledged that their graduation is only the first step to obtaining their goals as they continue on the right track to success.

"We worked really hard to reveal our lives, we're grateful to this program for giving us an opportunity and direction in our lives," said valedictorian Enoch Calhoun.

"All of my life I made some really bad decisions. Those were the only ones I knew how to make. But when I came here I was surrounded by people who believed in me and who wanted me to do better," Calhoun said.

Belinda Silber taught the students the skills to obtain their certificate and license and served as a mentor as well.

"I believe that they can do anything with this certificate, it really depends on how much they want to succeed in life," said Silber.

As much as Silber has inspired the graduates she feels that she has been inspired by their hard work.

"I want them to move forward in everything that they do and to know that they are not the same person they were nine weeks ago," Silber said.

Dougherty believes the graduates have now reached a new point in their lives, knowing that that they are equipped with the skills to accomplish something they were unable to before.

"They have to take hold of [this experience] to not let it be just another day, to not just let it be another piece of paper," Dougherty said. "This is another starting over that we as people have to do sometimes."

To learn more about the Michael Barlow Center or enroll in one of their programs call David Harris 312-226-6270 X 10.

Teacher Belinda Silber (center) surrounded by her graduates

from page 5

obtaining their goals as they continue on the right track to success.

"We worked really hard to reveal our lives, we're grateful to this program for giving us an opportunity and direction in our lives," said valedictorian Enoch Calhoun.

"All of my life I made some really bad decisions. Those were the only ones I knew how to make. But when I came here I was surrounded by people who believed in me and who wanted me to do better," Calhoun said.
This Year’s Outcomes at a Glance...

The men and women who go through SLM’s programs are unique individuals who, assisted by case management, begin a process leading toward successful reintegration into families and communities. Programmatic elements are designed to identify strengths, build upon common experiences, develop useful skills and address barriers to achievement. Ultimately, it is the individual’s recognition of and commitment to a healthy, productive life-style combined with helpful tools, resources and support that makes the difference on this all-important journey toward recovery.

St. Leonard’s House is an interim housing program for adult men exiting prison with nowhere else to go and no other resources with which to begin the process of successful re-entry into the community. Two new residents were Special Needs clients. Individual and group counseling, workshops and referrals address medical and mental health, anger management, relapse prevention, employment and education, life skills, housing issues, relationships, parenting and family reunification. During FY ‘06, 155 men entered the program: 118 exited.
- 76% completed education, vocational training and/or employment preparation programs.
- 83% were able to remain drug and alcohol free during residency.
- 81% of those who completed the program acquired permanent housing.
- 44% of those who completed the program increased income.

Grace House is an interim housing program for adult women exiting prison with nowhere else to go and no other resources with which to begin the process of successful re-entry into the community. Individual and group counseling, workshops and referrals address medical and mental health, behavioral patterns, relapse prevention, life skills, employment and education, housing issues, parenting, relationships and family reunification. This year SLM finalized the acquisition of the Grace House building. During FY ‘06, 47 women entered the program: 30 exited.
- 70% completed education, vocational training and/or employment preparation programs.
- 85% were able to remain drug and alcohol free during residency.
- 67% of those who completed the program acquired permanent housing.
- 57% of those who completed the program increased income.

St. Andrew’s Court is permanent supportive housing for otherwise homeless men who have completed the St. Leonard’s House program and are ill, disabled, chronically addicted or not quite ready for total independence. Through individual counseling, outreach, advocacy and referrals for needed services, each resident is encouraged to develop as much independence as possible. During FY ‘06, a total of 75 men lived at SAC: 33 moved on.
- 85% of all residents were able to remain drug and alcohol free during residency.
- 32% participated in education and/or vocational training programs.
- 76% of those who moved on had increased income through employment or benefits.
- 76% of those who exited moved to permanent housing.

The Michael Barlow Center is an employment and education center serving formerly incarcerated men and women in homeless service programs or at risk of becoming homeless due to lack of income, financial resources and/or employable skills. The Center provides a pre-employment program, skills training programs, a high school completion program, literacy and tutoring, computer skills training and an open lab, individual job development assistance, retention counseling and follow-up. During FY ‘06, 180 individuals were enrolled in programs and over 200 used the computer lab regularly.
- 49 adult students completed one of the skills training programs.
- 47 adults received their high school diplomas.
- 122 individuals were placed in jobs: 119 started above minimum wage.
- 85% retained their jobs more than 30 days: 67% were still there after 90 days.

St. Leonard’s House & Grace House Financial Report (unaudited)

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Thank you!

All SLM Staff

Evelia Brooks
Juanita Campos
Tyree Chapman
Ramon Colon
Miguel Cruz
Tanitha Dale
Mary Dolan, OP
Robert Dougherty
Bernadine Dowdell
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Norwil Frial
Stephanie Fuller
Arlene Gibson, SSND
Rev. Annie Gonzalez
David Harris
Raymond Hawkins
Billy Hayes
Timothy Hernandez
Charles Holman
Mary Hornschemeier
James Hoskins
Theotis Hubbard
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Virginia Jung, OSB
Mintie Lee
Carla Lewis
Theresa McBroom
Catherine McKillop, OP
Douglas McKinney
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Glen Miller
Denis Miron
Marvin Moore
Arinda Parker
Mary Parker
Michael Peoples
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Patricia Taylor
Denise Thompson
Christopher Vaughn
Mary Vinson
Haywood Ware
Eddie Weaver
Kelvin White
Craig Williams
Frank Williams
Marilyn Williams
Willie Williams
Michael Wilson
James Zangs

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE ‘YEAR-ROUND’ VOLUNTEERS:

Mike Monnelly, J. C. Parker
Eric Reyes
Matthew Wiley
Teachers and Tutors.
Dear Friends,

Mayor Richard Daley recently convened a Caucus Group to make recommendations related to the re-entry into the community of formerly incarcerated men and women. Two SLM staff members shared in the work of the Caucus. In his introductory remarks to the Final Report of the Caucus, Mayor Daley challenged the citizens of Chicago to help those exiting prison; without such help, he reflected, individuals seem destined to return to prison.

Repeatedly, the Caucus deliberations focused on providing places to live for those exiting prison and helping them prepare for and find jobs. With the help of private and public sector collaborators and generous donors, this is exactly what the programs of St. Leonard's Ministries have accomplished during this past fiscal year and what we plan to continue doing as we move into future years. We remain grateful to you for your continued presence with us!

Sincerely,

Board President

Executive Director
St. Leonard's Ministries is an agency of Episcopal Charities and Community Services, a member of the United Way of Chicago and a service provider for the City of Chicago's Department of Human Services.
MISSION STATEMENT

Believing that all individuals want to lead productive and whole lives, St. Leonard's Ministries provides a setting in which men and women recently released from prison can achieve such a life. Residents are provided with an array of program services designed to assist them as they make the transition to successful independent living. During their stay at St. Leonard's House, Grace House or St. Andrew's Court, residents are helped to reassess value systems, to reorder priorities and to develop socially and legally acceptable patterns of behavior.

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DEAR FRIENDS OF ST. LEONARD’S,

2004 marks the 50th Anniversary of St. Leonard’s Ministries. From the beginning our program services have been stepping stones on the path to new lives for our residents. During the fiscal year just completed, 270 formerly incarcerated men and women have been helped through residential and case management services. While in residence, 51% of our program participants were able to increase their income levels. 68% of the residents who left St. Leonard’s House or Grace House moved on to permanent housing settings.

With the ever-present help of the Episcopal Church, the tiny mustard seed that was planted in 1954 on the corner of Hoyne and Warren continues to grow and provide critically needed assistance to men and women rebuilding their lives. We thank you for your support!

Padraig Brennen

Bob Dougherty
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>St. Leonard’s House</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marina Carrott, Operations Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Clark, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Dougherty, Executive Dir.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernest Douglas, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eunice Drazba, OP, Facilities Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arlene Gibson, SSND, Finance Dir.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald Hamilton, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raymond Hawkins, House Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy Hicks, Maintenance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Hoard, Caseworker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Hoskins, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theotis Hubbard, Caseworker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Hughes, OP, Contracts Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elbert Hunter, Program Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maurice Irby, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Jackson, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas McKinney, Housing/Aftercare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Mitchell, Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willie Sally, Caseworker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marsha Smith, Sec/Reception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Stoneburner, House Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patricia Taylor, Asst. Program Dir.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarence Weaver, Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eddie Weaver, Network/Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelvin White, Program Aide</td>
</tr>
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<td>Willie Williams, House Manager</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>St. Leonard’s Ministries FY’04</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Staff</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grace House</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evellia Brooks, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miguel Cruz, Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanitha Dale, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Dolan, OP, Administrator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernadine Dowdell, Program Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Annie Gonzalez, Housing/Aftercare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Kluth, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carla Lewis, Sec/Reception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arlinda Parker, Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denise Thompson, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marilyn Williams, House Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St. Andrew’s Court</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roosevelt Cosey, Desk Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noy Frial, Social Services Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Griffin, Desk Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Harris, Senior Desk Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis Jones, Desk Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Parker, Desk Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fareed Rasheed, Desk Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Ronquillo, Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Rosa, Administrator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haywood Ware, Desk Clerk</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Financial Report</strong> (unauditied)**</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct Public Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ind. contributions/Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations &amp; Corporations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indirect Public Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Way, Episcopal Charities,</td>
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<td>Churches/Church Groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government contracts/Grants</td>
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<td>IL. Dept. of Corrections,</td>
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<td>IL. Dept. of Human Services</td>
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<td>City of Chgo. Dept. of Human</td>
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<td>Services &amp; Dept. of Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Barlow Dev. Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising/Board of Directors</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Related Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office, Accounting, Printing,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage &amp; Mailing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupancy, Utilities &amp; Telephone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resident Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food &amp; Transportation Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising Event Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Development &amp; Travel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance, Administration &amp; Misc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
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| $1,237,752                           |

| $1,249,997                           |
1954 Father James ("Jimmie") Jones and Episcopal Church Women open the doors of St. Leonard’s House at the corner of Hoyne & Warren. Residents are a diverse group of 5 to 10 men from Bridewell Jail as well as from state prisons.

1958 SLH opens its honor farm as an alternate site near the Benedictine Abbey at Three Rivers, Michigan; the farm was sold a few years later.

1965 Father Jones & Father Robert Taylor leverage major funding for SLH programs through Lyndon Johnson’s War on Poverty Campaign.
1989 Prison numbers begin to swell as a result of the Country's War on Drugs. SLH's 2110 building is rehabbed and dedicated to program services resulting in SLH's daily count growing to 40 men.

1994 Grace House opens in response to the rising numbers of women incarcerated in the IL prison system with the help of the Chicago Dept. of Human Services. In 2000, it was moved to its permanent home on Adams Street.

1998 With help from Lakefront Supportive Housing, St. Andrew's Court is opened in response to the growing difficulties SLH program participants experience when looking for post-program housing.
2000 With the help of Ben Applegate from Applegate Thorne Thompson, law firm, St. Leonard's Ministries becomes the official umbrella organization sponsoring three distinct programs: St. Leonard's House, Grace House and St. Andrew's Court.

2001 Dr. Rennie Golden & Dr. Erica Meiners, from Northeastern IL University, and a group of dedicated staff and volunteers initiate the St. Leonard's Adult High School program.

2004 The Illinois Facilities Fund and Pepper Construction Company work with SLM to begin the Michael Barlow Center which will address the employment related concerns of formerly incarcerated men and women.
1967  SLH becomes a recipient of funds from the Community Chest, the precursor of the United Way.

1970  Louis Randall, former SLH resident, becomes Executive Director of St. Leonard's House, serving in this role for three years.

1975  SLH begins receiving financial support from the IL Dept. of Corrections through its Title XX program; all residents henceforward are on parole status with IDOC. The House's daily count was 12 to 18 men.

1978  For a brief period of time, a program for troubled youth is conducted in the second SLH building at 2110 W. Warren.
The Michael Barlow Center, a program of St. Leonard's Ministries, began its first year of operation on July 1, 2005, providing education, training and employment services to formerly incarcerated men and women.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

- In the first year of operation 180 individuals have received services.
- This year 47 individuals have received their high school diploma through the Adult High School (a graduation rate of 81%).
- Forty-nine individuals have completed one of the skills training programs (Food Services Preparation or Building Maintenance).
- Sixty-six individuals have completed the Employment Preparation Training, learning the soft skills to succeed in today's work place.
- The Computer Lab has been used by more than 200 individuals.
- 122 individuals have been placed in jobs.
- 85% retained their jobs for at least 30 days and 67% for at least 90 days.
- On 2/13/06 a Tutoring Program began and 368 hours of tutoring have been provided.
## WAGE COMPARISONS
Illinois Minimum Wages vs. M.B.C. Job Seekers Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPLOYER</th>
<th>JOB TITLES</th>
<th>WAGES</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advance Ambulance</td>
<td>E.M.T.</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew's Paper</td>
<td>Driver</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Apple Finer Foods</td>
<td>Stock Clerks</td>
<td>9.50</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Therapeutics</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>8.50</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitzpatrick Hotel</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>8.61</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Footlocker</td>
<td>Mangers</td>
<td>Base Salary 25,000 + Commission</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haymarket</td>
<td>Rehab Counselors</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum of Science and Industry</td>
<td>House Keeping</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCS Financial Corp.</td>
<td>Customer Service</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popeye's Chicken</td>
<td>Cashier/Food Preps.</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portillo's Restaurant</td>
<td>Cashier/Food Preps.</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subway</td>
<td>Sandwich Maker</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Tandem Staffing&quot;</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Togetherness</td>
<td>H.I.V. Awareness Counselor</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.I.T. Medi-car</td>
<td>E.M.T.</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonald's</td>
<td>Crew Managers/Maintenance</td>
<td>6.50</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominick's</td>
<td>Produce/Bakery</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
<td>Food Service</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe's and Jack's Construction</td>
<td>Laborer</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top and Bottom Janitorial Services</td>
<td>Janitor</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INDUSTRIES THAT EMPLOY M.B.C. JOB SEEKERS

- Food Service: 36%
- Maintenance: 26%
- Healthcare: 16%
- Temporary: 10%
- Retail: 12%

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## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS

- Graduated: 47
- Dropped/Withdraw: 11
- Enrolled: 58

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## A Sampling of Job Seekers Placed in Full-Time Jobs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JOBSEEKER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EMPLOYER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George M.</td>
<td>3/23/06</td>
<td>Mount Sinai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert M.</td>
<td>4/1/06</td>
<td>South View Manor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert H.</td>
<td>5/9/06</td>
<td>Corner Bakery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jose C.</td>
<td>5/26/06</td>
<td>ABM Lakeside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie L.</td>
<td>6/5/06</td>
<td>Fulton Street Bakery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miguel G.</td>
<td>6/29/06</td>
<td>Corner Bakery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Senator Durbin Visits

The weather was Fall-like at its worst, but the visit from US Senator Richard Durbin surely brightened the day for everyone at St. Leonard’s Ministries. On Wednesday, October 11th, Sen. Durbin stopped by St. Leonard’s to see firsthand what is available to SLM’s residents and program participants. A variety of staff members were present to describe the context in which formerly incarcerated men and women begin the rebuilding of their lives.

The highlight of Senator Durbin’s remarks to the Staff was the announcement that he had successfully secured $250,000 in the Senate spending bill that funds the Department of Labor. The money Senator Durbin set aside for St. Leonard’s would provide federal funding to strengthen job training and job placement programs for ex-offenders transitioning back into the community.

The Labor, Health & Human Services and Education appropriations bill won’t be finalized until Congress merges the House and Senate bills, expected by the end of the year.

Episcopal Charities Site Visit

On October 25th, St. Leonard’s Ministries was visited by a team from Episcopal Charities and Community Services as part of the annual application for funding process. The visiting team was composed of The Rev. George Hull, Rector of St. Mark’s Church in Barrington, and Sophia Twaddell, ECCS Board Member. The purpose of the visit was twofold: St. Leonard’s had an opportunity to update the Team on current agency happenings and Team Members were able to take a brief look at all sorts of administrative components that shape the relationship between ECCS and St. Leonard’s Ministries.

A highlight of the review was a panel of program participants from St. Leonard’s House, Grace House and St. Andrew’s Court who shared their stories with the Visiting Team. Looking at programs, statistics and finances provides only a small part of the St. Leonard’s story. Hearing program participants tell their stories provided a complementary view of the SLM Mission.

The visit concluded with lunch in SLH’s Dining Room which was prepared by students of the Michael Barlow Center’s Food Services Preparation Class.

photos by Eunice Drezba, OP
Profiles

**Latrice Johnson - Grace House:** Grace House alumna, Latrice Johnson moved to her own studio apartment a few months ago at Sanctuary Place, a supportive housing program for women. Latrice shares: "I am grateful to the City of Chicago for making more places. Now there are more places available for homeless people who lack money, experience illness, or are in recovery. Sanctuary Place is a beautiful setting for women and children. Sanctuary Place, Cressey House, Deborah's Place - they are all good, as long as you are doing the right thing and I think that's real good."

Latrice cherishes her recovery. She starts each day by going to the 6:00 a.m. Mustard Seed AA Meeting. She finds that recovery from alcohol and drug addiction and doing the 12 steps prepare her to deal with every aspect of her life. She likes to review her journals and the resources from the different programs she has been in, "You can get too comfortable; it's good to remember the pain I caused myself and others. Recovery is beyond staying clean; it's all the other things. God, be patient, I'm doing my part."

A recent graduate of St. Leonard's Adult High School, Latrice has worked steadily to rebuild and develop healthy relationships with her family. On a recent visit, her mom told Latrice: "I'm very proud of you. I'm glad you are my daughter." She also keeps in touch with her Grace House mentor and several Grace House alumnae: "I love them; we love each other. We are still family - one big happy family."

**Gary McGee - St. Leonard's House**  For Gary, growing up wasn’t easy. He ran the streets, made bad choices, and found himself in trouble with the law at an early age. When he was 22, Gary was sentenced to a lengthy period of incarceration. The first few years in prison were a fight for survival with constant spiritual and physical tests every day. After a few years inside, and with encouragement from his family, he decide to make the best out of a bad situation and pursued his education. Gary earned not only his GED but also his Bachelor's degree while in prison. Determined to make himself a better person, he continued his studies throughout his time in prison.

When Gary came to St. Leonard's House in July, he was starting a whole new chapter in his life. Gary says "I had been away for so long, so long; I wasn’t sure how I would be able to adapt to society. I didn’t know what to expect, but I knew I was ready to get my life back." St. Leonard's House helped him regain his confidence and helped him keep to the path he set for himself to rebuild his life. Taking each day at a time, Gary says, "St. Leonard's House helped me become whole again. I will not let the experiences of my past define my future. I'm a free man and I see that I still have a lot of opportunities in life. For that, I'll always be thankful for the opportunity to have been part of the community at the House."

**Charles Holman - St. Andrew's Court:** Charles Holman, thirty-nine, came to St. Leonard's Ministries in March 2004 after spending twelve years in prison. While at St. Leonard's House, he obtained his high school diploma, participated in anger management, service work, and outpatient substance abuse treatment. Charles moved to St. Andrew's Court in 2004 and has found a job at Subway as a sandwich specialist. Charles says that he enjoys working with customers. Recently, Charles accepted a part-time position as House Manager with St. Leonard's House. As a graduate of the program, Charles says he really enjoys the work because he can help others like him.

In his spare time, Charles likes to travel, go to Millennium Park, listen to opera, people watch, and take pictures. He also likes to spend time with his family and three children. His hopes are to have a better relationship with all of them.

Charles was introduced to the St. Leonard's House program by his social worker while in prison. At the time, Charles had no interest in entering the program, but was eventually persuaded to submit an application. Now, Charles states that the ministry "is showing me how to live, take responsibility for doing for myself and not other people doing for me. I have a better way of life." Charles has been clean and sober from drugs and alcohol for thirteen years.
This September marked the beginning of the fifteenth year of collaboration between the Adler School of Professional Psychology and St. Leonard’s Ministries. During the first few years of Adler’s presence on the St. Leonard’s campus, focus was placed on a relatively small number of program participants with particular needs. As time went on and interest in working with formerly incarcerated men and women grew, services and the number of Adler students working at St. Leonard’s Ministries’ sites increased dramatically.

Currently, Dr. Robert Baker supervises the Adler School’s work with St. Leonard’s Ministries. Three student clinicians and one intern work at St. Leonard’s House and two student clinicians, one intern and one post-doctoral student intern work at Grace House. This talented group of professionals helps SLH and GH staff through resident evaluations and assessments, as well as providing group and individual counseling as follow-up. Adler students benefit from this collaborative effort and it certainly provides an elevated level of service provision for SLM’s program participants.

During the months of July, August and September, the SLM Board of Directors conducted its first Special Appeal to donors. The goal of the Appeal was to raise $25,000 to help cover expenses for the first year of operation for the Michael Barlow Center.

Along the way, an anonymous donor pledged to meet all dollars raised up to $25,000. That sum quickly became the goal of the Appeal. By the time the Appeal wound down at the end of September, SLM’s generous donors had contributed $25,230. Meeting the $25,000 goal netted the match amount from the Generous Donor bringing the total amount raised through the Board’s efforts to $50,230. Congratulations to the St. Leonard’s Ministries Board and all the generous donors who shared in this effort.
Wish List

- Cargo van
- Men's winter gloves and large size winter jackets; men's underwear/socks; XL, 2X and 3X tee-shirts and men's shoes are needed for winter.
- We need a group of volunteers who will organize and carry out the Christmas Gathering for SLM residents and their children. Lots of fun for everyone!
- Heavy duty large cooking pots
- Snow shovels or warm weather
- And, yes, we remain in need of the usual items: coffee, sugar, pancake syrup, corn meal and tomato paste as well as personal items such as soap, deodorant, tooth paste, and after shave lotion.
- Weekly bus passes
- Aprons for the kitchen
- White chef's/cook uniform shirts/jackets

Paluch Family Foundation Award

On October 25, 2006, St. Leonard's Ministries' Executive Director, Bob Dougherty, was the recipient of the prestigious Paluch Family Foundation 10th Anniversary Recognition for outstanding Stewardship.

The Paluch Family Foundation is dedicated to supporting efforts in Liturgy, Stewardship and Vocations. Each year they identify and celebrate an individual whose life long commitment in one of these areas has made a significant difference.

With his usual grace and humor, Bob accepted the Stewardship award in the name of St. Leonard's Ministries, acknowledging all the past and present residents and supporters who engage and enrich one another in a life-saving mission. Congratulations, Bob!
What's on the Menu?

Pots and pans are clanging and carrots and onions are being sliced to perfection - well, almost perfection. Inspiration Corporation has begun its first Food Service Handling class in the Michael Barlow Center. On September 19th, seventeen eager students began this program, which will culminate with students receiving food service certification and very concrete assistance with locating and keeping a food services job.

Two-thirds of the class are residents of St. Leonard's House, Grace House or St. Andrew's Court and the remaining students are formerly incarcerated men and women referred to the Barlow Center from various community service providers. Each program participant has completed pre-employment work, such as resume writing and interviewing skills, through The Employment Project. During the program, students learn the basics of handling food: correct storage guidelines, processing food items, creating a balanced meal and serving prepared foods.

Each Friday, Chef Tommy Haire, and his students provide a meal for anyone on SLM's campus who wants to share in the class effort. Thus far, these Friday meals have been a huge success both for the students who get to see their efforts realized quite quickly and for staff who enjoy this gustatory change of pace.

Plans call for Inspiration Corporation to offer this particular skills training module three times each year with a two month break in between each session. If all goes well - or in this case, if the souffle rises, forty-five new food service handlers will be taking major steps toward finding and sustaining employment through this program.

Congratulations to all the budding chefs who are enthused about what they are learning, proud of themselves for sticking with it, and anxious to apply their newly honed skills. It is one more concrete achievement in the process of re-engaging as productive members in the community, able to care for themselves and for their families.
Thanks to the United Way of Metropolitan Chicago

Mary Hornschemeier, former Dominican Volunteer with St. Leonard's Adult High School Program, has moved to full-time employment as the Agency's Director of Education. From her office in the Michael Barlow Center, Mary will continue to coordinate the High School Program; she will also focus on the educational needs of each program participant in all three SLM programs. A generous grant from the United Way of Metropolitan Chicago has made the creation of this new position possible.

Assessing talents and career possibilities of program participants will be the starting point for Mary's engaging individuals in establishing educational plans. Taking on the role of the high school guidance counselor, Mary will help individuals discern future paths that are realistic and goal oriented. The next step will be referral to MBC programs or any of Chicago's numerous educational institutions.

Mary will receive lots of help in this process. St. Leonard's Ministries has been chosen as site to host a VISTA Volunteer for the coming year. To help Chicago meet the needs of formerly incarcerated men and women, Americorps is providing ten volunteer slots administered by Bethel New Life. SLM's Volunteer will develop a tutoring program at the Michael Barlow Center to meet the specific educational needs of program participants. Additionally, Mike Monnelly, Matthew Wiley and St. Cecelia Piper have been invaluable assistants in the Computer Lab where students learn computer basics and accessing personal assessment software.

More New Faces in Places

Christopher Vaughn is St. Leonard's House new Program Director. He was a former staff member at Cressey House.

Rev. Annie Gonzalez is St. Leonard's Ministries new Director of Operations. She was the former Housing Specialist and Aftercare Director at Grace House.

Patricia Taylor has been the Assistant Program Director at St. Leonard's House for over a year. She came to us from TASC.

Jim Zangs is the Administrator of the Michael Barlow Center. He was a former administrator at the Safer Foundation.
Wish List

- One of the MBC classes to be offered is Building Maintenance. We need hammers, tool belts and other basic tools for the students. Great idea for a Parish Drive!
- Men’s winter gloves and large size winter jackets; men’s underwear/socks; XL, 2X and 3X tee-shirts and men’s shoes are needed for winter.
- We need a group of volunteers who will organize and carry out the SLM residents’ Christmas Gathering with their children. Lots of fun for everyone!
- With the addition of all the new offices and staff at the Michael Barlow Center, we are in dire need of computers/printers for offices.
- Cargo van and snow shovels
- And, yes, we remain in need of the usual items: coffee, sugar, pancake syrup and corn meal, as well as personal items such as soap, deodorant, tooth paste, and after shave lotion.
- Weekly bus passes
- 3 new computer printers
- White chef’s/cook uniform shirts/jackets

Pax et Bonum Award

(PEACE AND EVERYTHING GOOD)

As a service to the Chicago Community, St. Peter’s Church annually offers recognition to an individual in the Chicago area who “exemplifies the Franciscan values of love of God, care of the poor through works of justice and peace, and respect for all creation.”

The 2005 recipient is our own Bob Dougherty. A lifelong commitment to the dignity of all people, Bob has shared his life, leadership, labor and boundless energy to benefit those most in need of equal access and equal justice. He loves generously, laughs spontaneously and works unbelievably hard because “it just needs to be done.”

SLM residents, staff and board congratulate St. Peter’s on their choice!

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Chicago, IL 60612
312/738-1414 FAX: 312/738-1417
www.slministries.org

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- an agency of Episcopal Charities and Community Services
- a member of the United Way of Chicago, and
- a service provider for the Illinois and Chicago Departments of Human Services.
Michael Barlow Center Moves Forward

Progress on the Michael Barlow Center has been spectacular! Pepper Construction Company has taken good advantage of this past summer’s mild weather. Once the foundation was poured, the building rose markedly with each passing day. At this point, the outer walls, roof and windows are in place. Inside, all the offices and classrooms are clearly visible. Walking through the building, one gets a sense of good space and great things to come.

A big boost in the Center’s Capital Campaign came in June when Mayor Richard Daley came to St. Leonard’s House to announce a $500,000 grant from the City of Chicago for the project. In his remarks during the visit, the Mayor commented on St. Leonard’s long history of helping formerly incarcerated men and women. The grant from the City was seen as an investment in the futures of the Employment Center’s program participants and a definite benefit to the City.

LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation) has provided a grant of $30,000 to help outfit the Center’s Kitchen Classroom which will be used by Inspiration Corporation to provide food services training to program participants. LISC Staff were very interested in the Employment Center project because of the assistance it will provide to men and women who will eventually reside in a number of Chicago communities. Another point of interest was the fact that the Michael Barlow Center project holds great promise for replication in other urban areas where the numbers of individuals returning to communities continue to escalate.

Plans call for the Barlow Center’s construction to conclude early in January, 2005. Formal classes will begin as soon as the middle of January with hopes for full Center use by March.

The Employment Project which provides job readiness and resume assistance for SLM program participants and St. Leonard’s Adult High School will be the first programs to move into the new facility. The Center’s other collaborators - Inspiration Corporation, Jane Addams Resource Corporation and LEED (Local Economic and Employment Development Council) - are finalizing proposed class offerings. An Open House is planned for Spring, 2005.
Congratulations to the Benefit Committee of St. Leonard’s Board of Directors for a truly festive 50th Anniversary Benefit. The event, held on Sunday, Oct. 3rd at Chicago’s famous Pump Room, was a great success. One hundred and fifty friends of St. Leonard’s gathered to enjoy a good time and a Silent Auction filled with exceptional items. Committee chairs, Cecelia Downs and David Waud, did an outstanding job at orchestrating the Event and the Silent Auction.

Episcopal Archivist, Richard Seidel, provided a historical overview of St. Leonard’s through the years with a very interesting photo display. Real live Board Members Glenda Hunter, Bob Coffin and Bill Hall were able to give firsthand accounts of the House in the beginning and through the very early years.

As part of the celebration, former St. Leonard’s Ministries Board Members were honored for their commitment and dedication to St. Leonard’s Ministries while they served on the Board.

Ten former board members were able to be present representing board membership from the early 60’s to more recent times. Paddie Brennen, SLM Board President, presented each one with a memento of St. Leonard’s Ministries as a token of appreciation. Paddie also acknowledged the leadership and work of Executive Dir., Bob Dougherty.
Digital Divide Grant

An integral component of the Michael Barlow Center will be its computer education opportunities. To aid in this endeavor, the Center has received a grant of $35,000 from the State of Illinois' Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Its “Ending the Digital Divide” program is designed to assist resources such as the Michael Barlow Center in efforts to help community residents become better equipped with computer skills as they improve their employability. Through the grant, 20 new computers have been purchased for the MBC computer lab as well as an array of accompanying software and other related equipment and furnishings.

Eddie Weaver Jr., a former resident of St. Andrew’s Court, has been expediting this grant in his new role as Computer Specialist for the Michael Barlow Center. For the last two years, Eddie has been SLM’s part-time Computer Technician, showing extraordinary talent and dedication. His willingness to move into the larger role of Computer Specialist at the Employment Center will be a real gift for the project. In addition to keeping everything in the Computer Lab in order, Eddie will also assist students from time to time who need individual help in the Lab. Eddie looks forward to moving the “temporary” computer lab out of the basement of St. Andrew’s Court, its makeshift home for three years.

Meet Mary ‘H’

St. Leonard’s Adult High School is in the midst of its seventh semester with a record number of students, 30, enrolled in class. A new Site Coordinator, Mary Hornschemeier, has assumed the role of attending to school’s activities for this year. Mary is a member of the Dominican Volunteers of America. Members of this group, typically recent college graduates, commit to working for a year in economically challenged social service or educational settings. While several Dominican Volunteers are working here in the Chicago area, others work in locations all across the Country.

Mary, who has proven to be a natural educator and organizer, recently graduated from Loyola University here in Chicago; she hopes to be involved in some way in education for a career. Georgetown, Ohio, is Mary’s home. Students and teachers alike have responded warmly to Mary’s engaging presence.

Altie, Charles, Austin, Mary and Andrew check out the homework.

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Special Thanks

to Ben Applegate (father of five, lawyer extraordinaire, advocate for affordable housing, defender of nonprofit organizations working for people who are disenfranchised, and amazing runner) who ran the Chicago LaSalle Marathon to benefit St. Leonard’s Ministries. We are extremely grateful for his generosity and awed by his stamina!

Wish List

When you’re cleaning out your cupboards and closets or when you’re just out shopping at the Mall and you run out of things to buy, please keep SLM’s Wish list on your mind. Contact Sister Eunice (312/738-1414 ex/12) if you can help SLM with any of these items:

- standard xerox paper
- men’s T-shirts (XL, XXL & XXXL)
- men’s underwear (36-38-40)
- Christmas cards for residents to send/stamps
- gifts for residents to give to their children
- personal items: toothpaste, soap, deodorant
- desks & bookcases for the new Center
- double square potholders
- heavy duty kitchen aprons
- coffee
- men’s socks
- digital camera
- men’s cologne
- vacuum cleaners
- small TV’s & radios
- sugar
- laundry detergent

Thank you!!

And remember, the Holiday Season brings with it many opportunities to help SLM with parties and gatherings for residents and their families. If you are interested in helping with any one of these, call Sister Cathie (312/738-1414 ex/17). If you are interested in assisting in one of the Adult High School classes or tutoring for an 1hr week at your convenience, call Mary Hornschemeir at 312/226-7205.

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A GREAT VISION

On September 1st, St. Leonard’s Ministries lost its longest standing friend when Father James (“Jimmy”) Jones, SLH Founder, died at his home in Copper City, Michigan. In the mid 1950’s, Father Jones worked at Chicago’s Bridewell Jail. From the depths of the cold and damp basement cells of this precursor to Cook County Jail, came the idea of creating a House where men could go to find themselves after the terribly dehumanizing experience of incarceration. The idea became a vision and the vision became the mission of Father James Jones.

Born January 21, 1927, in Oak Park, Illinois, James Jones was the son of the Rev. James G. and Alice Millor Jones. Following graduation from Nashotah House Seminary, Father Jones was ordained in 1953 by Bishop James Street, who appointed him City Missioner and Jail Chaplain for the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.

In 1954 Father Jones opened St. Leonard’s House at the corner of Warren and Hoyne, one of the first halfway houses for ex-offenders in the United States. He served as Executive Director for ten years. During that time, he was recognized in many circles. In 1961 Ralph Edwards surprised Fr. Jones making him the guest of honor on the biographical television program, “This Is Your Life.” And in 1962 Life Magazine called him one of the “One Hundred Most Important Young Men and Women in the United States” in its cover story, “The Takeover Generation.”

In 1966 Fr. Jones assisted The Rev. Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. organize his Chicago civil rights campaign, and was a participant in the famous “summit meeting” between Dr. King and Mayor Richard J. Daley. Fr. Jones was Executive Director of Concept House, a substance abuse treatment center in Miami, from 1974 to 1982. He received his doctorate from Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1977. He was the author of “A Long Hot Summer in Chicago,” “Debunking Dope” and “Advice to Parents of Addicts.”

Father Jones left behind his wife, Nancy, as well as his children, James G. Jones III, John Jones, Mary Devine, David Jones and Stephen Jones, and his sister, the Rev. Mary-Frances Jones and brother, the Rev. Michael S. Jones. He had four grand children.

St. Leonard’s House has become St. Leonard’s Ministries. New programs and sites have been established and thousands of men and women have come through the doors of St. Leonard’s House, Grace House and St. Andrew’s Court. Without Father Jones’ initial vision and tenacity, none of this would have come about. From the beginning and to this day, the underlying theme adopted by Father Jones has remained “Let all guests be treated as Christ.”
GIFT OF LIFE
A FAMILY'S GENTLENESS IN THE MIDST OF TRAGEDY GIVES LIFE AND HOPE TO OTHERS

In mid August a family suffered the tragic loss of their ten year old child. In his loving memory, the family donated his kidneys, pancreas and heart to others who would die without them.

The recipient of one of the kidneys was St. Andrew’s Court resident, 65 year old Walter Gibson. Since July 28, 1998, Mr. Gibson has faithfully gone to the hospital three times a week for dialysis treatments. His quiet, gentle manner endeared him to everyone. The treatments exhausted him. He felt himself wearing down but was determined not to give up hope. As time went by, he was getting older and weaker and became frightened that his age would become a prohibitive factor in his receiving a kidney.

In early August, Walter got a call from the hospital saying there was a kidney available but they had to do tissue matching to see if it would be appropriate for him. Five hours later they called to say he was not a match. From exhilaration to disappointment in a heartbeat! Almost equally disappointed, Walter’s doctor said, “We’re going to get you a kidney!”

Four days later, the hospital called and said pack up and get over here. He was so excited he doesn’t even remember the trip to the hospital. Later, someone told him that it was David Rosa, SAC Administrator, who drove him to the hospital and got him registered.

Walter had imagined many times what it would be like. He thought that after the surgery he would get well slowly and gradually feel better and better. Immediately following the surgery he was shocked to feel so good so soon. He felt ready to get up as soon as he woke up. He could breathe easily and, somewhat shyly he says, “I had normal bodily functions that I hadn’t had in years.” He chuckles remembering coming out of surgery and seeing Bob Dougherty.

“I was so glad the first face was a familiar face!” Walter

Walter Gibson reflects on the past five years

would have been out of the hospital after four days, but his blood pressure rose considerably and in order to monitor it, they kept him for a week and a half. His recovery has gone smoothly: no sign of rejection. He is healing quickly and gets excellent lab results. They have cut his lab tests from 3 times a week to once a week because he is doing so well.

Walter has high praise for the “wonderful doctors” and other health care providers at Bernard Mitchell Hospital. The treatment and support building up to the surgery, carrying a patient through it and beyond, have been exemplary. During the multi-year ordeal, Bernard Mitchell Hospital staff have been caring, encouraging and excellent practitioners.

Walter’s great joy, besides the bodily functions, is that he can walk to Western Ave. and back without gasping for breath or needing a nap. He can’t wait to get back to his art. (SLM’s 2002 Christmas card cover, Mother and Child, was a sample of his work.)

According to Walter, the only downside to this extraordinary event is the sorrow he feels for the loss of the child, his donor. He prays for the family and considers their generous gift a miracle. He says quietly, “It’s not just a piece of something, you know, it’s sharing a life - a rare and beautiful privilege.”

Congratulations!

Betty Gibson, former Grace House resident, was honored at the Chicago Foundation for Women’s September 25th Annual Luncheon. Betty was among a dozen women who received the Foundation’s “Ripple Effect” Awards which are designed to honor participants of programs that have received funding from the Chicago Foundation for Women. Betty worked hard at Grace House to take the initial steps at rebuilding her life. In addition to other accomplishments, Betty recently graduated from Chicago State University. Indeed, Betty deserved this Award! And congratulations, also, to the staff at Grace House for their sharing in this honor.
"Tony 'N' Tina's Wedding"

This year's benefit for St. Leonard's Ministries was the interactive musical theater presentation of "Tony 'N' Tina's Wedding" on Sunday, October 12, at Piper's Alley. Upbeat and funny, the "Wedding Party" mingled with guests from the bar to the chapel to the reception. The music was energetic and guests were great sports as they got involved in the production.

At the end of the performance, Butler Sharpe III welcomed supporters and emceed the short program. Padre Brennen, Board President, acknowledged the guests of honor, the women of Grace House and their mentors, and thanked everyone for coming. Bob Dougherty, SLM Executive Director, gave a brief picture of life around St. Leonard's.

Board member, Kevin Dolan, conducted a raffle of "Wedding Gifts." Elegant packages including acclaimed restaurant and theater tickets; ambassador Hotel accommodations; Symphony, Dance Troupe and Bulls tickets; Photography Portrait sitting; a three-step make-over; original art note cards and bottles of wine were the prizes.

The Board Benefit committee members, Rosanna Marquez (chair), Patricia Dowell, Wendy Mitchell, Domenica Devine, Jim Russell, Butler Sharpe, and Marina Carrott (Director of Operations) are to be congratulated for their creativity in choosing this venue. It was very engaging. We can't wait to see what the Committee comes up with for next year!

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MEET MARINA CARROTT

St. Leonard's Ministries is delighted to welcome Marina Carrott as the Director of Operations for the agency. Marina brings intelligence and insight to the role, as well as a wealth of administrative expertise and experience in both the public and private sectors. An active supporter of Episcopal Charities, Marina has a proven long-standing commitment to the Mission and programs of St. Leonard's Ministries. Her enthusiasm and energy are contagious. We look forward to growing together in this life enhancing service to the community.

CTCNET

The mission of the Community Technology Center's network (CTCNet) is to support community technology centers so that they may better serve their constituencies. CTCNet offers resources to enhance each affiliated center's capacity to provide technology access and education to its community. They facilitate linkages, electronic and in-person, enabling members to benefit from shared experience and expertise.

Through CTCNet and its partners, Alliance for Technology Access and Association of Christian Community Computer Centers, St. Leonard's Ministries was selected to receive a grant as part of their Connections for Tomorrow (C4T) program funded by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services.

With the grant, St. Leonard's Ministries has been able to hire a part-time computer tech/teacher from July through December, attend workshops, consult with an expert on assistive technology & acquire supplies for the SLM Tech Program serving St. Leonard's House, Grace House, St. Andrew's Court, the Adult High School program, and the two labs serving residents and former residents. Regular classes are held weekly to serve the individuals in the Adult High School program; mini-courses and individual assistance are available for all interested residents throughout the year.

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WISH LIST

- bus passes
- men's tee shirts (L, XL)
  - briefs (sz 36)
- shaving cream & razors
- deodorant (men & women)
- staples:
  - detergent
  - sugar
  - canned vegetables,
    especially corn/gr. beans
  - coffee
  - powdered creamer
- copier paper

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