

Update cont. from front page

pick up and delivery. Pallets with our order are loaded by fork lift now at the Tarrant Area Food Bank. However, offloading at WestAid is still done by hand. This would give us about six men that could alternate weeks and allow an easier unloading process.

There are several short term volunteer projects available at WestAid right now. These include: organizing old documents and records; making contacts regarding some marketing products; overseeing our freeze-dried samplings; some fund-raising organizing; shelf painting and miscellaneous organizing projects.

Our Trinity Trek will be a little later this year than in the past. May 8th should be a great day—not too cold in the morning and not too hot by finishing time. This year will be the best Trek yet!

The WestAid Board of Directors and staff are working toward taking WestAid on the road this summer. Our plan is to work with the Food Bank and do at least one offsite food distribution each month during the summer. The focus area will be 76107. This would be an excellent way to involve a group of youth from your church to assist with this. More info will be forthcoming.—William Pherigo

We hope you might consider an extra gift to WestAid as we continue to serve God's children on the west side of Fort Worth. You can also make a donation in honor or memory of someone you love.



Treasurer's Report

by Beverly Britton

February is almost over and I have done a comparison between February 2008 through January 2009, and February 2009 through January 2010. Statistics may be boring to read, but they do show our financial picture.

<u>Income</u>	<u>Year ending 1/09</u>	<u>Year ending 1/10</u>
Churches/Affiliates	\$54,771.94	\$59,012.27
Trinity Trek	\$14,067.35	\$16,466.00
Businesses	\$9,720.86	\$16,297.02
Individuals	\$30,596.31	\$29,961.02
Grants, Interest	\$25,129.71	\$49,908.06
TOTAL	\$134,286.17	\$171,644.37

Expenses for year ending January 2009—\$146,020.02

Expenses for year ending January 2010—\$154,986.23

Income January 1 through February 25, 2009—\$1597.72

Income January 1 through February 25, 2010—\$2761.12

Considering our client numbers have increased about 20% over last year, it is a blessing that we have been able to meet demands. Thank you! However, given the escalating need for our services, we ask you to be generous during this year of our 25th anniversary.



Texas Hunger Statistics

According to a report released last year by Feeding America, Texas is home to a higher share of hungry children than any other state. The study found 22 percent of Texans under age 18 — 1.5 million — don't get enough nutritious food. Texas also ranked fifth in the nation for food insecurity among children under 5.

Food insecurity, by a long-standing government definition, is a lack of access to sufficient and nutritious food. More than 12 million American children, or one in six, are at risk of hunger, according to the report.

"This report should impress upon all of us that we need to be doing more to provide nutritious food to our community's most vulnerable population, our children," said



Eric S. Cooper, the San Antonio Food Bank's executive director. "We're reaching out to more families than ever before, but we need the continued support of our communities to truly fight hunger in Texas."

WestAid asks you to remember these statistics as we move into the summer with our Three for Three Campaign, designed to give additional food to families with children.



Three Big “Thank You’s”

1. To **THE ARTHUR MURRAY DANCE STUDIO** for their extremely generous donation of \$10,000 to buy a 12’ box truck with a lift. The need was great, and this purchase makes it possible for us to transport the tons of food we pick-up each month from the food bank without having to rely on various volunteers’ personal vehicles. We now have a dedicated vehicle for our Tuesday food order, and we can’t thank Arthur Murray Dance Studio enough for their wonderful generosity!
2. To **KATHY SEVERSON** who spent countless hours designing and producing a new brochure and logo for us. This is the most professional interpretive piece we have had to date. If you haven’t seen the brochure, pick one up at our office and use it to get the word out about WestAid during this 25th Anniversary year. Kathy, you have a servant’s heart and you have blessed us!
3. To **ALL THOSE WHO ATTENDED “AN EVENING WITH SHANE CLAIBORNE”** at Ridglea Presbyterian Church. Part of the proceeds went to support WestAid. More importantly, Shane challenged all of us to serve the needy at our doorstep with God’s “scandalous message of grace and love.” Thanks to our co-sponsor, Torch of Faith!

Visit us at Westaid.org

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WestAid

Serving God’s people for 25 years
March, 2010 newsletter



Update on Our Thriving Ministry

Our delivery truck (see thank you on next page) is already making a tremendous difference in our pantry inventory. The increased capacity allows us to obtain more food from the Food Bank. This, along with some needed food contributions, enables our pantry volunteers to increase the quantity given out to families.

If you haven’t already, I hope you will participate in a “25” project for WestAid’s 25th Anniversary. One of our congregations has met the



challenge by sending a check for \$625—25 x 25. For other creative ideas, read the letter from our President, Diana Getchell, on our website, www.westaid.org

WestAid provided assistance to over 20% more people in 2009 than during 2008! Initial numbers after two months still show a steady increase. At the end of February, we had helped 698 families compared to 619 last year.

We need three additional volunteers on Tuesday mornings to assist with the Food Bank

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