

Renaissance Social Services



2008 Annual Report



FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

There is no doubt, when looking back over the past year, that these are troubling times. Our primary funding source, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, cut its funding for supportive services in Chicago by 10%. Grants from the state of Illinois were delayed and then cut by 50% due to politics and Illinois' economic problems.

Every day we receive calls from people in desperate need of assistance, but Renaissance Social Services is now able to help only half of those who call. We work hard to provide referrals for other sources of assistance, but it is becoming more challenging.

Yet we are filled with hope that, with hard work and your support, Renaissance Social Services can make the next year a better one for many of Chicago's families and individuals.

Chicago has a plan and Renaissance Social Services has an important part in the success of that plan. We are working closely with representatives from the City of Chicago, the Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness, and local senior service providers to provide a comprehensive, collaborative and cost effective plan to confront the housing issues facing individuals and families in poverty.

As a part of these efforts in early 2009, Renaissance Social Services provided housing and supportive services for 14 individuals with disabilities who have experienced chronic homelessness.

Evidence shows that the chronically homeless use the most resources in our homeless system and cost society the most money in emergency services (please see our website for additional details). Our Chronic Homeless Initiative will help get people off the streets and into quality housing with supportive services.

The continued success of this initiative will depend on our supporters stepping up in these difficult times so that together we can help those who have lost everything and have no family or friends to support them when they have fallen.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Michael Banghart
Executive Director



Pastor David Abrahamson
President of the Board of Directors

CHRONIC HOMELESS INITIATIVE LAUNCHED AT WICKER PARK RENAISSANCE



Wicker Park Renaissance ribbon cutting. From left: Pastor David Abrahamson, President of the Board of Directors; Manuel “Manny” Flores, Alderman 1st Ward; Steve Quasny, Harris Bank; Nancy Kapp, the Renaissance Companies; Jeanmarie Kapp, the Renaissance Companies; Colleen James, the Renaissance Companies; Ellen Sahli, Chicago Department of Housing; Steve Gladden, Illinois Housing Development Authority; Rachel Rhodes, National Equity Fund; Michael Banghart, Renaissance Social Services.

Richard was the first RSSI client to move into Wicker Park Renaissance. “After living on the streets for a long time, having my own place was scary at first. I was scared of being by myself. The staff has been great. I don’t feel like I am alone. When I was on the street I didn’t care, now I care about myself.”



Executive Director Michael Banghart speaks about the importance of quality housing for the homeless at the grand opening as Colleen James of the Renaissance Companies and Ellen Sahli the Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Housing look on.

“At RSSI...we believe in working together to help the disenfranchised get back on their feet and reintegrate back into the community. This takes strong community partners such the organizations that are here today.”

– Michael Banghart



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

MILDRED PORTER in her own words.

Mildred came to RSSI in 2008 when she moved into Renaissance Saint Luke. “I was living with my daughter and granddaughter until we all had to move out of the apartment because the landlord wasn’t taking care of the building and there was a lot of chaos.” “We all decided to go our separate ways. I found Renaissance Saint Luke through the Chicago Office on Aging.” Mildred was used to being independent and accepting help was not easy for her at first. During the intake assessment it was revealed that her mobility was limited which was preventing her from maintaining her apartment, and



her independence, so Renaissance Social Services connected her to home healthcare services. “I currently have a home health care person coming in four times a week to help me with laundry and keeping things clean. I am also in the process of getting the emergency button in case I am in need of medical attention and can’t get to the phone again.”

After living in the building for a few months RSSI’s case worker at the building, Katrina Wyss, noticed that Mildred was isolating, so she encouraged Mildred to come down for the events that RSSI organizes. “I really like the activities at Renaissance Saint Luke. I came down to the potlucks during Thanksgiving and Christmas so that I didn’t have to

be alone in my apartment the whole day.” Keeping people active and social is an important part of our job in the Senior Program. Studies show that seniors who are involved with their community report a better quality of life and have better health outcomes. “I made a lot of friends in the building by going to the potluck and other activities” said Mildred.

Senior Services Program Our Senior Services program provides supportive services to seniors living in affordable housing. In 2008 Renaissance Social Services provided or coordinated over 200 activities and resources in our Senior Program. Some of the resources our staff brought into the building include flu shots, how to create advance directives, monthly podiatry visits, information on receiving an amplified phone, fall prevention, inhouse computer classes and information about mobility scooters. Some of the favorite activities include Qi Gong (similar to Tai Chi), Potluck holiday events and Movie night. - Come see what is happening at our Senior Program, view the Renaissance Ramblings newsletter on our website www.rssichicago.org.

Annual Gala

Presenting Sponsor



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Other Sponsors

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Robin David

Nancy Kapp

Tracey and Andrew Lowenthal

A special thank you to our benefit committee co-chairs
Scott Bobek, Jane Weber and Nancy Kapp



Alderman Walter Burnett Jr., Robert Lieberman Awardee; Patty Dobbey, Renaissance Social Services Board Member; and Thomas McNulty, Champion of the Homeless Awardee.



Board member Nancy Kapp gives the 'Robert Liberman Award' to Alderman Walter Burnett Jr. for his efforts in supporting the development of affordable supportive housing.



Glendora receives the 'Client of the Year Award' from Executive Director Michael Banghart and Case Manager Tomike Lana-Olaseinde.

Save the Date

October 22

2009 Gala



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	2008	2007 (restated)
REVENUE		
Grants	227,594	197,634
Annual Benefit	45,849	39,073
Social Service Fees	31,995	65,750
Historic Wicker Park Investment	-	500,000
Other Income	42,225	30,325
In-Kind	67,000	67,000
Total	414,663	899,782
EXPENSES		
Payroll and Benefits	231,279	248,436
Fundraising	13,102	15,763
Programming	8,469	20,290
Insurance	14,483	12,841
Depreciation	555	106
In-Kind Rent	67,000	67,000
Accounting	7,525	8,375
Office	11,848	16,382
Grant Writing	12,880	11,760
Total	374,906	400,953
Change in Assets	39,757	498,829
Net Assets (deficit)		
Beginning of year	511,033	12,204
End of year	550,790	511,033
Temporarily Restricted Assets	1,202,125	1,202,125
Total Net Assets, End of Year	1,752,915	1,713,158



EXPENSE ALLOCATION FOR FISCAL YEAR				
	2008	%	2007	%
Program Services	318,388	85%	335,776	85%
General and Administrative	43,416	12%	49,414	12%
Fundraising	13,102	4%	15,763	4%

2008 DONORS

\$10,000 and Above

Polk Bros. Foundation
Prince Charitable Trusts
Renaissance Saint Luke LP
Harris Bank
McCormick Tribune Foundation

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Cole Taylor Bank
Holland & Knight Charitable
Foundation
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\$1,000 to \$4,999

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\$500 to \$999

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Up to \$499

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Todd Wiltse
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Scott Bobek
The Renaissance Companies
Jane Weber



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Michael Banghart – Executive Director



RENAISSANCE

SOCIAL SERVICES

Supportive programs for affordable housing.



2008 "Draw your home" runner-up entry.

2575 West Lyndale Street
Chicago, Illinois 60647
telephone (773) 645-8900
fax (773) 645-8900

WWW.RSSICHICAGO.ORG