



20 Years

Loving Our Neighbors!

Come,
Celebrate!
Saturday,
May 20,
10 am-2 pm



No tickets to buy!
Just stop by The Sharing Center and say hello!

Be sure your business, church or group is represented!

- Bring food drives or financial gifts and be recognized by the emcee at a stage in the parking area.
- Everyone who tours our food pantry and client services area will be eligible to enter a drawing for a wonderful basketful of goodies valued at \$50.
- See what's new at our thrift store and boutique.
- Hot dogs and sodas available.

To schedule food drives, office team-building events and volunteer workdays, call Michael Kenyon, coordinator of volunteers 407.260.9155, ext. 14.

Sharing Matters

Spring 2006

Hands for Caring, Hearts for Sharing



Dear Friends,

We hope you like The Sharing Center's new look and new logo, created as we enter a third decade of service to God's people in need.

Because The Sharing Center's mission is so broad, we feel the simple drawing of outstretched hands best represents our ministry. Hands uplifted in praise to God for all that He gives to us and allows us to accomplish . . . hands extending out to help God's children in need . . . hands of God's children reaching up to receive help. At any given time, they are the hands of all of us.

The word "Sharing" is the dominant word in the logo because *sharing* is our mission. Our Board of Directors has approved a revised mission statement to reflect this: "Sharing the reality of God's love with those in need by providing material assistance and promoting Christian generosity."

The Christian Sharing Center, Inc. is our official, lengthy name and continues to be so. Informally, we continue to be The Sharing Center, and our logo now reflects the intimacy people have felt in addressing the center over the years.

We have a new logo, new Web site, www.thesharingcenter.org, and a fresh, new look, but our mission remains the same: helping people struggling with personal crises by providing basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, and compassion.

God bless you for the many ways you have helped The Sharing Center to offer God's provisions to those in need for 20 years. I invite you to visit our new Web site and to stop by The Sharing Center — *your* Sharing Center — on May 20 and see how we're growing!

In Christ's love,
Angie Romagosa
President/CEO

Sometimes It Makes You Feel Sick **Faces of Poverty**

A young woman in love, Kim slowly realized her husband had taken complete control of their lives. They had moved away from family and friends to a rural area, and he insisted she quit work. As he began drinking and became abusive, Kim took Kevin, their son, and fled to a shelter where they were helped to move away. A friend helped Kim find a job, and

a cousin of her husband offered to let them stay with her. Kim's relief turned to despair again when the cousin quickly became so verbally abusive that Kevin withdrew to the room he shared with his Mom and began vomiting every day after coming home from school. Kim found a house she could afford with electric and water included; how-

ever, she did not have enough money for first and last month's rent to secure the house. The Sharing Center provided the two months rent, groceries and new school shoes for Kevin. A few days later, Kim reported that her son's smile has returned to his face both at school and at home, and Kim is enrolled in college classes to ensure their independence.

1986— 500 families served

2005— 7,151 families served

600 N. Hwy. 17-92
Suite 158
Longwood, FL 32750-3638
Phone: 407-260-9155
Thrift Store: 407.332.0925
Fax: 407-332-0535
www.thesharingcenter.org



"You were very kind . . . I was blessed . . ."

read a grateful thank-you from Agnes, an 83-year-old woman who had just been released from the hospital and had no food at home. With medical bills and household expenses "eating up" her meager Social Security check, Agnes was very distraught. Her neighbor brought her to The Sharing Center, where she was given "groceries that were very welcome, and some good advice."

The Sharing Center Board of Directors 2006-2007

Rev. Paul Hoyer, Chairman
H. Robert Kohl, Vice-Chair
Nancy Brown, Treasurer
Joan Levy, Secretary
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Valerie Fosburgh
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Mission Statement

"Sharing the reality of God's love with those in need by providing material assistance and promoting Christian generosity."

Have You Visited The Sharing Center Thrift Store Lately?

We have dropped "Values Reborn" from our store name to better identify the store with The Sharing Center. You'll still find lots of values every day! And, did you know that each day of the week a special discount is featured? Check it out:

Monday — 50% off all clothing for children and adults.

Tuesday — 20% off total purchase for Seniors 55 or Better.

Wednesday — 20% off total purchase with your business card.

Thursday — 20% off total purchase with gift of 4 Canned Food.

Friday — Get 1 Free Item of Clothing when you buy 2.

Saturday — 20% off total purchase with Student or Teacher ID.

Call the store at 407.332.0925 to schedule pickup of furniture or other heavy loads.

South Seminole CROPWalk Raises \$25,500

Thanks to all who walked and sponsored walkers in the CROPWalks March 5! The Sharing Center will receive 25% of funds raised by the Altamonte Springs walk. 75% of funds raised through CROPWalks, sponsored by Church World Service, will fight hunger world-wide. A tally for the Oviedo walk was not available at press time.



Members of Summit Church spent a Saturday in May trimming shrubs and clearing debris around The Sharing Center back lot. Coordinator of Volunteers Michael Kenyon says he always has lots of work for groups from businesses and churches to use as team-building events.

Here's How You Can Help

Drop off household items at our Distribution Center

9:00 am-4:30 pm Mon-Sat / 747 Commerce Circle, Longwood / Tel: 407-260-0270
from 17-92, go west on Longdale (north of Courtesy Pontiac), right on Commerce Circle

Volunteer Opportunities — Call Michael Kenyon 407-260-9155 ext. 14

Answer Phones 1-4 pm Mon.-Fri.; Receptionists 9 am-1 pm Mon.-Fri.

Sort Thrift Store Goods 9 am-4 pm Mon.-Sat.

Occasional professional help needed. Offer your services once or twice a year.

Some services needed: Plumbers ▪ Electricians ▪ Carpet Cleaners ▪ Physicians
▪ Dentists ▪ Optometrists ▪ Ophthalmologists ▪ Hair Stylists ▪ Mechanics.

Food Pantry Needs

Children in the free or reduced-lunch program will need extra help with food when school is out. Special need for: ▪ Juice ▪ Jelly ▪ Canned Pasta ▪ Snack Crackers

▪ Cookies ▪ Gelatin ▪ Tuna ▪ Mac 'n Cheese ▪ Rice ▪ Sugar ▪ Toilet Paper
▪ Dish Soap ▪ Bath Soap ▪ Shampoo ▪ Laundry Detergent

Do you have an email address? If so, you can help us save money

Sign up to receive our quarterly newsletter via email to help us save on production and postage costs. You'll also receive news about events and needs sooner. Use the enclosed envelope to send your email address, or email it to: nancy.nolt@thesharingcenter.org. Please include your name and snail mail address so that we know who you are, and a phone number in case we have questions.