

Basket Bingo

The Longaberger basket bingo this past fall was a huge success. Thank you to the over 140 players who came out for a great afternoon of fun. A special note of appreciation to Kohl's Department stores. They provided the volunteers on the day of the bingo to ensure that the event ran smoothly. In addition, Kohl's made a generous donation to assist in the success of the bingo. Mark you calendars for October 26th which is the next bingo.

CONTACT Helpline's mission is to provide 24 hour, 7 day a week active listening, information and referral service to Central Pennsylvania using highly trained and dedicated volunteers.

Editions of the Year 2008 CONTACT Resource Guide are now available.
Buy yours now! Call the CONTACT Business office at 652-4987 or
see our website at www.contacthelpline.org for your order form.

Accredited by CONTACT USA
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CONTACT Connection

The Newsletter of CONTACT Helpline, Harrisburg, PA

www.contacthelpline.org

Winter 2008



17th Annual Art Show and Silent Auction, March 29, 2008

Join us at the Whitaker Center for Science and The Arts, for our largest and most important fundraiser of the year! CONTACT Helpline is a 24 hour listening, information and referral program that has served our community for over 37 years. We are able to keep such a valuable program available free of charge because of the generosity of this community. We hope that you will join us on March 29th for a wonderful evening of great food and beautiful art, while supporting a great community program.

The preview for the art and the silent auction will be from 5:30pm-7pm which includes catered hors d'oeuvres by C& J catering, a cash bar (one free drink per person), and live jazz entertainment. The live auction will start at 7:00pm with unique fine art productions from AJRoss Galleries priced for everyone between \$100 and \$1000.

The evening will be an excellent opportunity for socializing with CONTACT donors and volunteers. Call our office now at 652-4987 to place your company's TAX DEDUCTIBLE advertisement in our event program or if you would like to donate a themed basket for the silent auction. Volunteers are also needed to serve on a variety of committees. Purchase your tickets by February 29th and be entered into win a piece of art from AJRoss galleries valued at \$350.

Tickets prices are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple.

Top 10 Caller Concerns in 2007

Most people know that CONTACT is able to impact our community through the listening, information and referral we provide on the helpline. We are able to take those calls and learn more about what is going on in our community. Each call is documented under a classification. We use that information to develop a list of the top 10 reasons people called CONTACT. These caller concerns provide us with a quick glimpse into our community and the problems many of your neighbors are facing everyday.

1. Mental/Emotional Health
2. Loneliness/Reassurance
3. Conflict with Family/Peers
4. Financial Assistance
5. Health Problems/Concerns
6. Food
7. Shelter
8. Fuel/Utility Assistance
9. Government
10. Drug & Alcohol Issues

2008 Resource Guides

Now available are the 2008 CONTACT Helpline Resource Guides. The resource guide is an invaluable tool for anyone in our community that works with people. The guide has listed over 760 agencies that provide health and human services in the Capital Region. It is available in print or on CD-ROM. Check out our website at www.contacthelpline.org for an order form or call the CONTACT office at 652-4987.

"Thank You" to the following who support CONTACT

(September 1, 2007 - December
31, 2007)

Benefactors (\$500-\$999)

Damu Patel
Mechanicsburg Presbyterian
Church
Colonial Park United Church of
Christ
Silver Spring Presbyterian Church
Penbrook United Church of Christ
Faith Presbyterian Church

Sponsors (\$250-499)

Helen & Ralph Bigelow
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Cathie Kimmel

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Richard & Carmen Kohr
Joe Long
Elyse Rogers
Morton & Alyce Spector
Shirley Remis
Ridgeway Community Church

Supporters (\$50-99)

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Marlene Cole
Mary Ann Beckley
Tracey Rash
Catherine Hewlett
Jeff Bigelow
Carol Worley

Contributors (\$25-49)

Harold & Felicity Fox
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Penbrook

A copy of CONTACT Helpline's official
registration and financial information may be
obtained from the PA Dept. of State,
1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply
endorsement.

Language Line

For years, CONTACT has not been able to assist many people in our community because we did not have access to interpreters over the phone. Last year, CONTACT was able to begin using the Language Line for access to over 150 different languages. Using a grant provided by the United Way of the Capital Region, CONTACT received the funding to cover the start up costs of using the Language Line. In addition, the grant provided the money to pay for the translation and printing of the CONTACT Helpline informational brochure and posters into Spanish. If you would like some of the Spanish brochures or posters please call the office at 652-4987.

Volunteer Open House

Volunteers are the heart and soul of CONTACT Helpline. Every year our volunteers quietly work on the phones behind closed doors helping thousands of residents in our community. It continues to be challenging to find volunteers willing to give so much of themselves to serve on the phones. Starting in 2008, CONTACT will hold several Volunteer Open Houses. These will provide those interested in volunteering with CONTACT an opportunity to learn more about what it means to work the phones. They will have a chance to learn about CONTACT and meet volunteers who work on the helpline. The goal is for potential volunteers to have a strong understanding of the organization and the helpline before making a decision to participate in the training class. The next volunteer Open House is scheduled for **March 18th at 6 pm**. Call the CONTACT office at 652-4987 to find out the location and register. The deadline for registering for the Open House is March 14th.

Spring Volunteer Training

The next CONTACT Helpline Volunteer Training is scheduled for April 7, 2008. Serving as a phone worker for CONTACT is a rewarding way to give back to the community. You will learn great skills, directly assist your neighbors in their most desperate times and learn more about your community than you ever could have imagined. By only giving 12 hours per month on the phones, you will impact the lives of thousands of callers each year. Every shift you work is filled with unexpected calls and ways to help another person find a better way of life.

The training is 55 hours filled with learning, personal growth and opportunities to connect with new people and build relationships. The training combines classroom training and apprenticeships for maximum learning. At the completion of the training, you will feel completely comfortable handling any call that may come your way while working the phones. For more information visit our website at www.contacthelpline.org or call the office at 652-4987.

Contributions in Honor of:

Shirley Remis
Doris Ellis
Wm. D. Hutchinson
Larry Baker

Contributions in Memory of:

Helene Oswald
H. Scott Randby

2006-2007 Fiscal Year Financial Statement

Income	
Contributions:	\$ 20,678.00
Fundraisers:	\$ 47,346.00
Contracts:	
Dauphin County	\$ 80,591.00
Cumberland County	\$ 17,000.00
Franklin County	\$ 4,640.00
United Way Allocations:	\$ 62,797.00
Program Services:	\$ 7,942.00
Interest income:	\$ 5,207.00
Miscellaneous:	\$ 813.00
Total	\$ 247,014.00

Expenses	
Payroll:	\$ 126,506.00
Office Expenses/Supplies:	\$ 2,251.00
Equipment:	\$ 2,241.00
Fees:	\$ 4,180.00
Insurance:	\$ 2,305.00
Travel, Meal, Lodging:	\$ 2,497.00
Training:	\$ 1,175.00
Fund Development:	\$ 27,395.00
Rent:	\$ 12,274.00
Printing:	\$ 8,724.00
Postage:	\$ 3,275.00
Telephone:	\$ 9,361.00
Media:	\$ 8,018.00
Audit:	\$ 5,467.00
Miscellaneous:	\$ 4,261.00
Total	\$ 219,930.00

Calls Answered

Fiscal Year 2006-2007: 20,609

Since 1970: 625,608

If you would like a copy of the CONTACT Helpline Annual Report, please call the business office at 717-652-4987.

CONTACT Helpline

652-4400 - Greater Harrisburg

249-6226 - Carlisle Area

800-932-4616 - Adams,
Franklin, Perry County/
Upper Dauphin

**The Connection is published quarterly
for contributors, volunteers and
friends of CONTACT Helpline.**

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