



NHCO volunteers from **Federal Home Loan Bank, Shaler Area High** and **Pittsburgh Cares** clean out and bleach a basement.



**Alissa Connelly, Brad Hammer and Bayleigh McMenamin** of **Trinity Evangelical Lutheran** remove rusty nails from basement walls.



The **Dougherty Family** of **McCandless** takes a well deserved break.

## August Flooding Brings Out Neighborly Compassion

The images on the television news were all too familiar on Thursday, August 9th when flash floods hit NHCO's service area. Thankfully, the damage was not as severe as September 2004 when remnants from Hurricane Ivan devastated the region.

Still, hundreds of residents and dozens of businesses had to deal with waterlogged basements, lost appliances and other possessions, not to mention the emotional turmoil that comes with repeated flooding.

North Hills Community Outreach has responded to more than 220 calls from flooded homeowners, renters and business owners in Millvale, O'Hara, Ross, Shaler and Sharpsburg. We've distributed nonperishable food, grocery store certificates to help people replace perishable items that were lost during extended power outages, and dehumidifiers.

Working with **Pastor George Mendis** at **Christ Lutheran** in Millvale, NHCO organized more than 120 volunteers to remove debris and clean and disinfect over 20 flooded basements. Volunteers of all ages and from all sectors of the community stepped forward to assist their neighbors in need.

In the weeks ahead, we will help families make needed repairs and replace washers and dryers, and perhaps furnaces as well.

Thanks to **St. Margaret Foundation** for making the lead gift of \$27,500; **Shoppers' Choice** for donating 16 cases of water for flood victims as well as snacks for the volunteers; **Avalon Community Pharmacy** for donating \$2,500; and **Western PA Flood Relief Fund** for donating 15 dehumidifiers.

In addition to the volunteers pictured here, the following groups also pitched in to help their neighbors in need: **St. Alexis** youth group, **Bethlehem Lutheran**, **New Hope**, **Orchard Hill**, **Alderette Family**, **East Liberty Presbyterian**, **First English Lutheran**, **ELCA Synod**, **Holy Spirit Parish**, **Western PA United Methodist Conference**, **PPG Industries** and **Allegheny General Hospital**.

You can help. To make a financial donation, please send a check (with "flood" on the memo line) to NHCO, 1975 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101. You can also donate with a credit card at [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org). Thank you!

*"We were happy to provide a little bit of help to some of the flood victims and hope to be of more assistance in the future. I'm back home now and extremely grateful for the dark, dank basement of my 1890 farmhouse high on a hill, which often gets wet in a big rain. I don't think I'll complain about it again anytime soon." —Sandy McMenamin, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran*

# The Connector

*The Connector* is published three times per year and mailed to 14,000 local addresses.

**We are looking for a business or organization to underwrite printing and postage costs.** Can you help?

You can **help us save** postage and printing costs by signing up to receive the newsletter electronically. Also, please let us know if you are receiving more than one copy.

Send any address corrections or other comments regarding *The Connector* to [help@nhco.org](mailto:help@nhco.org).

## Main Office

1975 Ferguson Road  
Allison Park, PA 15101  
412-487-6316, *option 1*

## Millvale Satellite

416 Lincoln Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15209  
412-487-6316, *option 2*

## North Boroughs Satellite

Allegheny General Hospital,  
Suburban Campus (Bellevue)  
100 South Jackson Avenue, 2 South  
Pittsburgh, PA 15202  
412-307-0069

## Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9 AM - 4 PM  
(*Other times by appointment*)

**email:** [help@nhco.org](mailto:help@nhco.org)

**website:** [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org)

**Mission:** North Hills Community Outreach addresses the spiritual, emotional, physical and material needs of local individuals and families in crisis, hardship and poverty.

**Vision:** Northern Allegheny County is a community where everyone shares with their neighbors in hardship and no one is cold, hungry or forgotten.

**Fay Morgan, Executive Director**  
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## Single Mother is Honored for her Amazing Journey Towards Self-Sufficiency



Stephanie is now confident, self-sufficient and able to provide for her son.

Each year, the **Community Action Association of Pennsylvania** recognizes the significant accomplishments of individuals who move themselves toward economic self-sufficiency with the assistance of community programs such as NHCO.

Since 2000, we have nominated five case management program participants for the self-sufficiency award; Stephanie is our fifth winner.

In 2004, Stephanie was referred to North Hills Community Outreach by Columbia Gas for help with a shut-off notice. A 20-year-old mother of a toddler with physical disabilities, Stephanie came to us distraught and overwhelmed. Her son's father had just abandoned them, and she had no idea of how to put her life back together.

NHCO takes a holistic approach to helping those in need. In addition to signing Stephanie

up for Columbia Gas' Customer Assistance Program, we provided many other services in a compassionate and effective manner:

- Enrolled her in our comprehensive case management program, designed to help people achieve economic self-sufficiency over time
- Guided her through the court system, which resulted in monthly child support payments
- Encouraged her to pursue her dream of becoming a nurse
- Awarded her an NHCO college scholarship funded by local contributors
- Gave her a donated computer for schoolwork

Stephanie recently graduated from UPMC St. Margaret School of Nursing and earned her LPN degree. If that weren't impressive enough, she also just purchased a new car AND a new home in West View! She is returning to school this fall to pursue her RN degree (with an NHCO scholarship funded by **Zonta Three Rivers North**).

When asked about the difference NHCO has made in her life, Stephanie says, "North Hills Community Outreach has helped my son and me in so many ways. The food pantry, college scholarship, a computer, holiday help...I would really like to thank all of NHCO's volunteers and staff who have helped me to succeed."

The awards ceremony will take place in Harrisburg in October.

If you or someone you know would benefit from participating in NHCO's self-sufficiency program, contact Aileen Birch at the North Boroughs Satellite (412-307-0069), Melissa Hart at the Millvale Satellite (412-487-6316, option 2), or Bobbie Monper at the Allison Park office (412-487-6316, option 1). This program is funded in part by a grant from the **PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development**.

## United Way Contributor Choice Codes

If your workplace conducts a United Way campaign, we hope that you will consider designating all or part of your pledge to North Hills Community Outreach! **Our general fund code is 2357**; to support the food pantries, enter 9140; and for employment services, use 3806.

For federal employees, we are unable to participate in this year's Combined Federal Campaign due to a technical glitch. We hope you'll still support our mission with a financial gift and remember us next year when we are back in the campaign. To set up an automatic pledge on your credit card, contact Gloria Bennett at 412-487-6316, option 1, or [ggbennett@nhco.org](mailto:ggbennett@nhco.org). Thank you!

## Youth Interns Award \$50,000

This summer, NHCO hired eight local college-bound high school graduates as Youth Philanthropy Interns through a grant from **The Heinz Endowments**.

In addition to providing hands-on assistance in various NHCO programming areas, the interns also learned the fundamentals of grantmaking. The youth worked in two teams to develop RFPs (Requests for Proposals) and received 57 applications from nonprofit organizations in Allegheny County that serve at-risk youth.

The interns evaluated the proposals for stewardship and effectiveness and awarded a total of \$50,000 to 14 applicants:

- \$4,250 to **Calvert Memorial Presbyterian**, Etna, for their *Tuesday Club* after school program
- \$4,200 to **Camp Guyasuta**, Sharpsburg, to purchase additional equipment and mountain bikes for its *Challenge Course*
- \$1,000 to **Community Human Services Corporation**, Pittsburgh, for books and transportation to the library for its after-school K-8 literacy program
- \$2,666 to **Coraopolis Church of God**, for craft supplies, materials, games, software and field trip expenses for its *Friday Fun Nights* program for youth ages 6-17.
- \$1,250 to **Crisis Center North**, to fund educational supplies and expenses for provision of its *Prevention Education Initiative*
- \$1,000 to **Earthen Vessels Outreach**, Pittsburgh, to support the expansion of its after-school program
- \$3,500 to **Girls Hope of Pittsburgh**, to fund nutrition materials and training for their *Nutrition Now* project
- \$5,000 to **Good Samaritan Hospice**, Wexford, to fund camperships for the 2008 *Camp Good SAM* bereavement camp for children ages 6-18 years
- \$5,000 to **HEARTH**, Ross, for their *Monthly Family Activities* program

## Community Auto Partnership Reaches Two Year Mark

Since our partnership with Community Auto was established in September 2005, 60 individuals and families in hardship and crisis have purchased reliable, affordable used vehicles at 30-40% off retail price.

Donations of vehicles are always needed; of course, those that require minimal repairs are highly desired! We welcome qualified low-income buyers—those with at least \$1,500 in resources at their disposal (welfare grant, savings, gift from family member, etc.).

To donate a vehicle or to see if you qualify to purchase one, visit [www.nhco.org/auto](http://www.nhco.org/auto) or call Community Auto at 724-443-8300.

To contribute to Community Auto via the United Way campaign, enter code **1528691**.



Meet our outstanding summer interns! Back row: **Scott Sullivan** (Deer Lakes), **Kaitlyn Kirby** (North Allegheny), **Monique Wingfield** (Avonworth), **Katie Rectenwald** (Eden Christian Academy); Front row: **Katie Pfrommer** (North Hills), **Theresa Timcheck** (North Allegheny), **Katelyn Walzer** (Vincentian), **Christina Binz** (Shaler)

- \$5,000 to **Network of Hope**, Hampton, for their *Helping Hands After School Tutoring Program*
- \$4,434 to **Manchester Citizens Corporation**, Pittsburgh, to fund its *Life Skills and Conflict Resolution* after school program for youth ages 13-18
- \$3,700 to **North Hills Youth Ministry Counseling Center**, Ross, for their youth tutoring and counseling services for low-income families
- \$5,000 to **Providence Connections**, North Side, to fund the educational, recreational and nutritional cooking segments of their *Healthy Lifestyles Program* for teens
- \$4,000 to **Salvation Army Allegheny Valley Community Center**, Brackenridge, to fund supplies and equipment for their after school programs

To learn more about NHCO's youth leadership opportunities, contact Susan Rohm at 412-487-6316, option 1, x3120, or [shrohmn@nhco.org](mailto:shrohmn@nhco.org).

## Still Trying to Quit Smoking?

NHCO is here to help! Funded in part by the **PA Department of Health**, our Tobacco Free North program is geared toward prevention, education and cessation of smoking and using other tobacco products.

Smoking cessation classes, typically eight weeks in length, are offered regularly and have been attended by 19 individuals thus far. The next available session begins on November 6. Participants will receive vouchers for nicotine patches as well as nicotine gum or lozenges, which can be expensive and therefore a deterrent to quitting.

We are also available to speak to school, congregation or civic groups about the harmful effects of smoking and tobacco use and ways to quit.

For more information, contact Nicole Davis at 412-487-6316, option 2, x3213, or [nmdavis@nhco.org](mailto:nmdavis@nhco.org).



AnnaMae of Etna is all smiles as she accepts her flowers from NHCO summer intern Katie Walzer.

## Bringing Smiles to Local Seniors

On July 23—Make Someone Smile Day—bright yellow “smiley mugs” filled with daisies were delivered by caring volunteers to 166 senior citizens in our Faith in Action program. The nationwide program was organized locally by **McCandless Floral**.

One recipient from West View wrote to us, “Thank you so much for the wonderful, cheerful flower arrangement. It was delivered by two wonderful angels. You gave me the most genuine, lovely surprise. Love and smiles right back at you good people!”

Our Faith in Action program is always in need of caring volunteers to provide nonmedical assistance to local frail elderly and adults with physical disabilities. Typical tasks include providing transportation to doctors’ appointments, helping with grocery shopping, and friendly visiting.

The program is all about helping our neighbors remain safe and independent in their homes. Any time you can offer is greatly appreciated, and training is provided. To learn more, contact Cathy Pschirer at 412-307-0069 or [clpschirer@nhco.org](mailto:clpschirer@nhco.org).



## In Memoriam

Beloved long-time volunteer **Doris Richert** of McCandless passed away on August 25. Doris served as a receptionist at the Allison Park site every Monday for years and also helped in the food pantry. We offer our heartfelt condolences to her family as well as our appreciation for their request that memorial contributions be made to North Hills Community Outreach. We promise to be good stewards of all gifts received in Doris’ name.

## Thumbs Up!

- You can now make a secure credit card donation online at [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org) thanks to the technical expertise and generosity of **Brian Hillwig** and **Kerry Schenker** at **Information Solutions & Management** in Oakmont.
- **North Allegheny Intermediate High** student **Adam Jacob** was a finalist for a humanitarian scholarship and chose NHCO to receive a \$50 donation from his school.
- **Seubert & Associates** donated the cost of printing posters for NHCO’s Family Savings Accounts program. **Alicia Dal Lago** of **Alicia Photography** donated her services to photograph the successful savers featured on the poster.
- **Target Office Products** in Robinson donated 12 cases of paper valued at \$400.
- Students at **Carson Middle School** donated \$742 from t-shirt sales.
- **AseraCare Hospice** donated \$750 to help local families in need.
- Responding to our wish list in the last newsletter was **Mt. Lebanon Office Equipment**, which donated \$180 worth of paper, file folders and other supplies.
- **Melissa** and **Bill Miller** donated \$224 from a Pampered Chef party they hosted in their McCandless home.
- **Choice Chiropractic** hosted a barbecue and offered free adjustments. Attendees were invited to make a contribution to NHCO; \$170 was donated.
- NHCO received \$650 from the **Feinstein Foundation**. Thank you to the 223 donors who gave \$15,709 in funds and \$64,603 worth of food last spring to help us receive that money. (The \$1 million in foundation funds is distributed in proportion to the amount collected by each hunger-serving agency across the country.)
- **The St. Paul’s Players** donated two performances of their annual production for NHCO’s dessert theatre. This year’s proceeds of \$10,000 raises the 15 year total of their donations to nearly \$88,000! Thanks to employees of **Marshall’s Department Store** for making and delivering desserts; nine employees of **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans** for their outstanding volunteer efforts; and first-time donor **Chef P’s Place** for donating 12 cakes.
- **Metropolitan ENT** selected NHCO to share the cover story spotlight in the June edition of North Hills Monthly Magazine.
- **Pines Tavern and Restaurant** held two benefits on behalf of NHCO. A total of \$3,105 was raised. Special thanks to **Mike Novak** and **Kimberly Swaiko** for organizing.
- Employees at **Macy’s** at Ross Park Mall donated funds that were matched by the store, for a total gift of \$1,645.
- **Equitable Resources Foundation** provided \$5,000 in matching funds for our Faith in Action/IVC of the Alleghenies collaborative program.

## Kids' Birthday Parties Allow Them to Help Neighbors in Need

Anybody who says that kids these days are spoiled obviously doesn't know the special kids we've met this summer! We have been blown away by the generosity of local children and youth who are choosing to celebrate their birthdays in an entirely unselfish way.

Instead of accepting gifts from their friends, the kids ask their party guests to bring items to donate to their neighbors in need.

A popular theme this past summer was collecting backpacks and school supplies for our Back-to-School Sharing Project, but at other times of the year children and youth have collected food for our two pantries, toys and games for holiday gifts, and grocery store gift cards.

The best part is when the kids bring the items to us here at NHCO. They get to see the food pantry and the projects room, witnessing firsthand the difference their generosity is making.

The smiles on the kids' faces in these photos speak volumes: giving just plain feels good!

We thank these kids—and, of course, their parents—for sharing their good fortune with others in their community who might need a little help.

If you are a parent who would like to learn more about this unique giving (and learning) opportunity, please contact Judy Murchak at 412-487-6316, option 1, x3143, or [jamurchak@nhco.org](mailto:jamurchak@nhco.org).

We have developed two special lists to let people know what our specific needs are throughout the year. Please visit [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org) and click on "Want to Help" for our food pantry and in-kind "items of the month" lists. You can also find tips on organizing a successful food or supply drive with your kids, school, congregation, business, neighborhood or other group.



Peter and Hayley Wyeth of McCandless celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> birthdays by helping others. Their friends donated a vanload of backpacks and school supplies worth \$850.



For his 8<sup>th</sup> birthday, **Philip Conti** (left) of Hampton invited friends to bring school supplies to his party. Pictured with Philip is friend and donor **Daniel Beck**.



Alana (12), Nina (8) and Gianna (10) Mazzee of Hampton show off some of the supplies friends donated in lieu of presents at the two older girls' birthday parties.

## Get Involved Today!

### Volunteer Orientation One-Hour Sessions

- October 11, 10 AM, Millvale
- November 13, 10 AM, North Boroughs
- December - No orientation
- January 10, 10 AM, Allison Park
- January 24, 7 PM, Allison Park

### Volunteer Opportunities

- Lead volunteer for holiday gift wrap at Northway Mall. We also need volunteers to wrap presents between Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- Bell ringers for kettles at Shoppers' Choice during the holidays
- Speakers Bureau and informational booth volunteers
- Faith in Action volunteer caregivers to help with transportation, errands, friendly visits and home safety checks
- Free Rides for Seniors bus drivers and dispatchers. We also need a lead volunteer to schedule the bus volunteers. (It's really a van; no special license is required.)

For orientations and all other volunteer opportunities, contact Jen Drayton at 412-487-6316, option 2, x3210, or [jmdrayton@nhco.org](mailto:jmdrayton@nhco.org). If you want to volunteer but cannot make it to one of the sessions, call Jen and she'll schedule a one-on-one with you!

### Calling All Creative Types!

Next spring, we hope to produce an informational DVD about NHCO to use during speaking engagements, to send to local cable companies, and for other outreach purposes.

We need volunteers and in-kind contributions to make this happen! If you have any video production skills, experience and/or equipment and want to lead the project or help in any way, contact Wendy Gordon at 412-487-6316, option 1, x3112, or [wbgordon@nhco.org](mailto:wbgordon@nhco.org). This could also be a perfect opportunity for a local college/arts student who needs to complete a production project in order to graduate.

## Youngest Saver Buys Car

Congratulations to Ally of Conneaut Lake, our youngest Family Savings Accounts Program saver and the first in Crawford County to successfully complete the program.

Ally's mother responded to a promotional blitz in the spring of 2006 after NHCO received approval from the **PA Department of Community and Economic Development** to administer the program in Crawford County. At the time, there were no agencies offering FSA to residents there, the only county in PA not covered. When requested, NHCO agreed to step in to fill the gap.

When Ally's mother read about the program in a phone bill insert, she contacted NHCO and talked with lead FSA volunteer **Marleen Kasbee**. She thought this would be a good opportunity for her 17-year-old daughter to learn about managing money, and at the same time she could save for a car that she would need for college.

At a young age, Ally gained financial knowledge that she will be able to utilize the rest of her life. She learned the value of goal-setting and working towards accomplishing that goal. She developed basic money management skills that should lead to positive savings habits and wise investment choices in her future.

Since NHCO began administering the program in 2002, 51 savers have "graduated" from the program, using their funds for home (4 savers) and car purchase (21), education (4), home repair (21) and small business start-up (1).

NHCO has 37 slots available for qualified individuals who wish to save and earn up to \$2,000 in matching funds over a two-year period. The household must meet income guidelines. To learn more, contact Harriet Gibbs at 412-487-6316, option 2, x3217, or [h zgibbs@nhco.org](mailto:h zgibbs@nhco.org).

nhco.org  
search word:  
"FSA"



NHCO's youngest saver, Ally purchased her car with savings and matching funds through NHCO's Family Savings Accounts program.

## Program Helps Groups Maximize Effectiveness

As part of its Compassion Allegheny program, NHCO is providing a series of trainings and one-on-one consulting for smaller faith- and community-based organizations across Allegheny County.

Participating organizations have been empowered to acquire much needed computers and software to accurately track and monitor service delivery; develop targeted marketing materials; increase their ability to seek out, utilize and acknowledge in-kind donations; and to create effective volunteer recruitment, management and retention strategies.

Each participating organization has increased both their ability to serve more individuals and families in need as well as their capacity to access new and greater resources.

In addition to technical assistance in board, staff, program and resource development, eleven groups also received a total of \$65,000 in subgrants to further build their capacity.

Funding for Compassion Allegheny comes from a \$260,000 Compassion Capital fund grant from the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**.

Thanks to our partners: **KEYGroup, Duquesne University Nonprofit Leadership Institute, Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management at Robert Morris University, the Program to Aid Citizen Enterprise, and Holy Family Institute**. Also, thanks to the **Pittsburgh Presbytery** for their ongoing support.

For more information on future training opportunities, or on how to become a participating organization in Compassion Allegheny's future cohorts, contact Keith Caldwell at 412-487-6316 option 2, x3216, or [kjccaldwell@nhco.org](mailto:kjccaldwell@nhco.org).

"Because of Compassion Allegheny, I was able to learn more about grantwriting and attend my first Nonprofit Summit. As a result of this award, we will be able to sustain our Youth Enrichment Program and further serve the community of Coraopolis."—**Lucinda Wade**, Coraopolis Church of God

## Won't You Be Our Neighbor?

There is additional space for rent on the second floor of the Millvale Community Center, home of NHCO's Millvale Satellite since last November.

It's a great deal—only \$8.50 per square foot—and that includes utilities! It's perfect for nonprofit organizations, doctors' offices, etc. The facility features new restrooms, security system, elevator, first floor banquet hall for meetings and events, and a full service kitchen in a great location with easy access to Route 28 and downtown Pittsburgh.

Interested businesses or nonprofits can find pictures and additional details by visiting the Borough of Millvale's website at [www.millvaleboroughpa.gov](http://www.millvaleboroughpa.gov) or by calling Virginia Pucci at 412-821-2777, x12.



AmeriCorps\*VISTAs **Jen Drayton, Erin Stevens** and **Sean Fogarty** in our Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry.

## NHCO Welcomes Three AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members

North Hills Community Outreach is pleased to announce the addition of three new team members through the AmeriCorps\*VISTA program. **Jennifer Drayton, Sean Fogarty** and **Erin Stevens** have each committed a year of service to their neighbors in need, through NHCO.

Jen will work as a volunteer coordinator; Sean will assist with NHCO's Compassion Allegheny program; and Erin will help recruit volunteers for Faith in Action.

VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) members work to address the root causes of poverty by mobilizing community volunteers and local resources. Their only compensation is a small stipend from the federal government.

This national effort, established by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964, has seen over 140,000 members commit to the mission of serving those in crisis, hardship and poverty. We are so glad to have these three with us!

If you are interested in learning more about future AmeriCorps\*VISTA opportunities with NHCO, please contact Ginny Giles at 412-487-6316, option 2, x3208.

## A Word of Thanks

"It is very hard for me to reach out when I am in turmoil, as I am the type of person who is always helping others. From my first phone call with you, I always felt very comfortable and assured. **I really felt as though you were in my corner, which gave me peace of mind.**

I am so looking forward to taking a hot shower in my house tomorrow when the gas is turned back on. Thank you again for your personal attention. Once I get back on my feet, I would love to make a donation to help others in need."—*West View*

## Fall and Winter "Sharing Projects" Ease Burdens for Many Families

**Back-to-School**—In August, 589 children returned to school with brand new backpacks filled with age-appropriate school supplies. Thanks as always to longtime lead volunteer **Rosemary Prager**. A few special acknowledgments:

- **Dutahl, Memorial Park, St. Teresa of Avila** and **Orchard Hill** churches each donated more than 80 backpacks.
- **Office Depot** donated 25 backpacks and supplies.
- **Northminster Presbyterian** donated space for distribution in the North Boroughs; the Millvale distribution took place at the **Millvale Community Center**.

**Winter Coats**—In October, we will hold **two** free winter coat shops (see below on sharing projects expansion), during which hundreds of low-income families are invited to shop for gently worn coats that have been donated to us. Children's and adult extra-large sizes are usually in high demand and low supply. We are accepting clean coats and financial contributions until October 26. Thanks to **SAM (Store and Move)** for donating a temporary storage unit for the coats.

**Turkey on Every Table**—We expect to provide a complete and nourishing Thanksgiving dinner for about 500 families this year. Now through November 21, we are collecting grocery certificates, stuffing mix, instant mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, canned vegetables, pie crust mix, "easy" pumpkin pie mix, evaporated milk, muffin mix, turkey gravy mix and napkins. Special thanks to lead volunteers **Jean Fitzgerald** and **Jean Kirk**, who are also leading the coat shop this year.

**Sharing Holiday Warmth**— Approximately 450 families will receive the gifts of heat, light and nourishment this December. With up to \$75 in utility and food credits (distributed as funding allows), families are able to budget funds for holiday spending, allowing them the dignity of purchasing their own gifts for their children and loved ones. Donations are urgently needed and appreciated. Contact Judy Murchak at 412-487-6361, option 1, x3143, or [jamurchak@nhco.org](mailto:jamurchak@nhco.org) for more information on any of these projects.

**Sharing Projects Expand In Millvale Satellite's Service Area**—Thanks to a grant from **The Grable Foundation**, we are able to expand our sharing projects into 20 new communities served by the Millvale Satellite, including the Fox Chapel and Allegheny Valley school districts. We will hold a coat shop at the Millvale Community Center on October 27; coats and volunteers needed!



In addition, we are implementing a new **Sports Share** project. Donation of new sports equipment and physical activity games for teens and children are needed. These items will be distributed around the holidays so that more kids from low-income families can be active and participate in sports.

To help with either of these new projects, contact Helen Michael at 412-487-6316, option 2, x3211, or [hemichael@nhco.org](mailto:hemichael@nhco.org).

## Yes, I want to help!

Make your gift work twice as hard! Many employers have **matching gift programs**; please check with your human resources department to obtain the necessary forms.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (in case of questions) \_\_\_\_\_

### GIFT AMOUNT & PAYMENT METHOD

You can also make a secure credit card donation at [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org)!

\$30  \$50  \$100  \$250  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed.

MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_

Visa # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### OPTIONAL

Save postage! Please don't send a thank you letter.

This is my first financial gift to NHCO.

Please contact me about volunteering (be sure to include your phone number above).

Please contact me about including NHCO in my will.

This gift is:

in honor of  in memory of  in celebration of

Please notify:

NHCO is an IRS-approved 501(c)3 organization.  
Your donation qualifies as a charitable deduction.

F07NEWS

## NORTH HILLS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

1975 Ferguson Road  
Allison Park, PA 15101-3235

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Wish List Priorities

### NHCO

- Portable TV/VCR combination unit for Faith in Action trainings
- 8½ x 11 paper—white, color and scrap (old letterhead works great)
- Highlighters
- Bulletin boards
- Floor mats (for under desk chairs)
- Bus tickets/monthly passes
- Smoke/carbon monoxide detectors
- New dehumidifiers for flood victims

nhco.org  
search word:  
"wish list"

### Community Auto

- Plastic/metal storage containers for auto parts
- Windshield washer fluid

To donate, contact Vicki Burstynowicz at 412-487-6316, option 1, or [vdburst@nhco.org](mailto:vdburst@nhco.org). For a complete wish list, visit [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org).

## Who Really Won the U.S. Open?

NHCO and local families in need did! We received a whopping \$45,685 for our volunteer efforts at the recent U.S. Open golf tournament at the Oakmont Country Club. Several nonprofit organizations staffed concession tents to earn a percentage of the proceeds, but North Hills Community Outreach was the top charity, filling 571 volunteer shifts over seven days! Each shift was worth \$80.01. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers and especially to lead volunteer **Ruth Graham**.

## Attention, Shoppers!

On October 13, Macy's is holding its annual **Shop for a Cause** fundraiser. NHCO is selling special shopping passes entitling the bearer to terrific discounts (plus the chance to win a \$500 gift card). Tickets are just \$5 and can be purchased by contacting Ginny Giles at 412-487-6316, option 2, x3208.

On October 20, **Keller Williams Realty** is hosting a fall fundraiser featuring approximately 30 local vendors, ticket auction and food booths. The event will take place at the Franklin Park Fire Hall from 10:00-3:00; half of the proceeds will be donated to NHCO. For more information, contact Cheryl Griffiths at 412-358-0200, x123.

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