

JOSEPH'S COAT

ANNUAL REPORT - 2008

In fulfilling its mission as a free store providing goods and services to those in need, in an environment of dignity and respect, Joseph's Coat maintains an inclusive philosophy toward the community's neediest and often most marginalized members. People of all ages, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, abilities and challenges are welcomed and served.

Joseph's Coat provides a welcoming environment where the dignity of each person who comes through its doors is acknowledged and affirmed. We strive to truly see and greet the vulnerable and disadvantaged and to foster a sense of community between them and the volunteers and donors who are the life's blood of Joseph's Coat.

Joseph's Coat provides guests with the opportunity to pick out a grocery bag full of clothing and/or household items. Additionally, they are given a monthly packet of normal hygiene products.

The number of guests served yearly by the store has more than doubled between 2003 and 2008 to 38,708. See attached graph. The year 2008 saw an increase of 2310 individuals. Given the current state of the economy, a continuing increase in guests is expected. The growth in our donations of clothing and household items has continued to match demand. This can be attributed to the good word that has gone out to the community about the needed service our store provides.

Joseph's Coat is open to any individual who comes to our store. Typically, those guests come from St. Paul and surrounding communities.

Our Financial Report for 2008 is attached for your information. Additionally, the value of donated clothing and household items, considered an income, in 2008 was \$1,161,240. That same dollar value, considered an expense, was given to our guests. In 2007, that figure was \$1,091,940.

The members of our Board of Directors are:

Wayne Beierman
Bob Brezinski
Renee Hoffman
Roxanne Meshar, Chair
Herb Mischke
Arch Mrkvicka
Rita Quigley
Brian Zaidman

The volunteers, staff and board of directors wish to thank each other and all our wonderful supporters for the gift of time and finances in 2008. Together, we do a much needed work.