



Pennies for Poverty: 2 Cents 4 Change, Inc. Two Cents, Two Cans, Two Hours, TOGETHER! Summary of Accomplishments October 2008 – March 2009 Our First Six Months!

- Non profit corporation as of October 1. By-laws written; Board Handbook completed; have a budget through 2009.
- We have received a \$2,000 Grant from the Howard Benevolent Society; \$1,000 grant from the 5 Cent Savings; \$100 donation from the Belleville Congregational Church; and \$109 from a Band Concert fund-raiser to cover our start up costs and first year expenses.
- We have 7 Board Members: Cathie Gould, Founder and President; Laurie Ingersoll Co-Founder and Executive Director; Bob Gould, Treasurer; Gail Gandolfi, Two Cents Chair; Eleanor Turke, Volunteer Coordinator; Dudley Glover, Common Cents Resource Data Bank, Fran Larkin Common CENTS Garden Liaison and PR. We are actively seeking additional Board members.
- We have the 2 cent grant application, the urgent grant application and a formula for rating the grants in place and monitoring the effectiveness of the grant.
- Developed a definition of poverty for Newburyport in order for us to have an idea of how many people may be looking for services (44%).
- Developed a Poverty Survey to determine the available resources and whether the increased needs will be met. Survey is completed and the report is online.
- Monthly newsletter to keep the public informed about our progress; to raise awareness; promote service agency needs.
- Flyers and promotional material done
- We have a website completed: www.2cents4change.povertyprogram.com
- Service Directory has been completed and is available for down load online.
- Volunteer Opportunities Directory has been completed and is available online.
- Together Program Take Two free monthly classic comedy movies at Belleville Church.
- Annual Volunteer Job and Poverty Awareness Fair sponsored by Pennies, Poverty Program, Chamber of Commerce and the Social Action Committee of the Unitarian Church and held at the Unitarian Church. The 2009 is scheduled for October 16 (World Food Day, 17 (International Day for the Eradication of Poverty).
- Annual Blessing of the Banner in December (panels designed by agencies at the Volunteer

Job Fair) at the Unitarian Church and blessed by the local clergy. The purpose of the banner is to raise awareness about poverty. The tentative date for 2009 is December 10, International Human Rights Day.

- Bi-Annual Food Drives to benefit the 5 local food pantries. To date, we have collected \$8,705 worth of food and \$2,351 in 2 Cent Grant donations.
- Actively working with the service agencies and



have promoted their needs to the community through the newsletter and emails.

- Annual Witch's Night Out, a reverse trick or treat hosted by Flukes and Finds and Friends to raise funds for the 2 cent grant and food for the food pantries.
- One of the principles of the Pennies Program is that it is designed to be a model "Sister Cents" programs. Other cities and towns are welcome to use our material, copy the structure and principles of the program but will need to apply for a separate nonprofit status.
- We have started an additional program called "Common Cents" as part of the overall program. Common Cents because it makes sense to work together with other organizations in town. Our first program will be a Common Cents Garden to raise fresh vegetables for the local food pantries. First Parish of Newbury has agreed to chair this program and provide garden space in their Victory Gardens for a Pennies Common CENTS Garden.
- Ann Smith received a \$50 grant towards printing costs for her idea "Meal Marks", a bookmark with a purpose.
- Delivered informational packets about our program, Service Directory, Volunteer Opportunities Directory to all the local clergy, all the local school nurses, all depts. at Anna Jacques Hospital and to area doctors. Numerous speeches and presentations.
- Participated in Kids for Peace Event Sept. 21, 2008, River Valley Hunger Event, Portals for Change Day of Service, Farmer's Market at the Tannery, Eco-Fair at the Mall.
- Delivered PR material to approximately 200 stores, of which 74 signed up to be 2 cent stores.

- Dick Cunningham & Ralph Ayers at the Library for a TOGETHER presentation May 3, World Press Freedom Day.
- Arranged for plumbers of Plumbers Union Local #12 to donate 24 hours of time to low-income families which will be administered through the Salvation Army.
- Developing a Common CENTS RESOURCE BANK to network volunteer talents, skills with need.
- 358 people are on our mailing list.
- Online links to Pennies: Farmer's Market, Funnel's Web Design, Newburyport Posts, The P. Preservationist, Comity.org, and noted on these websites: First Parish Church, Belleville Church, Unitarian Universalist, Newburyport's Voice, City of Newburyport Office of the Mayor, Yankee Homecoming, Jabberwocky, Daily News, Wicked Local, twitter poverty news.

Pennies for Poverty: 2 Cents 4 Change, Inc. Program Summary:

- No one receives a salary or bonuses or is permitted to profit from Pennies.
- We are all volunteers from the community, funded by the community, for the benefit of the community.
- The program is for the benefit of Newburyport residents only.
- The program is designed so that it can be a model, copied and can done anywhere in the world as a "Sister Cents" program with each Sister Cent an independent and separate nonprofit.
- 100% of the money donated to the 2 Cent Grant is given out in grants to individuals or organizations that have new initiatives or a necessary under funded program that lifts people out of poverty. The 2 Cent Grant can not be used for salaries or administrative expenses but most go to directly helping people in need.
- The costs of the Pennies for Poverty program is funded separately from the 2 Cent Grants and the cost must be kept low (2009: \$2,000 budget).
- Current programs: 2 Cents (raising money for 2 Cent Grant), 2 Cans (increase donations to food pantries), 2 Hours (increase volunteerism- Volunteer Job Fair), TOGETHER (free events), Common CENTS Garden (improve nutrition), Common CENTS Resource Bank (volunteer bank), and overall raising awareness of poverty.

**Making Change
with Change!**