

# HOPE IN ACTION

*sharing stories of hope & change*



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from the director

# Volunteers play major role in keeping MIFA alive

Since MIFAs founding in 1968, volunteers have played a key role in keeping the organization alive. In MIFAs early days, VISTAs nurtured MIFAs fledgling programs to life and recruited volunteers to our cause. After nearly 40 years, it is clear how important volunteers are to keeping MIFA alive.

Today, the volunteer spirit is stronger than ever at MIFA, and volunteers do the work of 150 full-time positions. This strong workforce of more than 4,000 volunteers has become a major program itself. Under the direction of Charlie Nelson and volunteer coordinators from the program areas, these relationships and meaningful volunteer experiences are promoted.

So why do people volunteer?

At a recent meeting, our board members shared what volunteering means to them. Reverend Roger Brown originally thought volunteering for MIFA would be a cherished act of goodwill, but it turned out he was the one who received the blessing. While Roger provided a meal, the client moved him spiritually. Other board members shared Roger's sentiment. Reverend Steve Montgomery stressed how volunteering forced him to take a good look at himself and his priorities. Serving as a MIFA Meals volunteer keeps things in perspective for him.

These comments and others are included in this issue's feature spread, which focuses on the critical role that volunteers have played throughout MIFAs history. At our recent Day of Reflection and Service, we honored 60 volunteers. That seems like a lot of people, but so many more volunteers make a difference in MIFAs daily activities. Each volunteer is vital to MIFAs existence.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of MIFAs "unsung heroes" who have become as important to our clients as their own families. If you are currently a MIFA volunteer, thank you for all that you do. If you have never had the opportunity to volunteer, I encourage you to do so. For our internet users, volunteer opportunities are posted on MIFAs website ([www.mifa.org](http://www.mifa.org)) and our MySpace ([www.myspace.com/volunteermifa](http://www.myspace.com/volunteermifa)) and Facebook pages. Or you can just call 527-0208, and we'll point you in the right direction! Our mission is to help change lives – and the clients aren't the only ones whose lives are changed when you volunteer.

Sincerely,

*Executive Director*

## In This Issue

### 3 Hope Springs Eternal

Volunteers carry MIFA through 40 years of service.

### 6 Day of Reflection & Service

MIFA honors 60 volunteers, organizations and staff members.

### 8 Dorothy Tuggle

Emergency Services' Tuggle finds calling as MIFAs point person for people in trouble.

### 10 Calendar of events

A listing of MIFAs many events and volunteer opportunities.

### 12 Contributions & tributes

Where would MIFA be without its many donors and sponsors?



Les Passees members enjoy volunteering their time at the Les Passees Center for Children and Families. Pictured is club member Meg Glass helping with an arts and crafts project at a recent event.

# Hope Springs Eternal

## Volunteers carry MIFA through 40 years of service

BY ELLEN WHITTEN  
Public Relations Specialist

*The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: "If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?" But by the very nature of his concern, the good Samaritan reversed the question: "If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?"*

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., from *Strength to Love*

For some, it's a spiritual calling. For others, it's a family pastime. Whether they're here once a year or once a week, volunteers are the backbone of MIFA. And through the ever-changing history of this organization, the faithful support of these good Samaritans has remained constant.

Over 40 years ago, MIFA's foundation was laid on a strong spirit of volunteerism. In an attempt to solve the growing urban problems of need and poverty, MIFA's founders came together to create an interracial, inter-faith organization amidst a rocky social climate. In this difficult societal context, with divisiveness and unity struggling against each other, MIFA was founded in 1968.

Through the years, MIFA has always relied on volunteer organizers, board members and workers. There were even times in its history when the executive directors were essentially volunteers themselves. Following the organization's near-failure in 1972, Gid Smith was hired as executive director. His contract stated that MIFA did not have the funds to pay him, and he would be responsible for fundraising to pay his own salary. When Bob

Dempsey joined Smith as co-executive director, he was hired on the same terms.

In 1974, MIFA was awarded its first VISTA contract. VISTAs, or Volunteers in Service to America, laid the groundwork for MIFA's efforts in the community. The VISTA program was a product of Lyndon B. Johnson's Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Through the program, volunteers were paid a modest stipend and assigned to impoverished communities across the country to contribute to local antipoverty efforts. MIFA began a new trend in the program, recruiting local volunteers to serve as VISTAs, rather than selecting from the national VISTA ranks.

In MIFA's first VISTA class, five came from the national VISTA pool, and 20 were recruited in Memphis. These local ladies were largely well-educated with a history of volunteer service and a vision for improving the community. At MIFA, a VISTA's task was to take on a project, explore its funding potential and pursue a grant that might provide that funding. Typically, once a VISTA had proven herself by completing these tasks, the directors allowed her to take ownership of the program. Through VISTA dedication and initiative, programs were organized and nurtured until they became self-sustained, and volunteers were involved at every level of operation. Examples include Sybil Tucker's East Senior Center, Virginia Dunaway's Memphis Food Bank and Nancy Wakeman and Martha Graber's *Mid-South Senior* newspaper.

VISTAs who held jobs at MIFA have also retired and returned as volunteers. One example is Sybil Tucker, who began as a VISTA, drove many of MIFA's programs to success, became VISTA supervisor and eventually a MIFA associate executive director.

"I worked in Emergency Services one morning for about 25 minutes. The people came in, and I signed them up. Then they went back to their case managers. There were mainly women with children, but there were also four men. They were the ones who got to me. You could tell how hard it was for them to come and ask for help. I encourage everyone to come and work that shift."

Snow Morgan, MIFA Board Member



Recruiting volunteers takes a lot of work! Pictured, Director of Volunteers and Special Events Charlie Nelson (center) talks with Celia Stoneking (left) and Camille Simmons (right) about MIFA programs during a mission fair at Bellevue Baptist Church.



“Often times when we consider ourselves a volunteer, we always think that we are going to offer assistance, and in most cases it’s the opposite. I recall when we were delivering meals to an elderly gentleman who was on a walker. We were all pumped up that we were volunteering, and when we got there he had a tradition that was, ‘Now I will send you on your way.’ Sending us on our way was him praying for us. When he finished praying for us, we were basket cases – all crying. Now when we deliver meals, we always try to make sure that we end up on his route so he can send us on our way.”

Reverend Roger Brown, MIFA Board Member

**Charles Sanders and his family celebrate their new handicap ramp, which was built by MIFA volunteers. MIFA Handyman provides up to 60 ramps per year for senior homeowners and disabled clients.**

She still delivers meals and serves on the Senior Companion Program’s advisory council. Tucker says, “The volunteer element has played an important role from the beginning, and MIFA wouldn’t be what it is without the spirit of volunteerism in this city.”

Bob Dempsey described the VISTAs as indispensable assets. Of their involvement at MIFA, he said, “It was the beginning of the information economy and the entrance of so many competent women into the marketplace who managed to juggle both home and work.” In many cases, women who began as VISTAs climbed the ranks to paid positions as coordinators, directors and executives. Virginia Klettner, who began as a VISTA in 1976 and later served as volunteer coordinator, says of her experience, “The mission of MIFA was what was so appealing to me and others. We could see the direct effects of the good work we were doing, especially for all the people we were feeding.”

At that time, MIFA was dedicated to enacting direct service and systemic change in the community. This meant not only serving the poor directly, but also getting at the root of the problem of poverty. Over the years, the clients, services and volunteers have changed, but MIFA’s mission has not. Today, MIFA promises to change the community by helping change lives, which is an updated version of its original idea. Not only does MIFA benefit from volunteer involvement, but volunteering engages the community. And the volunteer landscape has grown to include every race and faith, as well as men, women and children from all levels of the social strata. Contributing and seeing results are

the most important things to volunteers, and MIFA gives them opportunities for both.

Volunteers are also drawn to MIFA for its efficiency with programs and funding. Klettner says, “The thing that was always so appealing to me was that so little money went into overhead. MIFA has always been a great steward of people’s money, channeling funds into programs rather than salaries.” In the ‘70s, VISTAs worked to streamline the sign-up process for clients,

eliminating duplicated services. Today, MIFA’s programs are thorough and efficient in signing up clients and volunteers, applying funds and overseeing operations.

MIFA’s initial plans were visionary, aimed at alleviating human problems in Memphis. Today, the programs are personal, and the clients are real. MIFA has fine-tuned its programming and put a face on need and poverty.

Volunteers who once came to

MIFA to solve abstract social issues can now see the results of their work in individual clients.

Volunteers are grateful for the chance to make a difference, and MIFA makes those opportunities available. Current volunteers like Robert Swanson enjoy helping without the financial burden of donating. He says, “I enjoy helping others, and while I can’t offer a lot of help financially, I can give of my time.” He adds that MIFA makes volunteering easy and accessible. “MIFA finds the projects and the people who need help; I just show up and work.”

Alex Thesmar, vice president of medical banking at Paragon National Bank, is a Handyman volunteer. Through this program,

“Over the years, the clients, services and volunteers have changed, but MIFA’s mission has not.”

he builds wheelchair ramps for the elderly and disabled. Handyman's services provide ramps for clients who may not have been outside their homes in months or years because they had no wheelchair access. Thesmar recalls one client, a 9-year-old boy, who had been confined to his house for some time. He says, "When we finished the wheelchair ramp, he tried it out, and the first thing he said to his mother was, 'This means we can go to church tomorrow.'" Thesmar adds, "It still brings a tear to my eye when I think of him." Volunteer Bryan Hallum shares this sentiment, saying, "There is a tremendous sense of satisfaction when you see a homeowner leave his house on his own."

Handyman volunteer Ted deAngeli says, "I volunteer because I feel good giving back some of the luck I have had in my life." And clients come to MIFA when they could use a little luck. Virginia Klettner recalls an experience with a home-delivered meals client who was blind. She says, "Her house was a mess; there was water dripping down the walls, and as we were talking to her, a mouse ran up the drapes in her living room." But the client was grateful for what she had. Klettner says, "She kept saying how great God had been to her."

Clients appreciate the assistance from MIFA, but they tend to treasure their volunteers more. Meals clients are grateful for the meals they receive, but they have more to say about the importance of MIFA volunteers in their lives. While volunteers as a group make a tremendous impact at MIFA, individual volunteers leave the greatest impressions through their fellowship with clients.

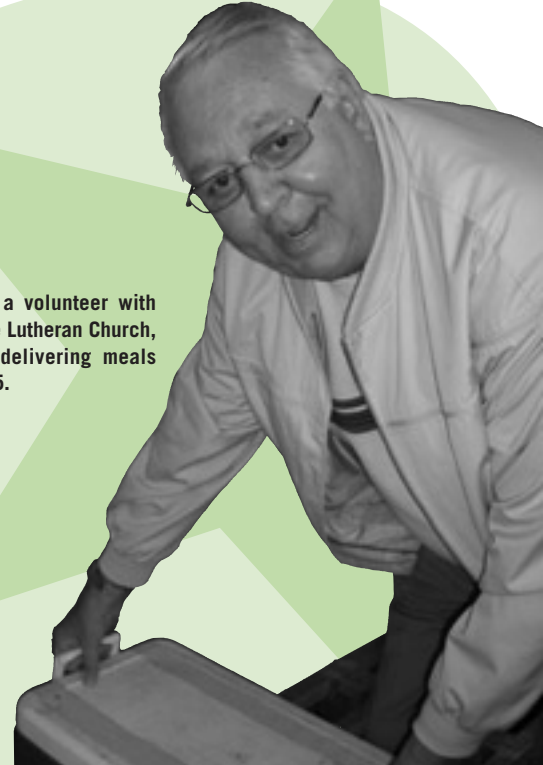
For many home-delivered meals clients, MIFA volunteers are the only people who interact with them regularly. Through age and complicated family situations, these seniors often find themselves alone, and that solitude can be dangerous, especially for those in poor health. These clients face risks of falling and succumbing to harsh Memphis temperatures, and volunteers

"Several years ago, I went to a workshop for pastors of large churches. One of the things we had to share was a typical week. Our staff takes a MIFA Meals route, and every now and then I do it. The head of the workshop took a look at this with me. He said, 'What is this thing about Thursday mornings?' I told him I delivered meals for MIFA, and he said I shouldn't be doing that. My response was, 'You don't understand; I have to be doing that. It forces me to take a good look at myself and connect me with those the church is called to serve.'"

Reverend Steve Montgomery, MIFA Board Member

**A letter written by MIFA volunteers Leatha O. Wells and Gayle Byrne was sent to all of MIFA's volunteers asking them to "take stock in MIFA." In conjunction with MIFA's 40th anniversary, this campaign requests that volunteers invest in the organization. MIFA is grateful to this dynamic letter writing team for their willingness and enthusiasm.**

**Ben Roth, a volunteer with Lord of Life Lutheran Church, has been delivering meals since 1995.**



serve as their lifeline in the absence of reliable family members. Volunteers check on their clients, engage them in conversation and monitor their conditions. They also report to MIFA if a client does not answer the door for a Meals delivery. While MIFA does its best to address the problems in the community at large, volunteers are the organization's eyes and ears.

Several years ago, volunteers delivering meals began to notice that some clients were sharing their MIFA rations with pets, meaning the client's only meal was being split in half. The volunteers took initiative, seeking out pet food donations, compiling a list of clients with pets and beginning a monthly pet food delivery program to supplement home-delivered meals. Through the thoughtful insight of volunteers, MIFA is able to serve its clients more effectively.

MIFA was created and sustained by volunteers, and they still remain its most important resource. Without their fierce dedication to MIFA's mission and to its clients, this organization could not survive. For 40 years, MIFA has committed to changing lives in this community, and with the help of volunteers, it plans to continue its service for 40 more.



# Day of Reflection and Service

SPONSORED BY SERVICEMASTER

## MIFA honors its volunteers and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

MIFA's Ninth Annual Day of Reflection and Service, sponsored by ServiceMaster, was held on Saturday, March 29 to honor volunteers, staff and the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

City Councilwoman Janis Fullilove served as the ceremony's emcee, presenting sixty volunteers, organizations and staff members awards for their service. Because 2008 marks MIFA's 40th anniversary, a new award was introduced to honor a volunteer who has made a strong and consistent commitment to MIFA

for more than ten years. The new MIFA Founders Award was presented to Gerre Gourley, whose faithful participation has inspired others to serve. Another highlight of the program was Joe Birch's presentation of the Joe Birch Media Award to Comcast Corporation. Birch is a Channel 5 news anchor and a MIFA volunteer, and he offered a moving testimonial about his work with MIFA Meals.

A stirring keynote address, "40 Years Later...What Would Dr. King Do For Our Youth?," was delivered

by Victoria Ezemba from Central High School, who was the winner of the 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Contest.

ServiceMaster has sponsored this event since 2002. Following the ceremony, ServiceMaster employees participated in a number of volunteer projects including Meals delivery, landscaping, cleaning and assembling gift bags for clients.

MIFA is grateful to ServiceMaster and all of the volunteers and staff members who made this year's Day of Reflection and Service a success.

### Awardees

E.J. Goldsmith Volunteer of the Year  
**Judy Royal**

E.J. Goldsmith Volunteer Organization of the Year  
**Elvis Presley Charitable Foundation**

The James Marchant Wood, Jr. MIFA Meals Award  
**James M. Craven**

Joe Birch Media Award  
**Comcast Corporation**

MIFA Founders Award  
**Gerre Gourley**

Rabbi Harry Danziger Volunteer Coordinator of the Year  
**Dorothy Tuggle**

### 2008 Program Award Winners

The following individuals and groups were recognized for outstanding service to MIFA during the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Reflection and Service sponsored by ServiceMaster:

#### Senior Programs

Home-Delivered Meals – **Sue Balkin, Bert Bernheim, Madelyn Brock, James M. Craven, Betsy Earp, Ina Eiseman, John Gray, Jane Hobson, Tina Kahn, Myra Ann Kelso, Kate Langsen, Martha Lund, Betty Malmo, Rev. Michael Morris, Ruth Muhs, Jean Norfleet, Cookie Olswanger, Beth Pate, Betty Peyton, Don Ramier, W.C. Reece, Laura Schwartz, Peg Schulz, Jane Waller, Marjorie Webster and Barbara Wilson**  
Congregate Meals – **Sammie Williams, Elizabeth Davis and Mary Marise**  
Long-Term Care Ombudsman – **Pauline Acree, Ruth Bryant, Johnnie Deloach and Lillian Motschman**

Senior Companion – **Sybil Tucker and Tommie Cervetti**  
Handyman – **Arron Greenlee and David Dugger**

#### Children & Families

Teen Job Services – **Dionne Jones**  
COOL – **Jeanice Hayslett**  
Emergency Services – **Marva B. Donald**  
Life Skills Institute – **Juan M. Brooks**

#### Community

The MIFA Store – **Margaret Laquintano**

#### Faithful Supporters

Development – **Doris Lee, Michael Tidwell, Sammie Hines, Leatha Wells and The Tea Ladies (Ladye Margaret Arnold, Gerre Gourley, Catherine Keathley and Elizabeth Sossaman)**  
Congregational Relations – **The Indian Community Fund for Memphis**  
Public Relations – **Dr. David Arant, Valerie Calhoun and 93X**



James M. Craven received the James Marchant Wood, Jr. MIFA Meals Award for more than 20 years of service to MIFA.



Sally Heinz, Vice President of Development at MIFA, presents an award to Margaret Laquintano for her years of dedicated service to The MIFA Store.

# 40 Years Later...What Would Dr. King Do For Our Youth?

**Victoria Ezemba, 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Contest Winner**

"So I say unto you today my friends, even though we may face the difficulties of today, I still have a dream." If we as youth today would apply this quote from Dr. King, we not only would see lives being transformed but also communities. If Dr. King lived today, he would encourage youth to get an education, challenge us to succeed in obtaining goals and to give service to others.

Dr. King would visit schools today and encourage us to understand the value of an education. He would remind us to love one another – yes, even our enemies – so that we may sit at the table of brotherhood and end the gangbanging and drug dealing that are destroying lives and dreams. Education is the way. He would tell us to stop listening to negative music that promotes premarital sex and degradation of females and promotes violence and drug abuse. He would fill our minds with positive messages that promote education and achievement, thereby changing a generation.

Dr. King would say to us that we should be disappointed enough to make adjustments, dissatisfied enough to make a difference and displeased enough to make changes to succeed. When we as young people begin to set goals for ourselves, live above mediocrity, set standards and strive to achieve them, then and only then can we live out the true meaning of Dr. King's vision.

Finally, Dr. King would encourage our young people to find ways to reach out to others and build lives by participating in peace jams, cleaning up the community and volunteering to help others. Let's all wake up and live out this dream, for in doing so, we as youth can create a better tomorrow for ourselves and the community.



Victoria Ezemba, winner of the 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Contest, presents her winning speech entitled "40 Years Later...What Would Dr. King do for Our Youth?"



ServiceMaster volunteers show off their completed landscaping project at the Les Passees Center for Children and Families.



Cheerful volunteers from ServiceMaster deliver a meal to a MIFA client.



Sally Heinz presents the E.J. Goldsmith Volunteer of the Year Award to Judy Royal. Royal is co-chair of the Circle of Hope campaign, a member of the MIFA Board of Directors and executive committee, as well as a Meals volunteer.

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Contest Winners

First Place – **Victoria Ezemba**, Central High School  
Second Place – **Jodie Johnson**, Carver High School  
Third Place – **Brittany Acey**, White Station Middle School

## Special thanks to:

**ServiceMaster** for their generous sponsorship and participation  
**Councilwoman Janis Fullilove** for emceeding the program  
**A&L's Precious Pearls Non-Profit Youth Association** for performing at the event  
**Loretta Petty** for presenting the "I Am A Man" exhibit  
**Calvin Spencer** for leading the music

# Emergency Services' Tuggle finds calling as MIFA's point person for people in trouble

BY DOT GILBERTSON  
Grant Writer

MIFA's Emergency Services department sits at the epicenter of this community's economic woes and its disasters, both personal and natural. Every day, at least 100 families in crisis seek help with utility bills, mortgages, food and clothing. Scores more call daily to inquire about available services. Their crises have many causes: maybe a lost job, a sudden illness, a house fire or a fixed income.

There to greet them, in person or by phone, is Dorothy Tuggle, the face of Emergency Services for 12 years. After graduating from East High School, serving as a certified nursing assistant, and working for a bank, Dorothy arrived at MIFA in 1994. Two years later, she found her calling as MIFA's point person for people in trouble.

While there are many difficult jobs at MIFA, not many are as difficult as Dorothy's. Individuals in crisis, fearful for their children's well-being or terrified by health concerns, want relief from their worries. They don't want to hear that MIFA's assistance is limited to every two years, that documents are necessary to establish their hardships, or that utility assistance dollars are limited. But these are the realities Dorothy must dispense over and over again, and she does so with patience and concern.

When a client does not respond well after Dorothy explains the program's requirements and restrictions, she points to this message pinned to the wall behind her:

**Good morning, this is GOD.  
I will be handling all your  
problems today.  
I will NOT need your help.  
So HAVE A GOOD DAY.**

"That changes their whole attitude," she explains. "I just tell them God is



in charge and they can relax."

That's not all she tells them, of course. With her vast knowledge of the area's social services network, Dorothy can direct clients to other available resources.

"People just don't know," she laments.

"They don't know where to go."

That ability to help folks navigate during troubled times keeps Dorothy at Emergency Service's point. "I've been there," she says of her clients' circumstances, "but I had my family and God." Dorothy can be neither family nor God to her clients, but she can be a guide and a blessing for many.

Dorothy is blessed herself with the daily presence of a volunteer who helps her collect paperwork and process clients. Johnnie Maxwell, Susan Herron, Marva B. Donald, Rev. Ellis Confer and Dr. Ben Bledsoe spend one morning a week in Emergency Services. On March 29, at MIFA's Day of Reflection & Service, Marva Donald received a special award for her long service, and Dorothy herself was named MIFA's Volunteer Coordinator of the Year.

The Emergency Services program manager, Phyllis Phillips, mentions the volunteers as she lists the people who appreciate working with Dorothy. Volunteers need to be busy with satisfying work, and Dorothy makes sure they know the importance of what they do. Clients, too, appreciate her, Phyllis says, because she relates to them, finds toys for their restless children, and makes sure everyone, even those who don't qualify for help with utilities or rent, leaves Emergency Services with some form of assistance, be it a food voucher or a referral. Dorothy takes care of everyone, Phyllis says, including the program staff who feed off her energy, compassion and good spirits.

Dorothy's 84-year-old mother, who lives with her, is proud of her daughter and her work at MIFA, just as Dorothy is proud of her two sons, one a freshman at Tennessee State and the other a captain in the Air Force awaiting his second tour in Iraq. Soon she will live again with the daily, chilling worry about his welfare, but the woman who embodies the purpose of Emergency Services will continue to be herself: a reassuring presence for clients, a leader of volunteers and a thoughtful supporter of her colleagues.



# Tops Bar-B-Q and other restaurant partners help March for Meals succeed



Inside the Tops Bar-B-Q on Lamar during the month of March, two walls were papered with MIFA's March for Meals pinups. Each pinup represented a customer's donation to MIFA Meals. During the campaign, this location alone sold over 2,000 pinups.



Pictured is Tops Manager Stephanie Turner, right, with a co-worker.

The driving force behind the campaign's success at Tops on Lamar was Manager Stephanie Turner, whose enthusiasm for MIFA was infectious.

"It was easy to sell – people enjoyed seeing their names on the pinups, so they didn't need any prompting," Turner says. "I just want to thank the community for their support. Everyone was donating, even young people, and I love to see the community give to programs that help the hungry and needy."

But Tops General Manager George Montague gave Stephanie all the credit. "She did this like she does everything else," Montague says. "She's just good at it. Stephanie is our most enthusiastic manager, and she was responsible for the success of March for Meals here."



In March, four local mayors served their constituents in an extraordinary way. They participated in Mayors for Meals, which is part of the national March for Meals program held in conjunction with the Meals On Wheels Association of America. Nationally, more than 1,000 officials delivered meals in recognition of this event. Pictured, left to right, are Bartlett Mayor A. Keith McDonald, Millington Mayor Terry G. Jones and Germantown Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy. Not pictured is Collierville Mayor Linda Kerley, who also delivered meals.

## Many thanks to our restaurant partners for making March for Meals a success!

Bhan Thai  
Bogie's Deli in Midtown  
Boscós  
Central BBQ  
D'Bo's Wings n' Things  
Dixie Café  
East End Grill on Hwy. 64

El Mezcal on Perkins Ext.  
Exline's Best Pizza in Town  
Muddy's Bake Shop  
Old Zinnie's  
Piccadilly  
The Bar-B-Q Shop  
Tops Bar-B-Q

In January, Dr. Kenneth T. Whalum, Jr., Pastor of New Olivet Baptist Church and Memphis City Schools Board Member, spoke to a packed audience during MIFA's annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event. In addition to Dr. Whalum's message, "It's Time to Wake Up and Stop Dreaming," the finalists for MIFA's annual Youth Servant Leadership Oratorical Contest were announced. Following the program, volunteers participated in a special holiday meals delivery.





## Calendar of Events and Volunteer Opportunities

### JUNE

- 14..... Worldwide Knit in Public Day
- 21..... Saturday MIFA Meals Delivery

### AUGUST

- 23..... Saturday MIFA Meals Delivery

### SEPTEMBER

- 26..... MIFA 40th Anniversary Preview  
During the South Main Trolley Tour

### OCTOBER

- 2..... MIFA 40th Anniversary Celebration
- 5-11 ..... Resident Rights Week
- 19..... Love Cap Party

### COMMUNITY

- MIFA tours and volunteer orientation/training are just a phone call away. Call 529-4514 for a spot.
- Help MIFA programs with a variety of general office activities, including filing, preparing mailings and more. Times are flexible. Contact Charlie Nelson at 529-4514 or cnelson@mifa.org.
- Be a MIFA Rep for your congregation! MIFA Reps serve as MIFA ambassadors and keep their congregations informed of MIFA programs, events and volunteer opportunities. Orientation involves a brief tour scheduled at your convenience. Contact Thomas Robinson at 529-4571 or trobinson@mifa.org for information.

### SENIORS

- Brighten the day of a homebound senior citizen by delivering hot meals Monday through Friday between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Volunteers must have their own vehicles and proof of insurance. Regular drivers and substitutes are needed. Contact Helen Ryan at 529-4513 or hryan@mifa.org.
- Saturday MIFA Meals – If you can't make it during the week, please consider doing a special Saturday meals delivery. Remaining dates for 2008 are June 21, August 23, November 22, December 13 and December 25 (Special Christmas meal). Contact Helen Ryan at 529-4513 or hryan@mifa.org.
- Become a volunteer Ombudsman! These valuable volunteers advocate for the rights of nursing home residents through MIFA's Ombudsman program in Shelby, Fayette, Tipton and Lauderdale Counties. To become certified, volunteers must complete 15 hours of classroom and on-site training. Do you have the dedication it takes to be a volunteer Ombudsman? Contact Linda Marks, volunteer coordinator, at 527-0208, ext. 230 or lmarks@mifa.org.

### CHILDREN & FAMILIES

- Volunteers are needed to care for children of MIFA Housing clients on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon while their parents attend Life Skills classes at the Les Passees Center for Children and Families, 715 St. Paul Ave. Contact Stephanie Ball at 525-7766 or sball@mifa.org.
- MIFA Mentoring – If you've ever overcome an obstacle and want to help others succeed, your potential for mentoring is limitless.

Help inner-city teens learn vital job skills such as punctuality, following directions and meeting deadlines. With your help, a teen can learn to balance school and work. To be a Teen Job Services mentor, contact Derek Henson at 529-4556 or dhenson@mifa.org.

Help a homeless family with household budgeting, debt reduction, parenting skills, problem solving and other issues. With your help, family members will be equipped to handle whatever life holds in store when they move to permanent housing. Contact Kari Beth Dungan at 529-4515 or kdungan@mifa.org to be a MIFA Housing Mentor.

## Take Stock in MIFA

Are you a MIFA volunteer? If so, you know the importance of MIFA's work in the community. In honor of this 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, we're asking our volunteers to Take Stock in MIFA by purchasing \$4 shares and investing in MIFA's future.

What can shares in MIFA accomplish?

- A single \$4 share pays the food cost of two senior meals.
- A donation of \$4 every month provides 24 meals a year.
- \$40 helps keep the lights and heat on for a family in crisis.
- \$400 pays the average cost of a home repair for a low-income senior.
- \$4,000 provides companionship for ten frail seniors for an entire year or houses one homeless family for over six months.

Whether you are able to purchase one share of stock or 1,000, your investment in the future of MIFA keeps seniors in their homes and transforms the lives of families in crisis.

For more information on how you can help, contact Director of Volunteers and Special Events Charlie Nelson, at cnelson@mifa.org or (901) 529-4514.



**Stringer's Garden Center recently donated 16 flats of bedding plants to MIFA. This contribution, valued at over \$300, allowed volunteers to brighten the flower beds at two of MIFA's properties in time for spring!**

*Does your civic group, fraternity/sorority, book club, sports team or other group want to get involved with MIFA? We want to visit your group to present an overview of MIFA, our programs and volunteer opportunities. Call 527-0208 or [www.mifa.org](http://www.mifa.org) for more info.*

# MIFA Plus-1 offers relief to families in crisis

After working for the same employer for ten years, Kathryn lost her job in October of 2007.

"So many people have been dependent on me for so long, and when all of a sudden the resources weren't there, I felt like I was letting everyone down," she says. "You imagine what it will be like for your family to not have utilities, and you get down on your knees a lot and ask God to help you." Kathryn's time of need led her to MIFA, where she received assistance through the MLGW Plus-1 Program.

The MLGW Plus-1 Program is a partnership between MIFA Emergency Services and MLGW that provides utility assistance for families in financial crisis. MLGW customers are asked to add \$1 or more to the cost of their utilities each

month as a donation to be reserved for eligible clients. When a client receives assistance through Plus-1, these funds are used to pay a portion of the client's MLGW bill, while a manageable payment plan is constructed for the remaining balance.

For Plus-1 eligibility, a client must be able to document the financial crisis that kept him from paying his MLGW bill. Clients must have received no MIFA assistance for two years, and those who have been affected by crisis within the last 90 days are given preference.

Kathryn adds that it takes a lot of humility to ask for help, but the folks at MIFA never judged her for it. She says, "I want to let people know that when you come to MIFA, the moment you walk in the door, the receptionist has a smile on her face, and you realize there is no judgment. Everyone just smiles at you and treats you with respect."

Kathryn says she plans to give to Plus-1 when she is financially stable again, and she encourages others to give to this program. She says, "If we can't spare one, two or five dollars, someday we'll get to a point where no one has any help at all. I will absolutely donate to Plus-1."

Kim offers the same encouragement. She came to Plus-1 for help years ago,

Thanks to Plus-1, Kathryn didn't have to leave her family in the dark.



then donated to Plus-1 when she got back on her feet.

Kim was recently laid off by an employer she had been with for nine years, and she found herself in need of MIFA's assistance again. She has three teenage kids to take care of, so it was easy to fall behind on utilities. Her message to the community is similar to Kathryn's. She states, "I encourage everyone to give – that \$1 can be the difference between a family's having utilities or not. It's a blessing to receive help from Plus-1, but it's a better feeling to be able to give."

MIFA operates several programs to stabilize and transform families in crisis. These include Emergency Services, which helps eligible clients with rent, mortgage payments, utilities, food and clothing; and MIFA Housing Opportunities, which provides housing, case management and life skills training for families transitioning out of homelessness.



After receiving assistance from Plus-1, Kim began donating to the program.

Donating to Plus-1 is easy! To sign up, go to <https://service.mlgw.org/serviceforms/plus1/plus1.php>.

# Love Cap volunteers top 3,000 in 17th year of program

Love Cap knitters and crocheters turned out in force last November at Colonial Park United Methodist Church to celebrate another successful year. MIFA collected 3,309 caps, lap robes, scarves and other warm items for distribution to clients of MIFA and other area agencies.

Many Love Cap volunteers work in groups formed in congregations, schools, neighborhoods, retirement communities, knitting groups and workplaces. The top performing groups for 2007 were Luther Towers with 619 caps, Woodland Presbyterian with 390 and the Shelby County Family, Community and Education Council with 256. First Baptist Olive Branch won the lap robe division with 25 lap blankets for seniors, and the students at Bornblum Solomon Schechter School turned in 94 handmade neck warmers.

Crafters of all ages are invited to join in the fun while caring for those who need a hand up, or you can help keep the program strong by sponsoring a Love Cap for just \$10. Since its inception, almost 60,000 items have been provided by this dedicated group. For more information about the program, visit: [http://www.mifa.org/Love\\_caps.asp](http://www.mifa.org/Love_caps.asp), the weblog at [www.lovecaps.wordpress.com](http://www.lovecaps.wordpress.com) or contact Sarah Terry at 529-4543 or [sterry@mifa.org](mailto:sterry@mifa.org). Contributions can be sent to: MIFA Love Caps, P.O. Box 3130, Memphis, TN 38173.



Love Cap partygoers admire a few of the 3,309 caps collected in 2007.

# Doing the right thing leads Allen to support MIFA

BY THOMAS ROBINSON  
*Congregational Outreach Coordinator*

As a young woman, Julia Allen had a passion for doing the right thing.

When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was killed in 1968, the group that eventually became MIFA was the first community church effort to respond. Their initial meeting at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church was the first interracial, inter-faith gathering in response to King's death. Allen says the group's quick response made a great impression on her. They brought the most motivated leaders on board, like "visionaries" Gid Smith and Bob Dempsey, who led MIFA in its early years. Under their guidance, MIFA became an organization that was always willing to move to help the community.

During her five and a half years on staff, Allen was instrumental in recruiting the first class of VISTA volunteers to MIFA. VISTAs played an extremely important role in MIFA's continued growth. She could see from the beginning that MIFA would be home to many of the "outstanding Memphians with a social conscience."

With the unique viewpoint of a former employee, volunteer and donor, Allen offers some suggestions for those who wish to support MIFA. "When you have trouble choosing a gift for a loved one or would rather not ship a gift across the country, a MIFA Tribute serves as a way to both honor

someone and serve the community," she states. "Planned gifts go a long way toward bettering Memphis." Allen recommends making MIFA a beneficiary in a will, as well as telling family members to make memorial gifts to MIFA.

Allen explains that she recently supported MIFA with a gift through her IRA. One way to give to MIFA through retirement plans is to designate MIFA as a beneficiary of your IRA. Charitable giving from retirement plans is a smart way to support MIFA and avoid double taxation. Retirement plan assets are part of one's estate; when they are passed to a beneficiary, they are taxed as part of an estate and as income to the beneficiary. By making your charitable gifts from retirement plans, you can leave your beneficiaries gifts that are not subject to income tax.

Allen says it is natural for her to give back to the organization that changes so many lives each year. While her memories of volunteering, working with MIFA's early leaders and the dedication of VISTA volunteers are incentives for her to help, she also describes how much it meant to her when her mother-in-law began receiving MIFA Meals. "MIFA has always been very responsive, both to those who need help and to those who want to help."



MIFA supporter Julia Allen enjoys working with children in her spare time. Pictured, she is tutoring at Idlewild Elementary School.



**MIFA thanks SunTrust Bank for sponsoring a recent asset protection seminar with a focus on planned giving. This was the third year that SunTrust has partnered with MIFA for this event.**

## Your Tax Rebate: Buy a new TV or lunch for 100 seniors?

Beginning in May 2008, over 130 million people will receive a one-time tax rebate from the IRS. You may be one of these if you filed a 2007 tax return and meet the income requirements.

You can make a difference by giving all or a portion of your rebate to MIFA. Consider the impact of putting your rebate to work directly in the Memphis community. Your extra gift this year could mean that MIFA can better meet the ever growing need of those striving to beat homelessness and poverty right in your own neighborhood.

Thank you for supporting MIFA!

For more information on the tax rebate, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

# Contributions

MIFA gratefully acknowledges the following  
cash or stock received between  
October 1, 2007 and February 29, 2008.  
Your donations help change lives. Thank you.

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### \$50,000 - \$99,999

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 H. W. Durham Foundation  
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 The Urban Child Institute

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Aluma-Form, Inc.  
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## What's happening at MIFA...

### Center's renovations increase efficiency

Thanks to a generous contribution from the Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens and Cannada Foundation, the Les Passees Center for Children and Families has been renovated to allow Housing Opportunities and Life Skills to be under one roof. Staff from these two programs serve the same clients, so this new arrangement will benefit everyone.

The vacant upstairs rooms at Les Passees have been transformed into small offices to create private meeting space for housing case managers. These enhancements will facilitate confidential communication between clients and staff, as well as a more efficient work environment for program staff.

Pictured, Butler Snow representatives Frank Holbrook (far left) and Amy Pepke (far right) present the check to MIFA representatives Tonya Crowder and Betty Adams.



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St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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Calvary Episcopal Church  
Church of the Holy Communion  
The Episcopal Diocese Of West Tennessee  
Germantown Presbyterian Church  
Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church

**\$2,500 - \$4,999**

United Methodist Church, Memphis Conference

**\$1,000 - \$2,499**

Balmoral Presbyterian Church  
Central Church  
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Collierville UMC  
First Baptist Church, Lauderdale  
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Memphis Inner City Outreach, Inc.  
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West TN/ West MS Chapter of Thrivent Financial For Lutherans  
Whitestone Missionary Baptist Church

**\$500- \$999**

Advent Presbyterian Church  
Castalia Baptist Church  
Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Germantown  
Decatur-Trinity Christian Church  
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First UMC Ripley - UMW  
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Memphis First Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
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Woodland United Presbyterian Church

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Central Christian Church, Christian Women's Fellowship  
Emmanuel House Community  
Farmington Presbyterian Church  
First Assembly Of God  
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Fullview M.B. Church  
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St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral

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Union Avenue Baptist Church  
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**Up to \$250**

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Church of the Holy Apostles  
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Embury UMC, Pilgrim Sunday School Class  
Emmanuel UMC, UMW  
First Baptist Church Luaderdale, Clubs & Auxiliaries  
First Evangelical Church  
Grace UMC  
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Holy Temple COGIC  
Jackson Avenue UMC  
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Longstreet UMW, Faith Circle  
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St. Stephen UMC, Friendship Circle  
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**\$500- \$999**

Briarcrest Christian School  
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Trezevant Episcopal Home, St. Edward Chapel

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Lausanne Collegiate School  
Woman's Exchange of Memphis

**You can donate to MIFA through  
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MIFA gratefully acknowledges the following gifts received between October 16, 2007 and February 29, 2008. Your donations help change lives. Thank you.

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## What's happening at MIFA...



### Embassy Suites provides clients special place for relaxing

The Embassy Suites brand marketing team of Hilton Hotels Corporation recently painted and refurbished a relaxation room for MIFA clients at the Les Passees Center for Children and Families.

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*Thanks*

Thank you to the individuals and groups who provided holiday gift items for home-bound seniors through the MIFA Meals program:

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Special thanks to everyone who donated toys for children of MIFA clients during the holidays:

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*Our sincere apologies if your name was inadvertently omitted.*

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## What's happening at MIFA...



### Former client's dream comes true

Former MIFA housing client Rita Wagner had always dreamed of being a caterer. In December, her dream came true when she catered an event for MIFA sponsored by Arkansas businessman and philanthropist Jennings Osborne. Currently, Wagner volunteers for MIFA as a guest chef in City Kitchen.

### Did you know?

The Rhodes  
College Student  
Athlete Advisory  
Committee

worked throughout the spring semester to raise donations for MIFA. They collected household items, books, toys and canned goods. Items were collected not only from Rhodes student-athletes, fan and parents, but also from those with visiting baseball, softball and track teams.

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PATRICIA BOSTON  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Kline  
DR. BOBBY BOWIE  
Pat & Harold Bowie

RUTH ANNE BOYD  
Judy & Stephen Boyd  
Margaret Craddock  
Lynn J. Jones

Virginia Klettner  
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Elizabeth W. & Jack Reed, Jr.  
Virginia Worthington

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Dr. & Mrs. Burton P. Bodan

DR. BOYER BRADY  
Janie & Bill Bobbitt  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert P. Kline

ADAM BROWN  
Julie & Allan Schoenberger

EARLENE L. BROWN  
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Dorothy Buhler

GILBERT R. "DICK" BURROUGH  
Rohini & Prabhakar Parikh

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Mrs. Leon Friedlander

DUNCAN LAWRENCE CALLAWAY  
Mary Dean Richards Laird

JOHN JARED CAMPBELL  
Ark Roofing Company  
Janice S. Shubert

RUTH CAMPBELL  
Aileen Sharpe

LOIS CANFIELD  
Margaret & Max Mayer

BETTY CARNEY  
Shirley Manis

SARAH ELIZABETH CARTER  
Jane & Maury Strauss

CHARLES CASH  
Blanche & Mike Deaderick

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Holley & Lucius McGehee

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Sandy Smegelsky & Linda Marks

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Elvis Goldsmith  
Dorothy Laitman

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Rita & Bill Bruce

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Helen Ryan

ELIZABETH CONE  
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RICHARD CONRAD  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Montes

HAZEL & UPTON COUCH  
Patricia L. Walls

CAROLE CRAWFORD  
Ethel Joyner

TERRY CRUTHIRDS  
Grace & Monte Brown  
Magnolia Butler, Barbara Johnson,  
Ruth Harris &  
Norvel Adams Walker  
Linda Connolly, Pam Tankersley,  
Pam Hingle, Anita Brewer &  
Carla Roe  
Fountain Pointe Homeowners  
Association  
Carol A. McNair  
Nicholas Nowak  
Anne E. Ryland

JAMES DANDRIDGE  
Marsha S. Haboush

C. O. DAUGHERTY  
Bernia Daugherty

VINCENT C. DAUGHERTY  
Bernia Daugherty

MARY LUCILLE BRADSHAW DAVIS  
The MIFA Family

MATTHEW R. DAVIS, JR.  
Sarah S. Coleman

H. L. DELANEY  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin P. Delaney

## What's happening at MIFA...



### Delegation awards MIFA with community enhancement grant

The Shelby County State Democratic Delegation awarded six Memphis charities and governmental programs with community enhancement funds from the Tennessee legislature. MIFA received \$100,000 to enhance parking, security and operations, particularly for home-delivered meals. These improvements will increase traffic flow in and around MIFA headquarters. Pictured are members of the delegation with MIFA's Margaret Craddock and representatives from other organizations.

CINDY DEVEREAUX  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard M. Devereaux

COREY DEVEREAUX  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard M. Devereaux

RT. REV. WILLIAM A. DIMMICK  
Tommy & Charla Corzine

CATHERINE S. DOBBS  
Reynolds, Bone & Griesbeck PLC  
John Lichterman  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Mills  
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Rembert III

MYRA & FRED DREIFUS  
Louis & Nancy Brenner

LUCILLE DUNBAR  
Sara Skinner & Javier deAna

ISABELLE EISLER  
Sandy & Clifton Lipman

LEONARD R. ELLIS III  
Nancy D. Ellis

RUBEN ENGELBERG  
Mrs. Leon Friedlander

KARL ERDMAN, SR.  
Carol & Gene Katz  
Carol Ann Mallory

MR. HOWARD FEURY  
UT Biomedical Instrumentation

SCOTT FISHER  
J.O.E. Beck III

CHARLOTTE M. FLINT  
Mr. & Mrs. Barney Rolfes

ELLEN FOREMAN  
Aimee Ginsburg

W.L. FOREMAN  
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Betty & Alfred Cowles  
Kaki & Bill Whitley

SHIRLEY FRISCH  
Mr. & Mrs. James B. Jalenak

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Mr. & Mrs. James W. Bendall

MR. ANTHONY GAGLIO  
Hazel B. Romano

THELMA LOUISE GARRETT  
Margaret Craddock

KIRK GAUSE, JR.  
Steve Kisber

FRANK GLANKLER  
The MIFA Family  
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Peggy & Bill Gerald  
Charlie Nelson  
JANICE GOLDSMITH  
Mrs. Murray Reiter

WILLIAM J. GOLDSTEIN, JR.  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin P. Delaney

LYNN GORBUTT  
D & J Supply Company

MOTHER OF DR. RICHARD GORDON  
Carolyn Glover

DR. MARVIN GOTTLIEB  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Kline  
Evelyn & Jerome Makowsky

CATHERINE GREANEY  
Dorothy M. Greaney

EDWARD F. GREANEY, SR.  
Dorothy M. Greaney

DAN L. GREER, JR.  
Lynn & Vic Butcher

ANN MAYTON GREGORY  
Rev. & Mrs. Wallace H. Mayton III

RONALD C. HAAS  
Curt & Jeffrey Ward

HENRY HAIZLIP, JR.  
Mrs. Henry Haizlip, Jr.

BLANCH OMAR HALL  
John Lichterman

DR. FRANK J. HALL  
Flora & David Bratten  
Carol Guenther  
Dorothy Bryce Morton

WILLIAM HALLIDAY  
Claire & Joe Saino

PAUL CHARLES HARRIS  
Cindy & Chuck Harris

PERCY H. HARVEY  
Rita & Bill Bruce

TINA HAVEN  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Akin  
First Tennessee Bank  
Inman Construction Corporation  
Carroll & Dan Mayfield  
The MIFA Family

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Dorothy Sachritz

LARRY E. HENSON  
The O'Sullivan Family

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Reynolds, Bone & Griesbeck PLC

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Donna & Michael Malone

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Mrs. Myrtle W. Crawford

MRS. LOVIE L. HOPKINS  
Donna & Michael Malone

MRS. LILA DORIS HORVATH  
John Lichterman

GERALDINE PRESLEY HOWE  
Rohini & Prabhakar Parikh

MARY ELANE HUGHES  
Tommye Adams

HERBERT HUNT  
Suzy Manley

MR. ED HURLEY  
Dorothy C. Cottam

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MARY KATHERINE HYDE  
Vive Montgomery  
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Mr. & Mrs. James H. Allen

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Mr. & Mrs. Michael Schiff

FRANKIE E. JOHNSON  
Margaret Craddock  
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& Staff

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Charlotte Carr Sanders

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Jameson M. Jones  
Sara & Chris Jones  
Sharon & Sam Jones

MRS. EVELYN JONES  
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Vivian & Ken Jones

GUY E. JOYNER, JR.  
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GLADYS JUSTICE  
The Jack Powell Family

**Did you know?**



**Many organizations began at MIFA and are now independent**

**entities. Among these are: the Memphis Food Bank, Memphis Literacy Council, the Memphis Child Advocacy Center, Latino Memphis, The Best Times, Memphis Parent and Memphis Coalition for the Homeless.**



Did you know?

**A recent \$40,000 grant from the H.W. Durham Foundation to Emergency Services assisted 265 elderly clients with their utility bills.**

FATHER OF PRATISH KADAKIA  
Rohini & Prabhakar Parikh

MR. DAVE KAMMERER  
John Lichterman

JOAN KAPLAN  
Janet Kisber

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Margaret Winter  
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Kimbrough Green Homeowners  
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Leah Pleasants  
Edith D. Reiter  
Margaret Richhart  
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Ruby Wright

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Leanne Brooks & Barbara DuFour  
John D. Canale  
Michelle Crews

Blanche & Mike Deaderick  
Mr. & Mrs. David Duneheew  
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Imogene F. Erb  
Sondra & Douglas Hartley  
Linda & Jim House  
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Betty & Skipper Loewenberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Jody Mard  
Debra & John McVean  
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Bonita Lyons

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Alice Wood

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Regina Burchfield

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Helen Ryan

JEAN F. MCCLOSKEY  
Ginger Jamison

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Mary Ann Ford  
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Billie Anne Williams

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Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Wells

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Betty Gray

GEORGE E. MORROW  
Rita & Bill Bruce

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Nancy & Taylor Abernathy

JOHN THOMAS MOYES  
Rosemary & Don Wellford

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Valarie Labens

EDWIN MULLENS  
Valarie Labens

CLARENCE MURPHY  
Jane & Shed Caffey

CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE  
Betty Musselwhite

SYLVESTER NELMS  
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TONY PARKER  
Lucy & Ceylon Blackwell  
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Hope Logan  
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Mr. & Mrs. Peter Rosato IV  
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Parm & Dan Avaritt

LUCY PENDLETON  
Sarah Coleman & Family

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Blanche & Mike Deaderick

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Donna & Bob Goodman  
Janet Kisber  
Shirley Manis  
Evelyn & Milton Simkin  
Dr. & Mrs. David Usdan

MR. ANDREW PHILLIPS  
Donna & Michael Malone

HERSHEL PHILLIPS  
Tuny, Ben & Susan Alexander

DR. WILLIE REN PHILLIPS  
Jane Plunket

LEO PINSTEIN  
Laura Edwards  
Shirley Manis

OSCAR PLUNKET, JR.  
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MRS. NAOMI PRATT  
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MR. MELVIN PRICE  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack R. Parker

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Kay Dortch, Poplar Plaza Cleaners  
Mr. & Mrs. L. V. O'Shaughnessy  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Wellford

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Dr. & Mrs. Lee Stein  
Anne & John Stokes

BOB RAMSEY  
Jane C. Cash

JAMES WALKER RAWLINGS  
Terry Dan & Terry Pagliari

HELEN REAM  
Lynn & Vic Butcher

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Jeanne & Bruce Alpert & Family  
Lillian Alpert  
Sharon & Terry Dan  
Shara Lynn & Arnold Goldin  
Karen Gomez  
Helen W. Haas  
A. J. Herzberg  
Roslyn Karesh  
Dr. & Mrs. Sheldon Korones  
Esther Lubin  
Edith Reiter  
Kay & Frank Rosenberg  
Judy Royal  
Jane & Maury Strauss

Shirley & H. I. Summerfield  
Dr. & Mrs. David Usdan  
Lorraine & Bert Wolf

RUBY & GARNIE RICHARDSON  
Betty & Jim Hayden

ROBERT B. RICKEY  
Bob & Laura Schwartz

CATHERINE NELSON ROBILIO  
Nadene Day  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Montesi

KATE ROBILIO  
Ann Heuertz

MARY ELLEN ROBINSON  
Alfred & Betty Cowles

OPAL ROPER  
Marie H. Thayer

JAMIE ROSS  
Alice Wood

ROBERT ROUTH  
Carol & Bert Barnett

LEONARD RUBENSTEIN  
Janet Kisber  
Nadolyn & Ed Schoenfeld

PHIL RULEMAN  
Julie & Allan Schoenberger

MARY RUTHERFORD  
Joyce Moss

MRS. MARY RYAN  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Wellford

CHARLES SAUNDERS,  
CLAYTON SAUNDERS &  
ROBERT MILLS SAUNDERS  
Rita & Bill Bruce

JOHN LACY SCOTT  
Rosemary Catalani

MRS. MACY Y. SCOTT  
Sandy Jayne Friedman

JO SEABROOK  
Mary B. Winton

## What's happening at MIFA...



### Pro-Duffers contribute tournament's proceeds

The Pro-Duffers South recently made a contribution to MIFA with proceeds from their annual golf tournament. Since 1993, the group has donated more than \$23,000 to MIFA. Pictured, left to right, are: Clyde Saunders, Robert Crawford, MIFA's Anna Kathryn Word, William Woodruff and Lemuel Osborne.

ESTHER SEGAL  
 Dr. & Mrs. Burton P. Bodan  
 Evelyn & Milton Simkin  
 Dr. & Mrs. Alan Solomon  
 Henrietta Zeitlin

MRS. ANNETTE SLOAS  
 Dr. & Mrs. Burton P. Bodan

MS. GEORGIA SUTHERLAND  
 Janie & Bill Bobbitt

BAXTER H. TURNAGE, JR.  
 Rita & Bill Bruce

MOTHER OF MRS. PETER SMITH  
 Marcia & Allan Hayden

NED JUDSON SUTTLE  
 Terry Dan

STEVE H. TURNBULL  
 Lucy W. Turnbull

HELEN SENTER  
 Tom Leyden

CAPT. JIM SMITHEY  
 Mr. & Mrs. Taylor Abernathy

GLADYS TATE  
 Nancy & Jesse Thompson

MR. & MRS. ALLAWRENCE TURNER  
 Marva Turner

FRANK SHAFFER, SR.  
 Frank & Mariam Shaffer

RONNEY SNELL  
 Rita & Bill Bruce

DR. STANLEY THIEL  
 Donna & Michael Malone

BRENT TURNER  
 Angela & Tom Weems

TOBY SHAINBERG  
 Andrea Bienstock  
 Dr. & Mrs. Burt Bodan  
 Janet Kisber

MYER, EVA, VIVIAN & DAVID SPACK  
 Ethel Joyner

ROBERT C. THRELKELD  
 Harry & Sunny Blumenfeld

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 Waynedale School

WANDA SPAKE  
 Helen Ryan

MR. DEL TIPPS  
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JEFFERSON D. UPSHAW, JR., M.D.  
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CARL SHORTER  
 Alida L. Scarbrough

KATHERINE LOUISE STALLINS  
 Harish & Urmi Vishria

JOHN M. TORODE  
 Phyllis Salop

CHARLES VAN CLEAVE  
 Mr. & Mrs. R. R. Higginbotham

MR. VICTOR SILVER  
 Dr. & Mrs. Burt Bodan

RUTH STALLINS  
 Dr. Jack Bisno

MARIE P. TRACEY  
 Patricia Ellis

KAY VOELLER  
 Jim & Margie Doyle

SHIRLEY SIMMONS  
 Jan Brackstone Stein

DR. W. PRICE STEPP  
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VIRGINIA VONLACKUM  
 Habitat For Humanity  
 Sara M. Holmes  
 Eileen Watson & Family

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FREDIA L. STONE  
 Michael E. Stone

JOHN TUCKER  
 Mr. & Mrs. L. V. O'Shaughnessy

ALFRED WADDELL, SR.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Waddell, Jr.

ARCHIE SLOAN  
 Dr. & Mrs. Norman Towbin

JIM SURPRISE  
 Dr. & Mrs. Alan Solomon

BETTY TURBERVILLE  
 Sue & Bud Balkin

CHARLES E. WAGNER  
 Mary Dean Richards Laird

WILLIAM "BOB" WAKEFIELD  
 Chuck Wilcox

JANIE HEATH WALKER  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Overton

MILLY WALTERS  
 Carol & Paul Lawler

## What's happening at MIFA...



### Urban Art House inspires creativity

MIFA children and teens can develop their creative skills at the new Urban Art House in MIFA's Les Passees Center for Children and Families. The program allows young people to learn different forms of expression and art techniques. Later this year, students will host an art show to display their talents.

**MIFA mourns the loss of Todd Morgan, who was a long-time employee of Elvis Presley Enterprises. Through his work in communications and special projects, he played a significant role in the success of MIFA's Presley Place. We extend our deepest sympathy to the staff at Elvis Presley Enterprises and to Todd's family and friends.**

MRS. HEDI WARD  
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Ina & Dick Eiseman  
Reynolds, Bone & Griesbeck PLC  
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Bernice & Alvin Salomon  
Dr. & Mrs. David Usdan

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Jean & Buddy Ballin  
Aimee Ginsburg  
Shara Lynn & Arnold Goldin  
Donna & Bob Goodman  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Montesi  
Aileen Sharpe

MR. SAM WILSON  
Mr. & Mrs. Tripp Wilson

JIM WOOD, JR.  
Patty Clark  
Bob & Bebe Howell

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The MIFA Family  
Annetta Macklin

EDDIE YOSTE  
Jerome Morrison

MR. WILLIAM F. YOUNGSON  
Camille Dolan

MRS. FRIED ZANDER  
Bill & Kaki Whitley

ROSALIE WATKINS  
Florence W. Quinn

LOUIS WHITE III  
Sadie Casey

LINDA F. WEHRUM  
Laura Cohron

VIVIAN WHITTEN  
Ethel Joyner

DOROTHY D. WEISS  
Francine Brown  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert P. Kline  
Blanche Morris  
Dr. & Mrs. Alan Salomon  
Barbara & Norman Towbin

BARRY WILLIAMS  
Jean Fox Clippard

ROBERT G. WILLIAMS  
Lynn & Vic Butcher

ED WILLINGHAM  
Janie & Bill Bobbitt

MR. & MRS. C. L. WELLS  
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Wells

MR. G. B. WILSON  
Mydelle L. Wilson

DANNY WEST  
Laura & Bob Schwartz

JIM WILSON  
Janie Jeter

## ANNIVERSARIES

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The Vic Butcher Family &  
The Tom Redman Family

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Suzi & Mike Cody  
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Fisher

**LUCIE & DON DUBOIS**  
Diana Sater

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Becky & Alvin Labens

**MR. & MRS. AUTHUR KING**  
Janet Kisber

**LUCY & HOWARD LOVELESS**  
Curt & Jeffrey Ward

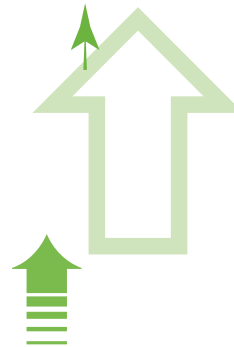
**JUNE & MIKE MARTIN**  
Bob Stephenson

**MR. & MRS. JAMES RALEY**  
Rosemary Catalani

**CHHAYA & RAUL SAIGAL**  
Indurani Tejwani

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**MR. & MRS. BERNEY WIESEL**  
Dr. & Mrs. Burton P. Bodan



## The Indian Community Fund Volunteers

Members of The Indian Community Fund for Greater Memphis have been volunteering for MIFA since September 2006. They deliver two meals routes every week and have never missed a day. MIFA thanks the following individuals for their dedication and commitment.

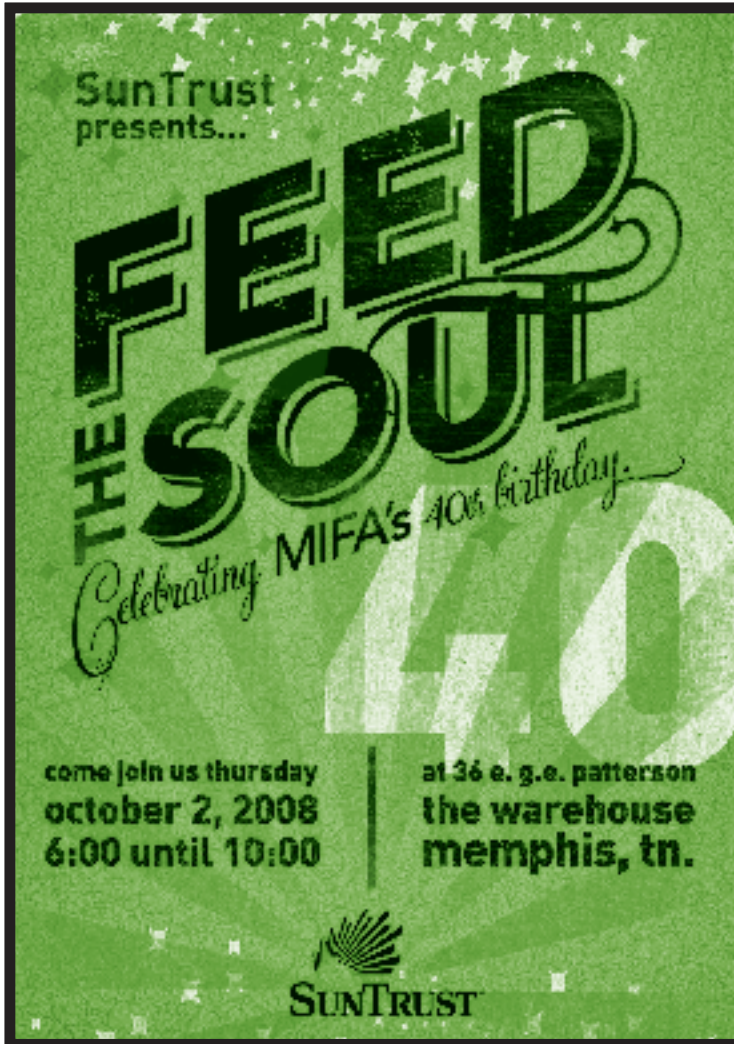
**Dr. Rakesh Goorha (Co-Chair)**  
**Dr. Bhogi Sheth (Co-Chair)**  
**Archana Agarwal**  
**Claude Braganza**  
**Himani Dave**  
**Poorna Gajjar**  
**Kalyani Garde**  
**Ram and Deva Gollamudi**  
**Dinaz Kara**  
**Shaila Karkera**  
**Purnima Keshani**  
**Rudha Kumar**  
**Kanwal and Neena Maniktahla**  
**Lakshmi Narayanan**  
**Asha Nathani**  
**Jhansi Pentapathy**  
**Priya Rao**

## What's happening at MIFA...



### Housing clients served by local congregation

Members of St. John's Episcopal Church enjoyed serving MIFA Housing Opportunities clients at their annual holiday party. For the second year, the congregation sponsored the event by providing the location and dinner. Pictured in the foreground are Scott Trammell and Lynn Bug.



Feed the Soul will be a true celebration of 40 years of changing lives! There are several ways you can participate in this special event.

- Join a host or party planning committee.
- Create a serving tray for the silent auction. Artists, clients, donors, volunteers and friends are invited to create works of art honoring MIFA meals on supplied trays.
- Reserve a table. A limited number of tables for ten are available for \$2,500. These will go quickly so reserve today!

Call or email Charlie Nelson at 529-4540 or [cnelson@mifa.org](mailto:cnelson@mifa.org) to be part of Feed the Soul.



## HOPE IN ACTION

Spring 2008 • Volume 26 • Number 1  
910 Vance Avenue • Memphis, TN 38126

*Private donations combined with funds from these partners make MIFA's services possible.*



The Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible charity. We hope you will remember us in your will. If you have already done so, please let us know so we can thank you.

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