



cornerstone

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DESC supporter and the 3D experience



John White, Kate Gregory and their guests enjoying the evening

photo by Christopher Daniel and Conrado Topado

DESC IN 3D - SUPPORTERS LOOK AT HOMELESSNESS IN A NEW DIMENSION

Inspired by the recent 3-D phenomenon in everything from movies to plasma TVs, DESC's Second annual fund-raising gala, aptly named *DESC in 3-D*, packed the house last month at Seattle's Waterfront Marriott Hotel.

Friends, supporters, and grateful family members came together to raise nearly \$200,000 to support DESC's nationally recognized network of care, housing and support. "I'm absolutely overwhelmed to see so much community support and such an avid commitment to ending homelessness" stated Executive Director, Bill Hobson.

To present homelessness in a new perspective, guests were treated to their own pair of 3-D glasses and specially created 3-D posters of "thriving" DESC clients engaged in services. Tables were decorated with retro-style view finders, projecting a three dimensional look at DESC's wrap around services. And programs featured popcorn and photos that literally leapt off the page.

The audience was rapt as guest speaker Dennis Nolan recounted his own emotional journey as he helplessly watched his beloved godson descend into mental illness, paranoia, petty crime, and finally homelessness. Acknowledging that the public sometimes sees homeless people more like black and white cardboard cut-outs than real people, Dennis reminded everyone in the room that "every tortured and homeless person you see on the streets of Seattle is a lost, but loved, member of someone's family."

Deputy Chief Clark Kimerer of the Seattle Police Department and Chair of the DESC Board of Directors served as Master of Ceremonies, thanking supporting sponsors Walsh Construction and SMR Architects, and matching sponsors Vulcan and Virginia Mason Medical Center.



photo by Christopher Daniel

With the crowd firmly in his thrall, Board Member Mark Sidran closed the program with a comedic appeal for support, reminding liberals in the audience that they should

event MC, Clark Kimerer

consider their donation a personal tax increase and conservatives should give generously because this is one opportunity to keep big government out of their lives and let private citizens take care of social needs. Supporting DESC is a win win situation for everyone.

As the applause wound down, guests rocked out to the musical talents of the Dudley Manlove Quartet.

DESC is grateful to all friends and supporters who made this year's gala possible. To see more photos from this event, visit our website: www.desc.org/DESC_3D

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DESC

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DESC works to end the homelessness of vulnerable people, particularly those living with serious mental or addictive illnesses. Through partnerships and an integrated array of comprehensive services, treatment and housing, we give people the opportunity to reach their highest potential. At DESC, uncommon efforts produce uncommon results that eliminate homelessness, one person at a time.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

1811 Eastlake	The Morrison
Canaday House	Rainier House
Evans House	The Union Hotel
Kerner-Scott House	Scattered Site Housing
Lyon Building	

CLINICAL SERVICES

Chemical Dependency Services
Crisis Respite Program
Employment Services
HOST - Outreach and Engagement
PACT - Assertive Community Treatment
SAGE - Mental Health Services

EMERGENCY AND ENTRY SERVICES

Emergency Shelter
Connections

SOMETHING OLD/SOMETHING NEW THRIFT STORE

200 Third Ave S / (206) 748-9080

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The first decade of the 21st century is over and during that time, DESC has been very, very busy. We purchased and completely remodeled the Morrison Hotel; opened 1811 Eastlake despite many challenges; and, we developed and opened Evans, Rainier and



Bill Hobson

Canaday House. We added 60 more units of housing to our scattered site program. In all, we added 533 new units of permanent, supportive housing for Seattle's disabled homeless population, bringing our total housing inventory to over 800 units.

But our efforts were not confined to housing development. We opened Connections, our day center where non-disabled homeless people can find hygiene services, access

to a computer lab, and employment counseling to help them find jobs, housing and independence. We also began our PACT program (Program of Assertive Community Treatment) which is based on a highly respected national model designed to serve the most challenged subset of folks living with severe and persistent mental illnesses. And we began an employment program focused on assisting our disabled clients return to the world of competitive work by providing them, and their employers, with the necessary supports to achieve this goal.

At the end of 2010, we are serving over 2,100 people every day in all of our clinical and housing programs.

We are able to achieve all of this because of vital partnerships within the community: partners encompassing individual, government, corporate, philanthropic, civic organization, faith-based organizations, and most importantly, you, the citizens of Seattle and King County. You recognize that it is not only humane to provide homeless folks with a safe, decent place to live, it also makes our community more livable and just. Because of you, the staff and Board of Directors look forward to the challenges of the next decade and are confident that DESC will meet these opportunities with innovation and success. From all of us at DESC, a very deeply felt "thank you" and let's stay very, very busy.

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BOARD PROFILE: BRYAN FRIEND



Bryan is Vice President, Community Development Finance for Union Bank. Bryan brings to DESC experience in financing low-income housing projects. His relationship with DESC goes back 15 years when he worked on the Union Hotel for the bank representing part of the equity investment and has followed DESC's good works ever since, including serving with

Bill Hobson on the Housing Levy Steering Committee last year. Having lived here 30 years, he hopes that he may contribute to the improvement of the community. In his free time Bryan rides a Harley with "a gang of middle-aged businessmen and biker wannabes." Coincidentally, so does fellow board member Larry Smith.

BOARD PROFILE: LARRY SMITH



Larry is an attorney at Graham & Dunn and has done real estate related litigation for 25 years, including serving as counsel for DESC during the development of 1811 Eastlake and Rainier House. Larry joins the DESC Board purely because he believes very strongly in the mission of DESC. Larry and his wife have lived in Belltown for 22 years, and walks to work.

A huge basketball fanatic, he still plays full court twice a week at the Washington Athletic Club. In good weather, Larry spends time on his Harley and is looking forward to lots of riding when he retires.

DESC IN 3D - SUPPORTERS LOOK AT HOMELESSNESS IN A NEW DIMENSION

photos by Christopher Daniel and Conrado Topado



Diane Lovejoy, last year's speaker, with friends



Dennis Noland, this year's speaker, with friends



Guests enjoying the viewfinders



Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA), table sponsor

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DESC SUPPORTERS PLAY VITAL ROLE IN SAVING HOST PROGRAM

In October, DESC supporters rallied together making phone calls and sending emails to King County Executive Dow Constantine, nearly shutting down the phone system with the sheer volume. What was all the commotion about? DESC was informed that King County planned to cut 86% of funding to our HOST Outreach and Engagement Program, effective December 1, 2010.

The HOST Team is the only street outreach program in the city which assists people with long histories of homelessness living on the streets of Seattle with untreated schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and other serious mental illnesses. These are people who are so ill, they are unable to engage with services or seek any kind of care for themselves. These are the most visible, vulnerable and costly individuals in Seattle.

The cut is a result of State funding shortfalls and a recent order from Governor Gregoire to slash significant funding across-the-board. "It would have devastated this 15-year-old program, causing immediate suspension of outreach and engagement services to hundreds of vulnerable homeless men and women living with serious mental illnesses," stated Director of Administration, Nicole Macri.

After hearing from the public, King County revisited its budget and is now cutting only 16% of the HOST budget, not the original 86%, and over 200 people will retain HOST services. Thank you to all of our supporters for making your voices heard and saving a most valuable program!

DESC PARTNERS WITH THE SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Seattle Police Department has selected DESC as a partner in their Crisis Intervention Team and Mental Health Partnership Pilot Project. In large metropolitan areas like Seattle, approximately 7% of all police contacts involve a person believed to have a mental illness. The police often have few options except to send people to costly emergency rooms or jails, rather than resolving the situation through more appropriate (and less costly) means.

Through this program, DESC is providing a full time mental health professional to assist police with calls where mental illness is suspected to play a role. This will help people receive the most effective and appropriate intervention. The goal of this program is to identify the needs of a person in crisis and address those needs in the most efficient and cost effective manner. DESC is excited to be partnering with Seattle Police in this innovative program which has the added benefit of avoiding more costly interventions at this time of declining city resources.

CANADAY HOUSE

This past summer, DESC was proud to add Canaday House to our award winning Supportive Housing Program. Named in memory of dedicated volunteer Nick Canaday, Canaday House provides 83 apartments, 30% of which are reserved for Veterans. This brings our total housing program to over 800 apartments across Seattle.



María Jacinto, 2010

NEW CANADAY HOUSE RESIDENT, HAROLD, SHARES HIS STORY

FLYING HOME

Yes, I'm "flying" home with the help of DESC!

I was homeless, bouncing around in shelters and couch surfing, when I looked into myself and said, "I need to dig deep into my heart, spirit and soul."

When I first arrived at DESC, I was tired and beaten, especially emotionally.

One day, my case manager said he was transferring to Canaday House and he said he was going to bring me there with him.

Well, the wait was worth it! Canaday House is a great place, with great staff and in a beautiful area. Without the support of all the staff at DESC, it wouldn't have happened.

One thing I know, after being grounded with "broken wings" it will be good to fly again! And the best thing: a "nest" to call home!

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10 BANDS UNITE FOR 1 EVENING TO END HOMELESSNESS

On Thursday, February 24th, DESC hosts our 3rd annual benefit concert, "Gimme Shelter", at The Showbox at The Market in downtown Seattle. The impressive lineup includes The Dusty 45s, Zoe Muth, Vince Mira, Kristen Ward, Massy Ferguson, Star Anna & The Laughing Dogs, Rachel Flotard & Rusty Willoughby, Mark Pickerel, Kasey Anderson & The Honkies, and Tom Bennett & The Rolling Blackouts.

"Gimme Shelter is a festive way to kick off the new year and is a poignant reminder that the men and women we serve are in need of services and support all year round", says Dusty 45s front man, Billy Joe Huels. Gimme Shelter is special to Billy Joe and his family, who have been touched by mental illness and homelessness. Billy Joe's brother lives at DESC's Evans House. As an expression of gratitude, he organizes the concert in honor of his brother and the efforts DESC has made on his behalf.

For further info and to purchase tickets, visit our Events page at desc.org. We hope you can join us for an incredible night of music, all for a good cause.

GIMME SHELTER

FEBRUARY 24, 2011

THE SHOWBOX AT THE MARKET



photo by Christopher Daniel 2010

Gimme Shelter 2010

UNITED WAY'S DAY OF CARING

On September 24th 2010, dozens of volunteers descended upon DESC for United Way's Day of Caring. An annual event, Day of Caring is an opportunity for volunteers to spend the day working collectively to get a lot of hard, not so glamorous work done. We had volunteers deep cleaning and weeding at the majority of our housing and service sites. All of us at DESC, especially our housing managers, are very grateful to all of the volunteers for their hard work.



volunteers weeding at Evans House

DESC HOUSING AND STAFF RECOGNIZED IN 2010

DESC is honored to have received the following recognition in 2010:

Washington State Housing Finance Commission's "Affordable Housing Lifetime Achievement Award" to Executive Director, Bill Hobson for his exceptional contributions, vision, and unwavering commitment to promoting affordable housing in Washington State.

Washington State Housing Finance Commission's "Friends of Housing" award to DESC, one of 5 recipients of this prestigious award.

Bill accepting Lifetime Achievement award from WSHFC's ED Kim Herman and WSHFC's chair, Karen Miller



Leader Spring's Mentor Award for recognition of our commitment to innovation, excellence and exchange of knowledge.

Association of Builders and Contractors of Western Washington's "Excellence in Construction" award: multifamily category for Rainier House.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's "Top 5 Most Influential Research Article" award for: "Health-care and Public Service Use and Costs Before and After Provision of Housing for Chronically Homeless Persons with Severe Alcohol Problems" for DESC's 1811 Eastlake project.

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