



2007 ANNUAL REPORT



GREAT WORK
in progress



East Metro Women's Council
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Mission

The mission of East Metro Women's Council is to assist families working toward self-sufficiency by providing affordable housing, supportive services, and educational opportunities.

Goals

- To provide a supportive learning and living environment in which families with children can thrive.
- To provide services that support families' long-term goals of economic stability and self-reliance.
- To advocate for affordable housing, living-wage employment and community services that support all families in the east metro area.



YEAR IN REVIEW

Hitting our Stride

New funding and initiatives mark exciting year of growth

By Trisha Kauffman, Executive Director

2007 was a year of growth and change for East Metro Women's Council. EMWC served 315 homeless women, men and children in 2007, more than ever before in the organization's history. And we did much more than just provide housing ...

We secured new funding from the state and Washington County to hire a part-time Outreach Worker to provide homeless prevention and intervention services in the county. These new funds allow us to serve single adults and unaccompanied youth as well as families. Being homeless as a youth is the highest risk factor for homelessness as an adult, and we want to break that cycle.

EMWC also hired an Employment & Education Coordinator in 2007 to help our supportive housing residents be more successful in finding and keeping jobs. The number of residents who are employed or enrolled in school has skyrocketed ever since. (Read more about the employment initiative on the back cover.)

For three years now, EMWC has been collecting data in six key outcome areas: **Housing Stability, Educational Advancement, Economic Stability, Improved Health, Strengthened Families, and Community Connections.** We want all the families we serve to show improvement in these areas, because we believe they create the foundation of a healthy, fulfilling life. We have made great strides in some outcome areas and smaller ones in others, and when our outcomes are not what we want them to be, we step up and make needed changes. When the data showed that, year after year, our residents were struggling to find gainful employment, we launched our Employment Services



Resident and staff smile for the camera.

Initiative. When a survey of our Home Again transitional housing residents revealed that, despite a monthly rental subsidy, most were still paying more than 50 percent of their income for rent, we increased our monthly rental assistance. When we observed that more of our residents are struggling with mental and chemical health issues, we hired a new Program Director with significant clinical experience to lead our staff and programs.

As a result, EMWC will offer Dialectical Behavioral Therapy skills training to help our residents learn to manage their emotions and thus be more effective in other areas, such as achieving sobriety or strengthening their parenting or budgeting skills. Other supportive housing providers also are now looking to DBT as an effective intervention for their clients, and EMWC is excited to pioneer this effort.

So what's next for EMWC? The staff and Board of Directors worked closely together to answer that question in our 2008-2010 Strategic Plan, which will guide our activities in services, fundraising, governance and other areas as we grow and change to meet the needs in our community. The next few years hold exciting things for EMWC!

We congratulate the 53 adults and children who completed the EMWC program in 2007 and moved on to other opportunities. We wish you many happy years in your new homes!

Programs and services

East Metro Place

Twenty units of transitional housing for homeless and low-income families, located near Century College in White Bear Lake. Most participants are enrolled in an education or job training program that will prepare them for living-wage employment upon graduation. Staff provide supportive services and access to community resources to help families achieve their goals of self-reliance.

111 adults and children housed in 2007



A volunteer and child enjoy story hour at East Metro Place.

East Metro Place II

Fourteen units of permanent supportive housing in White Bear Lake for homeless families with disabilities or histories of long-term homelessness. Services available to residents include tutoring for children and adults, tenant training, parenting education and health management.

80 adults and children housed in 2007

ROOF Project

Scattered-site transitional housing and supportive services for 12 homeless families in Ramsey County. Participants are expected to work or attend school and transition into market-rate housing within two years. Partnering with EMWC in the ROOF Project are the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation and Model Cities of St. Paul.

79 adults and children housed in 2007

Home Again

Scattered-site transitional housing for 10 homeless and low-income families in Washington County. Participants receive a monthly rental subsidy and other support to help them work

toward self-reliance. Staff also provide outreach and referral services to prevent homelessness for unemployed/underemployed individuals and families in Washington County.

37 adults and children housed in 2007

Washington County Emergency Housing

A three-bedroom apartment in Cottage Grove provides shelter and supportive services for homeless families in Washington County. Families generally stay 60 to 90 days, until they are able to secure other housing. Staff assist the family in regaining stability at work, at school and in the community while they search for permanent housing.

8 adults and children sheltered in 2007

Learning and Enrichment Program

After-school tutoring program for children residing in EMWC housing. Volunteer tutors work one-to-one with the children to improve their reading, math and problem-solving skills.

850 hours of tutoring provided in 2007

2007 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

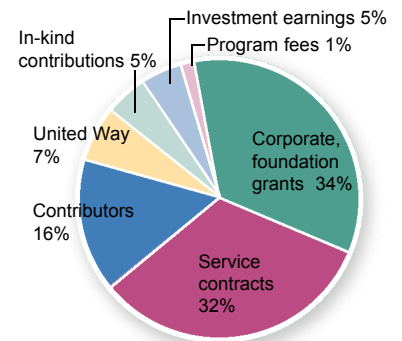
Revenue and support

Corporate, fdn. grants	\$381,312
Service contracts	350,116
Contributions	173,746
United Way	81,548
In-kind contributions	54,892
Investment earnings	51,555
Program fees, other	15,727
Total income	\$1,108,896

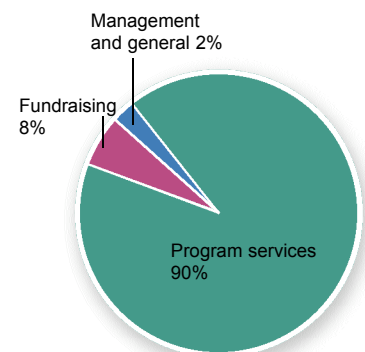
Expenses

Program services	\$882,354
Management & general	21,660
Fundraising	77,743
Total expenses	\$981,757

Change in net assets \$127,139



Support and revenue



Expenses

Ellie O'Brien honored for years of service

'Helping just one person has an effect'

EMWC has many wonderful volunteers, so when it comes time to choose just one as the Volunteer of the Year, we think about those who have had the broadest impact on the organization. Ellie O'Brien fits the bill.

Ellie has volunteered with EMWC for several years, first as a child care assistant, then as an adult tutor and fundraising committee volunteer. Ellie decided to volunteer with EMWC after seeing many single mothers in lower-skilled positions at her workplace struggle with balancing the demands of work and family. She even nominated EMWC for a corporate donation from the company in 2006, resulting in a \$30,000 gift! Ellie's current employer, HLB Tautges Redpath Inc., also has donated to EMWC at her urging.

Ellie writes: "I discovered EMWC when looking for a volunteer opportu-

nity in my community. At first I was amazed to find such a place so close to where I live – I was unaware there was enough need in my community for an organization like this. I've since discovered that the need is even greater than EMWC can provide.

"As an adult tutor helping an EMWC resident prepare for the GED exam, I am reminded of my school years. My childhood included a safe, loving home, encouraged by my parents and teachers, where I grew up with a sense that I had worth in this world. Being reminded of my blessings is definitely a reward, being able to share them with someone else is even better.



Ellie O'Brien is EMWC's Volunteer of the Year.

"There are many people who will judge the families who receive services from EMWC. I encourage these people instead to use their energy to lend a hand. Helping just one person has an effect on at least two people – the donor and the recipient – and can no doubt improve the world."

Thank you, Ellie, for sharing your heart, your

time and your talents with EMWC; we are proud to honor you as our 2007 Volunteer of the Year!

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

At EMWC, our volunteers are our lifeline. We thank the more than 370 of you who have donated your time and talents. Please look for your names listed in our next Volunteer Newsletter.

EMWC offers many ways to give

There are several ways to support East Metro Women's Council:

Mail your check or money order today!

Donate through our Web site: www.emwc.org

Donate appreciated stock: Avoid high tax payments! Typically, you can donate stock and deduct its appreciated value. (Consult your tax professional for details.)

Make a planned gift: Support EMWC for many years through bequests, gift annuities and donated IRA assets. (Consult your attorney or financial

adviser for details.)

Donate property, such as computers and furniture. Call Cheryl Schindler at (651) 773-8401, ext. 116.

Contribute your professional skills in marketing, design, computer training, law, etc. to assist us in special projects, or put your skills to work by joining the Board of Directors and committees. Call Trisha at (651) 773-8401, ext. 111.

If you have questions about contributing, call Liz Kelly, Fund Development Manager, at (651) 773-8401, ext. 113.

'Home At Last' tours

People often joke that EMWC is the best-kept secret in White Bear Lake. Well, we're trying to fix that. Come learn more about us and the issue of homelessness at one of our monthly "Home At Last" tours. During this interesting and informative one-hour event, you will tour the East Metro Place apartments and community space, meet our residents and learn more about homelessness and affordable housing.

Tours are offered from 8 to 9 a.m. and from 5 to 6 p.m. For a complete schedule of tour dates, call Liz at (651) 773-8401, ext. 113. If you've already attended a tour, consider asking a friend or neighbor to come. We promise it will be the highlight of your day!

Mural with a message

Artist's work promotes community, unity

After a hard day of work as a chemical dependency counselor and a grueling two-hour bus ride, Abdul-Hafeez Muhammad comes to East Metro Place, paintbrush in hand, to work on his newest masterpiece. Perched upon his scaffold, Hafeez meticulously adds the finishing touches to his mural, yet another artistic endeavor that beautifies the grounds at East Metro Place, home to 34 previously homeless families and the EMWC headquarters.

EMWC staff approached Hafeez more than a year ago to create a mural at East Metro Place's new entrance. A local artist, he was chosen for his colorful renderings of children, women and men of all ages and from all walks of life.

"It's important that our families see themselves, or someone like them, in this mural. This is one of the many small ways that we say to the



Abdul-Hafeez Muhammad at work.

residents 'You are important, we honor you,' " says Trisha Cummins Kauffman, Executive Director.

Hafeez chuckled when asked what it's like painting in the lobby as children pass by.

"Oh, they all want to know how I learned to paint so well and they always ask me if they can help. Often they just sit down and lean against the wall and watch."

Next time you are in the neighborhood, pay us a visit and witness firsthand our beautiful new mural!

\$154,000 worth of thanks

Fundraising breakfast brings many 'firsts'

A warm thanks to all of you who made a financial contribution at our third annual "Building a Brighter Future" fundraising breakfast. There were many firsts for us this year. We tripled the number of "Gift of Home" (\$5,000/year for 5 years) patrons and added another six "Gift of Hope" (\$1,000/year for 5 years) Giving Circle donors.

It was the first time the event was held at the lovely Maplewood Community Center; we were sorry to leave Century College, but we had outgrown the space.

Also for the first time we hosted 300 guests, almost double the number of our 2007 event.

And the biggest "first" is that YOU raised \$40,000 in new donations and pledges, allowing us to meet the Otto Bremer Foundation's guidelines for a \$40,000 dollar-for-dollar matching grant.

How did we do? The 2008 East Metro Women's Council fundraiser raised a grand total to \$154,000. All of our thanks go to you!

Our new "Building a Brighter Future" Giving Circle patrons:

Joy Bigalke
Robert Borchardt
Laurie Kigner
Gordon & Jerilynn Ommen
Nancy Rustad
Rebecca Shavlik

What's our dream for next year?

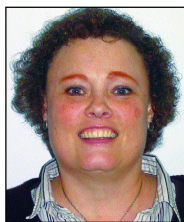
- New \$10,000 Event Leadership Sponsors
- "Gift of Tomorrow" Donors (\$10,000/year for 5 years)

Meet our new Volunteer Program Manager

Cheryl Schindler has joined the EMWC staff as its new Volunteer Program Manager.

This change follows the retirement of Carol Bryan, who served as Volunteer Manager for more than seven years. Our deepest thanks, Carol, for your years of service!

Prior to her employment with EMWC, Cheryl served as a Volunteer Coordinator with Community Volunteer Service & Senior Centers in Stillwater,



Cheryl Schindler

where she ran the VIP program to help welfare recipients gain job experience. Cheryl also served as the Lay Ministry Coordinator at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Stillwater. In fact, we can thank Cheryl for recruiting several wonderful EMWC volunteers before she even joined our staff!

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Cheryl at 651-773-8401, ext. 116 or caschindler@emwc.org.

A special thanks

Our heartfelt thanks to our many contributors. Your gifts are greatly appreciated!

Building A Brighter Future Giving Circle
5-year multiple-year donors (\$1,000+)

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Goodwill Easter Seals
Steve Goranson
Greater Twin Cities
United Way – Caring
Connection
Pat & Bill Hagberg
Hagberg Country Market
Jim Hainlen
Lori Hamerly
Hands On Twin Cities
Patty Hansen
Harmon Design Inc.
Steve Harmon
Nancy Haugen
Mike Higgins
HLB Taulges Redpath
Mary Hoff
Hope Church
Gayle Huseth
J.J. Bierstube

Paulina Johnson
Nancy Jones
Heather Keenan
John Keller
Heidi Kiemel
Jeff & Kristin Klemetsrud
Gayle Knutson
David A. Kolling
Michele Kroska
Margaret Kuhfeld
Lakeaires Elementary
School
Land O'Lakes
Lands End/Woodbury
Abigail Mackenzie
Mahtomedi Garden Club
Brandi Marshall
Maria McFarlane
Kathy McKenna
Judy McLeod
Jerry McLoone
Medtronic
Breanne Meehan
MN Shopping Center
Association
Minnesota Twins
Baseball Club Twins
Care
Curt Moe & Kathy
Harker
Sharon & Roger Mohror
Moms' Club of
Mahtomedi
Barbara Montez
Marilyn L. Muellner
Neighbors Helping
Neighbors
Carol Nelson
Rachel Newman
Normandy Park School
Shanna Novak
Oak Glen
Colleen O'Keefe
Carol Olig
Nancy H. Olson
Marcie Oltman
Open Arms Clothing
Closet
Otter Lake Elementary
Student Council
Mary Ann Palumbo
Parkview/Centerpoint
Elementary
Penny Pinchers
Gladys Petersen
Mary Jo Peterson
Richard Poor
Presbyterian Women
Peter & Linda Quinn
Jan Rapheal
Carol Reilly
Karen Ritter
Carroll Rock
Roseville Chapter of
Women of Today
Sharon Ruffing
St. Andrews Lutheran
Church
St. Croix Valley YMCA
St. Paul Osman Shrine
Circus
St. Pius X Holy Family
School
St. Stephen's Church
Paulette Sarp
Savories
Lisa & Mike Schnoor
Warren Scidmore
Science Museum of MN
Angella Sellwood

Susie Severson
Kathryn Shaw
Jean Shields
Jacqui Shoholm
Bea Sinna
Dr. Leo Sinna
Slumberland
Ryan Steen
Mike Stefan
Karlene Strelow
Pat Suko
Jane Sullivan
Sunrise Park Middle
School
Target, N. St. Paul
Sheryle Taylor
Kelly Trygg
Twins Care
Dylan Van Nispen
Sara Van Vreede
Vera Wagner
Waldoch Farm/Garden
Center
John Weiss
Trisha West
Weyrehaeuser
White Bear Extended
Day, ISD 624
White Bear Lake
Ambassadors Program
White Bear Lake United
Methodist Church
White Bear Lake
Women of Today
Sara Wintz
Celia Wirth
Alexandra Wolfe
YMCA Camp St. Croix
Yocum Oil Company

In Honor of:
Daniel & Chad –
Majel & Doug Carroll
Carol Olig
Nancy H. Olson
Marcie Oltman
Open Arms Clothing
Closet
Otter Lake Elementary
Student Council
Mary Ann Palumbo
Parkview/Centerpoint
Elementary
Penny Pinchers
Gladys Petersen
Mary Jo Peterson
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School
St. Stephen's Church
Paulette Sarp
Savories
Lisa & Mike Schnoor
Warren Scidmore
Science Museum of MN
Angella Sellwood

In Memory of:
Ione Bakke
– Jan Bakke
Laura Kiscaden
– Susan Kraft
Wayne Moon
– Jan Bakke
Beatrice Mumma
– Martha Mumma
Patrick Lippert
– Robert & Antoinette
Lippert
Dan Remington
– Julie Remington
Paul Sandberg
– Gloria Sandberg
Jeanne Teigen
– Laura Kiscaden

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New employment initiative goes to work

Families living in EMWC's supportive housing face many barriers – poverty, trauma, and the mental and chemical health issues that so often are a part of such experiences. Many residents have very little education and even less work experience.

Year after year, our program data showed that residents are struggling to find and keep jobs. And so, in 2007, EMWC launched a new employment services initiative to provide the kind of intensive job readiness, placement and retention assistance that our residents need to succeed in the world of work.

The first step was hiring Mary Jo Connolly as our new Employment & Education Coordinator. Mary Jo is a Certified Global Career Facilitator and



An EMWC resident at work in the computer lab.

worked for many years with homeless men and women before coming to EMWC. Combining her education and experience with a passion for helping others, Mary Jo is putting EMWC residents' employment goals within their reach.

"I make a point of asking them what their dream job is, not just their 'getting by for now' job," shares Mary Jo. "I can tell from their reaction that no one has ever asked them that before."

The Employment & Education Initiative has already had a significant impact. In its first six months, employment among EMWC residents rose 26 percent, and the number of residents enrolled in school increased 32 percent. Mary Jo is even helping many of the teens at EMWC find

after-school and summer employment, building their self-confidence.

EMWC thanks the Walter & Laura Hudson Foundation and the Sundance Family/Pay It Forward Foundation for funding the first year of this initiative. What a difference it has made!