



FRIENDS OF FUSION QUARTERLY

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FALL 2006

‘CALIENTE’ ANNUAL FUND-RAISER BREAKS NEW RECORD!

ON August 2nd, FUSION achieved a new level of success in fund-raising for transitional housing in Federal Way by raising \$95,887.63 at “Caliente” FUSION’s 13th annual arts benefit.

Throughout the evening, supporters enjoyed Flamenco dancers and Spanish guitarists while dining on tapas and wine donated by Metropolitan Market and Juno Wine. Attendees also purchased original artists works from across the region in an “Arts Walk” - a new concept for the annual event.

As the evening progressed, the silent auction was followed by a touching tribute by FUSION advisory board member Maurleen Davidson, who recounted her struggles with

homelessness and what FUSION meant to her during a time of need in her life. KOMO-TV News Anchor Kathi Goertzen, a long-



From left to right: 2006 Event Chair Lori DeVore, and Event Mistress of Ceremonies DeBorah Little

Photo courtesy of Ed Streit of Ed Streit Images

time supporter of the YWCA, also provided a testimonial to the important work of FUSION in the Federal Way Community, and

officially kicked-off the Live Auction, conducted by professional auctioneer Bill Allen.

“We were so gratified by the outpouring of support from the community and by Metropolitan Market’s continued support as our top sponsor in 2006,” said Event Chair Lori DeVore.

“It was wonderful to reach this new record of fund-raising for those at the most need in our community.”

The 2007 event is already in the planning stages, with FUSION volunteer Karen Gonter serving as Event Chair.

“It will be difficult to beat this record, but we are looking forward to an incredible event next year!”

New ‘FUSION Forums’ to Connect Volunteers Year-Round

At this year’s Volunteer Potluck on September 13th at the home of Laura Berlin, a new concept was unveiled to keep FUSION volunteers connected and energized throughout the year.

“FUSION Forums” were created by Volunteer Committee Chair Judy Free and volunteers Sandy Brandlund, Chris Edwards, Kim Freet, Mary Pete, Marilyn

Kelleigh and Wendy Ferrell.

Volunteer Forums have formed in several key areas:

- Housing
- Sponsorship & Fund-raising
- Public Relations
- Volunteer Communications

“We really see the FUSION forums as a way to better-connect all of the wonderful women that makes FUSION what is today,”

said Free.

“We also hope that it will allow our volunteers more opportunity to have a say in the activities and direction of our organization—FUSION is a sum of its volunteers, and we need your voice to be sure that we’re moving in the right direction.”

To join a FUSION Forum, or for questions, please contact Judy Free at 253-838-0368.

Muy Caliente!



On August 2, 2006, a unique and magical event took place at the Dumas Bay Centre. Under the adept leadership of Chairperson, Lori DeVore, and with the help of numerous volunteers, event sponsors, and community supporters, FUSION hosted its 13th annual art benefit, "Caliente", with a "hot" Spanish theme.

Guests at this year's event savored spectacular culinary delights created and donated by the Dash Point Metropolitan Market, while perusing original and creative works of art by local artists featured in the Art Walk.

Silent and live auctions featured numerous items including a two week vacation in Portugal. Spanish dancers, musicians, and guitar entertained guests under the setting sun as they sipped espresso provided by Poverty Bay Coffee and enjoyed Dilletante truffles.

The net proceeds from this year's event were \$95,000.00.

These funds will be invested in our transitional housing and support services for women and children in the Federal Way area.



FUSION, (Friends United to Shelter the Indigent, Oppressed, and Needy), currently operates nine fully furnished housing units and contracts case management for families through the South King County YWCA. FUSION hopes to acquire a tenth housing unit in 2007.

The "fusion" of community efforts has enabled our all-volunteer, non-profit organization to provide for the needs of homeless women and children in transition. As a Major Sponsor, HomeStreet Bank generously donated \$5,000 to this year's event. Many other businesses, private donors, churches, service organizations and volunteers have contributed financially and with in-kind donations.



We would also like to acknowledge the financial contributions we have received from Councilman Pete von Reichbauer through the Metropolitan King County Council and the support we have received from the City of Federal Way.

The "fusion" of community resources and volunteer efforts is the key to the success of our program.

Thank you for helping us to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate in our community.

Peggy LaPorte, FUSION Founder
 FUSION Event Sponsor Chair
 The FUSION Board of Directors



All photos courtesy of Ed Streit Photography

A message from Patti Ishii-Halbmaier, FUSION President

It is with deep regret and a lot of soul searching that I will not be continuing as President of the FUSION Board in 2007.

When I took on this position in January of this year, I wanted to make a contribution to our organization which I feel I have done over this past year. However, I have also learned that it is important for me to set boundaries so that I can remain healthy and contribute in other ways to FUSION and our community.

The FUSION Nominating Committee and Board has appointed a wonderful new President — a person we all know and love — FUSION Founder Peggy LaPorte.

Peggy will lead us into the future during a time of critical growth, and I am so pleased that she will serve in this important capacity for our organization.

I will remain until the end of the year, and firmly

believe that good things come out of change. It brings in new ideas and spirit.

Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers for your generosity, and I look forward to seeing you all at our annual holiday party on December 14th!

—Patti



Friends United to Shelter the Indigent, Oppressed and Needy

SAVE THE DATE!
FUSION VOLUNTEER
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY
DECEMBER 14TH
FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW
VIA MAIL SHORTLY!

Our Mission: "To provide transitional housing and support services for the homeless women and their children in our community"

Who We Are & How We Serve: FUSION is the only non-profit, all volunteer organization in Federal Way, Washington providing transitional housing for women and their children facing homelessness. All funds raised through the effort of our community and volunteers go directly to meeting client's needs.

In addition to providing basic needs to mother and children, FUSION also provides:

- Support services from the South King County YWCA - with trained advocates who provide the families with resources including: education, employment services, and additional support that can range from child care to learning how to apply for medical aid, budget finances, and family counseling.
- Fully furnished, beautifully decorated condominiums available for a duration of time long enough to establish the finances and training needed to move on to permanent housing
- Special funding to allow the children to take part in extra curricular activities.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.FUSIONFEDERALWAY.ORG