

# Judeo-Christian Outreach Center

THE VOICE OF THE JCOC: PROUDLY TELLING OUR STORY

## Bringing in a New Decade with JCOC



At the start of the new decade, the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center (JCOC) has three New Year's resolutions that we are pursuing in order to improve the care and support that we offer to Virginia Beach's homeless community.

### Resolution #1: Promote Awareness:

The JCOC has been well served by our loyal supporters to include churches, temples, civic groups, and private individuals, most of whom have been involved for many years. To begin the decade, however, we are expanding our family of JCOC supporters by participating in more community events such as the Virginia Beach Neptune Festival where we had a booth on the boardwalk this past summer. We have launched a series of lunches, titled Help Make a Difference, scheduled for the third Thursday of each month, designed to introduce potential partners to the JCOC. Guests are invited to share in a typical residential lunch in the dining hall followed by a presentation describing the purpose and mission of the JCOC.

### Resolution #2: Improved Success Rate:

The JCOC is a six month emergency housing facility. In this time residents are assisted in finding a job, develop a housing plan, and return to a stable, independent lifestyle. These goals, however, are often difficult to achieve without certain life skills. In order to improve the success rate of our residents once they exit the shelter, we have developed an array of life skills workshops that will help them be more prepared for independent living. These workshops will be administered by volunteers with staff coordination and guidance. We have established a series of workshops covering resume writing, interviewing, and computer skills. We also are looking forward to a series of budgeting and banking workshops in addition to an optional aftercare program that will allow us to continue to serve former

*Pictured Above: Board members served the nightly meal in the JCOC Dining Hall on Tuesday, January 5, 2010*

residents once they have left the shelter. This continued support will serve as a buffer between shelter life and complete independence, aiming to increase the ultimate success of our residents.

### Resolution #3: Renovate Our Grounds

We recently renovated the dining hall with new floors, counters, and paint on the walls and now the other buildings need work. In addition, we have started a campaign to replace all windows in our dorms by working with The Window Man (see page 5 for more information). In the coming decade the JCOC plans to renovate the property, and will need your help to do it!

We look forward to the continued development of programs, grounds, and outreach at the JCOC, and are thankful for supporters like you that make it all possible.

### JCOC Mission Statement

To empower homeless families and individuals to recover from crisis situations and return to being self-supporting, productive, and independent members of our community.

## Board of Directors

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Rabbi Howard Mandel

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*Assistant Executive Director*  
*Director of Development*  
*Director of Education*

Addie Silverthorne  
*Director of Finance and Administration*

## Spring 2010

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*Any questions or concerns? Contact our editorial team through Misty Prewitt at [mistyprewitt@jcoc.org](mailto:mistyprewitt@jcoc.org)*

## A Letter from the Executive Director

The JCOC has been through a very tough economic downturn like many non-profits. However, we continue our mission to empower individuals and families in times of crisis. The JCOC residents, staff and Board of Directors would like to thank each and everyone that has supported us during these tough economic times. As we bring in the New Year we would kindly ask that you continue supporting our cause. The New Year brings about new challenges and goals. We will break ground on a 16-unit facility in the early part of 2010 that will house 14 homeless veterans and 8 chronically homeless individuals. This facility is a needed addition to the services and programs that we already offer. We will celebrate our

24 year anniversary on the 11th of April at Surfside Oceanfront Inn & Suites. Please mark your calendar. We will try our best to make it a beautiful event. Our Thrift Store continues to make improvements and will continue to be the place to shop for area bargains. We appreciate your donations and your continued support. Tell a friend about the bargains that you received there. As we move forward with the improvements that have taken place, we want to let you know that we could not have done it without YOU---our dedicated donors and volunteers. Better things are around the corner if you just look for them.

## From the Board of Directors

During trying times we often shift our focus to what is most important. Businesses eliminate everything but the essentials, families redefine the difference between wants and needs, and at the JCOC we have refocused our efforts to our core mission of feeding the hungry and providing emergency shelter to those in crisis. With less money available throughout the community for all charities the staff of the JCOC has been innovative in finding ways to continue our core mission. Because of the significant cost of providing a free preschool program the staff was able to arrange a partnership with the STOP Organization were they bare the operating cost of the school. After years of use the dining hall and dorm bathrooms have been renovated using grant monies from the City and others. The staff has also found

grant monies that will allow us to build affordable housing on West Lane. All of this is due to the remarkable efforts of the JCOC staff finding funds in very trying times.

Despite these successes the JCOC is facing the same difficulties as other charities and needs your continued support. We currently have fifty residents in our shelter and over a hundred individuals receiving a warm meal everyday of the week. These are essential services for a safe and healthy community. One only has to ask what would these individuals do if they did not have a safe structured environment like the shelter or a place for a warm meal. You can help through the donation of time as a volunteer, contribution of items to our thrift store or by making a financial gift.

# The Judeo-Christian Outreach Center's Residency Program

The Judeo-Christian Outreach Center assists many people on an annual basis in order to assist in getting them back on their feet; however, this is not without cost. It is through your donations and volunteer work that we continue to grow and maintain our success. Our case managers work directly with fifty residents and the public to assist in budgeting, credit repair, affordable housing searches, drug and alcohol recovery programs, resume workshops, and more. As the chart below depicts, this is not an inexpensive operation.

**Cost to Run the JCOC Residency Program**

Monthly Expenses	Cost Per Resident Per Month
Electricity	\$47.04
Gas	\$6.50
Water	\$40.00
Supplies (Cleaning Supplies, Toiletries, etc.)	\$20.19
Maintenance/Repairs	\$149.87
Auto/Travel	\$6.80
Phone/Cable/Internet	\$4.62
Food	\$180.00
Staff	\$147.83
Total per resident per month	\$602.85
Total per resident per year	\$7,234.20
Total for residency program per year	\$361,710.00

Please help us continue on our mission in this new year. If you are interested in helping cut expenses through in-kind donations or financial donations to assist in the mission, please contact the Director of Development, Tony Zontini at 757-491-2846. We're looking forward to hearing from you!

## Resident's Write-Up

Ron and Laverne Lister, with their children Samara and Ronique, have lived at the JCOC since July 21, 2009. This is one family that has worked hard to get out of their situation and become an inspiration for many of the residents. Ron graduated in December of 2009 from Old Dominion University with his Bachelor's of Science in Human Services Counseling. Laverne has been working full-time at night while Ron was at school. On January 22, 2010, the family

moved into permanent supportive housing with Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation. They went from living in their van to leaving JCOC in six months with a college diploma, affordable housing, and a stable sustainable income. They were model residents, and we're so proud of all of their accomplishments. Their bubbling personalities and smiling faces will be missed greatly, but we're happy to send them off to bigger and better things.



*Pictured Above (L-R): Samara Lister, Laverne Lister, Ronald Lister, Ronique Lister*

7 Helpers Outreach  
 Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral  
 Atlantic Shores Baptist Church  
 Baylake United Methodist Church  
 Bayside Baptist Church  
 Bayside Presbyterian Church  
 Beach Fellowship  
 Bethel United Methodist Church  
 Big Piney Grove Baptist Church  
 Boy Scout Troop #179  
 Boy Scout Troop #471  
 Bridgeway Community Church  
 Catholic Church of St. Mark  
 Cherry Family Memorial  
 Chesapeake Seventh Day Adventist  
 Church of the Ascension  
 Coastal Community Church  
 Community United Methodist Church  
 Courthouse Community United Methodist  
 Cross Current Church  
 Cub Scout Troop #407  
 Dam Neck Chapel by the Sea  
 Diamond Springs Christian Church  
 Eastern Shore Chapel  
 Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
 Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
 Fellowship of the Inner Light  
 First Baptist Church of Norfolk  
 First Baptist Church of Virginia Beach  
 First Chinese Baptist Church  
 First Presbyterian of Virginia Beach  
 Forefront Christian Church  
 Foundry United Methodist Church  
 Francis Asbury United Methodist Church  
 Friends of the Homeless  
 Galilee Episcopal Church  
 Girl Scout Troop #78  
 Godly Women on the Move  
 Good Shepherd Lutheran  
 Grace Bible Church  
 Grace Covenant Presbyterian  
 Great Bridge Church of God  
 Great Neck Baptist Church  
 Greenbrier Baptist Church  
 Grindles  
 Hebron Cornerstone Church International  
 Holy Family Catholic Church  
 Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
 Hope Lutheran Church  
 International Christian Church  
 JC Archbell III Foundation  
 Joy Vineyard Church  
 Kempsville Church of Christ  
 Kempsville Church of God  
 Kempsville Presbyterian  
 Kings Grant Baptist Church  
 Kings Grant Presbyterian  
 Knights of Columbus  
 Landstown Community Chapel  
 Little Creek Base Chapel— Catholic  
 Little Creek Base Chapel— Protestant  
 Living Water Fellowship 7th Day Adventist  
 Lynnhaven Colony Congregational Church  
 Lynnhaven Presbyterian Church  
 Lynnhaven United Methodist Church  
 Mt. Bethel Baptist Church  
 Mount Olive Baptist Church  
 NAS Oceana Chapel of the Good Shepherd  
 New Beginnings

# Partnerships



Pictured Left:

Patrons of the JCOC Dining Hall receive dinner in the newly-decorated room thanks to Girl Scout Junior Troop 959!

## Volunteer Group of the Quarter

The Judeo-Christian Outreach Center would like to extend a warm thank you to Girl Scout Junior Troop 959 who spent the afternoon of December 7, 2009 decorating our dining hall. The girls, along with their troop leader, Debbie Sconing, put up a Christmas tree and made the dining hall a festive place for the holidays. The troop purchased the beautiful decorations in order to ensure that the holiday season is felt and remembered by our residents and others that we serve.

The troop also put together 50 goody-bags for the children who attend our Kids Club on Mondays and Wednesdays. They made another trip to the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center to deliver them.

We would like to thank all of our hardworking volunteer groups for all the things you do assist in keeping JCOC moving forward! We will continue to highlight a volunteer group in every newsletter to show the various ways that different groups can help and to thank them in a very special way!

## Remembering Jeff Jackson

A gentle giant, Jeff volunteered at JCOC Thrift for many years. Jeff made extra time in his busy life to sort through the donated books at the thrift store. With headphones on, he sifted through the books looking for the diamonds in the rough. We want to thank him for the service that he provided. He will truly be missed by all.

A native of Atlanta, he was a chemical engineer and a member of Lynnhaven United Methodist Church where he taught Bible Explorers Sunday school

class. In addition to his professional career, Jeff was a frequent volunteer for his children's sports teams.



Pictured Above: Former Thrift Store Volunteer, Jeff Jackson

# Partnerships

## THE WINDOW MAN



1902 Virginia Beach Blvd - Virginia Beach, VA - 23454

Join The Window Man in his support of the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center. The JCOC urgently needs new windows. The Window Man is donating the labor, and just needs your help for the rest. If you donate \$150.00 or more, your name will be engraved on the window that you assist in purchasing. Please visit [www.iamwindowman.com](http://www.iamwindowman.com) or [www.jcoc.org](http://www.jcoc.org) and follow the online

instructions.

New windows will not only assist the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center in our aim to renovate the dorms and office in the new year, but also assist in keeping our electric bill manageable. We appreciate your donation in advance, and we thank The Window Man for his donated services and support of JCOC's mission.

### THE FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE

Help increase our funds through donating to JCOC in the months of March and April 2010. The Feinstein Foundation, an organization founded by philanthropist and humanitarian, Alan Shawn Feinstein, aims to end hunger through matching donations made in the months of March and April for organizations all over the world. Basically, what this means, is that if you donate \$10.00, Feinstein will match it. The same goes for

\$100.00, \$1,000 or \$10,000. The amount that we receive is based strictly on how much you donate— there are no limits to the funds that we could receive, but it all starts with community serving community.

To learn more about the Feinstein Foundation, visit [www.feinsteinfoundation.org](http://www.feinsteinfoundation.org). Thank you for all that you do!



JCOC proudly partners with the American Red Cross as an official disaster relief site. If your organization is interested in partnering with the Red Cross to help the Hampton Roads community during times of disaster, please contact Louise McCarthy, Disaster Coordinator for Partner Services at 757-446-7760 or email to [mccarthy1@seva-redcross.org](mailto:mccarthy1@seva-redcross.org).



5073  
CFC 33053

- New Hope Baptist
- New Jerusalem COGIC
- New Life Providence Church
- New Hope Baptist Church
- Nimmo United Methodist Church
- Noblemen
- Norfolk Seventh Day Adventist
- Oak Grove Baptist
- Oceanfront Jaycees
- Old Donation Episcopal Church
- Parish Day School
- Parkway Christian Center
- Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
- Portsmouth Seventh Day Adventist
- Prince of Peace Lutheran
- Princess Anne SCH Interact CL
- Providence Presbyterian
- Resurrection United Methodist
- Sai Center of Hampton Roads
- Seaweeds Circle of the King's Daughters
- St Aidans Episcopal Church
- St Gregory the Great Catholic Church
- St James Missionary Church
- St John the Apostle
- St Lukes Catholic Church
- St Marks Catholic Church
- St Michael Lutheran Church
- St Nicholas Catholic Church
- St Nicholas Greek Orthodox
- St Stephens COGIC
- Salem United Methodist Church
- Sandal Sisters
- Sandbridge Community Chapel
- Sovereign Grace Church
- Spring Branch Community Church
- Star of the Sea Catholic Church
- Stephens Hands
- St Simons By-the-Sea
- Suburban Christian Church
- Symphonic
- Temple Emmanuel
- Temple Ohef-Shalom
- Thalia Lynn Baptist Church
- Thalia United Methodist Church
- Union Baptist Church
- United Jewish Federation
- Vietnam Veterans Chapter 48-Tidewater
- Vietnam Veterans Chapter 969-Va Beach
- Va Beach 7th Day Adventist
- Va Beach Beacon Baptist Church
- Va Beach Christian Church
- Va Beach Community Chapel
- Va Beach Friends School
- Va Beach Jaycees
- Va Beach Kiwanis
- Va Beach School Nutrition
- Va Beach United Methodist Church
- Zion Worship Temple

# Meet the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center's Thrift Store Team



*JCOC Thrift is located at 1805 Virginia Beach Blvd. In Virginia Beach and is open Monday-Saturday from 10:00am-6:00pm*

From washers and dryers to hats and ties, The Judeo-Christian Outreach Center Thrift Store will accept anything! In the back, there is a warehouse full of donations itching to get on the floor to be sold to a new owner. One of the beauties of the holidays is living by the old adage, "Out with the old, and in with the new." In receiving new items, a lot of us go through the older, more gently used items that we don't use anymore and give them away or store them away. Think about the JCOC the next time you do that— we could use the donations! Money from the thrift store goes directly back into our mission. Additionally, residents can get furniture from the store before moving into a new apartment, as well as clothes and other items that they might need. If you find that you have items that need to be donated, but you don't have the means to get it to our store, give us a call! We have a warehouse manager, truck driver, and warehouse workers who will happily come pick them up for you in our new truck! The Judeo-Christian Outreach Center's Thrift Store is located at 1805 Virginia Beach Boulevard in Virginia Beach and is open Monday-Saturday from 10:00am-6:00pm. Call 757-425-1220 to set up a pick-up after your garage sale or spring cleaning today! We'd be happy to set up a time to pick up your items, even on Saturdays!

**Dena Haygood, Manager:** Originally from Salisbury, Maryland, Dena attended Delaware Tech and has a two-year certificate in childcare. She oversees the daily activities at the thrift store, to include volunteers, employees, and customer service. She is currently managing our Thrift Warehouse as well. She enjoys reading, movies, and music.

**Herbert Olds Jr., Driver:** Herbert's job is to drive the truck and assist with pick-ups and deliveries. He enjoys sports and is originally from Virginia Beach.

**Pete Hogan, Warehouse Worker:** From Virginia Beach, Pete is involved in all aspects of the warehouse at the thrift store.

**Kevin Briley, Warehouse Worker:** Originally from Houston, Texas, Kevin enjoys reading, going to the movies, watching sports, and eating sushi. He is a graduate of J. Frank Dobie High School.

**Robert Kyzer, Warehouse Worker:** Born in Long Island, Robert, a graduate of Princess Anne High School, is a long-time beach resident. His hobbies include guitars, gardening, and fixing things.

**Savooun Ou Beng, Warehouse Worker:** Mrs. Beng sorts clothes for us in the warehouse and makes sure that everything is neat and orderly. She is originally from Cambodia and went to a Cambodian University and enjoys cooking, cleaning house, and gardening.

**Curtis Hein, Computer Sales & Repair:** Originally from Fort Collins, Colorado, Curtis has his BA in Economics from Colorado State University. In his spare time, he enjoys stop-motion animation, bowling, football, and UFC fighting. He is also a fan of Spongebob.

**Lisa Cooley, Cashier:** A resident of Virginia Beach, Lisa works to maintain excellent customer service through performing front desk duties for the thrift store. She has an Accounting and Business degree, and is currently studying Drug and Alcohol counseling.

# Volunteer with Us!

The Judeo-Christian Outreach Center would like to recognize and thank all of the volunteers who donate their time to the JCOC. From serving dinner in the dining hall to helping our residents develop a resume, they are the driving force behind our success. We would like to give a special thanks to those volunteers who truly go above and beyond, such as the members of Kempsville Presbyterian Church. They set up a foot washing station in the back of the dining hall, while other members of the church were serving dinner, to offer pedi-care after the big storm in November. Last month Old Donation Episcopal Church brought an array of socks and hygiene kits to distribute on their night to serve dinner. These volunteers, along with several others, have not only volunteered their time to serve the homeless community in Virginia Beach but they have thought of ways to meet the needs of these people in ways that we cannot.

Inspired by these dedicated volunteers, some members of the JCOC staff held a

brain storming session to come up with ways in which we can better serve our residents and increase their rate of success with the use of donated time. We came up with a long list of new volunteer needs. Most of our residents do not have a valid driver's license and we really need volunteers to serve as drivers to transport our residents to various locations. We have also devised a list of volunteer lead workshops that will assist our residents in returning to independence and prepare them for life after the JCOC. A detailed list of our needs is below:

## General Driver

Primary need: 8-12, M-F

Secondary need 12-4, M-F

\*volunteers will be asked to commit to one 4 hour shift per week.

## Leaders for the following parenting workshops:

Dealing with toddlers

Dealing with teens and defiance

Setting an example

Breaking generational cycles

## Leaders for the following Life Skills Workshops:

Addiction

Self-esteem

Anger management

Creating and maintaining healthy relationships

Tenant/landlord rights

Securing insurance: car, rental, health

Communication

We would like to wish our former Volunteer Coordinator, Nicole Spence, the best of luck as she works with the Peace Corps Rural Health and Sanitation Program in Paraguay. While she will be missed, we are looking forward to working with her replacement, Lindsey Creef, who has her Bachelors Degree in Human Services from Virginia Wesleyan College. Please join us in welcoming her to our team by contacting her at 757-491-2846 or [lindseycreef@jcoc.org](mailto:lindseycreef@jcoc.org) and becoming a volunteer! Keep checking our website for additional volunteer opportunities.

## Kids Helping the Homeless



*Pictured Above: Channel 3 Newscaster, Kurt Williams, honors four Lynnhaven Middle School students with Taking Action Pins, as well as their teacher, Mrs. Weigl, with a plaque.*

Four Lynnhaven Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> graders, Grant Marshall, Teddy Hoffmann, Grant Hart, and Shaefer Meeks, were assigned a project to come up with a creative way to help the homeless. They ended up with two ways.

First, with the guidance of Ruth O'Lill, JCOC grants manager, the students wrote a successful \$1000 grant to the Nimmo Parkway Walmart. That grant will be awarded in February. Second, they wrote a letter to request a \$100 gift card.

Channel 3 TV followed the boys closely and on January 13, when they presented their project to their class, all four junior grant writers received official Channel 3 People Taking Action pins from newscaster, Kurt Williams. Williams also recognized their

teacher, Mrs. Weigl, with a plaque. A special thanks to Amy Givin from Walmart who supported the boys and their project from start to finish.

Below is an excerpt from the letter that the boys wrote together in order to receive the \$100 gift card from Walmart in January.

"It is very important that you give us this money because you will be giving the homeless clean plates to eat off of, good silverware, and a better meal."

We're thankful for these boys, their teacher, and Channel 3 for honoring what we do and supporting our mission in the community.

Judeo-Christian Outreach Center  
1053 Virginia Beach Blvd.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

# SAVE THE DATE!

**What:** The 24th Annual Anniversary Dinner

**Who:** All the donors, organizations, volunteers, and staff working with the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center

**When:** Sunday, April 11, 2010 at 5:00pm

**Where:** Surfside Oceanfront Inn & Suites  
1211 Atlantic Avenue  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

## Menu for the Evening

Caesar salad  
Chicken Cordon Bleu served on  
a bed of white rice with  
Buttered green beans or  
Green beans & pimento  
Dinner rolls with butter  
  
Cheesecake with topping for  
dessert

**Why:** To celebrate community solving community problems. There will be musical entertainment, a fashion show, former resident testimonials, scholarship awards given, three-course dinner, and member recognition.

Be on the lookout for an invitation in the mail! We hope to see you there!!