



THE MANOS DE CRISTO NEWSLETTER

Summer 2013

Our Latest News, Events & Community Impact

Manos Supporters GRIN & SHARE IT

Austin American Statesman writer, Michael Barnes, said it best in a recent article about Manos de Cristo's luncheon held at the lovely Four Seasons Hotel, "Barnstorming stuff!"

Over 200 guests enjoyed a delicious salad and scrumptious chocolate cake at the event, which was held on May 29 to recruit new donors to the Grin & Share It monthly giving program. The event was successful in securing over 100 donations, 40 of which were brand new Grin & Share It Members.

The main event was a one-man show written and performed by amazing writer and actor, Steven Tomlinson. Steven mesmerized the audience with four thought-provoking, inspiring, and informative vignettes. The vignettes showcased different perspectives:

One of the agency's founding members, a patient who desperately wanted to keep his teeth, a private dentist experiencing a day in the life of a patient in the always diverse Manos Dental Clinic waiting room, and adding some comic relief, Steven portrayed a Tooth Fairy on a mission to change the Tooth Fairy platform of rewarding children for losing their teeth!

The Board and staff at Manos wish to express our sincerest gratitude to Steven, and his husband, Eugene Sepulveda, who co-chaired the event. We also thank Bob and Sandi Tomlinson for co-chairing as well our host committee and sponsors. For more

information or to join Grin & Share It, visit our webpage at www.grinandshare.org.



Pictured: Lynn Renaud, Betsy Clements, Corrine Bowers, Missy Mosloe, and Susie Foy

EVENT SPONSORS

- Austin Ventures
- Suzanne Deal Booth
- Humana
- Lynn Meredith Moore-Tate
- Laura and Jeff Sandefer
- Eugene Sepulveda
- Sandi & Bob Tomlinson



Pictured: Eugene Sepulveda, Steven Tomlinson, Beverly Chasse, Julie Ballesteros, Sandi Tomlinson and Bob Tomlinson

THANKS TO OUR GRIN & SHARE IT MEMBERS

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Ms. Mary Lou Adams | Mrs. and Mr. Suzanna & John Caballero | Mr. and Mrs. Ty & Kate Henderson | Ms. Terry Parr |
| Ms. Judith Agraz | Mr. and Mrs. Oskar & Frances Cerbins | Ms. Alegria Hibbetts | Ms. Monica Peraza |
| Ms. Christee Albino | Mr. and Mrs. David & Jennie Chao | Mr. and Mrs. Dustin & Amy Johnson | Ms. Teresa Recar |
| Ms. Julie Alexander-Gilbert | Ms. Debbie Crockett | Mr. Thomas Kelman | Diane and Ron Riehs |
| Mr. Trey Alford | Mr. Matthew Curtis | Mike and Tracy Kienitz | Mr. Jim Root |
| Ms. Sofia Avila | Mr. Jackson Davis | Mr. and Mrs. May & Jack Latson | Mr. Mark Salmanson |
| Mr. and Mrs. Joe & Julie Ballesteros | Mr. Chris Earthman | Mr. Cameron Lockley | Mr. and Mrs. Nona and Andy Sansom |
| Mr. and Mrs. Perry & Christina Balleza | Mr. Max Elliott | Lone Star Periodontics | Ms. Jenifer Sarver |
| Ms. Sarah Bancroft | Ms. Barbara Ellis | Mr. and Mrs. Dan & Sue Markim | Mr. Michael Smith |
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| | | Mr. Mark Orr | |

Dear Manos FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,



I can't believe it! Back to School is upon us again, which means that half the year is gone. We are busy preparing for the Back to School event that will take place July 30-August 3, and August 6-10 at the North Austin Event Center.

Construction has begun on the Dental Clinic, and I'm sure that you've seen Manos de Cristo featured on at least one news station or newspaper.

This is a great time of growth and excitement in the Manos life cycle, this also means that we need you more than ever! As we move into the growth stage it will take your continued love and support to keep us strong in the Austin Community.

We thank you for all you have done and continue to do for Manos de Cristo, and those most in need in our Community.

Warm regards,

Julie Ballesteros, Executive Director

Celebrating the Achievements of ANOTHER SEMESTER

-40 new students enrolled in Adult Basic Education in Spanish, ranging in levels from basic literacy to secondary school classes in math, science and social studies

- In our Computer Classes 60 students completed an 8-week computer literacy class

- In our ESL Classes 100 students completed the full Spring semester

-75 students participated in Financial Fitness Greater Austin, receiving financial literacy education

Manos gives a huge pat on the back to our students and their teachers for these outstanding accomplishments!



Impact Austin's **IMPACT ON MANOS**



Manos de Cristo's Executive Director, Julie Ballesteros, was doing a "happy dance" on June 17 when she heard that Manos won a \$101,000 grant from Impact Austin.

Partnering with Impact Austin is a great honor. The funding will allow Manos to equip three new treatment rooms in its expanded dental clinic expected to be open in late fall. Members of Impact Austin along with staff and Board from Manos de Cristo gathered for an awards ceremony, which was covered by KVUE on Monday, June 24.

The Board and staff at Manos de Cristo are sincerely thankful and feel truly blessed to have the support and endorsement of such an important and special group of women in the community.



Help Manos Raise the Last \$6,500 needed for our **BTS PROGRAM**

Children living with the stress of poverty often worry about going back to school. Having worked in elementary schools, Julie Ballesteros, Manos Executive Director, is passionate about the Back-to-School (BTS) program. "I have seen the consequences of children being ill-prepared for school. Manos wants to make sure children are ready to learn the first day of school."

Each year, Manos de Cristo helps thousands of Central Texas children, Pre-k through 5th grade, get ready for school through its annual BTS program. The program prepares low-income students for the school year by providing each child with two free sets of new clothing, socks, underwear, and a brand new backpack filled with school supplies at cost to the agency of just approximately \$30 per child.

Manos needs the help of the community to secure the last \$6,500 to fully cover the program. Without these funds, it is possible that at least **215 low-income children will go unserved this year.**

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Fund-a-child (or as many as you can!) for our Back-to-School Program.

Just \$30 will provide a child with new clothes, socks, underwear, school supplies and a backpack.

Please consider helping as many children as you can today.

To donate go online to our website at www.manosdecristo.org/help.html

or please send a check for Manos de Cristo to:

Manos de Cristo BTS program
4911 Harmon Avenue
Austin, TX 78751



SPECIAL THANKS to our Hearts for Hope Members



Hearts for Hope members pledge to support Manos for a three year period or longer. Multi-year commitments from the Hearts for Hope Giving Circle help us plan and increase our ability to meet the growing needs of Austin's working poor families. For information about joining, please contact Marie Felan, Director of Development, at mfelan@manosdecristo.org or 512-477-7454 x107.

Platinum Heart

Beverly F. Chasse, Chasse Consulting: Sales Strategies, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Dick and Sara Rathgeber

Silver Heart

Mr. and Mrs. Hal and Betty Meyer
Dr. Susan G. Pelzer

Faithful Heart

Drs. Bill and Cheryl Banks
Mr. Ray Langenburg and Ms. Christy Krames
Drs. William and Stephanie Rodriguez
Mr. and Mrs. Andy and Nona Sansom
Mr. and Mrs. Gene and Kathy Schneider
Mr. and Mrs. Beau and Leslie Thorne
Mr. Jonathan Wilson and Mrs. Bev. Shade

Happy Heart

Mr. Caesar Arizpe and Dr. Suzan Arizpe
Mr. and Mrs. Bill and Jean Avera
Ms. Kathy Bailey
Mr. and Mrs. Steve and Mary Pat Braunstein
Mr. and Mrs. René and Phyllis Campos
Mr. and Mrs. Byron and Sarah French

25 HEROES FOR 25 YEARS

In recognition of our 25th anniversary, we will feature 25 Manos founders, volunteers, staff and donors throughout the year. With their heroic dedication and vision, these people will have shaped Manos into the successful organization it is today. Do you know a Manos hero? Contact us at 512-477-7454 to share their story.

LEE POLSON



Lee became involved when his wife, Melissa, was invited to volunteer more than a decade ago. Members of Covenant Presbyterian Church, which has been an active supporter of Manos for many years, the opportunity for Christian service in our community drew them to the Manos mission. Melissa recruited their son as a volunteer for the Back-to-School program. Together as a family they began learning about Manos and participating within the organization. As Lee became more involved with Manos, he was recruited to join the board. He took on the role of Board Treasurer, followed by service as our Board Chair, in which he led Manos to begin its capital campaign to expand the dental clinic.

"Manos is a good place for family participation. I think that many young people get their first experience of sacrificial service, outside of their home and their own church, at Manos de Cristo," Lee reflects. "Every time I leave a meeting or event at Manos de Cristo, I feel better. I feel better about myself, my fellow workers, and our community in Austin. I hope that Manos will continue to lead our community in spreading those good feelings around through its services."

CHRIS HUGHEN



The staff at Manos has seen Chris grow up before their eyes. He began volunteering at Manos de Cristo as a 7th grader, taking time out of his summer vacations to help with any and everything that was requested. This coming fall, Chris will be a senior at Westwood High School and has found time to help out at Manos once again, despite his busy extracurricular schedule, college prep classes and preparing for his college application process.

His passion for Manos stems from his deep involvement with the Back-to-School (BTS) program. Over the past few years, he has taken on the responsibility of sorting through thousands of children's books and piles of clothing, making sure to pick out only the best quality items for the children that attend our BTS program. He also works closely with the children during the BTS program and recalls, "My favorite experience with Manos each summer is when I get to work at the BTS program, and see all of the children's reactions and smiles."

DR. DAVID FERGUSON



Dr. David Ferguson was an Elder on the Mission Committee for Covenant Presbyterian Church. Martha Meister who was working very closely with Manos de Cristo and Roland Castaneda recruited David to serve as a Dental advisor while they were converting the 1201 E. Cesar Chavez location into the Dental Clinic.

David served on the first Dental Advisory Board and was also a volunteer dentist at the Manos de Cristo Dental Clinic. At that time, David was also very involved with border ministries, and providing dental services on the border, but David recognized that there was a growing population of underserved patients in the Austin area. That is when he began volunteering his time and energy to the Clinic.

David fondly remembers Martha's drive and enthusiasm in getting the clinic up and running. The fact that he was part of Martha's team and that he was able to see her accomplish her goal, was very rewarding to him.

Dr. Ferguson hopes that once the expansion of the Dental Clinic complete, it will become known as the "Flagship" dental clinic for the underserved in Austin, TX.

LAURA MCAFFE



Through her church, Hyde Park Presbyterian, she heard of a clinic that offered low-cost dental care to children and adults and came to find out it was Manos de Cristo.

She was drawn to Manos because of its array of services offered, especially the Back-to-School(BTS) program and became heavily involved as a volunteer during BTS. She credits many volunteers to having shaped the BTS program and noted her mentors: Paulette Kern, Mary Dulaney, Mary Allaway, Gloria Moreno and many others. Laura says that seeing smiling children looking in a mirror with new clothes, school supplies, books and backpacks is a wonderful sight and what keeps Laura involved in the Manos mission.

Laura was on the Manos board of directors when the Harmon building was purchased and has seen the realization of long-term dreams come to life. Manos de Cristo's future seems bright with the dental clinic moving to the Harmon Building, thus having all the programs at the same location.

"THE WESTLAKE MEN"



What would we do at Manos without the Westlake Men? For over 20 years, these gracious volunteers have been maintaining the clinic and the Harmon building, delivering donated goods and helping with anything requested of them.

The group was pioneered by former volunteer extraordinaire, James Crouch, who was a member of Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church. He decided to recruit volunteers from his church to help Manos de Cristo and so were born the "Westlake Men".

The group faithfully arrives every Thursday morning at Manos with bags of donated clothing and food. From installing white boards for our classrooms, to replacing fluorescent light bulbs, to handywork and heavy lifting, these guys have done it all and have done it with a smile. We are so grateful for their time, patience and dedication over the years. They are our own personal superheroes.

our donors **SHARE THE LOVE**

Manos appreciates the generosity of all our donors! The following is a list of donors who gave \$100 or more between March 1st and June 1st:

Ms. Judith Agraz
The Applied Materials Foundation
Mr. Caesar Arizpe and Dr. Suzan Arizpe
Artemis Strategy Group
Austin Community Foundation
Austin Ventures
Mr. Matt Ballard
Drs. Bill & Cheryl Banks
Mr. James D. Barnette
Mr. and Mrs. Bill & Cyndi Bock
Ms. Suzanne Deal Booth
Mr. and Mrs. Steve & Corrinne Bowers
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen & Mary Pat Braunstein
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Ms. Paula Buhrdorf
Mr. and Mrs. Brian & Karen Burgess
Mr. and Mrs. Michael & Kristin Burke
The C12 Group
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Continental General Agency, Inc. - Macho Marketing
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Mr. Carl Floto
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Mr. Mark Gale
Genesis Presbyterian Church
Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody
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The Griffin Family
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Mr. Richard Hartgrove
Ms. Jane Hilfer
Mr. and Mrs. Robert & Ann Holden
Hope Presbyterian Church
Mrs. Dena Houston
Humana
KCL Foundation
Ms. Suzon Spiller Kemp
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Dickson McGuire, D.D.S., M.S.D.
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Mr. and Mrs. Jeff & Laura Sandefer
Mr. and Mrs. Richard & Mary Jane Schott
Mr. and Mrs. Joel & Beverly Seffel
Mr. Steven Tomlinson and Mr. Eugene Sepulveda
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey & Deanna Serra
Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church
Ms. Marina Sifuentes
Silicon Laboratories Inc.
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
St. David's Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Duff & Liz Stewart
Sullivan's Steakhouse Store #8501
Mr. and Mrs. Beau & Leslie Thorne
Mr. David Tiffin
Mr. and Mrs. Phil & Carol Tomlinson
Ms. Sandi Tomlinson
Mr. Robert Torian
United Way for Greater Austin
University Presbyterian Church
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen & Jennifer Vickers
Lee Walker
Mr. Jim and Mrs. Alice Weatherby
Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church

**Any omission of names was unintentional. Please contact us if an error was made.*

ABOUT MANOS

OUR MISSION

Manos de Cristo empowers low-income individuals with a loving hand of assistance and welcomes all regardless of age, gender, race, or religious preference. Inspired by the Christian ideals of service and compassion, Manos promotes dignity and self-reliance by providing essential oral care, furthering educational development, and meeting basic needs with food and clothing.

OUR VISION

Manos de Cristo's life-changing services empower people of all backgrounds to build self-esteem and self-confidence and the ability to participate fully in the life of the community.

CONNECT WITH US

Administration, Basic Needs, & Education
4911 Harmon Avenue
Austin, TX 78751
512-477-7454
www.manosdecristo.org



Find us on Facebook...

...and Twitter! @ManosATX



4911 Harmon Avenue
Austin, TX 78751



THE MANOS DE CRISTO NEWSLETTER

Our Latest News, Manos Events, & Community Impact

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

for upcoming events!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Back-to-School Program prepares children for school by providing them with the essentials they need to start the school year off right!

PREP WEEK: July 22-26, 2013

DISTRIBUTION WEEKS: July 29- August 2 and August 5 - August 9, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

North Austin Event Center, 10601 North Lamar Blvd.

THIRD ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Ready for another round of 18 holes for a fantastic cause? September 27, 2013 at Falconhead Golf Club

7:00 a.m. - Registration & Breakfast

8:30 a.m. - Shotgun Start

Post Tournament Awards and Luncheon to follow

Register online: www.manosdecristo.org/charitygolf.html

Basic Needs NEEDS YOU

Our food pantry and clothes closet rely on the generous donations of supporters like you. While we always happily accept any donations, these are our specific needs right now:

CLOTHES CLOSET

Summer clothing for men, women and especially for children sizes 4-8

FOOD PANTRY

Canned corn, canned soup, peanut butter, vienna sausages,

INSIDE

25 HEROES for 25 years

Our supporters GRIN & SHARE IT

Semester ACHIEVEMENTS

Back-to-School Program needs YOUR SUPPORT