

October, 2008

*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much" Helen Keller*

*Philanthropy Direct . . . from you to our MVNA Clients*



*Volunteer Christina Zimmerman (age 12) sorts a recent donation from 3M Golf Championship*

Through MVNA Club 100, we receive non-medical items which reduce the barriers in the lives of our clients. The impact of the donors' philanthropy is immediate and direct. Here are a few examples of recent donation activity and the effect on clients' lives.

**Universal Hospital Services** gathered about forty employees for a birthday lunch and brought birthday gifts for Club 100. In all, about \$1200 worth of items were collected that day. Employees also had a chance to hear more about the work of MVNA from a staff member. Here are a couple examples of the gifts received and used right away:

**Philanthropy Direct** -- A stroller for a mom who needs to get her baby to doctor appointments by bus.

--A Grocery store gift certificate for a family who just had household income reduced due to job loss.

**Target Corporation**, TTS Human Resources: One hundred employees supported our Reading Begins At Home Program through a board book drive by collecting 250 books. Most of our clients with young children do not have any books in their homes. MVNA nurses are dedicated to the idea of initiating the love of books early in a child's life, starting at infancy.

**Philanthropy Direct** --This month, ten families received the first books ever in their house - board books for the parents to read to their babies.

**3M Corporate IT Department** employees donated ten baby bath kits, each kit contained a towel, wash cloth, bath wash products and swaddling blanket, all presented in a useful baby bath tub. They also collected six Spanish-language board books.

**Philanthropy Direct** -- Through Minneapolis Public Schools, Broadway School, MVNA nurses provide instruction for parenting teens who are our clients. Giving each teen mother her own bath kit, the nurses used a kit to demonstrate proper bathing techniques.

--All the Spanish children's board books were taken immediately by our nurses and given to families. Many young children are now sharing in the delight of books such as *Buenas noches, Luna* (Goodnight Moon)

**Medicine Lake Women's Club** donated 18 bath kits in gifts bags. These kits included, a bath towel, washcloth, handmade flannel quilt, bath toy, onesie and bath wash products.

**Philanthropy Direct** -- A recent immigrant new mother received a bath kit, along with bathing care instructions from an MVNA nurse. With this kit, the mother became knowledgeable about bathing techniques, as well as the proper items she will need to buy in the future for bathing care.

**Carol Ann Smith** donated many items that help older adults overcome a challenge in their lives.

**Philanthropy Direct** -- Facing the choice between food or medication, an older adult struggling with MS received nutritional supplemental drinks.

**Altrusa International of St. Paul** presented a check for \$1,000 to the MVNA Family and Maternal Child Health.

**Philanthropy Direct** -- These funds will be used to print our Pregnant and Parenting Teen Teaching Guide. MVNA nurses work with the teens by utilizing a manual to support a healthy pregnancy, bonding and child development. In addition, Altrusa members volunteer monthly at MVNA to copy and compile the curriculum manual, preparing about 375 books each year.

**Thank you to all for the thoughtful and valuable donations!**

### Adopt-A-Family Donors

Information to sign up as a donor has been sent to you via email. As you know, our families' wish lists are modest, as their requests are for basic items such as a grocery certificate, towels, or coloring books. If you didn't receive the Donor sign-up form and want to participate, please contact us by email:

club100request@mvna.org or telephone: 612-617-4658

### Calendar Collection for 2009

MVNA will be collecting 2009 Calendars for our clients. Please drop off any extra calendars at our office. Its hard to believe it is that time of year again!

### MVNA Volunteer Services Vision

**Bridging Barriers: Supporting clients' health and independence with community support to provide for non-medical needs.**

**Thank you for being a Minnesota Visiting Nurse Agency Volunteer!**



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