



Current Needs: 2007 calendars!!!!!! Thank you St Marks for the first installment!

ADOPT-A-FAMILY!!! Once again, a very generous community responded to the needs of our clients and provided gifts for close to 150 families. The following is an excerpt from a thank you written by a mother on behalf of her family. Not many are as articulate as she – but most of the Adopt A Family recipients share her sentiments!! **After describing the faces of her children as they opened their gifts, she said “I don’t know how to explain this feeling that I had – it was more than one feeling – there was happiness and – well - great fullness – so much that I can’t explain. You gave me the best present of my life – you gave happiness to the ones that I love – that is the best present that I could ever ask for!!”**

STORY: The following is a letter from Lea Scherer, Captain of Team Ten to her team members. This letter offers a glimpse at how one team works and tells the stories of the people they helped during 2006. I thank Lea for sharing this with us.

Dear Women of Team 10 -

As many of you know, I was quite overwhelmed by my responsibilities after my father died last spring. While things have settled down a bit, I have been trying to simplify my life so that I can spend more time with my mother. For the past 2 months I have considered resigning from my position as Captain for Team 10. Then, when cleaning out my inbox I came across all the requests Team 10 received from our nurses this year, and I realized how much we accomplish every year to take care of children in Minneapolis.

We take care of them - and often their families - in little ways that enhance their health and well-being. And in ways that aren't always available from other government and private agencies. This past year, in addition to our nurses Sue and Jane, we've also supported Martha, a fluent Spanish speaker who specializes in Hispanic MVNA clients.

Besides the usual provision of diapers, high chairs, and pack 'n plays, we've supplied the monthly beans, rice and masa for clients who know home-made food is so much healthier than fast or packaged food. We provided these staple foods for each of 2 families for seven months while they got back on their feet - health- and finance-wise. We provided clothing for 4 children whose caring father let his ego get in the way of sending his children to school in rags. This summer we bought fans for several families who live in poorly ventilated basement apartments. We bought a relaxation tape for a young woman who lost her baby at 16 weeks gestation and was severely anxious and depressed.

But the story that most inspired me was that of Maria, a young mother who lives with another family. She cooks for the family in exchange for room and board - outdoors on an open fire. She also collects and sells aluminum cans. Maria's nurse requested a stroller for her baby. For the price of an umbrella stroller -\$14 - we made Maria's life a little easier. The work we do is good. I can't resign. I hope you'll join me once again in supporting MVNA's Club 100. Please make out your check to MVNA Club 100, and write Team 10 on the memo line.

Thank you so much for believing in and supporting Team 10!

REMINDERS: Flu shot clinics are ongoing – see our website for details or call 612 617-4635.

MiniVisits are held the 4th Tuesday of each month (January 23 and February 27)

April Shower is Thursday, April 19 from 5 to 7 PM

*Club 100/101 is a program, which personally connects Community Women with the MVNA Nurse who works directly with families in their homes to improve their health and move them toward self-sufficiency
Call 612-617-4658 to participate or for other volunteer opportunities.*