



"We are a community of individuals  
providing hope for the homeless"

## **2007 Annual Report**

Lord of the Streets Episcopal Church  
Community of the Streets Outreach

*vision*

*service*

*trust*

*passion*

*dedication*

*change*

*partnership*

*results*

*impact*

*value*

*leadership*

## *Our Mission . . .*

The mission of Lord of the Streets Episcopal Church and Community of the Streets Outreach is to minister to the spiritual, emotional, physical and social needs of individuals living in Houston who are homeless, in crisis or in transition.

We accomplish this by:

- ❖ Providing services that complement clients' own self-help efforts
- ❖ Providing primary care and referral services for mental health
- ❖ Providing encouragement and services to help heal the wounded spirit

*hope*

*resources*

*health*

*fellowship*

*jobs*

*housing*

*clothing*

*direction*

*meals*

*compassion*

*opportunity*

## *. . . Our Mission in Motion*

Perhaps one of the best things that LOTS does is to remind our folks that there is more to life than what they can see right now. So many lives have been over run by darkness and despair, leading to a spiritual myopia. When they come through our doors we say to them, "Lift up your eyes; lift up your hearts." Later, after living some life together, we can learn the response: "We lift them to the Lord."

-- The Rev. Murray R. Powell  
Lord of the Streets Episcopal Church

# Message from the Executive Director



Thelisa Palmer is Executive Director of Community of the Streets Outreach. She began her journey with COTS in 2005 and has expanded the reach and impact of COTS services to the homeless community through expanded services and innovative strategies. With the support of her staff and leadership of the board of directors, Thelisa continues to impact the homeless community in extraordinary and dynamic ways.

As Lord of the Streets and Community of the Streets Outreach move forward into the New Year, we do so with great anticipation for the challenges that await us as an organization that is committed to *being different in order to make a difference* in the lives of those who are homeless and others who are in transition.

Our nation has experienced several natural disasters encompassed with human tragedies and sufferings and economical hardships far beyond what we could have imagined. Yet, intermingled within these tragedies and sufferings has surfaced a silver lining that has emerged throughout the city of Houston, that says it is "all of our responsibility as a community" to respond to the needs of our neighbors and those less fortunate regardless of the circumstance of their misfortune.

Our goal is to optimize the challenges of 2007 that will produce proven results in 2008 in the following areas:

- ❖ Increase collaborative partnerships in the community
- ❖ Develop an integration of services with our collaborative partners to improve the transition for the homeless to access mainstream social services
- ❖ Develop a Strategic Plan that will position us to meet the critical and basic needs of the homeless and ultimately become a model of excellence for entry level services for the homeless

We are thankful for the support of so many that embrace our vision and understand that ultimately we all are responsible for the community that we live in.

## A Portrait of a Life Changed...

To the Lord of the Streets family,

I would like to thank you for the many different services that you supplied me with, while I fought for recovery-from clothing to hygiene items but most of all the support of love was paramount. The constant encouragement from the staff was absolutely key to my change; they believed and showed it in every way. My future looks bright my faith has increased and my love for Lord of the Streets shall endure.

Earl C.

# Perspectives from 2007 President

In looking back at 2007, many changes have occurred at Community of the Streets. The most significant change is the departure of the Next Step program from the second floor which has created the opportunity for us to get back to our roots.

As I write this letter we continue to plan for the replacement program that will target the problem of homelessness by creating a means for people to get back on their feet and be more independent. I am very confident that this will be achieved and I can say this knowing the strength and commitment of the Board at COTS as well as the Bishop's Committee.

We have taken a strategic approach to managing the COTS program and I trust the Board will build on the success of the current programs and take COTS to an even higher level. The support of the area churches has been outstanding along with the many volunteers. Serving the homeless can be an insurmountable problem at times but with the support of so many in the Houston area it makes the job a little easier. We can never give up and I trust that the Episcopal Church and other supportive institutions will always be there.

With many blessings I feel very good about passing the gavel to Ann Cochran. She will be an outstanding Board President and I know the Board will give her the support she needs.

-- Max Patterson



Max Patterson

## Insights for 2008

Each new day, new month, new year brings forth "opportunity" -- an opportunity for growth, change, redirection, and building new relationships. 2008 brings our constituents new promise and hope for betterment -- replacing each day that's consumed by basic survival -- food, clothing, shelter -- with living God's promise.

As an Episcopal ministry, we often see the Episcopal shield as we enter our churches or visit our websites -- even as we read the Bishop's messages. Those of us working and worshiping in Episcopal churches all know and recognize the shield. But for our clients -- our homeless, hungry, and poor clients, we have given that shield meaning to them. At Lord of the Streets and Community of the Streets, it is a symbol of hope -- our "shield of hope."

The vision for 2008 is to continue to minister to the broken in spirit, to feed the hungry, to clothe the poor, to find shelter for the homeless, and most of all -- to provide a sense of hope to those who feel hopeless. Psalms 3:2-3, 8 says:

<sup>2</sup>Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. Selah.

<sup>3</sup>But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

<sup>8</sup>Salvation belongeth unto the LORD; thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah.

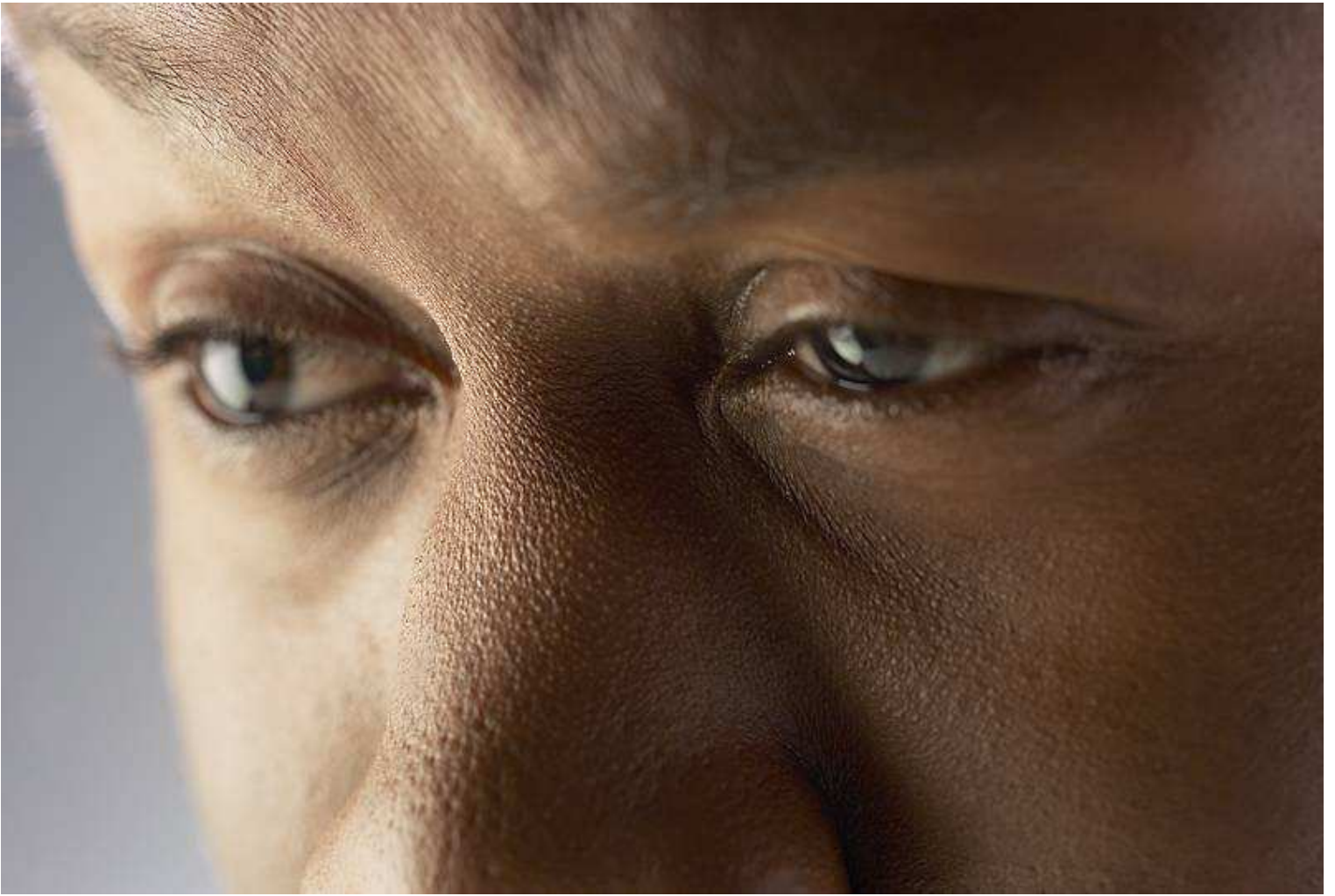
*Join us in our mission.*



## FY2007: the year in review

- ❖ Caritas Health Clinic's Health Fair and Back to School Fair provided 200 Children with school supplies. At the Health Fair, 4 children were diagnosed with high blood pressure and were able to be directly referred to Harris County Hospital District for medical services
- ❖ Community of the Streets Outreach provided job readiness training to 28 men and women through our collaborative partnerships with The Aids Foundation Project Life Roads and The Work Source. Out of the 28 receiving training, 14 received full-time employment
- ❖ Direct Assistance provided financial assistance to 3,020 clients to obtain state identification and birth certificates so that they may obtain employment, housing and healthcare services
- ❖ More than 1,920 individuals received information and referrals for housing, job training and drug counseling
- ❖ Nearly 8,500 individuals have received clothing and hygiene items so they may attend a job interview or job training

"Pictures and success stories of our clients; yielding signs of progression indicates how well we value our clients and services." -- Willie T. Hall, Receptionist



## FY2008: the year ahead

- ❖ Community of the Streets Outreach's Board of Directors will develop a Strategic Plan that will position us to meet the most critical needs of the homeless, provide the case management they need to find those specialized programs, and become a model of excellence for the provision of entry-level services to the homeless
- ❖ Community of the Streets Outreach partnered with MHMRA to assist clients with obtaining mental health screenings
- ❖ New collaborative partnership with Recovery Houston Institute, Transitional Housing Program
- ❖ New collaboration with Christian Community Service Center and Assisted Junior League with Back-to-School Fair/Health Fair scheduled for August 2008
- ❖ Development of clothing distribution database for the purpose of determining clothing needs, improving distribution, and tracking the number of people served
- ❖ Development of customized business venture for the purpose of diversifying funding and increasing community awareness about homelessness

"I am blessed to be able to remind others that God loves them."

-- James Moore, Facility Manager

# Treasurer's Report

A financial overview

## **COMBINED STATEMENT**

Lord of the Streets Church & Community of the Streets Outreach  
Years ended December 31, 2006 & 2007

Despite gains in individual giving and fund raising, income decreased from 2006 due to several months without a third party provider of the COTS housing operation. The predominate cause for the positive bottom line was the much lower than expected personnel cost, which was a result of several months without filling vacant staff positions. All other 2007 revenue and expense line items are considered "ordinary".

|                               | <b><u>2007</u></b>       | <b><u>2006</u></b>       |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b><u>INCOME</u></b>          |                          |                          |
| Foundations & Corporations    | \$ 218,491               | \$ 218,719               |
| Individuals                   | 180,113                  | 186,446                  |
| Rental Income                 | 83,378                   | 114,000                  |
| Supporting and Other Parishes | 78,325                   | 98,347                   |
| Diocesan Institutions         | 70,777                   | 81,722                   |
| Special Events                | 71,547                   | 32,666                   |
| Other                         | <u>13,000</u>            | <u>7,516</u>             |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>           | <b>\$ 715,631</b>        | <b>\$ 739,415</b>        |
| <b><u>EXPENSE</u></b>         |                          |                          |
| Personnel                     | \$ 333,613               | \$ 436,203               |
| Program Expense               | 61,680                   | 70,188                   |
| Church Activities/Programs    | 30,495                   | 25,943                   |
| Administrative Costs          | 61,015                   | 43,768                   |
| Fund Raising Expense          | 6,058                    | 5,010                    |
| Occupancy Expense             | 149,576                  | 143,973                  |
| Property Taxes                | 29,660                   | 15,755                   |
| Other                         | <u>9,185</u>             | <u>7,493</u>             |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>          | <b><u>\$ 681,282</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 748,333</u></b> |
| <b>NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>      | <b>\$ 34,349</b>         | <b>(\$ 8,918)</b>        |

# Our Heartfelt Thank You . . .

## Community Partners

The Powell Foundation  
Inter Marine, Inc.  
The Frees Foundation  
Hildebrand Foundation  
St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities  
Keating Family Foundation  
Sterling Turner  
Tellepsen Foundation  
Episcopal Diocese of Texas  
The W.T. & Louise J. Moran Foundation  
United Way of Texas Gulf Coast

## Distinguished Partners

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Powell  
Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Cloyd  
Mr. Thomas J. Burnett  
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck McDaniel  
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Eisele  
Mr. and Mrs. Felding Cochran

## To All of Our Donors and Supporters

We are privileged to have each of your individual support and honored to call you friends. Thank you for all you do to lift the hope and spirits of our citizens in need.

"Being able to promote the good work of COTS while raising funds to continue our efforts in a large way is such a gift!" -- Ernest Lewis III, Development Director



Lord of the Streets Episcopal Church  
Community of the Streets Outreach

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## Staff

Vicar, Lord of the Streets, and  
Assistant Rector, Trinity  
Episcopal  
The Reverend Murray Powell

Executive Director  
Thelisa Palmer

Development Director  
Ernest Lewis III

Program Director  
Donnie Wilson

Director of Volunteer and  
Women's Services  
Myra Mitchell

Administrative Assistant  
Sheila Jarmon

Receptionist  
Willie Hall

Financial Services  
Lisa Mikosh

## COTS Board of Directors

Ex-Officio Members -  
Canonical  
Bishop Don Wimberly  
Chair of the Board

### Officers

Ann Cochran, President  
Andy Harvin, Vice President  
Bill Cornman, Treasurer  
Carmen Pratt, Secretary

### Directors

Barbara Schusterman  
Priscilla Watkins  
Brad Sullivan  
Richard Cloutier  
Max Patterson  
Joel H. McGlasson  
Millicent Mason  
Ralph B. Morgan  
Katy Ziegler  
Garrett Wingfield  
James Barron

## LOTS Bishops Committee

David Hobbs, Clerk  
Garrett Wingfield, Treasurer  
Phil Muth— Asst. Treasurer  
Bill Henry  
Judy McEnany  
Caren Thomas  
Janice Rae

Jim Hudgins  
Frances Leland  
Noel Kuester  
David Spriggs  
Tom Tellepsen  
Mary Grace  
Greenwood

## Supporting Parishes

Christ Church  
Cathedral  
Holy Spirit  
St. Dunstan's  
St. Francis  
St. John the Divine

Christ the King - Atascocita  
Good Shepherd - Kingwood  
St. Mark's  
St. Martin's  
Trinity - Houston

## About Us



Community of the Streets Outreach is committed to providing supportive services to meet the needs of homeless individuals and families. These services include healthcare, food, clothing, personal hygiene kits, services to obtain identification, case management for employment, counseling and substance abuse treatment, and providing referrals to emergency shelter and permanent housing programs.