



## Caring Transportation for Seniors



**FAITH**  
IN ACTION

On May 9, NHCO's "Free Rides for Seniors" began. The 14-passenger bus is operated by NHCO, funded by **St. Margaret Foundation** and driven by trained volunteers. The bus travels the length of Freeport Road between Sharpsburg and Blawnox (as well as some side streets) and is a component of **Faith in Action-Hartwood**.

Local seniors receive free transportation to the grocery store, doctors' appointments, lunch with friends and other errands.

The bus is not wheelchair-accessible, and riders need to be able to board and exit the bus on their own.

The bus operates weekdays, 10 a.m.—4 p.m., and is available to local seniors ages 60 and up. Individuals needing transportation simply call **412-782-2001** after 9:45 a.m. on the day they need a ride. Reservations prior to the day of the ride cannot be accepted.

In addition to the scheduled appointments, the bus will also make routine stops along the route; exact spots are still being determined but will include some local senior living facilities.

More volunteer drivers are needed, as are individuals to ride along with the bus driver to take transportation requests and assist with scheduling and reservations. To drive the bus, you must be at least 25 years old, have a valid driver's license (no special license is required) and enjoy working with seniors. There are two three-hour shifts available Monday through Friday. Prospective volunteers should call Kimberly Mikita at 412-784-5081.

To generate additional operating revenue for gasoline and other upkeep expenses, local businesses may buy ads in a variety of sizes and prices. The ads are displayed above the seats and offer great visibility; call Wendy Gordon at 412-487-6316 for more information.



### Thanks to our first volunteer drivers!

Tom Cramer  
Scott Frankowski  
Lou Greulich  
Jeff Medina  
Keith Willard

*Keith Willard's friendly demeanor and caring spirit make him a terrific volunteer bus driver. He lives in Oakmont and drives the bus several shifts each week.*



*Four-year-old Tiffany is one of 502 local children who received new school supplies last year.*

## School Supplies and Winter Coats Needed

Local children will head **back to school** in several weeks, and we need your help to send them back with dignity. Donations of new backpacks (appropriate for a variety of ages) and school supplies (pencil cases, binders, markers, erasers, folders, crayons, notebooks, scissors, rulers, lunch boxes, etc.) will be accepted through the end of July. Financial donations and clothing gift cards are also needed and very much appreciated. **Rosemary** and **Diane Prager** will once again lead this project.

The **Winter Coat Shop** will take place on **Saturday, October 8**, at St. Paul's UMC. Please mark your calendars for the month of September, which is when we can accept your kind donation of a clean, gently-worn coat to be given to an individual in need. We especially need children's coats and adult extra-large, as well as gift cards to purchase hard-to-find sizes. After everyone who needs a free coat receives one, we will sell the remainder on October 10 at our main office in Allison Park. Most coats will cost \$5 or less.

Contact Judy Murchak at 412-487-6316 or [jamurchak@nhco.org](mailto:jamurchak@nhco.org) for more information.

This edition of *The Connector* is generously underwritten by **Dollar Bank**.

*The Connector* is published three times per year and mailed to 13,000 local addresses.

You can help us save postage and printing costs by signing up to receive the newsletter electronically. Also, please let us know if you are receiving more than one copy.

Send any address corrections or other comments regarding *The Connector* to [help@nhco.org](mailto:help@nhco.org).

#### Main Office

1975 Ferguson Road  
Allison Park, PA 15101-3235  
412-487-6316

#### Millvale Satellite

223 North Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15209-2621  
412-821-0904

#### North Boroughs Satellite

Emanuel's Evangelical Lutheran  
10 North Fremont Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15202-3218  
412-732-0600

and

Allegheny General Hospital,  
Suburban Campus (Bellevue)  
100 South Jackson Avenue, 6 East  
Pittsburgh, PA 15202-3499  
412-307-0069

#### Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9 AM - 4 PM  
(Other times by appointment)

email: [help@nhco.org](mailto:help@nhco.org)

website: [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org)

**Mission:** North Hills Community Outreach is an interfaith nonprofit organization that addresses the spiritual, emotional, physical and material needs of people in crisis, hardship and poverty.

**Vision:** Northern Allegheny County is a community where everyone shares with their neighbors in hardship and no one is cold, hungry or forgotten.

**Fay Morgan, Executive Director**  
[fpmorgan@nhco.org](mailto:fpmorgan@nhco.org)

**Wendy Gordon, Editor**  
[wbgordon@nhco.org](mailto:wbgordon@nhco.org)



Dedicated volunteers Carol Bliss, Ruth Graham and Ruth Maloney share smiles at NHCO's volunteer appreciation luncheon in April.

## Volunteer Recognition and Opportunities

We are grateful to our caring volunteers—more than 1,000 of them—for sharing their time and talent to help their neighbors in need. Many attended a special volunteer open house on April 19 as part of national volunteer recognition week. Still others attended a volunteer luncheon on May 25 to learn about NHCO's new **Volunteer Auxiliary**. This group of dedicated volunteers can strengthen NHCO by increasing financial giving among volunteers, organizing social activities, and creating new ways to recognize outstanding volunteerism at NHCO.

NHCO is always looking for new volunteers. Contact Ginny Giles at 412-487-6316 or [vmgiles@nhco.org](mailto:vmgiles@nhco.org) if any of these unique opportunities interest you:

- Deliver interoffice mail once a week between our service sites in Hampton, Millvale, North Boroughs and Aspinwall. You can use our van or your own vehicle.
- Budding artist needed to update our informational "neon" artboard that all visitors to our Hampton office see upon entering the building. A new design is needed every 4-6 weeks depending on current events and activities at NHCO.
- Expert website assistance needed, specifically in the creation of a search function

## Millvale Satellite Expansion Project

We are moving forward with the expansion and renovation of the Millvale Community Center, a collaborative project with the **Borough of Millvale**. On May 18, NHCO's Board of Directors voted unanimously to hire **Landau Construction** as construction manager. The company will help integrate donated materials and labor to keep the project's costs low without sacrificing quality, in line with NHCO's values of effectiveness, collaboration and stewardship.

We need this project so that we may continue to effectively serve those in need in 23 communities. Our present facility in Millvale is entirely inadequate to meet the needs of our neighbors in crisis.

A list of materials and volunteers needed will soon be available at [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org); keep an eye out to see how you can get involved!

## Helping a Refugee Find Her Way

NHCO is mentoring eleven smaller grassroots human service organizations in board, staff, program and resource development through a new federally-funded program called **Compassion Allegheny**.

Here is one recent example of how we were able to extend our reach and help a family in severe hardship by mentoring **The Whitehall Church** in the South Hills.

Natinna is a political refugee from Afghanistan. After her husband was killed, she came to America with her eight children and no money, formal education or support system. As a new immigrant, she was referred to The Whitehall Church, which immediately provided clothing and food for her family. The church referred Natinna to **Catholic Charities**, which also provided food and helped her find housing and settle into the community.

Additionally, Natinna received help from the church in navigating the complicated maze of public assistance. ESL (English as a Second Language) classes were made available through **Jewish Family & Youth Services**. **South Hills Interfaith Ministries**, an ecumenical outreach agency, helped provide child care and homework assistance. The **Baldwin-Whitehall School District** coordinated its efforts with the church, ESL teachers and the interfaith ministry to help ensure holistic care.

Through Compassion Allegheny, we helped The Whitehall Church identify and make connections with different resources to assist Natinna's family. We are continuing to work with them and the ten other organizations to build their abilities to respond with compassion and effectiveness to help those in crisis or hardship in their communities.

Compassion Allegheny will provide 80 hours of training to each participating group, and thus far we have awarded \$25,000 in subgrants to the organizations, thanks to federal funds. Special thanks to **Senator Rick Santorum** for his support and to our partners **Duquesne University's Nonprofit Leadership Institute** and **KEYGroup**. For more information about this program, contact Joseph Khanh Bui at 412-307-0069 or [jdubui@nhco.org](mailto:jdubui@nhco.org).

## Spring Brings Generosity

Many thanks to everyone who responded to our spring appeal, whether you received a letter or a phone call. This was our second phone campaign, and with pledges still coming in, we hope to raise at least \$16,000. Special thanks to lead volunteer **Jay Fairbrother**, **Papa John's Pizza** on Route 8, and the following volunteers:

Barb Bittner	Jean Kirk	Rich Singer
Claudia Brazet	LaSaine Latimore	Janet Soltis
Clementine Brodsky	Deb McCune	Joanne Tripoli
Linda Byrnes	Judy McDowell-Daniels	Randy Vulakovich
Carrie Burnham	Jack Malkin	Faith Weppelman
Mary Lou Corcoran	Ruth Mliikan	Mary Wetzal
Sue Ferguson	Jean Muth	Alex Whiting
Joanne Graham	Wendy Newton	Cindy Whiting
Ruth Graham	Nancy Puschaver	Althea Worthy
Eleanore Hartrink	Agnes Rhodes	
Richard Hartrink	Julie Schroeder	

## High School Students Choose NHCO for Projects

If you are the parent, teacher or guidance counselor of a high school student who needs to complete a volunteer project, send him or her to NHCO! Our staff and volunteers will provide time and guidance to make the project rewarding, meaningful, challenging and fun. Contact Susan Rohm at 412-307-0069 or [shrohmn@nhco.org](mailto:shrohmn@nhco.org).

Thanks to the following students who recently completed volunteer projects at NHCO, helping to ensure that no one in northern Allegheny County is cold, hungry or forgotten:

- **Kellen Cottrell**, Shaler Area: food drive
- **Robert Gallogly**, Shaler Area: helped with NHCO's citrus sale
- **Jack Grennan**, North Allegheny: food drive
- **Ken Nakajima**, North Allegheny: food drive
- **Christopher New-Burkett**, Riverside: food drive
- **Kevin Martinsek**, Fox Chapel: organized basketball tournament food/fundraiser
- **Andy Wreschnig**, Shaler Area: food drive

*Shaler Area's **Kevin Craig** conducted a neighborhood food drive for his senior project. He delivered the food, stocked the shelves, helped neighbors in need select their food and get it to their cars, and then cleaned up the pantry. In a thank you letter, Kevin wrote, "It has been a pleasure working with you on my senior project. This has been an awesome learning experience, and I hope I've made a positive impact in your life, like you have done for me."*



# Progress Made in Flood Recovery; More Work to be Done

## Numbers as of mid-May 2005:

- 808 families have received assistance, including 199 senior households
- 38 small businesses have received tangible aid and donated services
- \$207,423 distributed in furnaces, water heaters, appliances, building repairs for homes; \$21,145 for businesses
- \$376,388 distributed in furniture, equipment, food, household goods
- 4,390 volunteer hours spent on clean-up, rebuilding and delivery of goods

**Small Businesses Receive Invaluable Assistance:** On March 31, 22 small business owners and/or managers met with professionals who generously volunteered their time and expertise. These volunteers provided guidance in marketing, accounting, taxes, insurance and strategies for moving forward post-flood. The event was organized by NHCO's Business Recovery Advisory Committee, which was formed to help flooded businesses connect with resources.

We will continue to work with these small businesses and celebrate with them as they get back on their feet. We encourage you to visit Millvale, Etna and Sharpsburg and patronize businesses that have reopened. They need your support!

## A big thanks to our volunteer professionals:

Lois Bradley  
*The Bradley Partnerships*

Herb Bryer  
*Minuteman Press*

Jennifer Cohen  
*Lincoln Enterprises*

Matt Copcutt  
*Citizens Bank*

George Darakos  
*CORO Fellow*

Jerry DeFrango  
*SMC Business Councils*

Guillia Dozzi  
*Crawford Ellenbogen LLC*

Dave Graf  
*Citizens Bank*

Lynn Landis  
*Malin, Bergquist & Co.*

Marilyn Landis  
*Small Business Concepts*

Sue Linder  
*National City Bank*

Tony McCartney  
*Citizens Bank*

Pastor George Mendis  
*Christ Lutheran Church*

Jeff Morris  
*Morella & Associates*

Jim Nealon  
*Citizens Bank*

Mary Richer  
*Citizens Bank*

Wayne Young  
*AG Edwards*



NHCO Millvale Manager Maria Christina presents a commemorative plaque to **Bob Amelio** of the **Rotary Club of McCandless** at a rededication ceremony in February. Rotarians played an instrumental role in the speedy recovery of our Millvale Satellite after the September flood, and Bob was the lead volunteer.



Polly Grimpe, owner of Lasting Memories floral shop, and **Frank Cappan**, member of NHCO's Business Recovery Advisory Committee, enjoy the festivities at **P&G Diner's** grand reopening celebration in April. Frank used to own a flower shop in Millvale and is glad to volunteer his business know-how in the recovery phase. The diner raised \$1,700 at its reopening for NHCO's continuing flood relief efforts.

**Employment Help:** On February 23, 140 people attended a job fair hosted by NHCO and **Network of Hope** at **Jimmy G's** in Sharpsburg. The event was geared towards helping individuals who lost a job or business in the flood. Thanks to **UPMC** for recruiting, **St. Margaret Foundation** for funding and **Jimmy Guenther** for providing space.

**We still need volunteers!** Although a great deal of progress has been made in the hardest hit areas, volunteers (including those in the building trades) are still needed to help clean up and restore flooded homes and businesses. Work crews go out most Saturdays, and now that summer is here weekday opportunities are also available. If you can help, contact Ginny Giles at 412-487-6316 or [vmgiles@nhco.org](mailto:vmgiles@nhco.org).

## Mini-Masters Major Fun

The fourth annual Mini-Masters Miniature Golf Tournament was held on May 12 at Robert Morris University Island Sports Center on Neville Island. Eighty people attended the event, which included a fun and challenging round of miniature golf, a silent auction and a delicious buffet dinner in a beautiful setting. A total of \$5,800 was raised.

Barry "Tiger" Harris repeated as champion with a score of 41 to retain the mini-green jacket for a second year.

Thanks to the following significant donors: **Allegheny General Hospital—Suburban Campus, Kay Unks' Group, North Suburban Lion's Club, Oscar's Ltd., Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Potter** and **West View Chamber of Commerce**. Thanks to Ed Dietz of **Fred Dietz Floral** for donating the child-size car as one of our prizes. For a list of all sponsors and donors, visit [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org).

Thanks also to our volunteer committee **Althea Worthy** (*chair*), **Clementine Brodsky, Mayor Paul Cusick, Beth Exton, Sharon Helfrich, Doris Richert, Norm Woods** and **Oscar Worthy**.

## Speakers Available

Four enthusiastic women completed our Speakers Bureau training in April. **Carrie Burnham, Mary Ellen Dickson, Nancy Puschaver** and **Sandy Danahey** are eager to speak to your civic group, neighborhood association, business, school or congregation. We will tailor our presentation to suit your audience, time available and facility. To request a speaker or to learn more about joining the Speakers Bureau, contact Wendy Gordon at 412-487-6316 or [wbgordon@nhco.org](mailto:wbgordon@nhco.org). We'd appreciate at least two weeks notice for all speaking engagements.

### "The Curious Savage" Dessert Theatre

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Group (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (*in case of questions*) \_\_\_\_\_

#### # of tickets (\$22 each)

\_\_\_\_\_ tickets for **Wednesday, July 20**: \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ tickets for **Thursday, July 21**: \$\_\_\_\_\_.

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:** \$\_\_\_\_\_

#### PAYMENT METHOD

Check enclosed. (Payable to NHCO. Write "Theatre" on check.)

MasterCard #

Visa #

Expires \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form and payment to North Hills Community Outreach, 1975 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101-3235. **Your tickets will be held at the door for you.**

## Support Groups

Contact Harriet Gibbs at 412-487-6316.

- Alzheimers/Dementia: Every second Tuesday, 7 PM
- Young Widows/Widowers: Every first Thursday, 7 PM, King's Restaurant in Wexford
- Grieving Friends Bereavement: June 6, July 11, August 1, September 12, 2-4 PM

## Upcoming Events

### Riverhounds Soccer Clinic

- Thursday, June 30
- 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM
- Ross Community Center (behind McKnight Road Kuhn's Market)
- A project of NHCO's newest initiative, **Tobacco Free North**, an education and outreach program
- The clinic is FREE for youth ages 8-12, but space is limited and registration is required. Contact Nicole Trader at 412-784-5079 or [nmtrader@nhco.org](mailto:nmtrader@nhco.org).
- Special thanks to the **Riverhounds**

### Trail/Nature Walk

- Saturday, July 16
- 2:30 PM: Registration and refreshments at Elias Fry Barn at Knob Hill Community Park in Marshall Township; 3:00 PM: Guided Nature Walk
- After the walk, enjoy activities including an art exhibit, climbing wall, games, food booths, live music, clowns, and Zambelli fireworks
- Suggested donation: \$10 (from walker and/or pledges from family and friends) benefits NHCO
- Special thanks to **Marshall Township Recreation Committee**
- For more information or a pledge form, contact Maria Christina at 412-821-0904 or [mschristina@nhco.org](mailto:mschristina@nhco.org).

### Dessert Theatre: "The Curious Savage"

- Wednesday and Thursday, July 20-21
- An amazing array of desserts donated by local businesses will be available at 6:30 PM; the comedic play by John Patrick begins at 7:30 PM
- Presented by **The St. Paul's Players** at St. Paul's UMC (1965 Ferguson Road, Allison Park)
- Tickets are \$22 each; entire cost benefits NHCO
- Complete the order form on the left or contact Ginny Giles at 412-487-6316 or [vmgiles@nhco.org](mailto:vmgiles@nhco.org).

## Volunteer Orientations

This one-hour session offers a general overview of NHCO's services and volunteer opportunities and is suitable for both current and prospective volunteers ages 14 and up. Contact Ginny Giles at 412-487-6316 or [vmgiles@nhco.org](mailto:vmgiles@nhco.org) to attend.

- June 23, 10 AM - Allison Park
- July 23, 10 AM - Millvale Satellite
- August 23, 10 AM - North Boroughs Satellite (Allegheny General Hospital, Suburban Campus)

## NHCO Eases a Burden

NHCO's **RX-tra Prescription Drug Fund** pays for prescriptions and other medical expenses (equipment, eyeglasses, etc.) for neighbors in crisis. Since its inception in 2003, \$9,217 has been paid in prescriptions and other medical costs.

Following is an excerpt from a thank you letter we recently received from a woman hospitalized for emphysema and unable to pay for her prescriptions. A social worker at **Allegheny General Hospital, Suburban Campus** referred her to us.

*"Your organization stepped right in and **made all the difference** for me. You paid for two of my most expensive prescriptions and gave me the chance to get home and back to work. If it had not been for all of the **wonderful people** in your organization, I don't know how I would have made it. There are just no words to express my **gratitude and appreciation** for all you did to help me get back on my feet. **I thank God** that there is such a wonderful organization doing such incredible work in the community for those of us who may only need a **helping hand** to see the light at the end of a long tunnel."*

## NHCO Thankful for Area Food Drives

Approximately 90 percent of food distributed to neighbors in need is donated to us by caring individuals and groups. More than 350 low-income families count on us to provide 4-5 days' worth of supplemental food each month. We also give additional food to seniors citizens as well as mothers with young children. Some recent food drives of special note:

- **Stamp Out Hunger** is the annual food drive conducted by U.S. Postal Carriers every May. We've received \$7,500 in food from the **McKnight Road** post office and \$12,000 from **Allison Park**.
- **Bellevue Curves** (owned by **Tracy Kennedy**) and **Emsworth Curves** (**Debbie Santucci**) donated \$1,500 and \$2,000 worth of food, respectively, to help stock the North Boroughs Food Pantry.

For tips on conducting a food drive, contact Natalie Klaum at 412-487-6316 or [naklaum@nhco.org](mailto:naklaum@nhco.org).

## Thumbs Up!

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for contributing their time, talent, funds and/or goods to help their neighbors in need.

- **National City Bank** employee and NHCO volunteer **Sandra Collins** was given a National City Excel Award for her volunteer efforts. NHCO received \$250 in honor of Sandra. Similarly, **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans** awarded agent **Al Todd** \$250. Al kindly designated NHCO as the recipient of the gift and also matched the award with his own contribution to NHCO.
- The entire eighth grade class at **Shady Side Academy** collected food for our pantries and also spent a day volunteering with our flood team, cleaning out basements, sealing foundations and picking up debris.
- The **Old Navy** store in the **Northway Mall** has chosen NHCO as their charitable cause. The **Gap Foundation** will pay Old Navy employees to volunteer a certain number of hours each month and donate money to NHCO based on their employees' volunteer hours.
- **State Senator Jane Clare Ori** invited us to participate in her annual Emergency Responders Forum. Several hundred rescue personnel learned how NHCO can help in the event of a disaster or crisis.
- **Buck or \$2** in Etna donated a share of its first quarter profits as well as proceeds from a gift basket raffle, totaling \$300.
- **Specialty Consultants** employees have learned to be on time since owner **Ken Colwes** instituted a late fee as a unique fundraiser for NHCO's flood relief. Ken collected \$1,300 from tardy charitable employees.
- Students at **Rogers Elementary School** in Shaler collected \$421.61 in coins throughout the year and called it "Change for Change." They gave the money to NHCO to purchase back-to-school supplies and to help a local family with utility assistance. Thanks to parent **Theresa Chiaramonte** who counted and packaged the coins.
- A green thumbs up to **Denise Lindberg** of **Gardener's Eye** and **Patrick Greaser** of **Franklin Nursery**. Denise donates one day a month tending the grounds at our Allison Park office; Patrick gave four flats of flowers.
- Veteran volunteer **Jane Furar** trained other volunteers on enrolling families in the \$1 Energy program. Together they have helped 270 families apply for utility assistance, resulting in \$66,920 in grants. Volunteer **Tom Furar** entered all the information into \$1 Energy's computer program.
- The **Oxford Athletic Club** in Wexford collected Easter baskets and candy for Spring Share and is collecting items for Back-to-School during June and July.

## Wish List Priority Items

- HP Laser Printers
- Portable TV/VCR
- Locking lateral file cabinet (3-drawers)
- Carpeting (materials and installation) for North Boroughs offices

You can find our entire list at [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org). To donate, contact Dianne Buirge at 412-487-6316 or [dmbuirge@nhco.org](mailto:dmbuirge@nhco.org).



*Pittsburgh Passion intern Megan Koester learns about firefighting opportunities from Millvale volunteer firefighter Tim Kist at the Women's Fair on May 21.*

## Women's Fair

On May 21, NHCO sponsored a Women's Fair at the Millvale Community Center. Twenty-eight vendors and exhibitors provided blood pressure screenings, posture analysis, chair massages, makeovers, employment opportunities, and information on parenting and adult education.

Presentations covered smoking cessation (**Tobacco Free North**), self-defense (**Pittsburgh Institute**) and nutrition (**Judy Dodd**). Special thanks to committee members **Jennifer Cohen**, **Reverend Caroline Mendis**, and **Rhea Nicotra** and to **P&G Diner** for donating lunch for the vendors.

## Twenty-Four Savers Achieve Financial Goals, Pursue Dreams

NHCO's **Family Savings Accounts** program encourages low-income individuals and families to save up to \$2,000 over a period of two years, and NHCO matches the amount dollar for dollar (funded by **PA Department of Community and Economic Development**). Participants must take classes on budgeting and other financial matters. So far, 24 savers have reached their financial goals and graduated from the program.

- Four put the money towards buying a home
- Eight made critical home repairs
- Seven bought cars for safe, reliable transportation to work
- Three used the funds for college for themselves or their children
- Two started their own businesses

We congratulate these 24 motivated individuals for reaching their goals through hard work and determination. To learn more about FSA, contact Harriet Gibbs at 412-487-6316 or [h zgibbs@nhco.org](mailto:h zgibbs@nhco.org).

## Women Complete "New Choices" Class

Eight women completed the recent New Choices class offered by **PA Women Work** at NHCO. The ten-week series focused on skill and interest testing, interviewing techniques, résumé development, stress management and conflict resolution. The purpose of the class is to prepare women for entry into the workforce.

To sign up for the next series (dates to be determined), contact Carolyn Pschirer at 412-487-6316 or [clpschirer@nhco.org](mailto:clpschirer@nhco.org).

## Attorneys Suggest Enhancements for Legal Consultation Program

NHCO is committed to excellence in service to the community. Eight attorneys who volunteer through our **Ask the Attorney** program met recently to discuss ways in which to improve the service. As a result of this meeting:

- A volunteer paralegal contacts each person prior to the consultation to complete a thorough questionnaire, which is provided to the attorneys in advance. (This intake form is also now available at [www.nhco.org](http://www.nhco.org).) The paralegal also tells the individual what documents to bring to the meeting.
- A computer is available on-site for all attorneys to access the Internet should they need reference information.
- Every attempt is made to match the individual's specific legal situation with the attorneys' areas of expertise.

Ask the Attorney is available to families living at or below 200 percent of the poverty level. If you or someone you know needs help (or would like to volunteer), contact Harriet Gibbs at 412-487-6316 or [h zgibbs@nhco.org](mailto:h zgibbs@nhco.org).

## Two Graduate with NHCO Scholarships

Two local women who received college scholarships through NHCO graduated from LaRoche College in May. "Kara," a Reserve resident who earned her B.A. in sociology, left an abusive relationship and said that "education is the way to a fulfilling and rewarding life and my only way to the final step to freedom."

NHCO's College Scholarship program is funded by generous individuals, organizations and businesses. We'd like to offer a special thanks to **Zonta Three Rivers North** for donating an astounding \$19,200 from their recent Glass Slipper Ball. Many local women in crisis and hardship will now have the opportunity to achieve independence and economic self-sufficiency thanks to this generous gift.

If you or an adult you know could benefit from an NHCO scholarship, contact Harriet Gibbs at 412-487-6316 or [h zgibbs@nhco.org](mailto:h zgibbs@nhco.org).

## Please accept my gift to forward NHCO's mission!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (in case of questions) \_\_\_\_\_

### GIFT AMOUNT & PAYMENT METHOD

\$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed.

MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_

Visa # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### OPTIONAL

Save postage! No acknowledgment necessary.

This is my first gift to NHCO.

Please contact me about volunteering.

Please contact me about including NHCO in my will.

This gift is:

in honor of  in memory of  in celebration of

\_\_\_\_\_

Please notify:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NHCO is an IRS-approved 501(c)3 organization.

Your donation qualifies as a charitable deduction.

S05NEWS

## Sharing Project Brightens Spring

NHCO's **Spring Share** provided 372 low-income families with a grocery store certificate for a holiday meal; 260 children received candy baskets; and volunteers delivered gifts to 32 local senior citizens in NHCO's **Faith in Action** program. Twenty-five parents in hardship assembled their children's Easter baskets at our "Build a Basket Day." Many thanks to everyone who pitched in to make this project a success, especially:

- Volunteer **Audrey Edwards** led a great team of helpers, including **Jean Fitzgerald** and **Dorothy Edwards**
- Members of **Brownie Troop #964**, **Girl Scout Troop #408** and **Rainbow Girls** all assembled baskets
- **Joan Williams** collected toy bunnies and baskets all year long for the project
- Members of **Cornerstone Bible Study** delivered many baskets and gifts
- **NOMIC Youth Group** at **St. Paul's UMC** (led by **Cindy** and **Bob White**) threw an Easter party complete with an egg hunt, games and dinner for 24 families served by NHCO



*Proving that caring people of any age can help their neighbors in need, Lexi Ellenberger, Nicholas Sciulli, Melina Bowser and Anthony Sciulli made 24 Easter baskets for this year's Spring Share. These compassionate kids made a flier, collected donations from family and friends, shopped for toys, art supplies and candy, and then assembled the baskets. Not pictured but also involved was ten-year-old Olivia Bowser.*



1975 Ferguson Road  
Allison Park, PA 15101-3235

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Allison Park, PA  
Permit No. 154