



Toy Rescue Mission NEWSLETTER

Community Partners Appreciation Dinner

To all friends and supporters of Toy Rescue Mission, you are cordially invited to attend our first ever Community Partners Appreciation Dinner. We will be celebrating the 20 year legacy of Toy Rescue Mission and thanking the individuals and organizations that have helped make TRM a success. Without you we would not be able to serve the needy children and seniors in our community. We will also be saying goodbye to our founder and president, Karol Barkley, and introducing TRM's new president. In addition, we will recognize one volunteer that has distinguished themselves by going above and beyond in showing true dedication to Toy Rescue Mission's purpose.

There is a suggested minimum donation of \$15 for adults and \$9.50 for children to help defray the cost of dinner. Purchase your tickets online at toyrescuemission.org or pay by cash, or a check made out to **Toy Rescue Mission**. **Everyone will have a chance to win DOOR PRIZES!** Dress is business casual.

RSVP by February 27 by calling our office at (253)460-6711.



**Sunday
February 28**

**815 S. Vassault
Street**

**Tacoma, WA
98465**

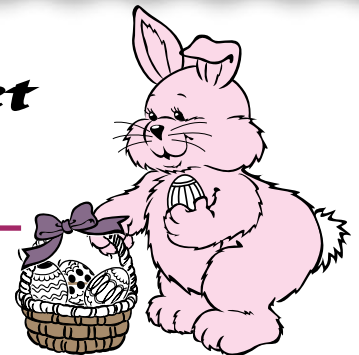
4:00-5:00 pm
Fun and Games,
and a No-Host Bar

5:00 pm
Dinner with a
Presentation
to follow



Annual Easter Basket Distribution

COMING SOON



The Easter bunny will be hopping our way in mid-March to begin the Toy Rescue Mission Easter Basket Distribution for underprivileged children.

With the help of the community the baskets will be filled with traditional Easter goodies. The following items are our greatest need:

New or gently-used baskets
Individually-wrapped candy
Toddler snacks (i.e., Goldfish crackers)
Plastic eggs

Easter-theme stuffed animals
Small toys
Crayons and coloring books
Craft ribbon

Please bring your donations to TRM by March 10. And plan to lend a helping hand with the basket assembly for a few hours between March 15 and 27. Watch for our distribution schedule update on our web site. Last year we served **1,613** children. Please call 460-6711 if you want to help us with this enormous project.

Location

607 S. Winnifred St.
Tacoma, WA 98465

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 64547
Tacoma, WA 98464-0547

Email Address

martha@toyrescuemission.org

Web Site

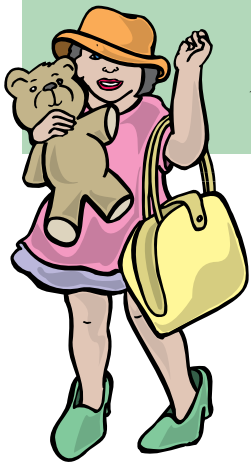
toyrescuemission.org

Phone Numbers

(253) 460-6711
(253) 756-8068

FAX Number

(253) 756-8074



Message from Martha



Welcome to a new year and a new beginning as we start 2010 with a new President for the first time in our history. Karol Barkley, our former President and Founder, has retired from her position after 20 years.

When I met Karol in 1995 I realized she was a woman with a passion for service who didn't wait for somebody else to find a solution to help others. She started this grass roots organization in her home by serving a few neighborhood kids and it has grown to one that now operates in its own building year-round serving thousands of kids and seniors. Toy Rescue Mission continues its goal to provide joyful childhood memories to underprivileged families in Pierce County. Not only has Karol given so many a happier birthday and merrier holidays, she has given several volunteers the chance to feel needed and important in the life of a child.



First and foremost I thank Karol for her years of service and hard work, but I also thank her for believing that every child deserves to feel special and loved. And I'm thankful for her friendship and the Christian love that we share for all people and each other.



My goals as the new President are simple: to continue this great legacy that Karol has started; to continue serving as many children as possible; and provide meaningful volunteer opportunities for those who want to serve. I've been a supporter and volunteer for 14 years, serving in a variety of offices and positions. I'm a mom and a 'nana' so seeing healthy, happy, smiling children gives me a burst of energy. If it were in my power there would never be a sad child without a toy.



Keep in mind that I cannot do these things alone. I will need your help. Because of the current economic condition TRM is feeling the 'pinch.' The Board and I are looking at ways to save money and to try new ways to raise funds and awareness. I welcome your comments, your emails, phone calls, suggestions and prayers as we work together to keep smiles on the faces of those we serve.

Thank you for your past, present and future support,
Martha Davis, President

Volunteer Positions Available

Would you like to help TRM in a very important capacity? We have four positions available to fill. Please consider volunteering as Vice President, Treasurer, Special Events Coordinator, or Building Maintenance.

Contact Martha at martha@toyrescuemission.org.



Monthly Volunteer Recognition Program

Tacoma Chapter #38 Order of Eastern Star

We would like to recognize the Tacoma Chapter #38 Order of Eastern Star lead by Sharon Holley. They have faithfully come into TRM every month this past year to clean and refurbish toys. They also helped with our Christmas distribution. Thank you for your dedication to our organization!

Thank You for Your Generous Donations of Toys, Lap Blankets and Supplies

Second grade class from Holy Family School
 Laureate Gamma Kappa of Beta Sigma Phi
 Pat and Christine Cavanaugh
 Tacoma Women's Sailing Association
 Old Country Buffet of Lakewood
 Leslie Witwer
 United Way
 Batteries Plus
 Safeway of Proctor
 Top Foods
 Diana and Brian Herron
 Patty Revolinski
 Kristin Snell
 Jen Hogate
 Chris Blaesi
 Ruth Olson
 With Love Chocolates
 Jane McManus
 Lynda Weldon
 Becky Peters
 Don Mueller
 Brisson Family
 Tau Master Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi
 Karen and Andy Ward's church members
 Marian and David Engebretson
 Wal Mart
 Toys for Tots
 Thrift Recycling
 Half-Price Books
 Harland Clarke employees of Fife
 Content 26 of Seattle



A Thank-You Letter from Tacoma Public Schools Head Start Program

Dear Toy Rescue Mission,

On behalf of the Tacoma School District Head Start program, I would like to thank you for the holiday support that you recently provided to our families.

This holiday season was especially wonderful for several of our Head Start families because of you! Participating parents have commented on the thoughtfulness reflected in their donated gifts. We thank-you for your support!

Children from the families you assisted created the enclosed artwork for you. We hope that you enjoy this token given in thanks for your generosity.

Sincerely,
 Alisa Poh, M.Ed.
 Family/Community Specialist

A Special Thanks

to Philip Turner for a huge shipment of Christmas toys we were able to give out during our Annual Christmas Gift Distribution.



Grateful for Grants Received from

Franciscan Foundation \$1000
 Fuchs Foundation \$3000
 Florence B. Kilworth Foundation \$1000

and for a cash gift from

Dimmer Family Foundation \$1500

Fred Meyer Contribution

After selling a winning lottery ticket, the Fred Meyer on 19th and Stevens received funds to distribute to the community. They chose to give TRM \$2,500 out of that plus they added \$500 more. Then the Fred Meyer in Puyallup also gave us \$500. **Thank you to both stores!**

Executive Board

President, Martha Davis
 Vice President (vacant position)
 Secretary, Beth Parker
 Treasurer, (vacant position)
 PR/Marketing Director, Johana Beresky
 Development Director, Francesca Rossellini

Philip Turner, Advisor
 Melody Cummings, Advisor
 Ray Smith, Advisor

Paid Staff

Administrative Assistant, Julie McClellan 460-6711
 Volunteer Coordinator, Katrina Miller 460-6711

Volunteer Staff

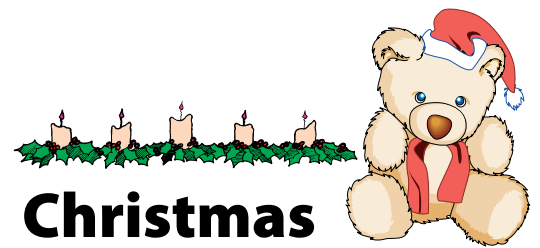
Building Maintenance, (position vacant)
 Newsletter Editor, Melody Cummings
 Web Master, Scott Brown
 Literacy Coordinator, Barbara Robak
 Special Events Coordinator, (position vacant)

Open House

Please join us at our Toy Rescue Mission Open House on **March 5 and 6**. Bring your friends and family to take a tour of our facility and see demonstrations of some tasks we regularly perform to distribute toys. Learn about the many opportunities we have to serve the community. Light refreshments will be served.

We look forward to sharing our mission with you.

Albertson's Community Partners Program has been discontinued as of January 31. We thank all of those who participated.



Christmas Distribution 2009

Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of dozens of volunteers, we were able to give Christmas gifts to **3,155** children (from 681 families and 1,260 agencies.) During this annual event, TRM gave out stockings, ornaments, lap blankets and over 12,000 gifts! We are grateful to all the helping hands of our Christmas elves and for the cash contributions from so many too numerous to mention in this newsletter. There were thousands of children who had a merrier Christmas morning because of you.

Our Mission Statement

Toy Rescue Mission is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization committed to the innovative refurbishing (rescuing) of used toys with the objective of providing joy to underprivileged children and to seniors in care facilities, while providing meaningful volunteer opportunities.



Lucky 7 Foundation Matching Grant

For every dollar of donation from a new donor (within the last three years), Lucky 7 Foundation will match dollar-for-dollar up to \$5,000. Your cash contribution could bring us doubled benefits! We are now very close to our goal but we need just a little more. Can you help?

Give Back to Your Community

Research has shown that people who give time, money or support to others are more likely to be happy and satisfied with their lives--and less likely to be depressed. What better reason to add volunteering to your list of New Year's resolutions?

Check out Toy Rescue Mission for a variety of opportunities. We are sure you will find something that interests you.