



SOS - The international symbol for assistance.

SOS

a publication of the Star Of the Sea outreach mission

June 2009

Volume 1, Issue 1

3rd Anniversary Open House

- *Over 20,000 lbs of food distributed each month*
- *Tons of donated clothing and goods redistributed*
- *Over 6,000 Volunteer hours each year*
- *Over 1000 prescriptions since inception*



Executive Director Roger Morse addresses volunteers and benefactors

Another day,.....another milestone.

Just over three years ago we opened our doors in a modest rented store front on Stock Island, just north of Key West.

A need far greater than we could have envisioned quickly materialized, hastened by a rapidly deteriorating economy. We had to grow fast to secure adequate resources and volunteers to address these needs.

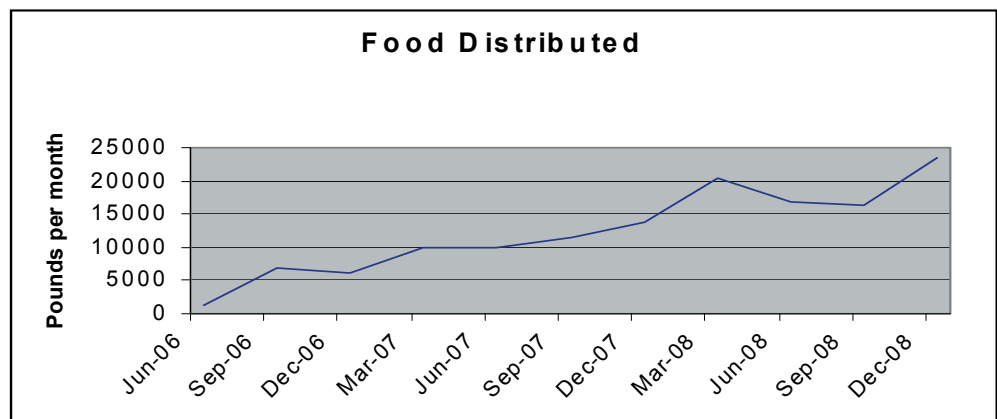
Thankfully, many have responded. An army of volunteers, (over 6200 hrs. in the last 12 months alone) assist our one paid employee in serving over 1800 individuals and dependents each month. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our donors, we have been able to purchase the building, and the \$5,000 per month previously spent on rent is now used exclusively for assistance.

The area pictured above will soon be enclosed (doubling our food distribution capabilities) as we continually adapt to meet the needs of our community.....just another milestone.

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3 yrs. Of Phenomenal Growth



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Leny Manrique

2009-2010

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Compassionate care and assistance

Star of the Sea Foundation, Inc., operates the Star of the Sea Outreach Mission in Key West, FL. We provide food, clothing and many other goods to needy individuals and families. We also provide prescription drug and medical equipment assistance, and limited transportation (bus tickets) benefits. All of our services are provided without cost to the recipients and without regard to race, creed or religion.

We are a 501 c (3) Corporation, and welcome and appreciate your support. For additional information (including a copy of our most recent financial disclosure) please contact our Treasurer, Thomas M. Callahan, through the information provided below.

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Understanding and giving back

Testimonial



Grateful aid recipient Jeff Snipes addressing the Open House crowd

Near perfect weather and a passion for diving brought this young man to Key West.

An economy so dependent on tourism limited his employment options, and this college grad quickly found himself working two jobs in the hospitality industry just to stay afloat.

When first one job and then the other fell victim to a deteriorating economy he soon found himself having to choose between paying rent and buying food. Weeks of nothing but spaghetti and ramen noodles soon gave way to a kitchen pantry as empty as his wallet.

He had heard about the Star of the Sea Outreach Mission, but pride kept him away until the cupboard was completely bare.

Humbled like no other time in his life, he finally walked through our doors early one morning. "I couldn't believe how nice everyone was" he stated at our recent Open House. "Even though they had probably heard my story 1000 times, they listened with compassion and understanding, and I left there with a weeks worth of groceries" Jeff only had to use our services for a couple of months before he got back on his feet, but with others (particularly those with small children) the need is much greater.

It's still a struggle to afford the high cost of living in Key West, but Jeff is again working full time. He now volunteers when he can for us and for the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen as well.

"The Star of the Sea Mission was there for me" says Jeff, "and now it's my turn to give back".