

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Volunteers in Action works to enhance the lives of people in our communities by providing opportunities for Christians to assist their neighbors, coordinating churches to serve others together and equipping/educating deacons for their role. This report provides an overview of what VIA accomplished in 2008. Thank you so very much for your contributions, volunteering, prayers, and support to carry out these ministries. You are a blessing!

As we look ahead in 2009 and beyond, I believe Volunteers in Action is well positioned to make a significant difference in our communities. But we, along with our neighbors and communities, face some significant challenges. A volatile economy, people facing unemployment, and people struggling to make ends meet, all challenge us to walk alongside each other in support and encouragement. In times of difficulty, will you join together with VIA as we ask and respond to; *How can we work together in greater ways to help each other? What can we do to better love our neighbors? What can we do with our communities to help make them better?* Thank you for partnering with VIA in 2008 and we look forward to making a difference together with you in 2009.

In Service Together,
Donn Hansum, Director

2008 IN REVIEW

Faith in Deed!:

- **246** home visits and **714** hours of volunteer service were reported by about 2/3 of the volunteers.
- **53** individuals were served by **53** volunteers in long-term supportive relationships in 2008.
- **97** families were served one time by Faith in Deed volunteers.
- **88** referrals were made to the Faith in Deed program this year.
- **38** people attended **2** Faith in Deed volunteer training workshops, "Care of the Soul" and "Caregivers for the Blind". Over **50** individuals attended the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon in January.
- Overall, with all Volunteers in Action programs, **1,982** hours of volunteer service were contributed by volunteers in their community in 2008.

Service Projects:

- **11** carpenter volunteers helped install baseboard, doors and trim at Confluence Ministry in March, 2008. Other volunteers worked throughout the year to assist this West Denver Christian Ministry.
- In partnership with Confluence Ministry's Extreme Community Makeover program, **41** volunteers repaired fences, spruced up yards, fixed gutters, painted homes and put on siding in neighborhoods around Confluence Ministry.
- **39** volunteers painted the homes of **3** seniors needing help in August. This was in partnership with the Brothers Redevelopment Paint-a-Thon to assist low-income elderly homeowners.
- **130** days of volunteer service were contributed by **6** volunteers providing Joshua Station with repair and remodeling at this transitional housing facility.
- **87** lawns of senior homeowners were raked by **164** students of Denver Christian Middle School in October.

Partners for Success Mentoring:

- There were **20** ongoing mentoring matches in 2008. Mentees identified and worked on planned life change goals through the Partners for Success program.
- Mentors recorded **381** hours of mentor volunteering. Working toward stability, mentees have recently secured employment through the DenverWorks' entry level program for the employment-ready and/or the prisoner re-entry population.
- **15** other unemployed persons were assisted in developing a Plan for Success, helping them identify and develop short and long term personal life goals.

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2008 in Review (cont.)

Other VIA Programs:

- **85** deacons and lay church leaders were equipped through **5** education workshops to better serve their neighbors needing help.
- **7** vehicles were donated, repaired and given to people in need of transportation to their jobs through the VIA Used Car Ministry program.
- **54** individuals were assisted by VIA staff through phone requests for resource help.
- VIA served to link a variety of church groups to volunteer projects in the community.
- **35** people benefited from the use of wheelchairs, walkers, shower seats and other items loaned to them by the Orthopedic Bank this year.
- Over **250** supporters attended the April, 2008 Foundation for Volunteers in Action fund-raising banquet, celebrating 50 years of our organization's history of helping others.

VIA PROGRAMS

Faith in Deed!

Volunteers are matched with elderly and disabled individuals with basic needs such as transportation, shopping and reading. Involvement can be on a one-time or on-going basis.

Partners for Success

Volunteers serve as mentors for up to one year, to walk alongside and encourage a low-income individual or former offender in becoming successfully employed.

Education

Agency staff train lay leaders and deacons on the dynamics of mercy ministry within their congregations and community and give them an opportunity to join in the volunteer base of the agency.

Orthopedic Bank

Used, durable, medical equipment is loaned to individuals free of charge.

Service Projects

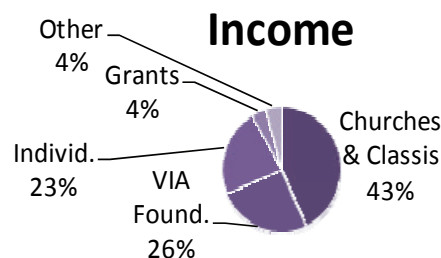
Several times a year volunteers work as team members for larger community improvement projects, such as Make-a-Difference Day and the Paint-a-Thon.

VIA Used Car Ministry

This program accepts donations of reliable, used vehicles. The vehicles are then given to low income families who need a car for work, education or medical reasons. Families are usually referred to the program by the deacons or pastor of their church.

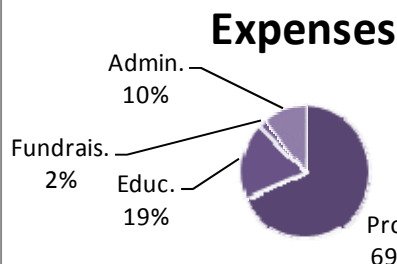
INCOME - 2008

Churches & Classis	\$67,140
VIA Foundation	40,000
Individual Contrib.	35,600
Grants	6,052
Other Income	<u>6,671</u>
TOTAL	155,463



EXPENSES - 2008

Programs	119,789
Faith in Deed	
Partners for Success	
Car Ministry	
Orthopedic Bank	
Service Projects	
Education & Training	32,667
Fundraising	3,903
Administrative	<u>18,278</u>
TOTAL	174,637



VIA is very grateful for the support received from the many individual donors and Crestview CRC, Eastern Hills Comm. Church, First CRC, Hillcrest CRC, Horizon Comm. Church, Second CRC, Third CRC & churches of Classis Rocky Mountain. We are also grateful for grants received from The Denver Foundation, Chevron Mining Company, and the Colorado Compassion Initiative.