

Becky's Thanksgiving



Chris (friend), Katie (sister), Becky, Karen (mom), Paul (dad)

Every year the Overcomers Thanksgiving Marathon Meeting, an outreach of NYCRC, provides food and company to poor, homeless, sometimes addicted people. My name is Becky Yuschak; I am 16 years old and I have been involved with NYCRC since I was 8 years old.



Becky volunteers with the inner city kids

When I was younger I would go on the bus with my family or my friends and we would hand out food to the needy people on the streets of New York City. I also helped make bags of food to give away on Saturdays at Matthew's House. I loved helping out in any way that I could. Even though I was younger, I felt I was making a difference in many small ways.

For the past 5 years my family and I have attended the Thanksgiving Marathon Meeting. Every year I help prepare some of the food and I help with the kids. Each year I love

the Marathon Meeting and all that it accomplishes even more. I am very involved in holidays. I love family, friends, and I love tons of food.



Meal preparation in the kitchen

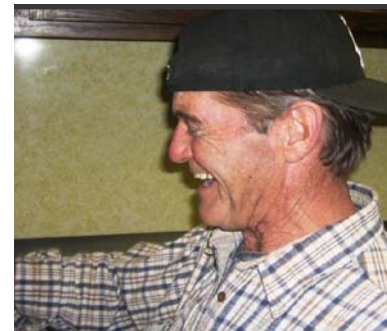
The first time I spent my Thanksgiving at the Marathon meeting I was really shocked at the number of people who spent their holidays alone or without food. The Marathon Meeting has become like a family Thanksgiving, not only for me but everyone else who attends. I see people who I have not seen since the last Thanksgiving.



Lots of volunteers serving food & love

Many people who, in years past, just wandered in to get some food ended

up staying the whole day. Now they come back each year to help other people who are in their situation. Every year I get overwhelmed by the reality that many of the people who attend have nothing, yet they are thankful and happy about what they do have.



Sonny enjoying friends & lots of food

People's lives were changed this Thanksgiving, not only by the food, but by the people and the friendships they made. And, my life is changed every year. The people who attend change my life. They show me how to be myself, they show me how to have fun with the friends I have, and they show me how to be truly thankful.

After 5 years of attending and helping out at the Marathon Meeting I realize how much I have to be thankful for and how much I am blessed in my life. □

Ethiopia Calling

Of all the places we could be, what in the world are we doing HERE?

Paul and I found ourselves asking these questions just a few weeks ago. We were in Ethiopia with Richard and Dixie Galloway. We have known them for about 7 years, have worked along side of them at NYCRC, have lunched and dined together, have been counseled by them, and have prayed with them. We have learned to trust them...so when they invited us to come along to see a work they are involved with in Ethiopia, we said yes.

Our main focus was to visit the work of Geb and Connie Beyene, who are Ethiopian-born American citizens, residing in Mekele. Among other works, they are building an orphanage to care for 60 kids. In answering God's call, they have chosen the harsh life of Ethiopia over the comforts of America.



The Galloways, Beyenes, and Bagnolis in front of orphanage under construction

What did we see and learn? Here are some thoughts and impressions - we are still processing it all!



Ethiopia is a hard place to visit, much less live. The poverty is before you constantly, the lifestyle seems backwards to us, and it is hard to see a way out for the massive number of people. You see subsistence farmers, working each day to feed the family but with no forethought or ability to plan for a future.

The people touched us deeply, gracious and loving people, starting with Geb and Connie, and the blind school students who work hard to do their studies under very difficult conditions.

They are a devoutly religious people, but not necessarily a people of faith. Many are caught in a ritualistic belief system that doesn't offer the hope and love we know.

So why go to Ethiopia? The places and faces of Ethiopia are seared in our hearts. We won't soon forget. The love we feel for the hurting and downcast will remind us to pray. The passion and perseverance of servants like Geb and Connie encourage us to stretch more in how we serve, here and in Ethiopia. May God bless all of the workers He has called to this work. Who will go next? ☐

2005 Raffle / Auction

Thank you SO MUCH to all of you who participated in this event. We especially thank Angelo Nardone, Ray Melillo and their teams for their hard work. This year's Mini Cooper winner was Derek Benjamin. We raised \$51,534.25 from the Raffle and \$25,255.01 from the Auction. All the proceeds will be used to help change many lives. ☐

Kitchen Project

We have an urgent need to raise funds for the kitchen project that needs to be done in summer of 2006. So far, we raised \$27,740 including material donations. And we need to raise about \$40,000 more. If you would like to contribute toward this project, please contact Anne Jones at 908-352-8778. ☐

Winter Items

The weather is cold and we need a good stock of new socks, hats, and gloves. ☐

Opportunities

Please contact Richard Galloway.

- Internship available for 3-12 months.
- Staff positions available for Resource Coordinator, Mobile Outreach Team Member, and Office Administrator. ☐



New York City Relief is a mobile outreach to the poor and homeless. We base our mission on Isaiah 58:6-12 and Matthew 25:34-40.

We are 501(c)3 non-for-profit organization.



New York City Relief was founded by Richard and Dixie Galloway in 1989.

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