

The Newsletter of the Novato Human Needs Center

Spring 2010



Jeanne MacLeamy,
Mayor

Novato celebrates 50 Years of community building and achievement even as the City, County, businesses, organizations and individuals face some of the greatest challenges in our history!

Incorporated 50 years ago, Novato has seen many changes as one might expect of a town that has grown from 18,000 to 53,000 people today. In the early days Novato was expected to grow to a population of a 100,000 people. However, due to dedicated individuals that wanted to preserve our hillsides, bay lands and farmlands, an Urban Growth boundary, hillside protections and other zoning restrictions were put in place to ensure the natural endowment of Novato was preserved.

Woven throughout this breathtaking setting is a community of sturdy, caring, committed individuals, families, businesses and organizations that contribute daily to make Novato not just any town USA but a real town USA!

The challenges of these times are evident. Economic conditions are forcing the City to make dramatic reductions in staff and services, more individuals than ever are without work and shelter and many businesses are struggling to stay open. How well we all tackle these challenges will be the true test of our character.

Perhaps nowhere is a full spectrum of the impact of these difficult times more evident than at the Novato Human Needs Center, which offers comprehensive and diverse essential human and social services for our Novato Community. Let me enumerate the impact of these times and how the NHNC has provided support:

- High unemployment has brought more people, some for the first time to their doors. They have sought services such as emergency and supplemental food, one-time rental/mortgage assistance (partially funded by the City of Novato Redevelopment Funds) and employment counseling.
- Erosion of savings has required greater support for low income seniors on fixed incomes and more guidance and support from caring case managers who provide many other resources and referrals.
- The number of homeless or precariously housed people spiked last winter as a result of the economy. This greatly increased the numbers of people who came to NHNC for showers, mail pick up, and telephone use.

- Holiday Share program which enables low income families to participate in holiday celebrations, experienced a surge in enrollment, and the Center served over 900 families during the holidays.

- This past year NHNC served a record number of over 4,500 Novato residents or 8.5 % of our population.

As the City of Novato Celebrates 50 Years of Incorporation and as we acknowledge those that helped preserve our beautiful natural setting, let us all help to preserve our most precious asset, our residents.

We are a community of caring, involved and hardworking folks that can always be counted on to help in difficult times. If any of you can help, perhaps for the first time, NHNC is a perfect opportunity for your generosity! NHNC has been serving our community for over 38 years and continues to rely heavily on the generosity of concerned Novato citizens who take pride in helping their neighbors. Now more than ever, the Center needs your support in the form of monetary donations as well as your generous time as a volunteer.

Jeanne MacLeamy
Mayor, City of Novato



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In Gratitude to Our Donors

July 2008 – June 2009

The unending commitment of our donors and sponsors allows us to assist our neighbors in need to move from crisis to self-sufficiency. Without your support we could not provide the crucial services required for those striving for sustainable independence. We are grateful for your dedicated support and generosity through the year.

We particularly want to acknowledge the following donors and sponsors:

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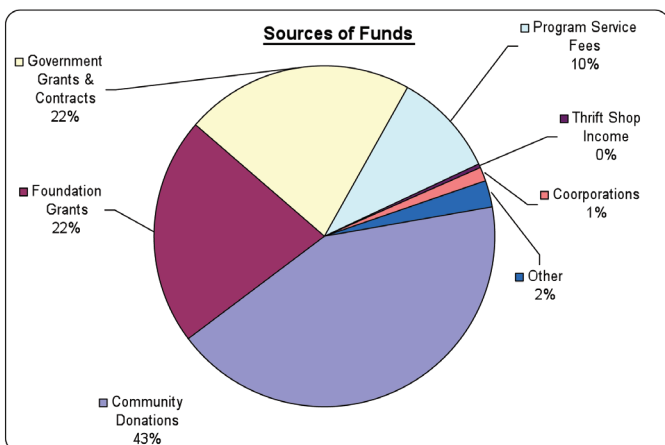
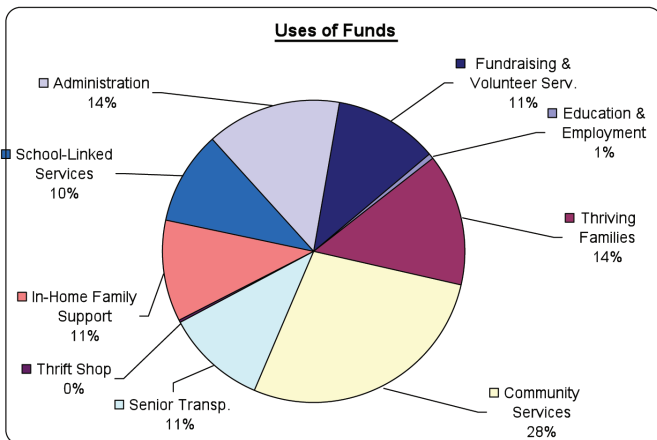
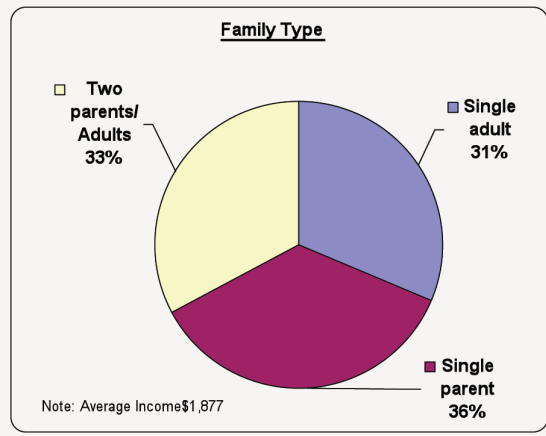
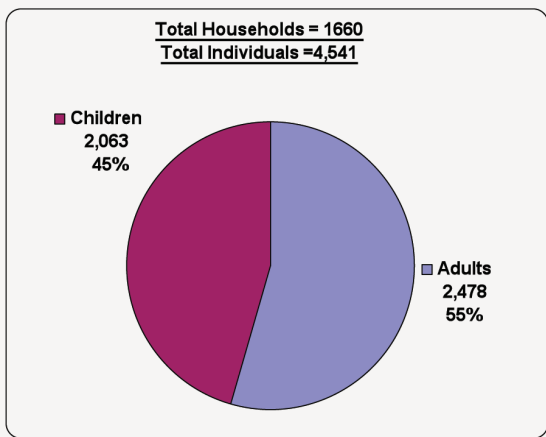
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**A Special Thanks to Our Key Contributors
 Marin Department of Health and Human Services,
 Division of Aging, Marin County Supervisors,
 the City of Novato, and the County of Marin**



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A Special Thanks to these
2008 Holiday Share
Community Supporters



VINTAGE OAKS
AT NOVATO



The Marin
Community
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- Allan Swerrie
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- William and Carol Bell

And our gratitude to the hundreds of individuals, local schools and congregations who gathered food, toy and gift donations for those in need. We could not have done it without you!

Celebrations and Upcoming Activities ■ ■ ■



A Neighbor with Heart

This past fall Brayton Purcell made a generous contribution of \$5,000 to support the services of the Center which was an addition to their already faithful support of the Center throughout the year. Brayton Purcell has been an advocate of those in need by contributing to the work of the Center and we want to thank everyone at Brayton Purcell for supporting the health of our community!

Wells Fargo – Strengthening Our Community

Wells Fargo, a long-time, generous supporter of the Center recently awarded a \$10,000 grant for the Community Support Services Program. This grant will be critical to helping the Center provide immediate, crisis support services such as emergency food, case management, and employment counseling.

Thanks Rickey's!

On December 9th Rickey's restaurant gave 40% of their food and beverage revenue to the Novato Human Needs Center. This generous program marked the 5th anniversary of Rickey's and highlights the ongoing commitment by John Marshall and the InnMarin staff to serving those in need in our community.



Owner John Marshall with Center Executive Director, Deanna Euritt and Development Director, Dina Gardner at Rickey's

*Volunteer
Appreciation Time*

**Wednesday, April 28th
4 – 6 p.m. at the Center**

Over three hundred dedicated, passionate and talented volunteers lend their time and energy to the Center every year. Without the commitment of our volunteers, we could not offer crucial services to our neighbors in need and support them in achieving self-sufficiency. So join us in celebrating our volunteers here at the Center for an afternoon of refreshments and volunteer recognition. Please RSVP of your attendance by April 23rd to Radz Zalewski, Volunteer and Development Coordinator, at 897-4147 Ext. 24 or via email at rzalewski@nhnc.org.



Center staff and volunteers celebrate with Wells Fargo staff at the Holiday Share site.

*Join Us for the 28th
Annual Marin Human Race!*

On Saturday, May 8th you are invited to run, walk or roll through this annual event, coordinated through the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership. Many of our donors and volunteers participate in this festive race annually to support the Center. To find out how you can participate this year, visit the race web site at:

www.marinhumanrace.org or contact Radz Zalewski, Volunteer and Development Coordinator, at 897-4147 Ext. 24 or via email at rzalewski@nhnc.org



Novato Human Needs Center
1907 Novato Boulevard
Novato, CA 94947

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Contact Us:

To reach our offices via phone, please call **415-897-4147**

Our office hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 – 5:00.

Client services are provided from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. M, W, Th, F.

During regular business hours your calls will be directed by our receptionist.

After hours, please dial the extension of the staff member with whom you wish to speak.

Executive Director, Deanna Euritt, Ext. 38

Director of Development and Outreach, Dina Gardner, Ext. 19

Volunteer and Development Coordinator, Radz Zalewski, Ext. 24

Office Coordinator, Anne Kirven, Ext. 22

You can also contact us through our web site at: www.nhnc.org.

Help a neighbor in need on your birthday!

A great way to support the Center is to invite your family and friends to make a donation in your name to the Center for your birthday!

You can make a gift through our web site at www.nhnc.org.

It's the gift that keeps on giving!

Become a fan of the Center on Facebook –

Go to our home page www.nhnc.org and click the **Facebook** link and stay in touch with us!

