



Pine Street Inn
Ending Homelessness

Innsider

Fall 2011

News from Pine Street Inn

Opening the Door to a New Home



When Charles opened the door to his new room, he immediately knew he was home.

Charles is one of 28 new residents of Mulhern House, a partnership between Pine Street Inn, the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation and New Atlantic Development Corporation that opened in June. Mulhern House provides permanent supportive housing for homeless men and women with on-site

case managers and services to help them rebuild and manage their lives.

Charles had been living in Florida, but when a relationship ended, he moved back to his hometown of Boston. Charles first stayed with family, but space grew tight and he wound up at the Men's Inn. This arrangement was supposed to be temporary, but he was laid off from his job at a corporate cafeteria and ended up staying in shelter for nearly two years.

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Let's Celebrate!

Excited graduates adjusted their caps and gowns, posed for pictures and proudly marched into the tent to "Pomp and Circumstance." Scenes like this play out at schools across the country each spring — but this group of graduates was at Pine Street Inn.

At Pine Street's annual Job Training Graduation and Celebration of Housing in June, nearly 100 graduates from the food service, building maintenance and housekeeping training programs celebrated the completion of an

important step toward employment and self-sufficiency. The ceremony also recognized nearly 100 men and women who moved from homelessness into one of Pine Street's 35 housing locations this year.

Keynote speaker Tom Matlack, co-founder of *The Good Men Project*, spoke about his personal journey of recovery and what being successful means to him. *The Good Men Project* is an online magazine

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John Rich

From the President



John Rich

Yes, Pine Street is about tangible things like shelter, job training and housing. But we are also about hope — that hard work pays off and that life can be better.

Each spring we hold a graduation celebrating the achievements of those who have completed our job training programs or have moved into permanent housing. Looking at the sense of pride and accomplishment — and hope — on the faces of these men and women, some of whom have never celebrated an achievement in their lives, affirms why I've been here for more than 27 years.

“Pine Street is about tangible things like shelter, job training and housing. But we are also about hope — that hard work pays off and that life can be better.”

As one of our residents who recently moved from shelter to housing said: “A homeless shelter can be a very lonely place, but when I walked through the door to my new home [in Pine Street's permanent housing], I felt like part of a community.”

We are so very grateful for your continued support in bringing hope and building community for the men and women who come through our doors every day. ❖

When people ask me what I do for a living, I tell them that I work at Pine Street Inn. I often get a response like this: “You work at a shelter? Isn't that depressing?” I tell them it is anything but depressing.

In fact, I often find Pine Street to be the most inspiring place imaginable. I am awed by the hard work of the staff and volunteers and their commitment to our guests and tenants. I am astounded by the generosity of our donors. And I am amazed by our guests, who persevere through many obstacles, day after day, with the goal of creating better lives for themselves.

Downie named top innovator by *Boston Globe*

Pine Street's president, Lyndia Downie, has been named to the *Boston Globe's* first-ever list of the state's 30 top leaders, champions and visionaries, as the top nonprofit leader.

The *Globe's* “Most Innovative” list recognizes Downie's leadership of Pine Street and the staff's efforts to transition chronically homeless individuals from the streets and shelters into permanent supportive housing — a strategy that has led to a 30% decrease

in the citywide homeless population over the past five years.

Compiled by a panel of 70 judges representing top executives, academics and others in the Massachusetts business community, the list includes the top three innovators in each of 10 sectors, including nonprofits and philanthropies.

To read more, go to www.boston.com/business/globe/globe100. ❖



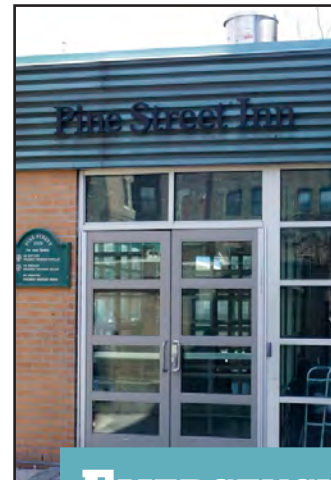
Where do the Doors of Pine Street Lead?

Doors are an important organizational symbol at Pine Street. The men and women we serve come and go through many doors — our Outreach vans, emergency shelter, job training classrooms or permanent housing — all with the goal of opening the door to a better future.



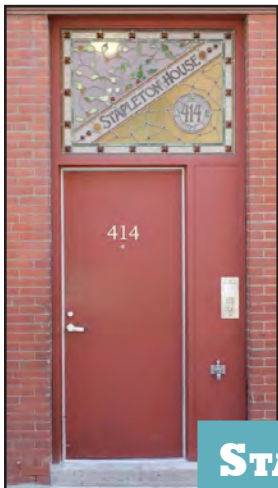
OUTREACH VANS

- Every night, outreach workers stock Pine Street's two vans with food, beverages, blankets, clean underwear and socks, as they set out to find the men and women who live on the streets, offering them transportation to shelter and other resources.



EMERGENCY SHELTER

- For the men and women who find themselves homeless, the doors to Pine Street's Men's and Women's Inns offer a bed and nutritious meals along with case management so they can get back on their feet as quickly as possible.



STAPLETON HOUSE

This permanent home for 11 men, some of whom were homeless for more than 20 years, provides 24-hour staffing, counseling and community resources that help tenants remain housed. Pine Street houses more than 600 formerly homeless men and women in houses throughout Greater Boston.



JOB TRAINING

The homeless men and women who walk through the doors of our training classrooms learn the job skills in food services, building maintenance or housekeeping that will help them move forward toward a self-sufficient life.

Opening Doors

365 Days a Year

Join the Innkeepers to support Pine Street year-round

Homelessness is a challenge every month of the year. By becoming an Innkeeper, your gift to end homelessness will go even further.

Innkeepers are a special group of friends who make monthly donations that are automatically charged to a credit card or checking account. Innkeepers provide income we know we can count on to help the men and women who depend on us.

Joining is easy: Decide the amount, then authorize safe and secure monthly deductions to Pine Street Inn.

Your monthly gift of \$15 — or whatever you are able to give — makes a difference for men and women on their journey out of homelessness.

To get started, contact Judi Jackson at 617.892.9171, innkeepers@pinestreetinn.org. ❖



Become an Innkeeper and receive this eco-friendly bag as a gift.

Tax Benefit Alert!

If you missed your chance to benefit from the tax advantages of a charitable IRA contribution in the past, you are in luck! Extended legislation has made it possible to make a gift to a cause you care about in the most tax-effective way.

Through December 31, 2011, you may transfer lifetime gifts up to \$100,000 using funds from your individual retirement account without an undesirable tax impact.

You may contribute funds this way if:

- You are age 70½ or older at the time of the gift.
- The gifts total any amount up to \$100,000 in 2011.
- You transfer funds directly from an IRA.
- You transfer the gifts outright to one or more qualified charities, but not to supporting organizations, or for gift annuities, charitable trusts or donor-advised funds.

For more information, contact Alicia Ianiere, 617.892.9177, alicia.ianiere@pinestreetinn.org, or go to www.pinestreetinn.org/pg. ❖

(Let's Celebrate, continued from page 1)

offering information, essays and reflections on what it means to be a good father, husband, brother, son and colleague in today's world.

The event also honored the accomplishments of two of Pine Street's community partners — Lovin' Spoonfuls founder Ashley Stanley, recognized for "rescuing" fresh food from restaurants and supermarkets and redistributing it to organizations like Pine Street; and the Corcoran Family, legendary Boston real estate developers and longtime supporters of Pine Street and affordable housing.

To watch videos from this year's graduation ceremony, go to www.pinestreetinn.org/graduation. ❖



Special honorees Ashley Stanley of Lovin' Spoonfuls (left) and Tom Corcoran (center) with Pine Street President Lyndia Downie, keynote speaker Tom Matlack and Board Chair Corinne Ferguson at the 2011 Job Training Graduation and Celebration of Housing.

Holiday Gifts with Heart



Local artists contributed these designs and more! See them all on our website.



Holiday Cards!

Send Season's Greetings while helping to end homelessness. Pine Street Holiday Cards — featuring festive and original designs — are now available for pre-order.

Visit www.pinestreetinn.org/holiday to see more designs and place your order, or contact Eric Monty, 617.892.9173, eric.monty@pinestreetinn.org.

(Opening the Door, continued from page 1)

“Homelessness takes a toll on you physically, mentally and emotionally,” he says of that time.

When his case manager at the Men's Inn told Charles about the opportunity to apply for a room in Mulhern House, he jumped at the chance.

“With patience and perseverance anything can happen,” he says.

Named in honor of Sister Virginia Mulhern, a champion for social justice in Jamaica Plain, Mulhern House is the latest addition to Pine Street's permanent housing locations. Two more houses are scheduled to open in fall 2011.

“Without Pine Street I wouldn't be here,” says Charles. “The case managers and everyone at the shelter were very supportive in helping me get into housing. Now I am focused on getting a job. From there the sky's the limit.” ❖

Many of us are looking for new and meaningful ways at the holidays to show family, friends, colleagues and clients that they are important to us. This year, consider honoring the special people in your life while making a difference in the lives of homeless men and women.

Tribute Gifts Make a donation in honor of a colleague, client, friend or family member, and Pine Street will provide you or your honoree with a holiday tribute card to inform the recipient of the gift.

Giving at Work Instead of holiday gifts and parties, many businesses and organizations designate causes to contribute to during the holidays, such as sponsoring a meal or furnishing a Pine Street residence. We can help with the details to make this an especially meaningful holiday season.

Give a Meal Pine Street serves breakfast and dinner every day of the year, and the need is highest during the holidays. Organize a food drive at your business, school or church to help provide our guests with hearty and nutritious meals.

For more information about Pine Street holiday giving, contact Abby Spooner, 617.892.9179, abby.spooner@pinestreetinn.org. To make a gift online, visit www.pinestreetinn.org/donate. ❖

Coming Soon: More Homes to Help End Homelessness

HARTFORD STREET

Public funding and private donations helped Pine Street acquire and renovate a site in Dorchester that will provide transitional housing for 16 homeless veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.

UPTON STREET

Two historic brownstones in the South End will be home to 18 men and women.

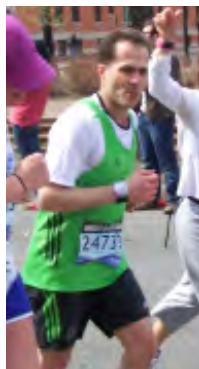
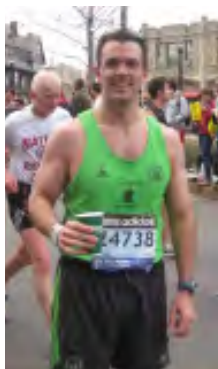
Like all Pine Street residences, Hartford Street and Upton Street will provide the support of case managers who will connect tenants with healthcare, counseling services, job training and other community resources to help them remain housed. ❖

Friends of the Inn

Going the Distance



Three intrepid Pine Street supporters tackled one of the city's most grueling events this spring – the Boston Marathon. In addition to completing the 26.2-mile race, Pat Jones, of Pine Street's Board of Directors, as well as Ken Collins and John Collura, both of the Council for Pine Street, raised an incredible \$112,000 to support Pine Street's programs.



Clockwise from top: Jones, Collura and Collins run the 2011 Boston Marathon for Pine Street.

We extend a big thank you to these inspiring individuals and to all those who supported their efforts, especially John Hancock and Cooley Manion Jones LLP.

Sodexo Volunteers: Above & Beyond

Sodexo chefs Tony DiStefano, Cliff Roy and Sean O'Hara joined Pine Street and our tenants at the annual summer BBQ in July. Sodexo provided hamburgers, hotdogs, buns and soda for the afternoon of fun, games and good food.

The company and its employees have been a valued partner for more than 15 years, regularly serving dinner in the Men's Inn and helping with food preparations. Sodexo brings what they do best to Pine Street, and we can't thank them enough.



Sodexo chefs grilled hamburgers and hotdogs at the summer BBQ.

Knit, Purl, Celebrate!



Council member Robyn Belsky readies a room for a new tenant with a blanket from the 2010 Knit-a-thon.

Join us at the fifth annual Knit-a-thon on Sunday, November 6, at the Massachusetts State House. Since 2006, charitable knitters have been putting their needles to work, raising more than \$100,000 for Pine Street's supportive housing programs and making beautiful handmade blankets to mark each new tenant's move to permanent housing.

Participants knit or crochet colorful nine-inch squares throughout the year while soliciting sponsors and raising money for their work. At the Knit-a-thon, the squares are sewn into blankets, creating one-of-a-kind housewarming gifts for homeless men and women moving into Pine Street housing.

This year's Knit-a-thon is generously supported by Michaels Stores, the largest arts and crafts specialty retailer in North America, as well as Firestone and Parson Jewelers.

Are you a knitter? Interested in sponsoring a knitter? Find out how to get involved at www.knit-a-thon.org.

Stay in touch!

Join our email list to receive occasional updates about Pine Street news, events and volunteer opportunities. We also invite you to connect with us on Facebook and Twitter.

To sign up, go to www.pinestreetinn.org.



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Published three times a year by the
Development and External Affairs
Department

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