



Pine Street Inn
Ending Homelessness

Innsider

Spring/Summer 2013

Making an IMPACT

The name says it all — Pine Street's *IMPACT Employment Services* is making a big difference in the lives of homeless and newly housed men and women.

By supporting nearly 500 individuals each year in securing, retaining and upgrading employment, *IMPACT* is helping them move toward self-sufficient lives.

Offering a wide range of services to both job search candidates and employers, *IMPACT* staff carefully screen each candidate, assessing their skills and employment readiness.

“We provide a variety of resources, including job search assistance and career coaching, computer proficiency training,



John Rich

Employment counselor Juan Reynoso works with a client. *IMPACT* supports over 500 people annually to secure, retain or upgrade employment.

job training referrals, and support services like email, clothing and transportation,” said Wendy Lauser, Director of *IMPACT Employment Services*.

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Better Times Ahead

Michael C. is happiest when he's working in Pine Street's busy kitchen or enjoying a pint of ice cream in his new East Boston apartment. Neither is a place he imagined he would be a year ago, when he showed up at Pine Street with nowhere else to turn.

Michael spoke about his journey during Pine Street's *Spotlight on Success* event (See page 5), sharing how addiction pulled him away from his family and career, and how he is now taking steps to rebuild his life.

“I thought I was down for the count, but I also knew I needed to make changes,” he says. “I had put myself in this position and I needed to get myself out, but I needed help.”

(Continued on page 4)



Michael C. at work in Pine Street Inn's kitchen alongside chef Carey Snow.

From the President



I originally completed this column prior to the Boston Marathon. In it, I compared the work of ending homelessness to training for a marathon – each taking dedication, perseverance and the ability to push through obstacles.

Little did I know the unimaginable tragedy that lay ahead. I am relieved to report that all of *Team Pine Street's* marathoners, who committed to raise funds on behalf of Pine Street, as well as a staff member who ran, and all their friends and families, were safe and unharmed.

They were already my heroes for running the Marathon and raising funds for Pine Street – and now, I don't even know

where to begin to thank them. You can meet our *Team Pine Street* runners on the next page.

With the tragic events of the recent Marathon bombings, our runners, our city of Boston, and our staff at Pine Street have shown enormous courage, strength and endurance.

“The kindness we see here at Pine Street from our supporters, friends, staff and volunteers – each and every day – gives us all hope.”

We kept our shelters open throughout the day when Governor Patrick asked all to “shelter-in-place,” urging our guests to stay safe inside. As always, our staff rose to the occasion, keeping our guests calm, not knowing when or how they, themselves, would make it home to their own families.

The good that we have seen in our city coming out of this tragedy and the kindness we see here at Pine Street from our supporters, friends, staff and volunteers – each and every day – gives us all hope.

At times like these, we take comfort in each other, knowing that life can change forever within a moment.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who have suffered as result of this unthinkable act, and we thank you for your continued support of the work we do here every day. ❖

(Making an IMPACT, from page 1)

The goal of the program is to ensure that ready-to-work candidates are matched with employers to help them successfully transition back into the workplace.

Robert, an *IMPACT* client who has been placed in a full-time position in the maintenance department of the YMCA and is about to move into his own apartment, says he is “living the dream.”

Once candidates are placed, employment counselors provide ongoing support

to both candidate and employer for a minimum of six months – all at no cost to the employer. Nearly 200 employers have already hired *IMPACT* candidates, and the program is continuing to add new employers.

“Contrary to what some people may believe, many of the men and women we work with are committed to finding employment so they can move on with their lives,” said Pine Street’s President Lyndia Downie.

Even in a challenging economy, *IMPACT* has had success in placing candidates, even those with gaps in employment history. Close to 50% of those exiting *IMPACT* found employment at an average salary of \$11.74/hour, with 26% earning \$13.34/hour, which is considered a living wage in Boston.

If you would like more information about IMPACT, contact Wendy Lauser, 617.892.7972, wendy.lauser@pinestreetinn.org. ❖

Racing to End Homelessness

At this year's Boston Marathon, Pine Street staff and friends enthusiastically cheered on our Team Pine Street runners, including Stephen, our first program participant to join the marathon team. We are incredibly grateful that each runner is safe following the tragic events of Marathon Monday. We cannot thank them enough for their efforts on our behalf! And while Stephen was unable to cross the finish line because of these unthinkable acts, we would like to recognize him here for his personal victory over addiction.

WHY STEPHEN RUNS

Training for a marathon is a major undertaking, demanding commitment, perseverance and the ability to push through setbacks.

As someone who has faced the challenges of addiction in Pine Street's addiction recovery program, these are attributes Stephen S. knows well.

Stephen joined Pine Street's 2013 Boston Marathon team just six months after completing the Stabilization Program. Throughout his training, he received guidance and inspiration from Mike Ferullo, his mentor and volunteer coach of Pine Street's Bulldog Running Club.

A natural athlete, Stephen's interest in running grew during Saturday morning group runs with Mike and the Club. Mike believes running can be an important part of recovery and encourages members to be consistent and disciplined with exercise and to work toward goals.

"Running is a positive thing that helps me stay on the right track," says Stephen, who hopes to run the Boston Marathon again next year.

Since he started the Bulldog Running Club in 2008, Mike has helped more than 400 men through their recovery, with many moving on to employment and housing.

"It has always been Coach Mike's dream for someone in the Bulldog Running Club to run the Boston Marathon," says Stephen. "He has put so much into seeing me succeed."

As a member of *Team Pine Street*, Stephen helped us raise more than \$5,000 to support the Bulldog Running Club and the Stabilization addiction recovery program. ❖



Stephen joined Mike and Pine Street's Bulldog Running Club for a training run this winter.

TEAM PINE STREET!

Nine runners ran their way into our hearts this year. *Team Pine Street* raised more than \$40,000 to support our programs and services, along the way training to run the 26.2-mile trek from Hopkinton to Copley Square.

Thank you to the John Hancock Non-Profit Marathon Program and the city of Newton for donating the race entries, and congratulations to our generous, impressive and courageous runners. ❖



Team Pine Street: (Back Row) Stephanie Lannon, Sean Terry, John Collura, Stephen S. (Front Row) Dan Doyle, John Lewis, Steven Watson. (Not pictured: Jeff Corbett, Travis Jackson)

Our Caring Community

Reaching Out to Those in Housing

Memorable moments with friends and family so often take place around a dining table, and some Pine Street volunteers are sharing this experience with our housing tenants.

Through the Supper/Brunch Program, families, faith and school groups plan and prepare nutritious meals for 10-30 tenants at Pine Street's housing locations throughout the city. The groups commit to ongoing service dates, allowing them to become a part of a house's community while getting to know the tenants.

"The tenants responded so warmly and kindly to my family. We learned about their families, job searches and their

goals in life," says Mary LeClair, whose family joined the program earlier this year.

More than 20 volunteer groups are part of the Supper/Brunch Program, but there are plenty of dates available for groups interested in this special service opportunity.

LeClair's 12-year-old daughter Georgia offers this advice to volunteers: "Be positive, funny and just be nice. I think the ladies in the house really like to have fun."

If you would like to learn more, contact Coffie Fields, 617.892.9186, coffie.fields@pinestreetinn.org. ❖



Volunteer Hilary Kohler (top left) prepares a nutritious dinner with Icy, a housing tenant. Kohler says, "It's rewarding to see a group of people grow into a caring community."

Estate Planning: Paul Sullivan Society

We are grateful to all our friends who have remembered Pine Street with a planned gift. Together we are making a difference in the lives of our guests and tenants.

The Paul Sullivan Society, named for Pine Street's founder, is our way of recognizing individuals who support the Inn with an estate gift. Paul Sullivan believed in treating everyone with kindness and dignity and that everyone deserves a second chance. More than 40 years later, Pine Street Inn still operates on those values.

Making a gift through your estate ensures the values that direct your giving today will continue into the future.

If you have included Pine Street in your estate plans, thank you! Please let us know so we may thank you for your kindness. *To find out more, please contact Kristina Lentz, 617.892.9182, kristina.lentz@pinestreetinn.org.* ❖

(Better Times Ahead, from page 1)

Gulet, his Men's Inn case manager, initially offered Michael comfort and support, and then celebrated with him when he moved into his new apartment in April. Michael is also exploring his interest in cooking and learning new skills through Pine Street's food services training program.

Michael enjoys his work in the kitchen so much that he volunteered to work extra hours during this winter's blizzard to prepare meals for all the extra guests and staff that weekend. He stayed for almost three days – leaving only to go find his nightly ice cream treat!

Upon graduating from the food services training program in June, Michael will work closely with *IMPACT Employment Services* to advance into full-time work.

"Michael is pursuing his passion. I can see him succeeding," says Kathleen Pena, his *IMPACT* employment counselor.

"Everything has changed for me in such a positive way, I still can't believe it," says Michael. "There are invaluable resources available at Pine Street, you just need to use them!" ❖

HOMEREMEDY

A Breakfast to Benefit Pine Street Inn

What Does It Mean to Have a Home?

Pine Street recently held Home Remedy, its annual fundraising breakfast, at the Westin Copley Place. This year's theme – *What Does It Mean to Have a Home?* – highlighted the significance of having a home for those who have lost theirs.

Callie Crossley, host of *Under the Radar with Callie Crossley* on WGBH-FM, emceed the event; and Ron Shaich, Founder, Chairman and co-CEO of the Panera Bread Company, which created nonprofit community cafes to address issues related to food insecurity, delivered the keynote address.

With nearly 600 in attendance and supported by corporate and individual friends – including leading sponsors Massachusetts Bay Railroad Company, Natixis Global Asset Management, Corinne & Tim Ferguson, Jerome & Julia Jacobs and Christopher McKown & Abigail Johnson – the breakfast was a great success, raising nearly \$500,000 to support our mission.

Watch the video that debuted at the breakfast – *What Does It Mean to Have a Home?* – at www.pinestreetinn.org/breakfast. ❖



John Rich



Home Remedy Speakers: (Top) Callie Crossley, Lyndia Downie, Ron Shaich. (Bottom) Pine Street Case Manager Habiba Munim and tenant Barbara B.

Spotlight on Success

This spring, Pine Street hosted *Spotlight on Success*, a workforce development showcase highlighting the “stars” of our job training and employment programs.

Guests enjoyed food prepared and served by trainees in Pine Street's food services social enterprise, *iCater*. Trainees from *Boston HandyWorks*, our building maintenance social enterprise, offered tours of their woodworking shop, along with demonstrations of how they handcraft artisan cutting boards sold at local craft fairs and farmers' markets. Alumni from both programs shared their accomplishments since graduating.

Special thanks to Michael Dwyer, President and CEO of Brighton Marine Health Center, who spoke in glowing terms about his experience hiring a Pine Street job trainee. Employer partners like Brighton Marine, YMCA of Greater Boston, The Glynn Hospitality Group and others are an important part of this work.

Thanks to all who attended and supported *Spotlight on Success*. ❖



Laura Hejar

Job trainee Paul explains the 20-step process to make *Boston HandyWorks'* handcrafted cutting boards to Pine Street Board Chair Corinne Ferguson.

You Are Invited!

June 4

Natixis-Pine Street Golf Tournament

More than 30 sponsors, led by tournament founder and chair Brian Leary, are coming together to support the mission to end homelessness. We are still looking for sponsors to support this great event.

www.pinestreetinn.org/golf

June 12

Pine Street Inn Graduation

Join us to celebrate those who are moving beyond homelessness through job training, housing and employment.

www.pinestreetinn.org/graduation

July 17

Innbassadors Summer Fundraiser

Join Boston's emerging leaders for a fun summer party at the new Harpoon Brewery Beer Hall in Boston.

www.pinestreetinn.org/innbassadors

Friends of the Inn

Massachusetts Students Celebrate Service

Pine Street was honored to take part in Gov. Deval Patrick's Project 351 earlier this year. Hundreds of eighth-graders representing every city and town in Massachusetts came together for a day of service at five Boston nonprofits.

At Pine Street, 50 students teamed up with Gov. Patrick and Celtics player Jared Sullinger to make apple pies for shelter



Gov. Patrick joined Project 351 students in making birthday cards for our tenants in housing.

guests. With help from volunteers from City Year, they also put together bags of toiletries for Pine Street's Outreach team to distribute, and created more than 500 handmade birthday cards for our housing tenants. Many thanks to everyone for their hard work!

Winsor Chops!

Students and parents from the Winsor School in Boston participated in the school's annual Chop-a-Thon. They collected vegetables at the school and chopped over 700 pounds of fresh produce, which was used in meals for our guests over the following days. Students went on tours and learned about the importance of service in their community. We are grateful to all the Winsor families who support this wonderful event.

Chop-a-thon service is also available to large corporate teams. To learn more about this program, please contact Scottie Wait, 617.892.9187, scottie.wait@pinestreetinn.org.



Winsor School families have been volunteering at Pine Street for more than 20 years.

A Family Tradition

When Kathy Beam's daughter Katie was in second grade, she asked for something special for her birthday. She wanted to donate to people who were homeless, rather than receiving presents. A family tradition was born! Since 2002, the Beam family has been hosting various events to benefit charity. Four years ago, Kathy began holding an annual luncheon to collect



The Beams deliver Welcome Home baskets for newly housed tenants.

dozens of Welcome Home baskets for homeless men and women moving into housing. The baskets add a special touch for tenants, making a new room or apartment more welcoming. Thank you to Kathy and her family for their support.

Have a Heart!

The Ninety Nine Restaurants' heart keeps growing, as they continually demonstrate a passion for serving those in need.



This year's annual *Have a Heart Raffle* raised more than \$122,000

Great Meal. Great Deal.

toward Pine Street's efforts to end homelessness. Raffle tickets were sold at 48 restaurant locations in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Raffle winners will enjoy Green Monster seats during Ninety Nine Night at Fenway Park this September! A heartfelt thanks to the Ninety Nines for more than 30 years of support, and congrats to all who won the Red Sox tickets.

Insider

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