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## Many Achievements in 2008

### Programming Committee

The Programming Committee reported 12 men entered the recovery program in 2008. Eleven of them either completed the program and are working, or are still in the program and working. Our men, and several New Beginnings volunteers served dinner to over 100 families on Christmas Day at the Orlando Union Rescue Mission. We served over 300 homeless people in 2008. Everyone of the men who live in the house participate in various community projects; including helping to rehab homes for widows and single moms, distributing groceries to the needy, and feeding the homeless in Orlando. A Manager for the womens shelter is still being sought, along with the necessary monthly financial support. Prayerfully, this will come together soon.



***New Beginnings and volunteers celebrating Christmas Day at the Orlando Union Rescue Mission.***

### Fundraiser Committee

The Fundraiser Committee reported that 3 successful events took place last year: a dinner/concert, a golf tournament, and Battle of the Bands at the Citrus Bowl event. These events are anticipated to be held again in 2009 along with a raffle for a cruise!

Our website has been greatly enhanced; please visit [www.newbeginningslake.org](http://www.newbeginningslake.org).

Yahoo, thru Benefitbar Company, has recently set up a [New Beginnings website search toolbar](#). The toolbar fundraiser idea is already being used by many National non profit organizations. Every time you click on a sponsor's link via our Yahoo search toolbar, the company will donate ten cents every time to New Beginnings, it's that simple!

To help New Beginnings by donating money [without taking any money out of your pocket](#), please go to our website and click on Donate Now without Money and install our unique fundraiser toolbar and begin helping us by visiting the sponsors every time you search the web.



## EDYTH BUSH CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

### **Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee reported that total revenue for 2008 was \$187, 236. 1440 volunteer hours were provided, and several vehicles and numerous furniture items were donated. Grants were received from the S Lake Community Foundation, US Dept of Human Services, UPS, Wal-Mart and a \$50,000 matching grant was awarded by the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation. We have until June to raise and/or pledge the \$50,000 match. Can you help? Weeds to Go, our yard service company has hired a well qualified manager. New Creations, our screen printing and embroidery company, is doing quite well. We are providing work for 4 people and have already secured contracts from Pig on the Pond, National Training Center, Montverde Academy, along with churches and businesses.

### **Steve Smith asked to serve on Federal Foreclosure Prevention Committee**

Steve Smith, Executive Director of New Beginnings has been asked by the Mid Florida Homeless Coalition to help write a recovery plan to help people who are facing the possibility of becoming homeless. The Federal Stimulus Plan is providing the State of Florida approximately \$70 million to help people who are facing eviction or foreclosure. Steve is proposing that the services should include mediation seeking to reduce rent or mortgage payments, and the families would have counselors to help families develop a budget to determine what they can afford. Job counseling would also be part of the program that Steve is proposing. There are currently 4000 homes in foreclosure in Lake County and it is anticipated to rise to 6000 by the end of 2009.



## Community Outreach Events:

New Beginnings is asking the various agencies to participate in quarterly Community Outreach Events. The first event was held in January 2009 behind Chick-fil-A: New Beginnings Board member and a major corporate supporter. Food, clothing and blankets were distributed to over 200 people. The event was supported by many local agencies including Real Life Christian Church, Faith Neighborhood Center, Green Isle Thrift Store, Bread of Life Ministry, Lake County Health Dept and Clermont Fire Dept. Mike Madawi provided uplifting music and many volunteers came to offer words of encouragement. The men at New Beginnings passed out literature of the various local agencies offering assistance. The next scheduled event is Saturday April 25th. If you want to volunteer contact Lisa Knowles at [laknowles@yahoo.com](mailto:laknowles@yahoo.com).

### Top Photo:

*Ribbon Cutting event from Chamber of Commerce for New Creations Screen Printing Company.*



### Bottom Photo:

*New Beginnings hosts Community Outreach Event*

## .... Upcoming Events ....

[Community Outreach Event - April 25, 2009](#)

Volunteers needed to pass out info for [Pig on the Pond Event](#) March 13 & 14.  
Contact Lisa Knowles at: [laknowles@yahoo.com](mailto:laknowles@yahoo.com)

## Our Current Needs

- Equipment such as roto tiller, duel axel trailer, gas edger, rakes, etc.
- Water boots for the men.
- Storage shed.
- Sunday afternoon picnic sponsors wanting to spend some fun time with the New Beginnings family at the Plantation.
- Prayer partners.
- People to search the web seeking foundations for money and/or write grants.
- Laptop computer.
- Churches we can share the good news of New Beginnings with.
- Civic organizations where we can speak and pass out material.
- Vehicles.
- Work for the men: yard work, painting, light clean up.
- Money to fund the ministry.
- Employers who are willing to hire recovered homeless and mentor them.
- Volunteers to help with our community events.

If you have any items on any of the above please email [carechairs@yahoo.com](mailto:carechairs@yahoo.com) or call Sharon Sutton at 352-429-2757.

## Who is New Beginnings?

New Beginnings is a non-profit organization (501c3) incorporated in May 2007 and managed by a board of 12 local business leaders and counselors. We provide food, shelter, clothing & professional counseling to homeless men, women and families who are ready to secure employment and successfully turn their lives around. This is a 9 month recovery program.

New Beginnings is endorsed by the Executive Director of South Lake Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Lake Sumter County, the CEO of South Lake Hospital and Lake County Commissioners.

They are supported by major companies such as Chick-Fil-A, Walmart, Publix, Sweetbay and Belks Department Stores. Member of Mid Florida Homeless Coalition

For more information contact Steve Smith 407-595-0179 [stevesmith@newbeginningslake.org](mailto:stevesmith@newbeginningslake.org)  
visit us at [www.newbeginningslake.org](http://www.newbeginningslake.org)

## Board of Advisors

Steve Alderman, Dave Braland, Darryl Church, Larry Daniell, Rocky DeStefano, Dennis Horton, Dr. Al Huba, Morgan Jiminez, Mark Montemayor, Felix Ramirez, Steve Smith, Lionel Valentine, Dr. Paula Whetro

## Donations

Donations Can be mailed to:  
New Beginnings c/o  
United Southern Bank  
1510 St Rd 50, Clermont, FL 34711

## Website

For more information about New Beginnings, please check out our website at:  
[www.newbeginningslake.org](http://www.newbeginningslake.org)

**[View our NEW video at www.newbeginningslake.org](http://www.newbeginningslake.org)**



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# About New Beginnings

## ***Our Mission***

When you are hungry and thirsty we feed you and give you something to drink, when you are a stranger we invite you in, when you need clothes we clothe you, when you are sick we look after you. Matthew 25:37-39.

## ***Who do we serve?***

We serve homeless men. About half of our residents suffer from depression caused by divorce and financial ruin. The other half suffer from alcohol and drug addiction.

## ***How do we serve?***

We are a Faith Based nonprofit organization who provides shelter, food, clothing, professional counseling, job placement, hope, encouragement and the Gospel.

## ***Our Vision***

We want to equip men to recover, return to our community and worship, work and witness to the hurting.