



KAIR

Keys Area Interdenominational Resources
Food Pantry and Emergency Services for those in Need in the Middle Keys

June 2010

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Director's Corner

"CAN'T YOU JUST WRITE A GRANT?" I hear that a lot so I'd like to explain a little bit about KAIR's experiences with seeking grants. There are government grants, foundation grants, and corporation grants. First, you must find a grant that matches what you do. Some grants are broad such as the only requirement is that you must provide "cultural" events. Other grants are very specific such as you must provide housing in Cleveland to World War II vets of Italian descent. Most grants have a deadline and some even require special permission just to apply.

What goes into a grant? All grants require documentation that backs up your "worthiness". This can be your most recent tax return, an annual audit report, your financial statements, your tax exempt status, recommendation letters or all of the above. They require a description of the mission and intent of the agency and proof of formal workplace policies that detail the agency's attitude towards equal employment, discrimination, and alcohol and drug use to list a few. Sometimes, you must detail who else gives you money and whether any of it is matching dollars and if you

are going to use any sub-contractors.

One of the most important requirements is a detailed narrative of what services you provide and what you intend to accomplish with the grant. This must be backed up with previous accomplishments - for instance, what services you already successfully provide and a detailed narrative and budget showing just how many WWII Italian vets you plan to house in Cleveland and at what cost. There must be an evaluation and measurement process in place to show how efficient and effective you are. Because the number of grant seekers far outnumber the available grants, it is extremely important to paint a clear picture of what the need is, how you intend to alleviate the need, and why you are the best choice to provide that service.

KAIR has been fortunate to receive grants from different sources including government, corporations, church bodies and foundations. We are always seeking ways to more effectively apply for grants and expand the number of grants that are written. If any of this is intriguing at all, please come see us. We welcome some help in this area and would be grateful for your assistance.

"YOU WASH, I'LL DRY!"

Here, KAIR volunteers put some "muscle" into washing cars courtesy of Iberia Bank. The money that was raised will be used to offer a cash prize to the winner of the next Sombrero Beach Run. The Beach run is KAIR's main fundraiser and is expected to grow to 700 runners/walkers at the next race on March 5th, 2011. **THANKS IBERIA FOR YOUR HELP!**



Each year, KAIR provides school supplies and sneakers for many local children whose parents are struggling to provide day to day basic needs.

Our 'STUFF THE BUS' campaign begins **NOW!** KAIR is accepting all types of NEW school supplies such as backpacks, paper, crayons, pencils, folders, etc. as well as donations towards the purchase of new sneakers. Stay tuned for the location of "bus" collection barrels around town. For more information, call Marj at 393-6621.

KEY COLONY KAIRS!

Through the years, the City of Key Colony Beach and its residents have been very supportive of KAIR. Some of the organizations that have been so helpful are the KCB Community Association, the Fishing and Boating Club, the Gems and the Ladies Golf League. Here, Director Marj Roberts accepts a check from Lynn Patterson, President of the Key Colony Beach Association.

