

Louisville Senior Foundation Report to the Community

December 31, 2008



Louisville Senior Foundation

Dear Friends,

Holiday greetings to you from the Louisville Senior Foundation! We hope that you are able to keep your focus on the positive aspects of life as we endure these difficult economic times. The purpose of this letter is to keep you informed of the progress of the Louisville Senior Foundation during 2008. As a supporter of seniors in Louisville, it is critical to us that you are aware of our progress.

First, our Eighth Annual Heat Relief Dinner was a rousing success raising a total of \$18,889. Of these funds, \$12,992 was raised through corporate and personal sponsorships. And due to the success of partnering with the Seniors of Louisville Advisory Board in 2007, in 2008 we had the 2nd Annual Silent Auction of which proceeds totaled \$5,897. We always enjoy working with the Advisory Board and Senior Services staff in “creating a vibrant community in which we all age well” by raising awareness of the services and programs we all offer.

We would again like to extend a very special thanks to the ongoing sponsor of the Heat Relief Dinner, **The Blue Parrot Restaurant**, and to our media sponsor, the **Louisville Times-Lafayette News**. In addition, we would like to thank all of those merchants who generously donated to the Advisory Board Silent Auction. Over 400 people attended the dinner and participated in the auction in February. Joan Riggins, owner of the Blue Parrot Restaurant and member of the Louisville Senior Foundation, donated all of the food so that 100% of sponsorship dollars and all of our ticket sales could be paid directly to Xcel Energy. With the proceeds of the Heat Relief dinner we have been able to provide \$175 annual grants to income eligible seniors in need of Heat Relief. To date this year, we have provided **\$17,313 in Heat Relief to 101 Louisville Seniors**.

Proceeds from the Silent Auction have been utilized to support the additional Senior Assistance Programs such as activity scholarships to the Rec/Sr Center, Lifelines and emergency cases. To date, this program has supported **61 cases totaling \$2,744**.

We hope to see you at the Louisville Recreation Center on **February 19, 2009** for the 9th Annual Heat Relief Dinner featuring local entertainment, a silent auction to benefit other programs of Senior Services, and a delicious spaghetti dinner again provided by the Blue Parrot.

We all understand how high utility bills hurt those on fixed incomes, so please consider a donation again this year. Enclosed you will find information about sponsorship levels and a self-addressed stamped envelope should you wish to contribute to this important cause.

Thanks to all of you for caring about our Seniors.

Don Brown, Jr.
President
Louisville Senior Foundation

*Special thanks to our generous donors who
contributed to improving life for all Louisville Seniors*

Financial Sponsors 2008

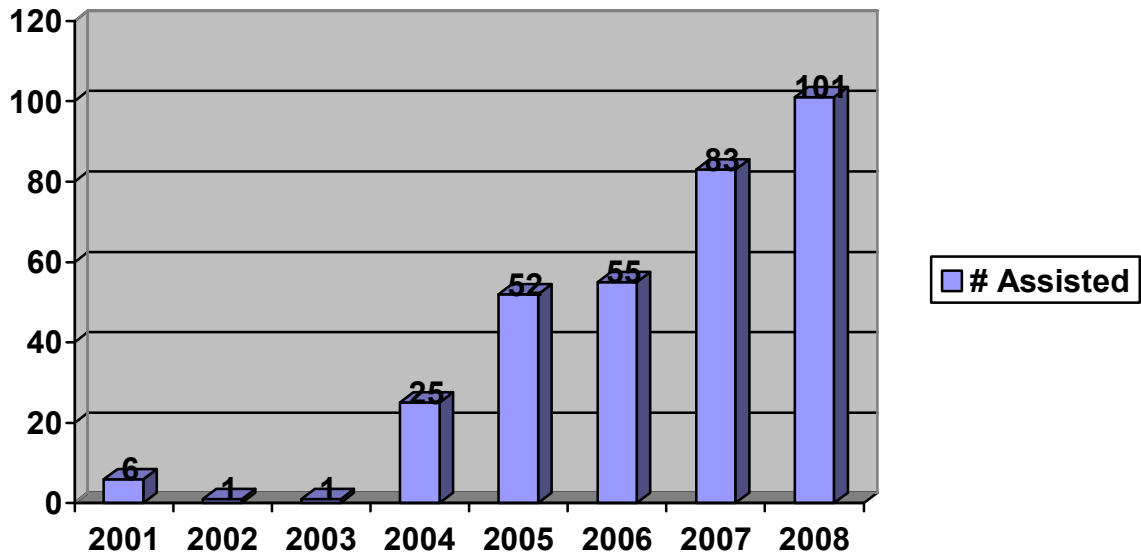
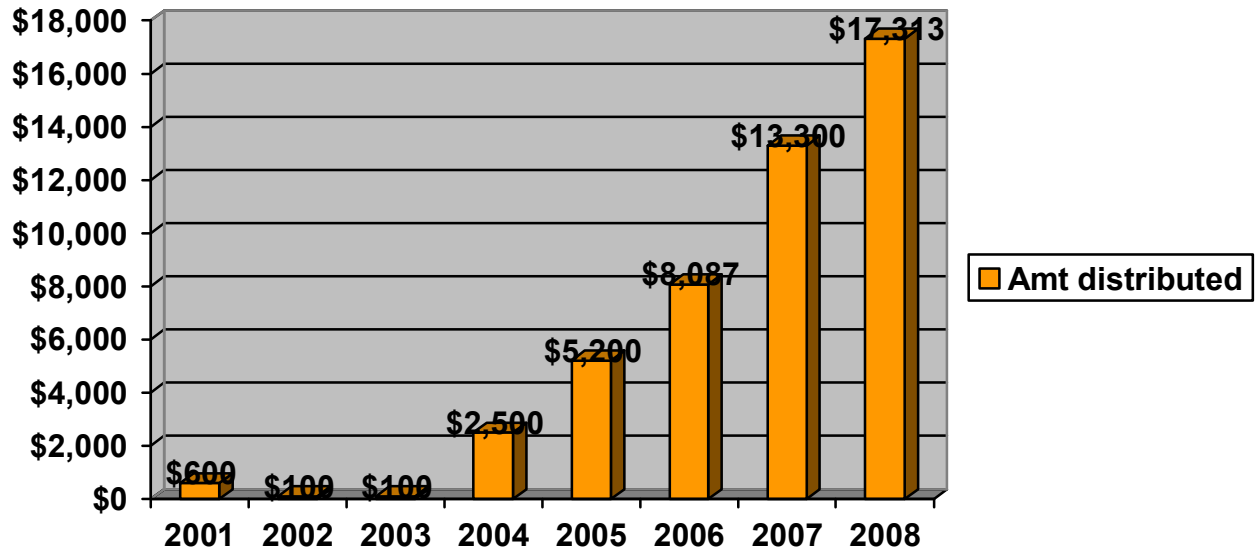
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Louisville Senior Foundation

ENERGY ASSISTANCE SINCE INCEPTION



Banding together for seniors

Heat relief benefit nets \$19K for seniors' utility bills

By Chalan Harper
Colorado Hometown
Newspapers

A few more homes may be a little warmer this year, after this week's Heat Relief Benefit dinner raised more than \$19,000 to help seniors pay their utility bills.

Last year, the event raised more than \$20,000, said Claudine Low, senior services supervisor for the rec center.

This year, because there is leftover money from last year, Low said about \$15,000 would be spent assisting seniors with their utilities payments, while about \$4,000 would go toward senior programming.

"It went really well," Low said of the dinner. "We served about 330 spaghetti dinners and some to-go orders."

The to-go orders are a new feature, though one that happened by accident last year.

This year, however, the Blue Parrot and rec center staffs were ready for the requests and set up a separate window for those who wanted to get their dinners on the run.

For the past eight years, owner of the Blue Parrot, Joan Riggins, and the Louisville Rec Center have teamed with the city's senior foundation

and advisory board to put on a fun and profitable evening each year.

For the price of a ticket, Riggins and her Blue Parrot crew serve up plates of salad, spaghetti and bread.

And because this is no ordinary dinner out, entertainment is provided as well.

This year, entertainers included the Singing Seniors from the Balfour Retirement Community and the Golden Oldies — a choir group from Coal Creek Elementary — among others.

In addition to dinner, the center also hosted a silent auction and pottery sales to benefit the seniors.

The auction did well, especially when someone bought \$185 worth of auction goods, but made their check out for \$500.

"Things like that were really neat," Low said.

In the first few years, though the event raised money, it didn't always get used because seniors weren't applying for the program.

Riggins said many seniors were embarrassed to need help, despite the continuous rise of energy costs for heating and electricity that impacted their retirement budgets.

"Nobody wanted to say they

needed help," Riggins said. "We really pushed it ... and word got around that it wasn't so bad. I don't know how many checks we write."

Though that has changed over time, Low said she hopes more and more seniors will continue to utilize the program.

Seniors can apply for the assistance funds by meeting a few requirements.

Applicants must be 55 or older; be a Louisville resident for at least one year; and, have an individual annual household income of \$25,000 or less or a joint income of \$30,000 or less.

Seniors can apply by contacting senior services resources coordinator Selma Jaramilla at 303-335-4919 and filling out an application.

Applications are then processed and approved by the Senior Foundation. If an individual is approved for the program, the senior foundation writes a check and sends it directly to Excel Energy.

Seniors can only apply for the program once per year, and get a scholarship of \$150 for the year.

For more information on the scholarship program, or to apply for assistance, call senior services at 303-335-4919.

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