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**HOUSING INITIATIVES OF PRINCETON CHARITABLE TRUST**  
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# HIP News

April 2012

*In this newsletter we will provide a summary of Housing Initiatives of Princeton (HIP) news and key activities in 2011, a snapshot of our finances, and a profile of two individual contributors. We hope you will enjoy reading it, and appreciate how important your role is in this community collaboration. We extend our sincerest gratitude to all who have supported HIP's work in the past and look forward to your continued contributions.*

## HIP News

**Donor Profile: Donald Mann** cont.

service as a member of the HIP task force to locate affordable housing units for client families, the heart of HIP's mission.

Don's history with HIP prompted two natural questions: **What inspires your generosity towards those who are underserved and vulnerable?** Don answers this way, "I think what you do with your resources is the best indicator of your priorities and belief system. For me, of course, my belief in the teachings of Jesus compels me to act to help. But I also believe in the power of the family and the community. Communities need to strive to be diverse ecosystems of positive growth and reinforcement for people. I believe in self reliance but I also believe it is a civic and personal responsibility to help your neighbors in need. Well meaning public policy has morphed into State and Federal aid systems that are remote, complicated, politicized and wasteful. There are many gaps where people are failed. Also the average citizen has largely abdicated responsibility for people in need to others. Only a relative few in any community dedicate their personal time to helping people. I wish more resources could be raised and/or allocated for quality local organizations that really care about the fabric of our towns, like HIP. We need to step up to help people become lifelong, vital parts of a community; schools, sports teams, civic organizations, churches and others are part of the circulation system feeding the heart of a community. HIP's well run and thoughtful approach is vital for Princeton to remain a town where anyone and everyone can live."

**Secondly, how would you explain your motivation for year after year support for the work HIP does?** "Over the years I have been involved with many causes: the resettlement of Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees, helping the elderly, rebuilding after disasters, assistance to people with debilitating illnesses who fall through the cracks, to name a few. There are good people in our community that occasionally need help after a crisis, whether it's a natural disaster or a devastating personal event that sets them back, or they will be forced to relocate. This is a loss for everyone. The working folks and those trying to climb to a better place are important people for our community for many reasons. Local organizations of volunteers that dedicate themselves to helping people, like HIP, deserve to be supported."

### HIP Said Farewell to Kirk Garber

Kirk was a long serving HIP board trustee, member of Trinity Church, and project manager for the renovations at Prescott House. Kirk, an engineer had an intimate knowledge of the systems and appliances at Prescott House. He established a special bond with each family and ensured they were as comfortable in the Prescott House apartments as he was in his home. He was the "go-to" handyman for the families, the board, Trinity, and service contractors. Kirk and his wife Connie relocated to another State which caused him to resign from the HIP board. Kirk

served HIP honorably, we shall always be grateful for his contributions.



Kirk Garber

### It Takes The Community

Housing Initiatives of Princeton and its clients were beneficiaries of generous in-kind donations and financial gifts from businesses and organizations in the community. Lori Rabon and the Nassau Inn donated two rooms of furniture when they started renovating the second half of the Inn. Prudential Fox & Roach/Trident, Princeton Office selected HIP for its community service; four real estate agents



Guests at Garden Wine Tasting, 2011

PHOTO: JAMES SCOTT

Painted the yard fence and cleared the basement at Prescott House. Princeton Township leased a housing unit to HIP. Trinity Church Turkey Trot 5K Run/Walk selected HIP as one of three beneficiaries to benefit. Trinity Church parishioners organized an "angel tree" at Christmas time for HIP families. The Institute for Advanced Study donated fresh-cut Christmas trees, and McCarter Theater donated tickets to "A Christmas Carol" for the children of HIP families.

## YOU CAN HELP . . .

Your generosity enables our ability to respond to lower income working families facing a housing crisis in our community. Please consider making a tax deductible cash donation to assist rent, utilities, or the cost for a professional case manager.

**Make check payable to:** Housing Initiatives of Princeton CT.  
**Mail to:** Housing Initiatives of Princeton, 33 Mercer Street, Princeton, NJ 08540  
**Donate online:** At [www.housing-initiativesofprinceton.org](http://www.housing-initiativesofprinceton.org).  
**In-kind donations:** Contact us at [info@housinginitiativesofprinceton.org](mailto:info@housinginitiativesofprinceton.org).

## HIP 2011 IN REVIEW

### Housing and Case Management Services

During 2011, HIP accepted two new families (six individuals) for housing and case management services, continued to house and assist a family of three into year two of their transition, and enabled several neighbors to avoid homelessness by intervening with emergency rent payments. Nonetheless, as with most of our peer housing organizations, HIP received more requests for housing than it was able to accommodate. Housing Initiatives of Princeton and Crawford House ended a three-year alliance. It had been a successful pilot whereby HIP housed and assisted seven adult women who had completed the residential treatment program for substance addiction at Crawford House. All of the women were in recovery and employed in Princeton and neighboring towns. It was an honor to assist their efforts for a healthy lifestyle and self-sufficiency.

### 501 (C) (3) Designation

Last year we shared with you that HIP became a Charitable Trust in December 2010 completing step one in the process of becoming independent from the Princeton Outreach Projects, Inc (POPI) family of programs. We are now pleased to share that HIP has received exemption from federal income taxes under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code effective December 16, 2010. This exemption will enable our fundraising efforts separate from POPI.



**HIP leases will not be renewed at Prescott House. We need your help . . .**

PHOTO: JAMES SCOTT

Since 2004, Housing Initiatives of Princeton (HIP) has leased two apartments from Trinity Church to provide transitional housing and individualized case management services to low-income working families and single women in recovery. The units have been located in Prescott House adjacent to Trinity Church. HIP has been exceedingly blessed with Trinity's generosity over the past eight years.

However, for the last few years Trinity has been discerning the housing needs of its own junior clergy, and in October of 2011, Trinity decided not to renew HIP leases when they expire on June 30, 2012. The Prescott House apartments will be used to provide housing for Trinity's clergy. Trinity

explained that the very high cost of housing in Princeton along with its budget constraints were the reasons for this decision.

Trinity's Rector, Reverend Paul Jeanes announced to the parish, "This decision is not a reflection on Trinity's support for HIP's important homelessness prevention work in our community. HIP is and will continue to be a vital part of Trinity's outreach ministry. Trinity Church remains fully committed to supporting HIP. Through the Outreach Committee, Trinity will continue to raise funds for HIP and offer opportunities for parishioners to support its work".

HIP and Trinity are working closely to ensure a smooth transition for the

families currently in-residence at Prescott House. Securing replacement housing units is the most difficult task facing HIP. Replacement units will mean higher costs for HIP to house its client families, which include a family with a son who is a junior at PHS. To fulfill our mission, HIP is obligated to find housing for this family in Princeton through the son's high school graduation.

You have been our partner in evading homelessness and helping families toward self-sufficiency for the past eight years. Your sustaining support is critical for HIP as it faces June 2012 and beyond without Prescott House. Please stay alert for our sponsor campaign to be announced.



The Alex Collins Trio at the Rent Party



Cecelia B. Hodges, PhD reading poetry at the Rent Party



Guests at Garden Wine Tasting, 2011



Richard Rosen, Paul Krugman, Elisa Rosen, Ruth Thurmond Scott at the Krugman and Rosen Dinner

**Fundraising**

In 2011 HIP kept the "fun" in fundraisers with its third annual Garden Wine Tasting event and its second annual 1920s Style Rent Party. The two events not only raised needed funds, they were great fun and provided opportunities for HIP supporters to meet and mingle.

**Garden Wine Tasting**

On Sunday June 5th, HIP held its third annual wine tasting event. Over sixty friends of HIP gathered in Joy Saville's magnificent garden in Princeton for an afternoon featuring "Wines of Tuscany" donated by Banfi. The selection included the world renowned "Brunello Di Montalcino" plus six additional wines. Each was expertly paired with heavenly hors d'oeuvres created by Emilia Tosic-DiSanto, HIP board member. A wait staff led by The Reverend Paul Jeanes III, Rector, Trinity Church cheerfully served guests. The HIP wine tastings are special events for exceedingly gratifying wines and hors d'oeuvres, and for the wine facts and educational value provided by wine expert and co-host, Don Mann.

**1920s Style Rent Party**

The atypical nor'easter snowstorm on October 29th delayed but did not deny HIP its second annual Rent Party, which was ultimately held on November 19th at the Present Day Club in Princeton. Vocalist and

guitarist, Dina Dispenziere welcomed approximately 65 guests (many in period attire!) as they sampled beverages and appetizers. As the evening progressed, guests enjoyed a southern soul food buffet, jazz by the Alex Collins Trio, poetry readings by Cecelia B. Hodges, PhD, and demos of period dances by Shoham Bhadra and Jessica Baumgartel, members of Princeton University Swing Club.

The silent auction offered many intriguing items, including the opportunity to bid for your own personal ice cream flavor developed by the bent spoon, a week at the spectacular Borgo Sambuco Villa in Umbria, Italy, and the opportunity to enjoy a conversation and dinner with distinguished Princeton University Professor, Paul Krugman.

On February 7, 2012, Elisa and Richard Rosen hosted the conversation and dinner with Professor Krugman. Twenty-five very lucky guests were able to learn more about Professor Krugman's work and share in an intimate conversation about topics of today, including the economy and politics. Guests enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by the Rosen's. Professor Krugman's participation provided an excellent opportunity for HIP to raise funds and awareness of the plight of the working poor in our own community.

**Finances HIP Year in Review**

HIP ended 2011 with a cash balance of \$152,618 dollars an increase of \$2,012 over 2011 year-end balance of \$150,606. We received income in the amount of **\$88,625** from a variety of sources. We incurred expenses in the amount of **\$72,032** the surplus was **\$16,593**.

**NOTABLE DONATIONS**

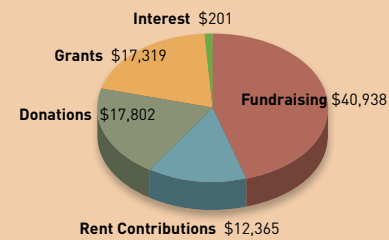
(\$1,000 OR GREATER)

- Church & Dwight Employee Giving Fund
- Trinity Church, Turkey Trot
- Fred Algers Management, Inc.
- Nassau Christian Center
- The Curtis W. McGraw Foundation
- Nassau Presbyterian Church
- Fox & Roach/Trident Prudential Office
- Princeton Friends Meeting
- Princeton United Methodist Church

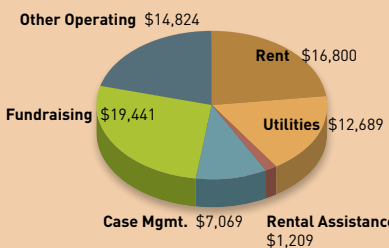
**Below left:** Ruth Thurmond Scott & Tom Saltsman, Chair of Turkey Trot

**Below right:** Ravi Ravindranath, Sally Oppenheimer, Christopher Ernst (Church & Dwight), Ruth Thurmond Scott

**2011 INCOME \$88,625**



**2011 EXPENSES \$72,032**



**Board Member Profile Elizabeth A. Smith, Esq.**

Beth Smith joined the HIP board in 2010. A native of New York, she moved from San Francisco to Princeton in 2003 to live closer to her husband's family. Beth and her husband Tony are the parents of two daughters, Helen, age 11 and Jane, age 5. She is an attorney at Dennigan Cahill, a family law firm in Princeton. Prior to entering the field of law in 2003, Beth, who has her masters degree in social work, held a number of administrative positions in the field of social work. While in California she worked closely with HUD developing hundreds of units of affordable housing and managing social service programs for homeless families. In Virginia, Beth managed a leadership program assisting residents of public housing to develop employment, leadership and other important skills towards personal and community development. At the beginning of her career, Beth worked as a case worker at 400 bed homeless shelter and at Bellevue Hospital in New York City. Upon graduating college, she spent a year as Jesuit Volunteer assisting Central American refugees in Houston, Texas.

As Beth moved away from the field of social work due to her legal



PHOTO: TONY BENNETT

practice, she gravitated to HIP as a volunteer. Interestingly, Beth and her family purchased the home of the late Nathalie Vaughn in 2007. Nathalie was involved with HIP at its inception and had great hope that Princeton would embrace the important work of providing transitional housing and supportive services to those facing a crisis. Like Nathalie, Beth believes that we have been entrusted with the responsibility of caring for our neighbors and sees the mission of HIP as one that embodies service to and partnership with others. The partnerships that HIP has with program participants and the larger Princeton community are critical to build-

ing stronger families and stronger communities through service. At HIP Beth has mentored HIP participants and consulted on legal and social

service issues that our families face. She is a member of the family selection committee and the nominating committee for new board members.

**Donor Profile Donald Mann**

Donald Mann, Area Manager for Brown Forman Beverages has been a sustaining supporter of Housing Initiatives of Princeton (HIP) since 2009 when he posed the simple question, "how can I help?" to Ruth Thurmond Scott, HIP's board chair. From that conversation a garden wine tasting fundraiser was envisioned.

The first wine tasting event was June 2009; each year since Don has co-hosted a wine tasting fundraiser for HIP. Leveraging his professional network and natural capabilities, Don has secured wholesalers to donate top-notch wines, assisted Emilia Tosic-DiSanto, HIP board member (and caterer) with selecting the perfect hors d'oeuvres for pairing with the varieties of wines, and used his encyclopedic knowledge of wines from around the globe to educate guests on how wine evolved from ancient history to modern times.

Don hasn't stopped with the wine tastings events; he extended his

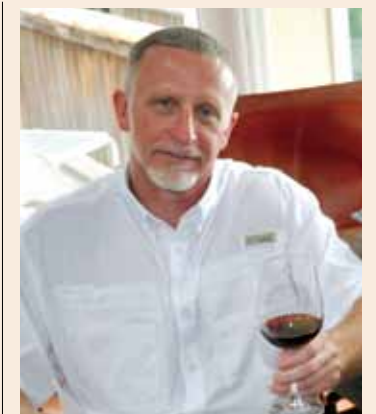


PHOTO: JAMES SCOTT

in-kind contributions of wines to HIP's annual benefit (a 1920s style Rent Party). Procuring wine for the Wine Tasting and Rent Party benefits has significantly lowered HIP's cost to sponsor these fundraisers while at the same time generating thousands of dollars in income for the ever growing demands for HIP's services. In addition to co-sponsoring successful wine tasting events, Don has donated his time and talent to support HIP in other ways, including