

Friends of the Inn

Organizations and individuals leading the way

Volunteers wrap more than 1,000 gifts for guests



More than 100 volunteers participated in Pine Street's annual Family Gift Wrapping Day. Volunteers like Caroline Gibson (above) of Winchester helped spread holiday cheer by wrapping gifts for the guests of the Men's and Women's Inn.

South End Welcoming Committee

Residents throughout the South End came together in support of Pine Street Inn and its efforts to acquire several properties in the neighborhood. Calling themselves the South End Welcoming Committee, this group was formed to maintain and support an economically, ethnically and socially diverse South End neighborhood. In addition, members of the Welcoming Committee also volunteer at Pine Street, serving meals and leading a holiday gift drive for Pine Street's guests and residents.

Gloucester triathlon to benefit Inn

PineStreetInn is delighted to have been named a beneficiary of the inaugural Gloucester Triathlon, to be held Sunday, August 9. Special thanks to the Gloucester Fisherman Athletic Association along with Gloucester Triathlon founders Bill Burnett, race director, and Janda Ricci-Munn, professional triathlete, for their interest in Pine Street Inn. Register to race at www.gloucestertri.com.



Young professionals and Pine Street

Nearly 100 supporters like Craig Davidson and Amy Long attended Pine Street's first Young Professionals event on December 3, 2008, hosted by the Westin Copley Hotel. The evening featured food and drink, raffle prizes and a room full of young leaders interested in both ending homelessness and having a good time. If you would like to be a part of this group, please send your contact information to eric.monty@pinestreetinn.org.



DONOR PROFILE: Why I give to Pine Street



Janice & Arthur Alcares Concord, MA Giving since 1985

We give because we believe in helping other people. There is a saying in the Bible: "He who has done it for the least of my brothers has done it for me."

Mary Ann Ponti Downtown Crossing, Boston Giving since 2006

I give to Pine Street because it is the safety net in my community for men and women who have fallen into hard times. The devoted staff provides the direction and support for people to get on their feet again to live happier and healthier lives.



Share with us why you give to Pine Street at info@pinestreetinn.org.

Family volunteer opportunities for February & March

Volunteering with your family is a great way to spend time together, engage in a meaningful activity and have fun! Below are some upcoming family-friendly volunteer opportunities.

Women's Inn: Valentine's Tea Saturday, February 14

1-3 p.m.
Contact julie.lima@pinestreetinn.org
617-892-9182

Education & Service Days Wednesday, February 18

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Contact coffie.fields@pinestreetinn.org
617-892-9186

Wednesday, March 18

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Contact coffie.fields@pinestreetinn.org
617-892-9186

Pine Street Inn

ANNIVERSARY YEAR
1969-2009

25 years of permanent supportive housing for homeless men and women

40 years of helping homeless men and women rebuild their lives

25 years of dedicated service by Lyndia Downie, President & Executive Director

444 Harrison Avenue | Boston, MA 02118 | 617-892-9100 | www.pinestreetinn.org

Back Inn Time

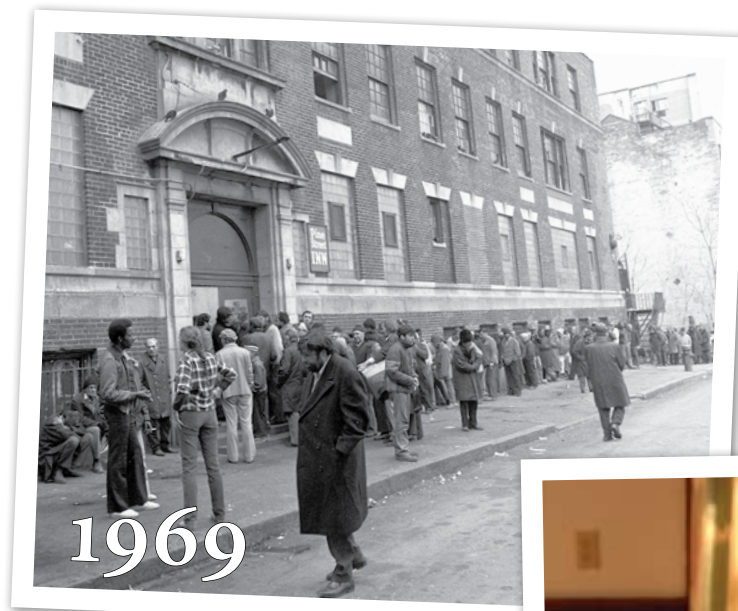
Pine Street Inn marks 40 years of service, 25 years of housing development

When Pine Street Inn opened its doors in 1969, its goals were simultaneously radical and modest. Led by founding director Paul Sullivan, himself a recovering alcoholic, Pine Street offered 200 alcoholic men a hot cup of coffee and a bed for the night.

"There was no kitchen," recalls long-time board member Kay O'Halloran. "Cots were set up and others slept on the floor." From the start, director Sullivan set the tone. "He called everyone 'Mr. so-and-so.' He believed every guest should be treated with dignity and respect. And he felt everyone should have shelter."

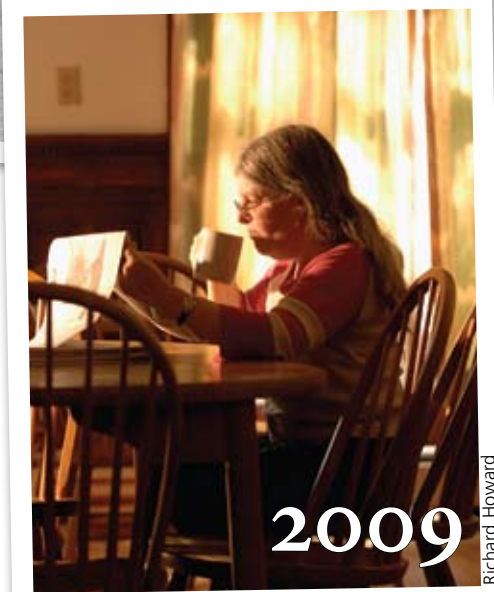
"In the beginning, the objective was meeting basic needs: food, clothing, shelter," notes Ralph Hughes, Director of Permanent Housing. "Because the staff was small, we could only help minimally with things like health care, housing vouchers and detox."

Forty years later, Pine Street has grown into an organization that provides permanent housing, street outreach, emergency shelter and job training for more than 10,000 women and men each year. "Today, we're bigger and more professionalized," says Hughes. "We're able to focus on finding solutions, to guide guests to the next step — moving them into housing."



When Pine Street Inn opened its doors in 1969, it offered a bed and a cup of coffee to 200 homeless men each night.

Today, permanent housing is a centerpiece of Pine Street's efforts to end homelessness.



"A lot has changed in 40 years, but the heart and soul of Pine Street Inn is still there," O'Halloran concludes. Staff and volunteers are still dedicated, caring and compassionate — and they still want what's best for the guests. "It's wonderful that Paul's legacy of treating people with dignity and respect has carried on. It warms my heart greatly that even with increased staff and services, respect for guests and tenants is still paramount."

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE ANNIVERSARY SNAPSHOTS...



HOME REMEDY

PINE STREET INN'S
ANNIVERSARY BREAKFAST

MAY 6, 2009

SAVE THE DATE Wednesday, May 6, 7:30 a.m. Marriott Copley Place

Join us at this special event as we mark several significant milestones and raise critical funds in our efforts to end homelessness.

For details, tickets and sponsorship opportunities, contact Jocelyn Fary-Holzwarth at: 617-892-9178
jocelyn.fary-holzwarth@pinestreetinn.org

Be sure to visit our new and improved Web site
www.pinestreetinn.org
launching January 21

Lyndia Downie: looking back —and ahead



This year, as Pine Street marks its 40th anniversary, President and Executive Director Lyndia Downie celebrates her 25th year. We asked her to reflect on both milestones.

How is Pine Street different today than when it started?

When Pine Street Inn opened in 1969, we saw people who were down on their luck, often with substance abuse problems. In the 1980s when state mental health institutions closed, we began seeing people who were discharged from state hospitals to the streets – literally. We were and still are the place of last resort for people who have nowhere else to turn.

In 1984 when I first came here, people could afford to live in rooming houses even if they were living on a fixed income. Today, many working people cannot afford Boston's high rents.

How has the approach to dealing with homelessness changed?

As an early developer of supportive housing, Pine Street Inn was in the forefront, recognizing that permanent housing, not shelter, is the ultimate answer. With current data we are able to do a better job targeting interventions and matching resources to people's needs, as opposed to a one-size-fits-all approach.

What do you value most about Pine Street?

I am honored to be a steward of an organization that represents many people's values in action. Pine Street has always been a place of welcome, of open doors when every other door is closed, where hope takes root every day.

One of the things I value most about Pine Street is the interaction between staff and guests. It's about the intangibles: relationship building, trust building. I'm also continually amazed by guests, how painful their stories are, and yet, how they put one foot in front of the other and say, "I'm going to try and deal with this the best I can."

What is your vision for the future?

Creating access to decent, affordable housing is central to our vision. Helping people retain their housing by providing the support they need to be as self-sufficient as possible is also part of the vision. In fact, it is often lack of a support system that leads people to Pine Street in the first place. I dream of the day when the stigma associated with homelessness is gone and the day when people don't have to end up on the streets to get help.

We will continue to focus on both endings and beginnings. The day guests first walk into our shelter, we start talking about the day they walk out. And when it comes to housing, it's all about beginnings: the day they move into permanent housing and get their own key.

ANNIVERSARY SNAPSHOTS 1969–2009



1984

HOUSING

When Pine Street Inn opened its first home in 1984, a residence for 26 men and women in Brookline, the organization was one of the first in New England to develop affordable housing for homeless men and women.

Today, Pine Street remains a leader in this effort, with 500 units of permanent, supportive housing in 29 locations throughout Greater Boston.



2009

Eric Antoniou



1986



1969

FOOD SERVICES

Soon after Pine Street Inn opened its doors to homeless men, volunteer Kay O'Halloran organized her neighborhood parish to begin providing meals to Pine Street's guests. Soon, she had coordinated for volunteers to bring in meals every evening.

Today, volunteers work alongside food service professionals and homeless students in Pine Street's Food Services Training Program to produce 3,000 meals a day.

STREET OUTREACH

In February 1986, a homeless man froze to death just two blocks away from Pine Street Inn. This tragedy was the catalyst for the Pine Street Outreach Program.

Today, Pine Street has daytime and nighttime outreach teams, with a total of 19 staff and two vans. The vans have not missed a single night.



2009

© 2009 Rick Friedman

Outreach ready for winter cold

Pine Street Outreach vans canvass Boston on cold winter nights, searching out men and women living on the streets. Outreach workers bring those who are willing back to Pine Street's emergency shelter in the South End. For those who remain, they'll offer food and hot beverages, warm socks, extra blankets and work on building the trust that can lead them off the streets.

During an average winter month, Outreach workers serve:

1,150 men **250** women

and distribute hot soup and beverages along with:

500 blankets **160** pairs of gloves

550 pairs of socks

Amazing Grace

Once homeless, tenant finds path to a better life through Pine Street housing



He has an infectious smile and a positive attitude. Though he struggles with disabilities, he's working on eating well and staying active. And when he sings "Amazing Grace" in his deep baritone, it can bring you to tears.

He is Windsor, a resident of Pine Street's supportive housing. He lives in a lodging house in Roxbury with 17 other men who cope with similar issues. "It's a nice place, comfortable and safe, and the counselors are good to us," he says.

Windsor came to Pine Street in 1994 after living on the streets for two years. "It was awful," he says. "When I came to Pine Street, it was wonderful. They told me they

could help me, that there was a place for me. Within a few weeks, I came here."

Though Windsor's housing has been stable, his health has had its ups and downs. "I'd like to work," he says, but the day program where he collated mailings and magazine inserts fell victim to state budget cuts. "For now, I help out with the groceries and cooking here at home."

Though Windsor is disappointed about his current employment status, he's upbeat about life thanks to Pine Street. "At Pine Street, there's hope for people who have disabilities," he says. "I tell everyone if you go to Pine Street, they'll lead you to a better life."