

OPERATION CHILLOUT

WELCOME

Please consider becoming a business sponsor, church partner, location guardian angel, volunteer or donor.

Can you help us help those who cannot help themselves?

NO BORDERS - NO BOUNDARIES

Winter - 2009 Newsletter



2008 WINTER CAMPAIGN REACHES 5 COUNTIES

Survival gear delivered to 400 in Dover, Newton, Morristown, Paterson, Hackensack and Newark over 5 days.

WINTER - HIGHLIGHTS

Despite a downward spiraling economy, your generosity made it possible for us to supply 400 men and women with warm clothing and survival gear during the 2008 December deliveries. **SPECIAL THANKS** to our many CCD kids and their families, teachers and adult supervisors who collected backpacks, sorted and allocated filled bags for the eight locations we visited. **WELCOME** to our new 'charter partners' who gave of their time, treasure and talent for the least among us. We welcome the Catholic parishes of St Lawrence the Martyr, Chester; St Vigil's, Morris Plains; St Monica's, Sussex; the Zion Lutheran Church Youth Ministry, Long Valley; and the Hudson County Meadowlands Knights of Columbus Council, for their caring. **CONGRATULATIONS** to our first class of **Street Retreat** - Phase One graduates who completed a course of study, and a spiritual day of recollection. They are now eligible for Phase Two involving direct compassionate action and finally, an overnight 'plunge experience', living with homeless groups on the street. Their commitment and advocacy for the poor and vulnerable is extraordinary, God bless their kindness.

Just a thought Naomi and her six friends were dug in for the winter at their plywood and cardboard shanty on the banks of the Passaic River in Paterson, just a few hundred yards from the bustling downtown business district. Invisible to all except to those with eyes to see, ears to hear - their shelters were humble, but their independence and pride spoke of **HOPE**. Naomi, expecting twins, cut a slight figure against the drifted snow and gave new meaning to the reply of Mary at the annunciation of the angel - "be it done to me according to thy word". No room at the inn, indeed! We can do better in this land of the free and the home of the brave. *pax+ Ray*



Our "Miracles on Wheels" van poised to set off in the snow December 21, 2008 loaded with backpacks, duffel bags, sleeping bags and gifts for 400 homeless men and women this year.