



CONGREGATION + OFFENDER PARTNERSHIP ENTERPRISE

3545 MARCUS AVE
ST LOUIS MO 63115
(314) 389-4804

Linda Schroeder Project Director

SPRING - SUMMER 1991

HERSHEL HOUSE NEARS START-UP GOAL

Project COPE's year-old dream of a transitional housing program for ex-offenders is close to becoming a reality. The Board of Directors has negotiated a tentative lease agreement with the owner of a 4-unit apartment building which is to be rehabbed and ready for occupancy by August 1, 1991.

The St. Louis Community Foundation has issued a challenge grant of \$5000 to be paid if and when an additional \$10,000 has been raised from other sources. A private donor immediately responded with a gift of \$5000 and the Wheat Ridge Foundation has pledged \$2500. Another \$1000 has come from Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.

Only \$1500 more must be raised before Project COPE can claim the challenge grant from the St. Louis Community Foundation. This remaining amount represents only 10% of the Hershel House start-up budget. It would be a terrible shame to lose the entire project for want of the last \$1500. Won't you help?

After the funding is secured and the building itself is ready, the next project will be to furnish four small apartments, each to accommodate a single man. Each apartment will need stove and refrigerator, bed, chairs, table, lamps, linens, dishes, fan, clock, radio, television, shades, drapes, etc. A few contributions of furnishings have already been received. More will be needed -- especially appliances. Contact the Project COPE office if you have anything to offer. Gifts of time and muscle-power will be needed also.

Meanwhile . . . funding for Project COPE's general operating budget is still a great need. We need some major miracles to keep this crucial ministry alive and well-staffed. Every contribution helps, no matter how small, but right now Project COPE needs lots of large ones as well as many many small ones. **Please help!!**

WHY SUPPORT PROJECT COPE? EX-OFFENDERS REPLY:

Bill: "Project COPE for me was, and still is in many ways, a vital link with reality. It is a bridge by which some have escaped the long fall into despair and helplessness and been allowed to see where hope and love abide. It is the outstretched hand of God's church and its members, and it must continue to be a reality."

Edward: "I'm a proud member of Project COPE. Upon my release from confinement, I was connected with a partnership group. Without the help of this group my life wouldn't have taken the shape it has. Now I have my own apartment, I am working and going to school, all with help from Project COPE. It's a great program and should be supported and kept going at all costs. I am forever grateful."

CHOIR FESTIVAL ESTABLISHES NEW TRADITION

On Sunday, April 14 approximately 100 musicians from 8 Project COPE member congregations joined forces to present a festival of choirs and ensembles to benefit Project COPE. A delightful variety of music both entertained and inspired the audience at Harris-Stowe State College Auditorium. A reception afterwards extended the opportunity for COPE members and friends to become acquainted. Many expressed the hope that the choir festival would become an annual event and attract a much greater audience next year. This year's festival added over \$1000 to Project COPE's treasury. Photos were provided by K. L. Shannon, whose news coverage of the festival appeared in the St. Louis American.

Other participating choirs not pictured here included the **Parish Choir of St. Bridget Catholic Church**, the **Chancel Choir of Antioch Baptist Church**, the **Madrigals of the United Methodist Church of Green Trails**, and a **duet from Immanuel Lutheran Church**.

PEARL
MONTGOMERY
CHILDRENS
CHOIR

ST. PAUL
A.M.E.
CHURCH



FIRST
FIRST-DAY
SINGERS

ST. LOUIS
FRIENDS
MEETING





SENIOR
CHOIR
RESURRECTION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



PARISH
CHOIR
UNITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
FREY
FAMILY
QUARTET



MEMBERS OF
PROJECT COPE
PARTNERSHIP
GROUPS
GATHERED
AT THE
RECEPTION
AFTERWARDS

CHEERS! Banners were presented at the March pot-luck supper to four partnerships that had recently completed their one-year commitments. The celebrants included Immanuel Lutheran with Rhonda (pictured), Bonhomme Presbyterian with Arnold, St. Paul A.M.E. with Vetra and Resurrection Lutheran with Edward. Match-making is underway to establish new partnerships with these groups.



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE NEXT POT-LUCK SUPPER FELLOWSHIP EVENING
 THURSDAY, JULY 11 6:30-8:30 P.M.
 ST. THOMAS/HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH
 3980 S. Lindbergh Blvd., Sunset Hills
 PLEASE JOIN US FOR GOOD FOOD, FRIENDSHIP AND INSPIRATION

CATHEDRAL PARISH JOINS PROJECT COPE

The Cathedral of St. Louis officially joined Project COPE in April after several members completed COPE's orientation program and agreed to serve as a partnership committee. They have already been matched with Susan, who will be transferring soon from the Chillicothe Correctional Center to house arrest in St. Louis.

Other new partnerships recently established include United Methodist Church of Green Trails with John, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church with Reggie, St. Paul A.M.E. Church with Leonard, Second Presbyterian Church with Will and First Congregational Church of Webster Groves with Rick.

Project COPE

3545 MARCUS AVE
 ST LOUIS MO 63115

NONPROFIT ORG.
 U. S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 ST. LOUIS, MO
 PERMIT #4625

