



**BRIDGE OF HOPE®**  
**BURLINGTON COUNTY**

**NEWSLETTER**

Ending and Preventing Homelessness:  
 One Church, One Family at a Time

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**Our Needs:**

- Volunteers
- Your generous monetary contribution.
- Prayer!
- Sponsors for our upcoming fundraiser

Romans 1:12 "When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours."

**Board of Directors:**

Sharon I. Gooch-Zebal, Chair  
 Nathan Buurma, Vice Chair  
 Teresa Duarte, Treasurer  
 Phyllis Knighten, Secretary  
 Kimberley Faircloth  
 Dawn Haggerty  
 Rev. Jim Kraft  
 Rick Trout  
 Open Seats (3)

Advisory Board:  
 Rev. Phil Olson

**BRIDGE OF HOPE BURLINGTON COUNTY AWARDED MATCHING GRANT**

It is with much praise and thankfulness, that I can announce the receipt of a \$20,000.00 grant from the Danellie Foundation.

This local Burlington foundation's sole purpose is to award grants to local agencies who pledge "To Serve Christ". This is a perfect partnership with Bridge of Hope as we strive to Love our Neighbors, by helping to resolve homelessness... One Church and One Family At A Time.

A bit of history. We were awarded this grant in Octo-

ber 2008 with the terms requiring a match of \$14,042. This grant and matching funds are designated for the costs of year one staffing expenses.

Through fund raisers, your direct support and by our Recent Annual Appeal, we were able to complete this matching requirement. True evidence that God is at work in your heart and in this ministry!

This grant enables us to move quickly forward in hiring our first staff person

who will coordinate the intake process with our moms as well as mentoring group support across our local churches! Please join me in praise to the foundation for their patient support, to our board members for their steadfast dedication, and to our Lord For HIS abundance to make this all possible.

Greater Things "Will" Be Done In This City!

Blessings,  
 Sharon I. Gooch-Zebal  
 Board Chair

**WINE AND CHEESE EVENT A SUCCESS!**

We'd like to thank all who participated & contributed to the success of our Wine and Cheese Fundraiser at the Mount Holly Library & Lyceum in November!

It was a great evening

with tasty wines, great food and fellowship. That evening we raised close to \$3,700!

Special thanks to our Platinum Sponsors Zallies ShopRite in Medford, Kaplan Engineering and The Liquor Loft in Mt. Holly for their generous support!



**HELP BRIDGE OF HOPE AND THE EARTH!**

You're getting this newsletter in the mail, but did you know you can get this in your inbox? As a supporter of Bridge of Hope Burlington County, we strive to keep you informed with updates about this ministry. We also strive to keep our operating costs as low as possible so that out of every dollar we receive, the highest possible portion of that goes directly towards costs associated with serving homeless moms in Burlington County. Every newsletter costs money to print, and money to mail, but email is free! It's easy to sign up, just go to [www.bridgeofhopeburlington.org](http://www.bridgeofhopeburlington.org) and click the "contact us" button. You'll still get all the updates, save us some money and save a tree!

**BRIDGE OF HOPE'S SPOTLIGHT:**  
**NATHAN BUURMA**  
**VICE CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Nathan Buurma lives in Medford, New Jersey with his wife, Peggy, and their children, Emily and Valerie. He is a member of Faith Presbyterian Church in Medford. He works as an attorney with New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Co.

Nathan first became involved with Bridge of Hope Burlington County in the Fall of 2007. Currently, he serves as the Board's Vice-Chair.

Nathan says that he started to volunteer for Bridge of Hope after struggling with a segment of society's lack of action to aid the poor. After years of complaining about the apathy of others, Nathan realized that his complaining wasn't helping anyone. So, he accepted an invitation to attend a start-up Board meeting. Before he knew it, Nathan was helping to form the Burlington County affiliate. "I'm very proud to be associated with this organization, and I'm looking forward to helping our first family in Burlington County."

**2009: A YEAR IN REVIEW**

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| <p>Jan Partnered with Burlington County College (BCC) to lease office space at the Mt. Holly Center. Also launched our Bridgeofhopeburlington.org website.</p> <p>Feb Completed drafting our Strategic Plan for 2009 and 2010 so that we can focus on the key areas of growth within Bridge of Hope Burlington County.</p> <p>April Held our first Annual Gala at Flying W, in Medford.</p> <p>June Completed our first fiscal year end close and completed our annual IRS form 990 as well as filing requirements for New Jersey.</p> <p>July Held our Second Annual "Sleeping Out" event to raise awareness and funds to continue supporting the ministry.</p> <p>August Built our database of supporters from 180 in 2008 to 430 in 2009!</p> | <p>September Began meeting with local Rotary Clubs to work together to stamp out homelessness in Burlington County.</p> <p>October Attended the Annual Bridge of Hope National conference to build on ministry knowledge and NPF standards as well as develop relationships with other affiliate members throughout the United States.</p> <p>We also attended the Lumberton Family Day .</p> <p>November Held our first Wine &amp; Cheese Fellowship Night that raised just over \$3700.00 and was sponsored by 3 major corporate sponsors.</p> <p>We also distributed our second annual appeal.</p> <p>December Successfully completed the match requirement for a major support grant. This grant will position us to move quickly forward in 2010 to fill our open hiring position.</p> |
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On behalf of the full board, I extend our appreciation for your direct support and for walking this journey with us. I truly believe that God has great plans for us and the women who we will be serving! With His Amazing Grace, Sharon I. Gooch-Zebal, Board Chair.

**UPDATE ON OUR 2009 ANNUAL APPEAL**

Our many thanks to all of those who contributed to our annual appeal in November. We are still receiving your contributions, so it's not too late!

Now that the grant has been awarded, the remaining proceeds from the Annual Appeal will directly go towards rental assistance for our first family. God-willing, we will

begin working with the family by June of this year! Additionally we have made great progress in our interview process and look forward to announcing our Program Director to you in the weeks ahead.

As of this mailing your generous contribution to this ministry has reached over \$7,300, well in excess of our \$4,200



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