

Sharing, Inc.

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Very Early Easter Morning, 2008

July 1, 2008

"Each of us, whether we have children or not, gives birth to the next generation."

Dear Sharing Friend

During my two week trip in the South in May I visited with the staff of the Kemetic Institute in Mound Bayou, MS, and the House of Joy in Okolona, MS. I visited with John and Carol Zippert in Eutaw, AL. Carol is one of the founders of the 21st Century Youth Leadership Development Project and John is one of the founders of the Federation of Southern Co-ops/Land Assistance Fund. I also visited my friends Evelyn Turner, widow of the great Albert Turner, and Walta Mae Kennie. A very special treat was the opportunity to have lunch with State Senator and friend Hank Sanders.

Throughout my travels the sentiments of the opening quote by Joan Chittister OSB kept coming to mind. "Giving birth" is giving life. The life circumstances of one's birth can be limiting but not necessarily determinative. A crucial step in the journey of becoming often arises from a mentor/role model. This person doesn't necessarily have to be known by the young person. It can be someone read about in a book.

Life is what happens while you're making other plans"

On July 6 my husband, Ron DuBois, underwent emergency open-heart surgery for a dissection in his ascending aorta. We were extremely lucky in terms of the speed, the skill and the care of the medical teams he was treated by. He survived.

On July 26 he was re-admitted to the hospital for a rapidly growing red area on his inner thigh. Tests revealed a blood clot. Further testing revealed another dissection in his ascending aorta.

On July 30 he had another open-heart surgery to repair the damage and replace the aortic valve. This was, "a time bomb waiting to explode." Once again we were treated by a top notch medical team. From July 6 to this present moment and beyond we will give thanks and praise each day of our lives.

"With every rising of the sun think of your life as just begun."

August 11 ,2008

One of the ways that you, as a Sharing supporter, and I, and Senator Hank Sanders give birth to the next generation is through the **POWER** of the written word. Hank has often written of growing up in a poor, but loving family in a very small house.

From his early years he loved to read. He read all the newspapers that the family collected to be used as toilet tissue in the outhouse. He read the few books in his school's library including an entire set of encyclopedia. Reading an article about Thurgood Marshall becoming a United States Supreme Court Justice inspired him to decide to become a lawyer. When he stood up in class to announce that plan his classmates laughed at him. He was not deterred. In 1970 Hank and his wife, Fava Rose Toure, graduated from Harvard Law School.

Among the close to 800 books by and about African Americans that Sharing will send to Hank this month for the public schools in his wide district, there are two very special books of poetry for young people. One is written by Maya Angelou, the other by Langston Hughes, each beautifully illustrated. The wonder of the writing is enhanced by the quality of the paper, the size and font of the print.

These are so extraordinary that we will make sure all of the ninety-three schools in his district will receive a copy of each. These are books sure to inspire all who read them.

Some highlights of our 2008 Good Friday Walk

Special thanks for the efforts of the following:

- those who generously sponsored others
- those who did the not-so-easy work of getting many sponsors
- those **five workers** whose combined efforts raised \$1,395 - Donna Austin, Ron DuBois, Daune Haskell, Jessie Suozzo and Phil Worrick
- those walkers who raised between \$1,000 and \$1,150 - Ed Bartholomew, Rev. Stan Culy and Ralph Paige
- those walkers who raised between \$1,300 and \$1,500 - Bill Larson, Judy Larson, Rev. Don Rudalevige, Sue Rudalevige, John Seavey and Maggie Warshaw
- the Shires family who raised \$2,250
- Bill Genovese who raised over \$2,470
- Rev. Rich Weisenbach who raised over \$3,200
- Austin O'Connor who raised over \$6,000

*Shalom,
Kay Doherty*

2008 Walk Financial Statement

As of July 31, 2008

Income

Hingham Walk	58,250	
Rockville Walk	13,623	
Wakefield Walk	6,947	
Other Walks	<u>19,202</u>	
Total		98,022

Expenses

Awards	509	
Food & supplies	480	
Insurance	1015	
Kay's trip south	1900	
Miscellaneous	153	
Police protection	1222	
Printing	<u>896</u>	
Total		6,802

Balance remaining

\$91,220

Distributed as of 8-15-2008

Ecumenical Food Pantry (Wakefield Walk)	1,158	
Faith Church Food Pantry (Wakefield Walk)	1,158	
Federation of Southern Co-ops	2,368	
House of Joy	1,280	
Kemetic Institute	1,388	
Scholarships	1,000	
Tri-Town Shelter (Rockville Walk)	<u>4,541</u>	
Total		11,983

Balance available for distribution

\$79,237

Pledged for 2009 distribution

Federation of Southern Co-ops	Epes AL/Atlanta GA	2,000
House of Joy Day Care	Okolona MS	30,000
Kemetic Institute	Mound Bayou MS	18,000
21 st Century Youth Leadership	Selma AL	10,000
Sharing's Scholarship Program		10,000
Sharing's BookFund		10,000

there is \$1,911 still owed by 29 walkers

Believing that "**Reading is for life**" and that Sharing's children, African Americans living in the rural south whose families are economically poor, have limited access to books in which they can see themselves.

Won't you include a southern child on your Christmas list?

Christmas can be a very difficult time for many of us- especially when your family is economically poor, and even more so if you are a parent of a young child. Sharing reaches out to such families in the south with gifts such as:

- basketballs, footballs, soccer balls and sport balls
- beautifully dressed dolls
- handmade baby blankets and quilts
- **BOOKFUND** (average cost of one book is \$15.00)

Name _____

My/our contribution -\$ _____

Mailing address _____

Town/City _____ State _____ Zip _____