

# Sharing, Inc.

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January 16, 2011

Dear Sharing Friend,

"WE ARE ALL WALKING EACH OTHER HOME." \*

Even though I wholeheartedly believe this statement, and try to live with an awareness of it, at times I fail miserably. Times when instead of viewing a person as a companion on the road of life I see "the other", "the one different from me." Some examples of such times are:

- When I read of the Secession Ball held in Charleston, South Carolina last month on the 150th Anniversary of that state's Secession from the Union. It was a celebratory event that was attended by nearly 400 people. In a Boston Globe op-ed the journalist, Jeff Jacoby writes, "the foremost reason for secession was to protect and perpetuate the enslavement of black Africans." \*\*
- When I learned that more than 690,000 Alabamians on November 2, 2004 voted against removing racist language from the Alabama Constitution which said that there must be separate schools for white and colored children in Alabama. \*\*\*
- When I read about what happened to the 65 Black children from a summer camp in Pennsylvania in 2009 when they tried to go swimming at a Swim Club that their Camp had a contract to use. When the campers entered the pool, white parents allegedly took their kids out of the water, and the swimming club's staff asked the campers to leave. The next day their membership was canceled and their payment refunded. When asked why, the club's manager said that a lot of kids "would change the complexion...and the atmosphere of the club."\*\*\*\*

"OMG", I think for each of these examples, "How could they do that?" I eventually remind myself of the adage, "One's perception is shaped by one's perspective". Had I been raised in a similar milieu I could have done likewise.

When I was a child I was never allowed to attend any church other than a Catholic one. I lived in a Catholic ghetto. How deficient my life would be today if I had never met, made friends with, and worshiped with people of other religious beliefs? Sharing and the Good Friday Walk reflect that beautiful kaleidoscope of humanity.

Join a Good Friday Walk this year and see for yourself. You could do so actually in Hingham, East Bridgewater, Harvard, Wakefield or Westford in Massachusetts, Cheshire, Rockville or Mystic in Connecticut or in Blowing Rock, NC, Bonita Springs, FL, or Falls Church VA. Or you could do so virtually by walking wherever you happen to be on April 22, 2011. The great majority of the hundreds of walkers over the years have said the experience is a joyful one and often a spiritual highpoint of their year

You can walk one mile or run twenty in the company of many or all alone. It does not matter how far or how fast you go. What does matter is that your effort raises money, 94% of which goes directly to projects that are making a positive contribution in the lives of African American children from economically poor families, living in the rural south, whose families are economically poor. These children suffer the effects of our country's racism.

Martin Buber, an Austrian-born Jewish Philosopher has said, "All real living is meeting." We each come from the same Creative Light and we meet along the way. Walking each other home implies a commitment to accompany one another back from whence we came. So picture yourself, along with the South Carolinians, the Alabamians, the Pennsylvanians, the Europeans, the Africans, the Russians, the Iranians and me, all of us walking each other home.

Shalom,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kay Doherty".

\*Rev. Gerard Barry, Boston Globe, 9-12-2010 Kevin Cullen's column

\*\*Boston Globe, January 5, 2011 Jeff Jacoby op-ed

\*\*\*Greene County Democrat July 6, 2005

\*\*\*\*<http://www.colorofchange.org/swim>  
NBC Philadelphia, 07/08/09website

## Christmas Blessings

Thanks to a generosity of time, talent, and treasure Sharing was able to send the following gifts to children in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana.

- 134 beautifully dressed Black dolls
- 62 gorgeous baby blankets, beautifully boxed
- 133 basketballs 18 small balls
- numerous small stuffed animals and baby clothes,

### A Thank You

"Happy New Year, Kay and Sharing,

Thank you for the wonderful Christmas gifts. The basketballs were an especially big hit with the children.

There was an interesting interchange between parent and my staff regarding the presents. That particular family has three children. The 4 year old boy was excited to receive the basketball. Mom thought the blanket for the newborn was wonderful. Mom seemed to have reservations about her daughter's gift, but her 6 year old was captivated by the beautifully dressed doll. Mother returned to office several days later and said that she just wanted express thanks for giving her child the "freedom to play with a doll of color." She went on to say that her daughter simply saw a doll in a lovely outfit. (This family posed for a photo which should be arriving in mail shortly.)

These tokens of love brought lots of joy; and more importantly, they helped all of us arrive at a deeper understanding of love.

In my pediatric office, we have approximately 3 newborns added per week. I actually never looked at the raw numbers before, so this was an interesting inquiry. For 2010, there were 141 newborns added to my practice. 88% have public insurance (Medicaid).

Sincerely,

Doctor Rachel Zippert Chatters"

Visit us at: [www.WalkingOnGoodFriday.org](http://www.WalkingOnGoodFriday.org)

It will make your heart sing!!