

# FREEPORT WEST

## 2007 Annual Report







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## LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

At Freeport, our most important mission is to provide quality and effective services to our youth and families. In 2007, we continued to grapple with the many challenges inherent in a changing environment. However, in the midst of those challenges, there was excitement as we sought to solidify our firm foundation in order to enhance our programs' services.

In the middle of this year, Ramona Wilson joined Freeport as our new Executive Director. She came to us from the corporate sector, where she spent more than 25 years with Xcel Energy including over 10 years in executive leadership. Her responsibilities at Xcel included business development and financial oversight, and she successfully led teams in a host of project development areas. She has also served on and chaired the boards of several long-standing community non-profit organizations throughout her career. In addition, she has always had a passion for serving youth and families, especially those needing special assistance or interventions, as demonstrated by a long term personal commitment in helping others.

Within a short while, Ms. Wilson's energy became quite evident as she has consistently looked at Freeport from the perspective of positioning us for growth and innovation in the years ahead.

An organizational assessment was conducted which included reviewing our organizational structure, as well as program service delivery.

We sought and committed resources to strengthen our infrastructure. With strong board support, we reached out to a broad range of resources and were able to secure support to significantly expand several initiatives. Although there was realignment and re-assignment of some leadership and staff positions, overall staff dedication and commitment remained strong.

We are grateful to our supporters and funders for their commitment to us, and to the youth and young families we serve. We look forward to the opportunity for you to learn more about these we serve and to help us continue this needed and fulfilling work. Our Board of Directors, our executive leadership, management and staff, invite you to join with us.

Thank you,

Richard C. Barrett  
*President of the Board*

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Together, Board, management, and staff have accomplished much so far, though challenges lie ahead. With the succession of executive leadership until my tenure now, our programs were not challenged to grow and our systems and processes were not coordinated. We also needed to increase the Agency's visibility within the community and the nonprofit sector. Our focus is here now.

My main messages in this first six months were: achieve operational effectiveness and efficiencies to reduce costs and maximize opportunities; for our funders, clearly demonstrate achievement of successful outcomes for the youth and young families we serve; and highlight Freeport's uniqueness with its programmatic Continuum of Care for our clients. Our programs focuses include prevention, reunification, transitional living, educational assistance, and employment referrals. With this work, we are able to meet participant's needs and lead them down the path towards successful independence.

This year, Otto Bremer foundation invested in Freeport providing an organizational effectiveness grant; we used these funds to identify areas where staff could operate more efficiently and effectively. For example, implementation of a centralized purchases process system resulted in increased cost savings and purchasing efficiencies for the entire agency. Several other areas of improvement will be implemented in the future because of this assessment.

In an effort to connect with the community and promote who we are and what we do as well as diversify our funding streams, we launched the First Annual Home and Heart Holiday Benefit with great success. As, the only fundraising event Freeport had hosted in years, it was a great honor to be surrounded by over 180 members of the nonprofit and corporate communities to socialize and raise much needed funds.

The strength of our work and commitment over the years has meant that Freeport has been able to provide and maintain critical programming. We are financially strong. We will continue to work to bring positive programs that achieve successes and serve our participants effectively. All of us will work together to affect the changes needed to have impact on the youth and families we serve, so that they thrive – and Freeport as well.



Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ramona Wilson".

Ramona Wilson  
Executive Director

## **FREEPORT WEST**

Freeport West is a 38 year old nonprofit human services agency that provides programs and services to support homeless and at-risk youth and families in crisis. Freeport provides services for youth and families most likely to experience poverty, oppression, institutionalization and violence. Offering a wide range of hands on assistance through a variety of programs, as well as collaboration for access to additional services, Freeport focuses its efforts on attaining positive outcomes for youth and families, and strengthening community supports which will sustain their efforts.

### **MISSION**

To support the efforts of families and communities to create environments where all children thrive.

### **VISION**

Children thrive in families and communities joined together in creating adequate resources and ample opportunities to contribute to one another's well being.

### **2007 OVERALL OUTCOMES**

In 2007, Freeport served over 2,700 youth and families through its programs.

# 2007 PROGRAM UPDATES

Freeport West's programs and services support homeless and at risk youth, and the families involved. Freeport contributes resources, teaches new skills and actively supports the strengths and efforts of youth and families. The agency works with those youth and families most likely to experience poverty, oppression, institutionalization and violence. With Freeport's assistance, these individuals get the support they need to thrive in their communities.

Community building has become the foundation of Freeport's community strength based approach to enhancing inherent support networks for children, youth and families.

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Community Connections was designed to provide families and children residing in homeless shelters as well as families transitioning out of shelters, a variety of services including individual and family counseling, children's groups, case management, parent training, support and referrals. The goals for families in the shelters are for (1) youth and adults to develop safe and appropriate social skills and increase their social interactions, (2) families to increase their knowledge of and utilize more community resources to meet their physical, mental and emotional needs, and (3) homeless parents to develop a better understanding of the emotional impact that being homeless has on their children. These services are provided by Freeport through two Family Care Specialists and an internship program in partnership with St. Mary's University, Argosy University and Adler Graduate School. Families

who leave the shelters but request continued services to make successful transitions are also provided with assistance. In 2007, 20 families received intensive long term services as well as 435 individuals. Of the many individuals who attended weekly group sessions, most were children.

### 2007 Individuals Served: 435

- Total number of families served (one or more children): 223
- Children and youth: 493
- Adults: 114

## FREEPORT FAMILYWORKS

Freeport FamilyWorks began in 1983 as an in-family assessment program and grew into an assessment and support services program. Freeport FamilyWorks works with families whose children are at risk of neglect or abuse. This past year was its second year as an in-home parenting program working with families in the Hennepin County Child Protection system. The primary emphasis was on parent training and support, i.e. strengthening basic parenting skills such as discipline, communication, problem solving skills and educating on the ages and stages of child development. In addition to parenting, other services included advocacy, supervised visitation, resource development, and household management training.

### 2007 Individuals Served (youth and families): 264

- Children: 162 served
- Adults: 102 served
- Total households served: 76
- Average reported family income is 100 to 200 percent below established poverty levels

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Freeport's Health & Wellness program provides families and youth the opportunity to get fit by providing fitness training and nutritional workshops. Our objective is to help individuals stay fit and healthy in order to combat obesity and Type II Diabetes. This past year, Freeport re-energized this program through a new partnership with the Blaisdell YMCA providing participants with the opportunity to work with personal certified trainers to set and meet their own personal health and wellness objectives. Additionally, participants took nutrition to the next level through personal shopping outings and cooking lessons.

### 2007 Individuals Served: 28

- Adults: 13 served
- Children and youth under 18: 15 served

## PROJECT SOLO

Project SOLO founded in 1985, is a central part of local services for runaway and homeless youth. SOLO provides life skills training, case management, counseling, educational and employment services, basic health care and referrals for medical, dental and substance abuse services to at-risk and homeless youth. Additional services for youth who are homeless or living in unstable homes in the Twin Cities area include educational assessment, guidance, tutoring and GED preparation, early childhood education and supportive services including family re-unification. SOLO also operates a transitional living program serving 30 homeless youth in scattered site apartments, funded by HUD.

### 2007 Individuals Served (ages 16-21): 306

- 410 Intakes were done
- Of 306 participants, 86 youth with children were served (71 were female, 15 were male)
- Of the 306, 235 were female and 71 were male
- 88% (270) of the 306 participated in group sessions in 2007

## STREETWORKS

Established in 1994 to bring together a group of unconnected at-risk youth serving organizations, StreetWorks is now a collaborative of 12 diverse agencies committed to meeting the needs of runaway, homeless and at-risk youth. StreetWorks has become a national model and the largest youth-serving collaborative in the state of Minnesota.

This program experienced increased growth in 2007 by reestablishing itself, becoming more visible in the community and securing additional funding to increase the diversity of its street outreach team by adding more Latino street outreach workers in St. Paul.

### 2007 Individuals Served

Average number of street outreach contacts made with youth per month: 1,800

Unduplicated, annual intensive Case Management Services to youth: 984

- 308 youth were given information to locate safe housing
- 244 youth were given information and assistance in accessing emergency shelter
- 134 youth were spoken to and given assistance with family reunification
- 104 youth were given information or referrals to medical, mental health or addiction treatment services
- 242 youth were given information about or access to HIV/STD or pregnancy prevention services
- 323 youth received employment or education services or referrals

# Freeport West Hosts First Annual Home & Heart Holiday Benefit

## Celebrating Youth and Families in Home & Heart

On Wednesday, December 5, 2007, Freeport West held its first annual holiday fundraiser Home & Heart at the Historic Gale Mansion in Minneapolis. Over 180 of the premier members of the non-profit and business communities attended this evening of networking and socializing in honor of Freeport's mission to support the efforts of families and communities to create environments where all children can thrive. The fundraiser had a special gingerbread house holiday theme designed especially for the event to remind supporters and attendees of one of Freeport West's main focuses, working with runaway and homeless youth, who do not always have the comfort of warm and inviting homes during the holidays.

As part of the evening's festivities, beautiful (and edible) gingerbread houses were donated to Freeport (for a live auction) by local area bakeries including Lunds, Byerlys, Edelweiss Bakery, and Cub Foods. The Minnesota Lynx Women's Basketball Team got caught up in the spirit as well by donating a house of their own. Star point guard, Lindsey Harding teamed up with Wuollet's in Edina to create a Lynx Basketball themed home just for the event. The Lynx gingerbread house decorating session with Lindsey and special "co-decorating" guest, Freeport Executive Director, Ramona Wilson, was featured on the evening broadcast of WCCO news on Thursday, November 22, 2007.



The night was a great success for Freeport. Attendees enjoyed bidding on silent auction items as well as participating in the "live" gingerbread auction. Comments were presented by Ramona Wilson as well as Freeport West's Chairman of the Board, Richard Barrett. The agency raised important funds for their programs.

# BALANCE SHEET

DECEMBER 31, 2007

## ASSETS

### CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents .....	\$1,117,629
Accounts Receivable .....	\$176,615
Prepaid Expenses .....	\$41,808
Other Receivables .....	\$2,533

**Total Current Assets.....\$1,338,585**

Property & Equipment, Net of Allowance.....\$1,609,480

**Total Assets.....\$2,948,065**

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable.....	\$45,128
Accrued Expenses.....	\$90,739

**Total Current Liabilities.....\$135,867**

### NET ASSETS

Unrestricted.....	\$2,610,968
Temporarily Restricted.....	\$201,230

**Total Net Assets.....\$2,812,198**

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets.....\$2,948,065**

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

## DECEMBER 31, 2007

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2007 Total
<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUES</b>			
Hennepin & Other Counties	\$432,036		\$432,036
State of Minnesota	\$257,385		\$257,385
Program Grant Revenues	\$933,311	\$580	\$933,891
United Way	\$51,304	\$233,391	\$284,695
Contributions	\$88,486	\$430,458	\$518,944
Interest Income	\$25,726		\$25,726
In-Kind Contributions			
Other Income	\$5,179		\$5,179
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1,793,427</b>	<b>\$664,429</b>	<b>\$2,457,856</b>
Net Assets			
Released from Restrictions	\$698,022	\$(698,022)	
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenues</b>	<b>\$2,491,449</b>	<b>\$(33,593)</b>	<b>\$2,457,856</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program Services	\$1,992,752		\$1,992,752
Management and General	\$438,454		\$438,454
Fundraising	\$75,991		\$75,991
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,507,197</b>		<b>\$2,507,197</b>
Change in Net Assets	\$(15,748)	\$(33,593)	\$(49,341)
<b>Net Assets (Beginning of Year)</b>	<b>\$2,626,716</b>	<b>\$234,823</b>	<b>\$2,861,539</b>
<b>Net Assets (End of Year)</b>	<b>\$2,610,968</b>	<b>\$201,230</b>	<b>\$2,812,198</b>

The financial statements of Freeport West, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2007 has been audited by LarsonAllen LLP, independent certified public accountants, who rendered an unqualified opinion thereon. The complete set of financial statements and the opinion of LarsonAllen LLP are on file at Freeport West, Inc. and are available upon request.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Advanced Technologies  
Allianz Life Insurance Foundations  
Ameriprise Financial  
Archie D. and Bertha H.  
Walker Foundation  
L. Brown  
Carl and Eloise Pohlad  
Family Foundation  
Carlson Companies  
CH Robinson Foundation  
Columbia Precision  
Machine Corporation  
Comfort Inn  
Edina Realty Foundation  
F.R. Bigelow Foundation  
Franklin Bank  
Spenser Gerberding  
Patricia Meier & Jack Grundhofer  
K.L. Henderson  
Henry A. Bromelkamp Foundation  
Highland Bank  
House of Prayer  
HUD Hennepin County  
Independent Packing Services  
Jay and Rose Phillips  
Family Foundation  
Jeffrey Paulson and Associates  
William Kendle  
Keystone Computer Solutions  
Mardag Foundation  
Pamela McBride  
McKnight Foundation

Michael Taylor  
Microsoft Corporation  
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MoneyGram Foundation  
J. Murphy & Associates  
G.R. Nygaard  
Open Your Heart to the Hungry  
and Homeless Foundation  
Otto Bremer Foundation  
Patrick and Aimee Butler  
Family Foundation  
Quality Laser  
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Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux  
St. Mary's University  
Saint Paul Foundation  
Sunshine Lady Foundation  
Synico  
Target Foundation  
Tavern on Grand  
The Minneapolis Foundation  
The TJX Foundation  
Thrivent Financial for  
Lutherans Foundation  
VSI Construction  
Walmart  
Wells Fargo  
Wells Fargo Insurance  
Xcel Energy  
Individual Donations

## 2007 BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Richard Barrett, *President*  
HENNEPIN COUNTY

Sandra Freeman, *Vice-President*  
SOULFUL CROSSWORDS, INC.

Steven Lassiter, *Treasurer*  
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT

Michelle Arndt, *Secretary*  
INGENIX

Catherine Asta  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Walter Gutzmer  
IT MANAGER

Laurie Henderson  
HOME RENTAL SYSTEMS

Jose Jones  
LARSON, ALLEN, & WEISHAAR

Judith Kahn  
YOUTH COORDINATING BOARD

Linda Kelley  
CITIES' BEST MARKETING

Pamela McBride  
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT

LaJuan McIntyre  
AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL

Jeffrey Paulson  
JEFFREY C. PAULSON & ASSOCIATES

## 2007 STAFF

Trudee Able Peterson  
Amy Anlauf  
Bertha Ashford  
Stephanie Bailey  
Lee Ann Brown  
Penny Buesgens Schwalm  
Gail Croom-Harris  
Amanda Danielson  
Paula Faraci  
James Engen  
Tongrit William Green  
Darla Gustafson  
Ahmed Haji  
Christy Hyke  
Kirsten Johnson  
Sarah Johnston  
Rebecca Keyes  
GeorgeKressin  
Jane Kressin  
Sarah Kudrna  
Amelia Kundert  
Aaron Kupcho  
Ann Lindquist  
Michelle May  
Lisa Marie McLevis  
Mark McNamer  
Autumn Medlock  
Richard Mielke  
Malinda Miller  
Tamara Muhammad  
John Nelson  
Katherine Nichol  
Kim O'Grady  
Diane Olson  
Rebecca Parkhurst  
Janelle Reich  
Comfort Rennie  
Tewonna Shedd-Bamba  
Melody Swanson  
Sarah Taylor-Nanista  
Marc Wade  
Linda Waters  
Ramona Wilson  
Pamela Zeller



## ADMINISTRATION

### Minneapolis

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Minneapolis, MN 55404  
Phone: 612.824.3040  
Fax: 612.824.0379

### Saint Paul Youth Center

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Saint Paul, MN 55104  
Phone: 651.222.3504  
Fax: 651.225.1041

## PROGRAMS

### FamilyWorks

Phone: 612.824.3040  
Fax: 612.824.0780

### Community Connections

Phone: 612.824.3040  
Fax: 612.824.0780

### Heath & Wellness

Phone: 612.252.2707  
Fax: 612.824.0780

### StreetWorks

Phone: 612.252.2735  
Fax: 612.252.2736

### Project SOLO

Phone: 612.874.1936  
Fax: 612.874.6516



Any discrepancies in this report are unintentional and should be reported to Freeport West for correction in future reports. Freeport wants to emphasize that all gifts to the organization, large or small, are vitally important and deeply appreciated. Please consider donating.

For more information, please contact:

Freeport West  
2219 Oakland Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN

For current events and needs, please visit our website at [freeportwest.org](http://freeportwest.org)