

University Street Ministry works with the community and people of all faith traditions to offer support to meet basic needs, build strong relationships, and ally with homeless youth as they meet their future off the streets.

OFFER. | BUILD. | ALLY.

With the tremendous support of the community, USM responds to the most basic needs of homeless youth with three programs:

**Teen Feed** serves hot, nutritious meals six nights a week, 52 weeks a year, in various University District faith community facilities. Teen Feed averages between 40 and 70 guests per night.

**STOP** sends out teams of outreach counselors to meet at-risk youth who avoid traditional social service agencies in their own environment—the streets and alleys where they spend most of their time.

**Service Links for Youth** is a case management program – we call it “Support Coordination” – designed to help youth who are ready to begin the transition to life off the streets.



## TEEN FEED

- In 2009, Teen Feed served 11,313 meals over a total of 272 evenings.
- 476 youth and young adults were new to Teen Feed and to the streets.
- 324 youth at Teen Feed self-reported being under 18 years of age.
- Volunteer meal teams purchased over \$47,000 worth of food to serve youth at Teen Feed.
- Teen Feed volunteers, advocates, and meal teams donated 8,002 hours of their time in service to homeless youth.

At the end of 2009, we added a sixth night to our Teen Feed program. **Homeless youth can now obtain a warm dinner, the support of non-judgmental adults, and a safe break from street life every Sunday through Friday night of the year.**

During the first two Friday nights of Teen Feed youth commented,

*“I have a place to eat on Friday nights!”  
“I’m glad you’re open on Fridays...FINALLY!”*

Teen Feed thanks two new allies who are helping us serve the most nutritious and fresh meals to homeless youth. The *Sunday Ballard Market* donated over 1,000 pounds of fresh organic produce – right from local farms. *Food Lifeline* donated over 4,200 pounds of food, helping to offset the cost of feeding youth on the streets.

With the expansion to Friday nights – and to Saturdays in 2010 – Teen Feed is intentionally building bridges with volunteers of every faith background, ethnicity, and sexual orientation – so that youth have the support of mentors who share their experience. Youth at Teen Feed have said in 2009, *“There are more volunteers who I can relate with!”*

## STREET TALK OUTREACH PROGRAM: STOP

**STOP made over 1,350 positive contacts with youth on the streets** offering socks, food, referral to resources, and a relationship with a caring adult.

35 youth whose first contact with USM was with STOP outreach enrolled in support coordination – working with USM staff to leave the streets. Focusing on building a relationship with homeless youth in their environment breaks down the resistance many youth have to engaging and working with trusting adults.

STOP leveraged 240 volunteer hours. Most STOP volunteers are formerly homeless young adults reaching out to their peers on the streets.

Much of STOP's success is difficult to measure in numbers. With the strength of trust built between STOP staff and youth, STOP is able to de-escalate potentially dangerous confrontations, stand in solidarity with youth as they struggle to figure out their path, and provide support to kids in their darkest hours. Sometimes, there is nothing more powerful than showing a hurt young person that they are genuinely cared for and worthy of being part of a community.



STOP's first contact with Adam was 8 months ago when he arrived in Seattle. He was initially reluctant to receive any help from USM. In his own words, "Isn't there somebody you could be talking to that REALLY needs y'all's help?" Over the course of several months Adam opened up to the idea of support coordination. With USM's help, Adam became gainfully employed, moved into transitional housing and is now a regular and valued volunteer with STOP outreach.

Mike had been working with USM for a couple months, only checking in occasionally. One night at Teen Feed he asked to speak with USM staff outside. While trying to hold back tears, Mike said that he needed treatment for heroin addiction. Since then Mike's become very close with our Support Coordinator, and they are working together to find a drug treatment program. They find time to grab coffee together – these are opportunities to celebrate Mike's bravery, to remind him that he is strong, and that he can and *will* be successful.

## SERVICE LINKS FOR YOUTH: SLY

With support from USM's Support Coordinators, **60 youth entered safe and stable housing.**

37 youth achieved two or more goals within one month – goals that help prepare them for life off the street.

- 69 youth met educational goals
- 129 worked on employment goals
- 22 youth received substance abuse treatment

153 youth were enrolled in support coordination to receive help in leaving the streets.

56 youth received legal assistance from Street Youth Legal Advocates of Washington.

100% of the youth we serve are low or no income, 41% are youth of color, 38% report having a disability, 2% are transgendered and 100% are homeless.

### University Street Ministry Statement of Financial Position As of September 30, 2009

#### ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalent	\$114,291
Fiscal Reserve	\$257,201
Other	\$12,318

**TOTAL ASSETS** **\$383,807**

#### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Total Liabilities	\$7,519
Equity	
Net Assets	\$249,461
Net Income	\$126,827
Total Equity	\$376,288

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** **\$383,807**



UNIVERSITY STREET MINISTRY  
4740 B UNIVERSITY WAY NE  
SEATTLE, WA 98105  
206.522.4366

## INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

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your help that  
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