



January 2009

TLP e-newsletter

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Get Involved

Want to attend one of the meetings or events below? Please contact [Emily Krisciunas](#) for more information!

[\\$1MM Chase Giving Launch Party](#)

Launch TLP's campaign to win \$1MM by bringing your laptops and asking friends to vote for us on Facebook. **Friday, January 15th, 9:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m. at [Risque Cafe](#) in Wrigleyville**

[\\$1MM Facebook-a-thon](#)

Join TLP supporters on Monday, January 18th from 5:30-10:00 p.m. at the Pepper Canister on Wells between Grand and Illinois.

[Gala Committee Meeting](#)

Help plan TLP's annual black-tie Gala. Next meeting is **Tuesday, January 19 at 6:00 p.m.**

[Ice Skating with TLP Youth](#)

Join TLP's Auxiliary Board for an evening of ice skating with TLP youth. **Monday, January 25 at 5:30 p.m. at the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink**

Dear Emily,

In this issue: read about our [new executive director](#); see pictures from [Brian Urlacher's holiday visit](#) to Belfort House; find out how you can [help TLP win \\$1 Million](#); and share our appreciation for [TLP's supporters this holiday season](#).

Board of Director's Chairman Update

By Gerald L. Pauling

Dear TLP Community Members and Friends,

I am thrilled to announce the selection of Teen Living Programs' new executive director, Ms. Jeri Linas. Jeri's long career in Chicago has been focused on survivors of domestic violence. She served as Executive Director of Rainbow House, a comprehensive social service agency serving battered women and their families, and then as the Assistant Director of the Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence. She brings to TLP a great deal of experience with coalition building, organizational development, fundraising, and stakeholder engagement.

Since David Myers left to join Obama administration in May 2009, the transition team focused on finding a new executive director who would uphold his legacy of effective, evidence-based programs, while empowering TLP to continue on a path of leadership and national recognition. We are confident that Jeri is the right person for the job.

The board of directors, staff, and youth are very excited to have Jeri join the TLP community. We hope you will join us to formally welcome Jeri at next month's community meeting at Belfort House on Thursday, February 18 at 5:00 p.m. Please RSVP [here if you plan to join us](#).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank TLP's interim executive director, Virginia Mason, for her support and stewardship during the transition. Virginia did an excellent job leading TLP through what could have been a time of turmoil and disruption but instead was an opportunity for the agency to grow.

Jeri's first official day was yesterday and she will reach out and personally introduce herself to our stakeholders and supporters within the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, I encourage you to contact to either me, or [Jeri](#), with any questions during this time of transition.

Warmly,

Gerald L. Pauling
TLP Board of Directors, Chair



Brian Urlacher Celebrates Holidays with TLP Youth

Chicago Bears Player Visits Belfort House with Gifts

Join Our Mailing List!

On Tuesday, December 22rd, Teen Living Programs youth received a special surprise visit from Chicago Bears linebacker Brian Urlacher.

Just in time for Christmas, Mr. Urlacher came to Belfort House with 60+ new iPod Nanos and iTunes gift cards wrapped up for the youth in all of TLP's programs. He stayed for dinner and signed every autograph request and took as many pictures as the staff and youth wanted.



Mr. Urlacher isn't a new friend to TLP. As part of the Bears' "Home Team Hand-Off" program, he purchased a block of seven tickets and donated them to TLP back in September. TLP youth and staff are grateful to have used these tickets to attend every Bears home game at Soldier Field this season.

Thank you, Brian Urlacher and Go Bears! [See more pictures from Brian's visit on Facebook.](#)



TLP Advances to 2nd Round of Chase Community Giving Facebook Contest!

Social Media for Social Good campaign puts TLP one step closer to winning \$1MM!

TLP is one of 100 non-profit organizations across the nation that have made it to the final round of the Chase Community Giving Contest on Facebook--putting us in the running for the \$1 Million top prize.

TLP beat out over 500,000 non-profits in the first round of the contest, and we can't wait to launch the **second round of voting from January 15-22, 2010.**

Beginning today, you can [review TLP's "Big Idea" proposal including a new video](#) describing what we would do for Chicago's youth who are homeless with \$1,000,000.

With \$1MM at stake, we need your support now more than ever. Review TLP's "[Big Idea](#)" and stay tuned for more about how you can help make our idea a reality.

Generous Donors Make Annual Youth Holiday Party one to Remember

Throughout the month of December, companies, churches, and community groups across Chicago held gift drives for TLP youth. Supporters collected hundreds of necessary items--blankets, pajamas, winter accessories, and personal hygiene items--as well as special gifts from youth wish lists.

On Thursday, December 17th, youth and staff celebrated the holidays with their annual holiday party at Belfort House.

[Click here](#) for pictures of the special evening.

Thank you to the many offices, churches and friends of TLP



who made the holidays so memorable.

Recent Gifts

Thank you to the [Lifeboat Foundation](#), the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation, the George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities, and the Ceres Foundation for your support of Teen Living Programs!

The Lifeboat Foundation awarded \$15,000 in support of TLP's [mission](#) of creating hope and opportunity for youth who are homeless.

The Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation awarded TLP a \$5,000 grant supporting our stable housing program which includes the Belfort House transitional living program, the CaSSA independent living program, and Supportive Services for these youth.

The **George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities** awarded a \$3,000 grant for general operating support. General operating support is essential to deliver all of our [housing](#), [supportive services](#), and [outreach](#) programs.

The **Ceres Foundation** awarded \$3,000 in support of TLP's [programs](#) for youth who are homeless.

Thank you all for your continued support of TLP!

[Donate Now](#)

Donations to Teen Living Programs are tax-deductible as charitable contributions and can be made with a check, by a transfer of stock, or online with a credit card.

Note: Online donations ARE eligible for Matching Gift Programs. Just mail TLP the paperwork and we'll take it from there.

Checks should be made payable to **Teen Living Programs** and can be mailed to:

Teen Living Programs
162 W. Hubbard
Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60654

or visit our [Website](#) to make a secure online donation.

Questions? Call [Nia Tavoularis](#), director of development, at 312-568-5700, ext. 228.

Thank you for your support!

www.teenliving.org

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