

MISSION ROAD

MINISTRIES

2007 Annual Report

We are counting our blessings for 2007 and thank all our donors, volunteers and various supporters for helping us touch many precious lives this past year.

It was a banner year for Mission Road Ministries. For starters it was our 60th birthday year – 60 years since we were founded by Cliff and Adele Bledsoe and their son who had severe mental and physical disabilities. In those 60 years we have grown to serve over 600 individuals daily who are challenged mentally and physically.



Mr. and Mrs. Louis Stumberg receive a commemorative plaque from Rev. Rich Kannwischer.

At our 60th birthday party, Rev. and Mrs. Rich Kannwischer helped us celebrate those *angels* who successfully lead us through the *lean years* when we were not well known and philanthropic dollars were limited. They were Mr. and Mrs. Houston Harte, Mary Lou Miller and The Labor Movement, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Seal (posthumously), Mr. and Mrs. John R. Shaw (John, posthumously), Mr. and Mrs. Louis Stumberg and Reverend and Mrs. Louis H. Zbinden. In 2007, we also introduced a new logo for Mission Road Ministries and Mission Road Developmental Center and transformed our website from a static on-line brochure to an interactive communication tool.

Blessings poured out upon us in the fundraising arena. We were awarded a \$100,000 grant by Golf San Antonio to renovate our gym and were chosen to be the recipients of a \$100,000 matching grant by Pizza Hut/Jack and Laura Richmond. To top it off, we were issued a \$1 million challenge grant by Sue and Jesse Oppenheimer to raise \$1 million to fund the Jesse H. and Susan R. Oppenheimer Center for Programming and Recreation. To date we have met the Oppenheimer Challenge raising \$2,971,000 toward our total goal of \$3.5 million. We ended 2007 with our 28th Grand Western Shindig which broke all previous records grossing \$600,000 and netting \$515,000.



Rabbi Sam Stahl visits with Jesse and Susan Oppenheimer at the press conference.

Mission Road Ministries served more people than ever in a greater variety of programs. At **Mission Road Developmental Center** we expanded our services to reach more folks with mental disabilities both through our residential and non-residential services. We reached the following milestones;

- We opened our 9th 4-bed group home for adults.
- We increased services to individuals served in non-residential programs (providing services in the family home) by 75%.
- We opened two Day Habilitation classrooms for up to 15 adults whose needs are not as severe as those served in our Day Activity Center.
- We celebrated the accomplishments of Xavier B. who was admitted to the campus children's program 7 years ago, an abused neglected child with many emotional and mental disabilities. When he turned 18 he moved into an adult group home. In 2007 he moved to the Independence Square Apartments where he lives alone with minimal supervision. He works in the kitchen on the Mission Road south side campus and enjoys riding the VIA bus to meet his girlfriend at the mall.

At our **Unicorn Center** located in San Antonio's Medical Center, we made great strides in client care and facilities upgrade.

- We installed new HVAC and electrical systems, restrooms, windows, and roof!
- We served a record number of people...500, compared to 155 in 2002.
- We added new staff to include a Contract Procurement position in the workshop and additional Service Specialists.
- We added new furniture in our Site Based Program, a brand new shrink wrap machine, and a fountain in our Green Room!
- Unicorn Center recognized, at a 300-person luncheon, over 60 individuals who had maintained employment in the community for at least one year.
- Unicorn took steps to add 30 to 40 individuals to its workshop program due to the closing of the Goodwill Workshop program.



Jayne Meals, Rev. Curt Peder and honoree David Harte at Unicorn's Supported Employment Luncheon.

Because of our excellent stewardship of resources and positive client outcomes, Mission Road was chosen again by United Way to be included in the *preferential funding category*. We also *gave back* to United Way by participating in the Pacesetter program for 2008 and contributing \$35,573 in employee donations.

We are amazed at your thoughtful care and concern for our individuals with developmental disabilities. Our hearts are warmed by your generosity and we thank you most sincerely for your faithful support.

Sincerely yours,

Toby Summers