



ANGELS' PLACE INC.
A PLACE TO GROW

Crib Notes

Fall 2008

FORMERLY MOM'S HOUSE OF PITTSBURGH

Issue Number 95

Hello and Happy September!

This school year begins with excitement for all the milestones accomplished this past year as well as much anticipation for all the ones to come. As you already know, Mary Winter (Angels' Place Founder and Former Executive Director) retired last spring. I had the pleasure to work under her direct leadership for nearly nine months as the Assistant Executive Director before transitioning into the role of Executive Director. I am deeply grateful to Mary for her love and guidance - not only to me, but the entire team here. She has created quite a standard to be followed and such an honorable legacy in the field of family support. Mary is a shining example of exactly how much one person can do when they believe in something good.

Carrying her idea forward, Angels' Place is embarking on its 25th year of serving two generations of young people and positively impacting the lives of many young student parents and their children! We are so thrilled that all three of our sites are now accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Congratulations to the North Side site for recently accomplishing this goal. They learned of the happy news in May. Two additional noteworthy accomplishments are: our Swissvale site will have its 20th birthday this school year and North Side will turn 10 years old!

But, none of what we celebrate would be possible without the support and generosity of you - our donors. Your kindness in giving makes the programs possible and your belief in the mission of ensuring opportunities for education is what sustains Angels' Place. Thank you for continuing to see value in what we do. Thank you for helping to create brighter futures and inspire hope to so many talented and strong individuals.

Also on a personal note, thank you to every single person (too many to name individually, but you know who you are!) who shared a caring or supportive word or gesture with me during the past year as I stepped into my new role here at Angels' Place. I appreciate your encouragement and faith more than I can ever express, and hope you know that - along with the extremely capable Board of Directors and Team of employees - we will do all we can to ensure continued high quality of care and remain a beacon of hope for those who need us in the community.

I look forward to seeing you at our Halo Award Dinner next month!

Very sincerely,

Michelle Smith Tipton

Yes! I plan to attend the Halo Award Dinner - October 22, 2008

Please reserve _____ Individual reservations at \$85 per person
 _____ Patron reservations at \$100 per person
 _____ Table reservation at \$800 for 10 people

I am unable to attend, but would like to contribute \$_____ in support of Angels' Place.
(Please make checks payable to Angels' Place)

Visa/Mastercard/AMEX #: _____ Exp. Date: _____
 (Please Print)

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

Phone (_____) _____

Please attach any special seating instructions.

Special dietary needs, if applicable: _____

Your response will be appreciated on or **before October 15, 2008.**

ANGELS' PLACE INC.
A PLACE TO GROW

Formerly Mom's House of Pgh.

NORTH SIDE

2615 Norwood Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15214
 412.321.4447

info@angelsplacepgh.org
 www.angelsplacepgh.org

BROOKLINE

600 Fordham Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15226
 412.531.6667

SWISSVALE

2538 Woodstock Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA. 15218
 412.271.2229

Highlighting Our Swissvale Site

Swissvale – Beth E. Banas



Mylee takes a break from building her sand castle.

Hope and possibility always accompany the new school year providing parents, children, staff, and volunteers a fresh start. During the month of August our center closes for an entire week to create the atmosphere and environment that is conducive to a fresh start. The events of this week long project involve giving the entire center a face lift along with a thorough cleaning. New toys and equipment are proudly set out along with carefully planned and arranged visual displays. Letters are sent out to all the families in anticipation of their return and participation in our program. All of this is done in an effort to generate the excitement of hope and possibility. A week later when we reopen the air is charged as everyone arrives and appreciates and enjoys the metamorphosis. This whole process takes an incredible amount of thought, planning and hard work to bring to fruition. Our staff is the motivating force behind this transformation but this year we also had parents join our efforts. It is a heart warming experience to see so many working so diligently to prepare an environment that inspires success. Although I am always sad to see summer end this one project breeds enthusiasm for the new school year.

We have several new families joining us this year. Our three CCAC students are **Diana** and her two daughters **Zoë** and **Jayah**, **Maya** and her two daughters **Marcaya** and **Mylee** along with **Krysta** and her son **Ashton**. **Zena** attends Carnegie Mellon Univ. and her daughter **Sawyer** just turned one year old. **Caleb** our youngest infant is accompanied by his mother **Monique** who attends Point Park Univ. We were very proud to send **Eli** off to kindergarten. He and his family have been with our program for five years. **Eli** started as an infant with his sister **Alasia** who was three. **Alasia** has a successful school career and is entering 3rd grade. Both of their parents were able to complete degrees during the time spent with us. Although we are ecstatic with the success of this family and the start of their new journey, we will miss them dearly. We will look forward to their return visits, keeping them in our thoughts and prayers.

Swissvale Special Events

We kicked off the summer with our annual Kennywood picnic in June. Later that month we held a charrette, a fancy term for a simple meeting with community members, staff, clients and stakeholders. This meeting was held to discuss the possibilities of improving the Swissvale site so that it becomes sustainable and ready for the next 50 years of its existence.

In July we were visited by two wonderful youth groups from the Department of Youth and Young Adults Ministry. They were so helpful and the children were very excited to have some new playmates. In the heat of summer and without a complaint they weeded and trimmed back the bushes surrounding our property. During the tour of our facility I was impressed as well as touched by their interest and commitment to our organization. Special thanks to our good friend Angela Gaughan for creating the connection between two community service components.

Ann Adams and Sharon Cercone from PNC Grow Up Great Initiative visited our program in August. We discussed all the possible projects they could help us with and set up their first volunteer project to commemorate September 11. Their group has been instrumental in helping our North Side Site complete many needed projects.

Swissvale Celebrates Birthdays

Zoe turned 4 on June 21
Laron turned 2 on June 25
Thomas turned one on June 30
Sawyer turned one on July 16
Lily turned three on Aug. 17
Ashton turned one on Aug. 29
Torrey turned three on Sept. 1
Jeremiah turned one on Sept. 8
Rosalind turned four on Sept. 14
Jada turns three Oct. 3



Swissvale teacher Sarah celebrates her birthday earlier this summer.

Parent Birthdays: Diana celebrated in June, Meg and Monique celebrated in July, Marla celebrates in October

Volunteers: Marge celebrated her birthday in June and Eileen celebrated hers in July

Teachers: Darla, Nicole, and Tracy celebrate their birthdays in September; Beth, Desiree and Cassie celebrate in October

Swissvale Staff Updates

Happy Angels' Place Anniversary to:
Beth - 19 years of service on August 14
Desiree - 6 years of service on September 3
Darla - 18 years of service on September 17

Darla and Desiree completed their Food Certification Training for Allegheny County Dept. of Health.

Beth attended a national conference for professional development in New Orleans. The conference was

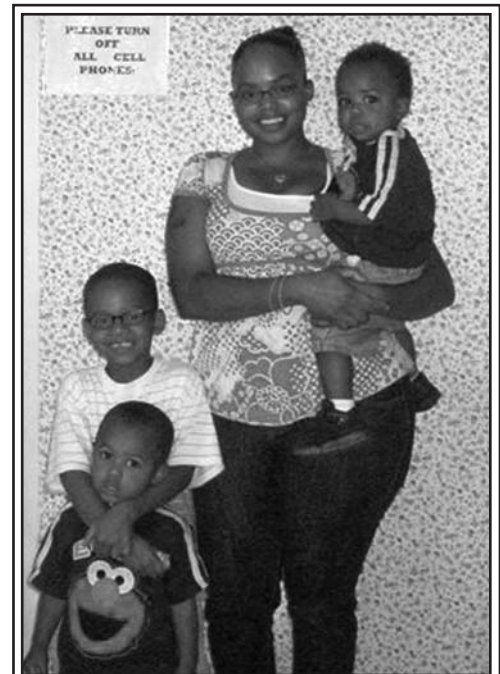
sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and attended by participants from all over the United States.

Darla and Tracy are registered for their new Early Childhood Education programs. Both of these teachers are working towards their next degree in early childhood. We wish them along with all of our parents the best of luck in their educational endeavors.

A Parent's Voice

Angels' Place has influenced me to be a much happier parent. I often take time to sit back and watch my children interact and am tickled by the funny things that they do. I have learned to appreciate motherhood a lot more. When I am overwhelmed and feel like raising three children alone is way too hard I think of how much of a blessing they are to me and I am unable to imagine my life without them. Angels' Place is giving my family quality of life. Through Angels' Place I now know that my situation does not define who I am or who I will be. Instead it influences my character and helps me to understand that nothing should be taken for granted. I strongly believe that nothing is worth it if you did not have to work hard to get it. I live everyday hoping that I can raise children who understand that principle. I know that if I can set that example for them they will live their lives thinking big and reaching high. Angels' Place is changing my life and I will forever be in debt to them for caring about my family. I graduate in April and I literally feel like I could reach out and touch my goal. That feeling is incredible and I owe it all to Angels' Place.

Michica



Michica holding Thomas with Myles standing behind Quincy

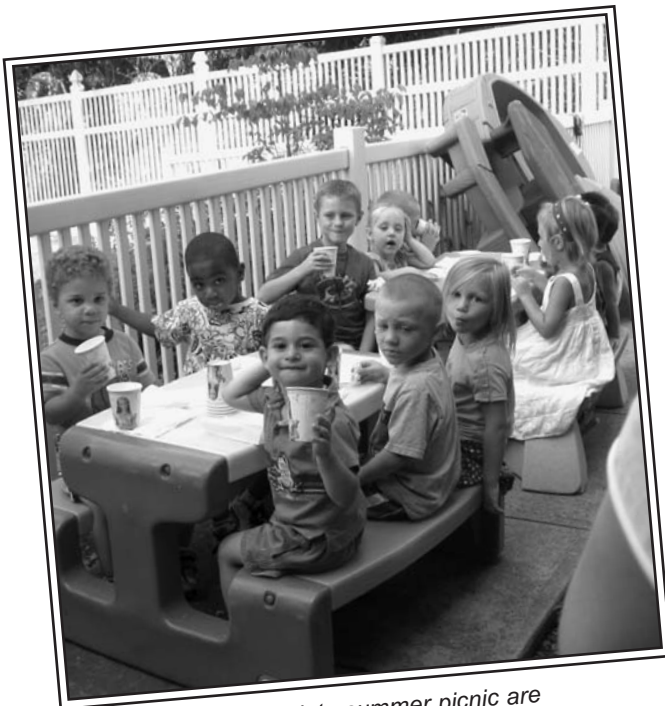
Program Director Reports From North Side & Brookline

North Side – Jennifer Leck

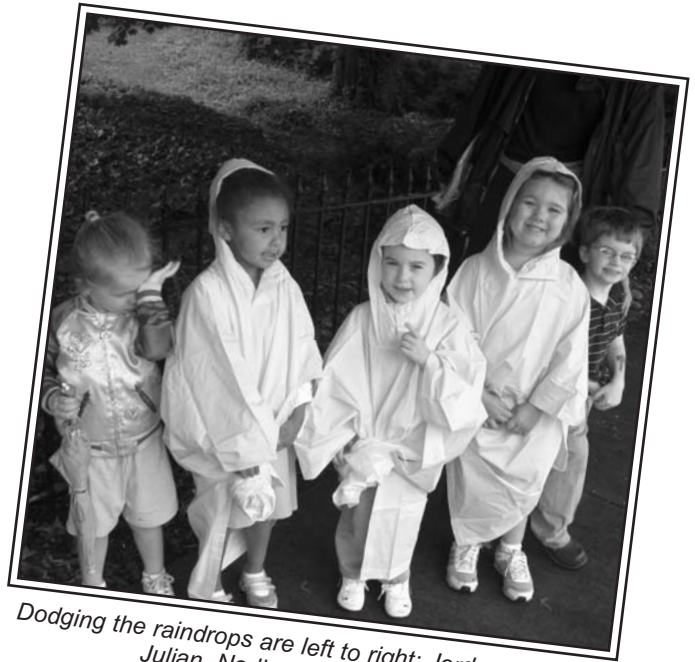
A new school year is upon us which means fall is right around the corner. Even though, the days will start to become cooler, the children will continue to enjoy the outdoors exploring all the wonders that nature has to offer during this glorious time of year.

Our playground is continuing to expand with the addition of our bike trail and shade tent. The children really enjoy their time outside and the teachers are helping to foster their understanding and appreciation of nature by letting them plant fall flowers and collect leaves, rocks and bugs.

The inside of our center has received a face lift with much needed painting on our first and second floors by a group of volunteers from **PNC**. Members of the youth ministry from the **Diocese of Pittsburgh** and PNC helped us so much over the summer by cleaning windows, lights, sorting clothes, and moving furniture. Many thanks to all our volunteers for their hard work and dedication to Angels' Place. As always, we would like to thank all those who support our program throughout the year by teaching, volunteering or donating. Your generosity and commitment helps us to provide the support and services we do for our families each and every day. We wish all of our friends a wonderful fall season.



Having a late summer picnic are front from left: Max, Steven, Emma and Alina row two from left: Nelson, Anthony, Seth, Naomi and Malijah.



Dodging the raindrops are left to right: Jordan, Isabella, Julian, Nadiya and Christopher.

Brookline – Annette Aguiar

The fall semester always seems like the busiest time of the year (only four months and several special holidays to celebrate during that time). Everyone at Brookline is excited and ready to fill the time with learning and fun!

We had a great summer with many wonderful and new experiences. For the first time, we went on the long field trip from Brookline to the **Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium**. Our children got to ride one bus to downtown, have snack at PPG Plaza and then board the second bus which took us all the way out to the Zoo. We saw a lot of our hometown that morning. At the zoo we enjoyed a beautiful sunny day - the animals seemed to be enjoying themselves as well. On the bus ride back we saw a little less of our town, because our children used the ride for a short refreshing nap! Back at the center everyone agreed that it was a wonderfully adventurous day.

I don't want to miss thanking everyone who helped over the summer: **Shirley Nedzesky** and her youth group of volunteers from **St. John Capistran**; **Dave Goodrick** and his friends and family who helped complete his Eagle Scout Project; a delegation of **Girl Scout Troop 1559** who redecorated our parent room with trim, new window treatments, great storage furniture, desks and a ceiling fan; **Scott Larkin** and his friends from **Senior Connection** who helped with several jobs around the center; our regular volunteers, **Dolores** and **Cindy** and last but not least our wonderful and dedicated staff! Have a great fall 2008!

Fall Giving: As an Employee...As a Business

Donations to Angels' Place are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Many workplaces provide forms for employee participation in fall giving campaigns:

Direct your **United Way Contributor's Choice contribution** to Angels' Place by...

1. Completing the Contributor Information and Payment Method sections as usual
2. Filling in "Angels' Place" in the agency designation section, along with the code for Northside (#1200) or for Brookline (#7193) or for Swissvale (#3977)
3. Allowing us to acknowledge your gift - please do NOT check the box at the bottom of the form telling the United Way not to release this good news to Angels' Place.

Many other businesses encourage giving through **America's Charities** (EIN #: 25-1450489).

Federal employees can give through the **Combined Federal Campaign**, for which the Angels' Place code is #44139. The code for the **State Employees' Combined Appeal** is #5000-0017.

Own a business? The Pennsylvania state taxes you pay can be transformed into a sizeable donation to Angels' Place - turning 55% of your contribution into tax credits, which can be carried over for 5 years. **There is an October deadline for this Neighborhood Assistance Program.** We will gladly set up an opportunity for you to learn more about it directly from the Department of Community and Economic Development representative. There is a minimum of paperwork, and a federal tax advantage, as well. For more information on this chance to direct where your tax dollars go, please call the Angels' Place Development Office at 412-321-4447.

Fun this Fall

Angels' Place friends at the Centre Avenue Massage & Spa are inviting you to take part in an exciting venture this fall to help raise money for Angels' Place. For more information call or stop by:

Centre Ave. Massage & Spa
5701 Centre Avenue - Suite LL2
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-661-7724

Come join us for an Evening at the Movies

There are many differences between growing up today and childhood as it was lived 50 years ago. An excellent one-hour documentary about these differences and their influences on children's physical and mental health will be screened at Swissvale Angels' Place, 2538 Woodstock Avenue, on October 16 at 6 p.m. Please join our educators and families in viewing and discussing the DVD **Where Do the Children Play?** and how the answer impacts our children. Please call 412-271-2229 to sign up for this free opportunity.

Angels' Place Upcoming Events


2008 HALO AWARD DINNER

Please join us in a fabulous evening of delicious cuisine and exciting silent auction at our annual Halo Award Dinner, chaired by Christopher and Ann Donahue on Wednesday, October 22nd at the Circuit Center & Ballroom in the IBEW Building on 5 Hot Metal Street in the South Side Works! We are presenting the Halo Award to Duquesne University Chancellor and Angels' Place Advisory Board Member Dr. John Murray. The extraordinary support of Dr. Murray and his wife Liz, for the past 18 years has played a major role in our progress and success. The Honorable Dwayne Woodruff and his lovely wife Joy Maxberry Woodruff will be co-emceeding the event. Reservations are \$85 per person; please visit our web site at www.angelsplacepgh.org for venue, sponsorship and silent auction information. Hope to see you there!

MACY'S FUNDRAISER

Go to your local Macy's Department Store on Saturday, September 20th and purchase a 20% off all purchases coupon for \$5. The \$5 will go directly to Angels' Place's program and services. Coupons may be purchased in any department at all Macy's in the area, but be sure to mention Angels' Place. If you would like to get a coupon in advance, please call Angels' Place at 412.321.4447.

All of us here at Angels' Place are extremely grateful to the many individuals, couples and families who made recent monetary and non-monetary donations, and to the churches, foundations and organizations for their generosity in support of our parents and children.

Monetary	Non-Monetary
<p>St. Anne Parish, Ladies of Charity, Castle Shannon Holy Child Parish, Confraternity of Christian Mothers. Bridgeville Dormont-Mt. Lebanon-Castle Shannon Rotary St. Basil Church, Christian Mothers, Carrick Swissvale United Methodist Church</p>	<p>St. Francis of Assisi Church, Christian Mothers/Ladies Guild, Finleyville St. Catherine of Siena Church, Ladies of Charity, Beechview South Hills Food Pantry, Mt. Lebanon St. John Capistran Parish, Ladies of Charity, Upper St. Clair St. Susanna Parish, Penn Hills Carlow University, Oakland St. John & Paul Parish, Franklin Park/Marshall Township St. Joseph Parish, Respect Life Committee, Verona St. Louise deMarillac Church, Upper St. Clair St. Valentine School, 2007/2008 3rd & 4th Grad Classes, Bethel Park</p>
Donated By: In Honor Of:	
<p>Mariangela Peters Mr. & Mrs. Jack Hernon Mr. & Mrs. Thomas P. Dugan Elizabeth B. DiSalle</p>	<p>Douglas Marvin Betts Young Cecelia A. Wilson's 80th Birthday Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Malinowski</p>
Donated By: In Memory Of:	
<p>Mr. & Mrs. Jack Hernon Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Strauss Eileen Gelet Lt. Gov. Catherine Baker Knoll</p> <p>The Fa Gah Wees John & Diane Mazza, Joseph & Michelle Tipton, Michael & Suzanne Duer, Mark & Elisabeth Smallwood Mr. & Mrs. John J. McCarthy, Jr.</p> 	<p>Mary Helen Hernon & Shirley Pinkerton Anna Marie Larkin Baby Aiden Butcher</p> <p>Helen L. Pencola, Karen L. Martinelli, Julia Voisko, Alice Rosser, Barbara Stocks, Olivia Frissora, Ruseel W. Harmon, Jack Pidgeon, James Cabell, Clenzo Colton, Merrill A. Pendergast, Julia Naushalter, Helen Gerlach, Norma R. Dexter, 1st Lt. Jeffrey DePrimo, Emma Abatta, Thomas Maher, Mary Battista, Mary Cray, Elizabeth Birkp, Alfonsina Galterio, Savannah Rose Cominsky, Ren Stoner, Agnes Rak, Dorothy Shelbaugh, Aloysius J. Stilp, Beau Zabel</p> <p>Warren Schuetz, George Weis & Jack Prendergast Paul Gibson</p> <p>Dorothy Stoecklein</p>
MOTHER'S DAY/FATHER'S DAY DONATIONS	
Donated By: In Honor Of:	
<p>Jack, Bridget, Patrick, Matthew & Colleen Ellsworth Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Winter</p>	<p>James Ellsworth Dr. Norbert A. Winter</p>
MOTHER'S DAY/FATHER'S DAY DONATIONS	
Donated By: In Memory Of:	
<p>Kelly Szejko Elizabeth DiSalle</p>	<p>Harry K. Price Fr. Francis X. Malinowski, John Malinowski, Walter Mark, Dr. Samuel Tiramacco, Pasquale DiSalle, Cosimo Mastrangioli & Francesco DiSalle</p>
Foundations & Grants	Businesses
<p>Howard & Nell E. Miller Foundation Bayer USA Foundation Massey Charitable Trust Jacob A. and Frieda M. Hunkele Charitable Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation The Charles M. Morris Charitable Trust Richard King Mellon Foundation The Feinstein Family Fund William B. McLaughlin Charitable Trust Donahue Family Foundation Inc.</p>	<p>Mt. Lebanon Trading Post, Dormont Starbucks Coffee Company, Dormont</p>

Is It True That It Can Be Better the Second Time Around? You Decide!

1957 was a very good year for things that made a lasting impact - at least, for some things. The new Chrysler 300C became the most successful of the big tailfin cars. Elvis was being filmed on the Ed Sullivan Show. The dawn of space exploration was marked by Sputnik, the Earth's first artificial satellite. Congress passed the Civil Rights Act. And Yul Brynner got to polish an Oscar.

But here at 2538 Woodstock Avenue in Swissvale, long-term endurance probably was not a priority as yet another American school was erected in 1957 to accommodate the peaking baby boomers. The large expanses of single glazed glass, carpet glued to concrete, and flat black roof are telltale hallmarks of an era that in no way anticipated future utility costs.

Angels' Place Swissvale, having fast-forwarded to the present day of a leaking roof and windows, electricity deregulation, community stormwater runoff problems, and ballooning natural gas expenses, has resolved to make the 2538 Woodstock address a showcase of "green" renovation.

Volunteers, staff, and past and current clients recently kicked off this dream with a charrette, a meeting to brainstorm our renovated facility. Elvis may have left the building, but we want to stay! We have developed a sustainability wish list of items from wiring to a naturalistic play area, with price tags for each.

I know you will agree that our babies, toddlers, preschoolers, staff and parents deserve a building that does not leak. Providing a new roof and windows for them and our dedicated staff will cost nearly \$300,000. We have applied for state funds for a planted roof. If funding is awarded it will be for an environmentally friendly roof, such as those on Phipps Conservatory and the Children's Museum, that can last twice as long as a traditional one!

Will you help us decide if our 1957 building can be better the second time around? Please vote "YES!" by making out a check for any amount to Angels' Place and sending it in in envelope provided, especially marked for Swissvale windows. If you would like to help us plan for Sustainable Swissvale, please call Beth Banas at 412-271-2229.



How Can We Reach You?

If you have recently changed your address, phone numbers or email address we'd like to update our records. Angels' Place loves to keep you abreast of all the exciting things that happen at our North Side, Swissvale and Brookline sites. We want to make sure that we are able to continue to send you our newsletter and an occasional update of happenings and special events. Please fill out and return the form provided, or email current information to: lsparks@angelsplacepgh.org.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, ST, Zip _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

* **Addresses and phone numbers are for Angels' Place purposes only.**

* **Your information will not be sold or shared with anyone.**

In our efforts to save money on postage and printing, Angels' Place hopes to begin sending this newsletter electronically in the near future. Please indicate your preference for receiving information below:

Yes, I'm interested in receiving *Crib Notes* via email.

I would like to continue receiving a hard copy in the mail.

Wish Lists

Swissvale

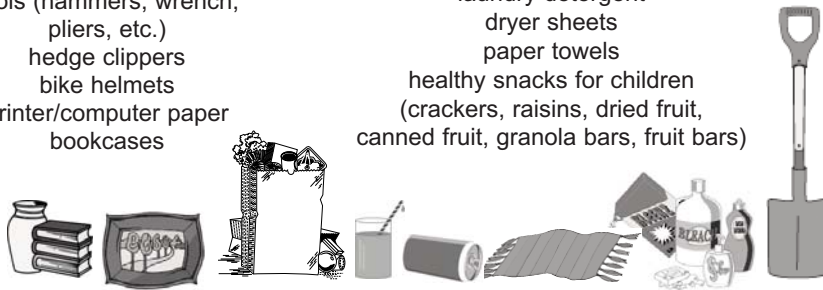
diapers, size 4 and size 5
 baby wipes
 lawn and leaf bags
 39 gallon trash bags
 1 gallon freezer bags
 aluminum foil
 all purpose cleaner
 bleach
 leaf rakes
 dishwashing liquid
 automatic dishwashing liquid
 calcium chloride
 Jet Dry
 paper cutter
 35 ml film or disposable cameras
 children's healthy snacks
 tools (hammers, wrench,
 pliers, etc.)
 hedge clippers
 bike helmets
 printer/computer paper
 bookcases

North Side

disposable cameras
 aluminum foil
 Saran Wrap
 food storage bags
 (sandwich, quart, gallon size)
 13-gallon kitchen trash bags
 black trash bags
 household cleaners
 diapers (sizes 5 and 6)
 baby wipes
 juice (apple, grape or orange)
 cereal
 dish soap
 laundry detergent
 dryer sheets
 paper towels
 healthy snacks for children
 (crackers, raisins, dried fruit,
 canned fruit, granola bars, fruit bars)

Brookline

working laptop computer w/ Windows
 fall plants: Mums, etc.
 Bounty paper towels ("select-a-size")
 cereal: Cheerios, Kix, Chex, Mini Wheat,
 Oatmeal, etc.
 2T - 4T girls and boys underwear
 CD player and CD's
 cooking pots and pans
 cleaning products
 crackers, healthy snacks
 arts and crafts supplies
 fresh and dried fruit (raisins, cranberries,
 apples, apricots, bananas, etc)
 100% juice
 diapers, large sizes 4, 5 and 6
 garbage and kitchen bags
 freezer bags
 dish and laundry soap
 tooth brushes and paste for children
 lawn and leaf bags
 salt for melting snow and ice
 Winter and Spring-themed games,
 toys and decorations



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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 Pittsburgh, PA 15226
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