

The 2013 Communication and Leadership Award is being presented to all who work or volunteer for People Serving People. PSP - a homeless shelter operated in downtown Minneapolis helping children and their families.



The mission of People Serving People

To serve homeless children and their families and provide new opportunities for healthy, stable family life.

People Serving People achieves its mission and goals by providing emergency housing and community services that assist families experiencing homelessness in becoming self-sufficient and reconnected with the community. In a safe, secure and sober environment, PSP provides services which cultivate independence and accountability.

What distinguishes PSP from other emergency shelters is the broad range of on-site programs and services designed to address common barriers that homeless families are faced with. To provide a new opportunity for families, it is necessary that we help them find ways to break through these barriers and stop patterns that lead to poverty and homelessness. Housing and employment issues are addressed, along with educational, emotional and life enrichment needs.

Accepting for PSP are two individuals who are intricately involved with the organization and those affected by their homeless situations.



*PATRICIA H ZAHRA*

Patricia Zahra is a volunteer reader to the children at People Serving People (PSP), a homeless shelter located in downtown Minneapolis, MN. She has been a reader at PSP for about a year and a half. Patricia makes sure the lobby bookshelf as well as the bookshelves in each of the four lounges is supplied with books for adult and children alike. In the lobby, early in the morning, Patricia has set up a “story time” to read to the children. Children getting ready to catch their buses to school can stop and listen to a story. Also, the pre-school children can spend more time listening and participating in a favorite or new and exciting story. Patricia’s joy is reading to the children. She also brings a sense of stability to their unstable lives.



*MALLORY HAUGEN*

Mallory Haugen is the Volunteer and Events Coordinator at People Serving People. Her primary responsibility is ensuring that the 1500 volunteers, providing 31,000 volunteer hours, have a rewarding and fulfilling volunteer experience at PSP while providing value and assistance to the families at the shelter. She is also responsible for planning all of PSP’s events throughout the calendar year; events primarily designed to increase the attendees’ awareness regarding the challenge of homelessness in Hennepin County, and to increase donations to meet that challenge. Mallory works tirelessly to improve the lives of the families at PSP and to ensure that the shelter has the volunteer hours and donations it needs to keep fulfilling PSP’s mission; to serve homeless children and their families and provide new opportunities for healthy, stable family life.