



2009 annual report

Providing supported employment and housing for people in recovery from mental illness since 1970.





Dear Supporters,

For Tasks Unlimited, 2009 was a time of transition, change and challenges.

The search for a new leader is challenging for any organization, but when a long-time leader leaves an organization, it can cause turmoil. Thanks to thoughtful planning and leadership by Tasks' Board and John Trepp's willingness to provide consultation, the transition has gone well. I have tremendous respect for the hard work and leadership that John offered Tasks Unlimited during his 30 plus years at the helm. John continues to offer his support through this transition, and I am grateful for his wisdom, guidance and on-going contributions to the organization. Congratulations on your retirement, John! We wish you the best in your future endeavors.

As the organization looks ahead, we have many challenges to overcome. Continued budget cuts from state and county funds limit our ability to accept new trainees into our program and have necessitated cutting hours on job contracts. Due in part to our limited financial ability and the economy in general, our waiting list has seen exponential growth, a sad fact for those waiting for jobs, housing and the support they need to achieve a full life.

Despite these challenges, Tasks Unlimited has much to celebrate. Our program participants continue to do excellent work, as demonstrated by three of our building services contracts being nationally recognized this year for their efforts. Our lodge program grew, our peer support program expanded and ten lodges received recognition for their dedication to the Fairweather Lodge Model with an exemplary rating, the highest level of recognition available.

These successes would not be possible without the hard work of our remarkable staff and program participants. Words cannot express how proud I am to work with such talented and dedicated people. I look forward to our continued success.

Karen Johnston
Executive Director

TASKS UNLIMITED'S *mission*

To provide supported employment, housing, and on-going recovery services for people with mental illness so that they achieve a full life with the rights and responsibilities of adults in our society.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Larry Shomion
Chair

Kristine Haertl
Secretary

Lawton Cain
Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Greg Hestness
William Kos
Sharon Lund
Eric Shultz
John Vancini
Cathy deHueck
Richard Jensen
Dorothy Berger
Paula Callies

Dr. Frank Lassman
Patricia Pelto
Rodger Skare
Joey Brochin
Steve Erickson
Luke Johnson
Lydia Lee

2009 *highlights*

Tasks Unlimited Building Services Wins Three National Awards

Tasks Unlimited Building Services (TUBS) crews continue to be recognized for their hard work and successful collaboration with federal and county contract managers to provide exceptional janitorial and mailroom services to businesses. Three different organizations honored TUBS crews this year for their work.

NISH—an agency connecting community nonprofits with federal contracts to employ people with disabilities—honored the Tasks Unlimited Building Services crew at the Warren E. Burger Federal Courthouse in Saint Paul with the 2009 GSA-NISH Partners in Service Excellence award. The award recognized TUBS for its successful partnership with the General Services Administration for contracted janitorial services for the building. ServiceSource presented the IRS mailroom management team in Saint Paul with the 2009 Service Excellence Award. The USDA APHIS mailroom management team in Minneapolis won the 2009 USDA APHIS AbilityOne Contractor of the Year Award.



HARRY'S *story*

Harry vividly remembers some of his favorite meals before he came to Tasks Unlimited, but he never wants to relive those days.

In the early 1980s, Harry was hungry and living in less-than-suitable housing.

“I [rented the] southwest corner of the basement for which I paid \$150 each month from my monthly welfare support of \$199.”

With rent taking up nearly his entire monthly income, Harry often ate from the trash other people left behind. Harry recalls finding a white paper bag with grease spots on it on the side of the road filled with chicken skin on them. Since Harry had not eaten in four days, even chicken skin and bones was taste of good fortune.

“I ate the skin and gnawed on the bones. Nothing had ever tasted better, except...”

The exception was the first meal he was able to feed himself after a heavy dose of medication at a state hospital.

“I shook so badly I couldn’t feed myself.”

When he finally stopped shaking, his liver dinner became the best dinner he’d ever had.

Three years later, Harry moved out of his basement space and into the Tasks Unlimited Training Center, a short distance away.

“It was August 14, 1984. I haven’t been gut hungry since. [After training,] I transferred to Comets Lodge. I met my future wife, Neonila. Now there’s meat on my chicken bones and meat on my bones, too.”



Training Programs Surpass Record for Most Graduates in a Year

Trainee graduations surpassed 2008's record of 27 graduates. Lodge Training Program (LTP) saw 11 graduates, JOB\$ Training Program (JTP) graduated 15 and Interlachen Training Lodge graduated 3 people for a total of 29 graduates in 2009.

Ten Tasks Unlimited Lodges Certified as "Exemplary"

Ten of Tasks Unlimited's lodges were certified as "Exemplary Fairweather Lodges," the highest level of recognition in the Coalition for Community Living's Lodge Outcome Measures. This number is up from four lodges meeting this level of success in 2008.

DEAN'S *story*

Dean came to Tasks Unlimited looking for structure and the chance to break free of his dependence on family members. Tasks Unlimited gave Dean a fresh start, but it didn't come immediately.

"I didn't have any structure in my life. I didn't have any peer support. I relied pretty heavily on my two brothers. I was bothering them and their families. I didn't have much to offer anybody."

"I had to wait a few months for a bed to open up at the training lodge. I kept calling [the admissions counselor] every week to see if there was an opening because I knew I needed help fast."

After nearly six months of waiting, Dean moved into the Lodge Training Program.

"Training was really new to me. I've never had seven or eight roommates that I lived with, worked with and ate with. I wasn't used to all the structure. Not having a lot of alone time was hard."

Dean received a job, mental health and basic living skills training at Tasks Unlimited's Lodge Training Program. He also learned to lean on his peers for support. After a few months, he graduated and is now a member of the Dakota Lodge.

"There's always two or three people in the lodge that I can watch TV with, kick back and watch a ball game with or go have a burger. If I'm feeling depressed after a bad day at work, I can talk to one of them.

I've never been to a shelter or homeless, but being at Tasks Unlimited is a second chance for a lot of people—myself included. A lot of good people with mental illness are down to the last straw. Tasks Unlimited is a real program for real people who need real help."





New Lodge Opens in Saint Paul

Tasks Unlimited continues to experience a significant demand for its services. The organization responded to this need by opening the newly remodeled, four-person Champs Lodge in Saint Paul. The lodge features current technology, hardwood floors and other updates throughout the space.

Tasks Unlimited Adds Three Peer Support Specialists to Training Staff

Peer Specialists are Tasks Unlimited Lodge and JOB\$ participants who have been trained and are working as mental health support staff in the Tasks Unlimited training facilities. As consumers themselves, their involvement in the training programs highlights the ever important roll of peer support in the Fairweather approach to recovering from mental illness.

MARK'S *Story*

Mark lost his job in 2004 due to his illness. "I was missing too much time at work due to my anxiety and depression." Losing his job was the start of a rollercoaster ride he didn't want to take. His marriage ended, he lost another job and his relationships with his children were strained.

"I didn't want to do anything until I was forced to. I just sat there. I wouldn't take my meds. I wouldn't be accountable for them. I would tell my doctor I took them, but I didn't."

After his second job loss, a job coach referred him to Tasks Unlimited.

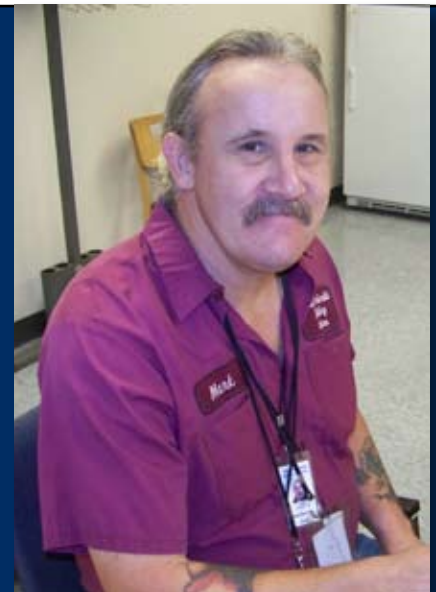
"I was excited to work again. The first couple of times I was scared, but Susie [a fellow trainee] helped me out. We formed a bond and we still check in on each other."

By working with other people with mental illness and getting the support he needs from trained mental health staff, Mark's life looks very different today. He's a hard-working member of the Saint Paul Court's crew that recently received national recognition for their efforts. Mark knows he can turn to his peers or to staff for support when his anxiety threatens his ability to work:

"I was kind of stressed out at first because there were so many people, but then I realized there were other people with mental illness and we could get through this together. My coordinator during training was fantastic. They have a tolerance here for your anxiety. In the regular workforce they'd just tell you to deal with it. Here they pull you aside and talk you through it."

With encouragement from his coordinator and worksite supervisors, he's decided to join the Career Ladder Program in an effort to gain more responsibility and help others at the worksite. Ultimately, he appreciates Tasks Unlimited for treating him like an adult and giving him a chance to work.

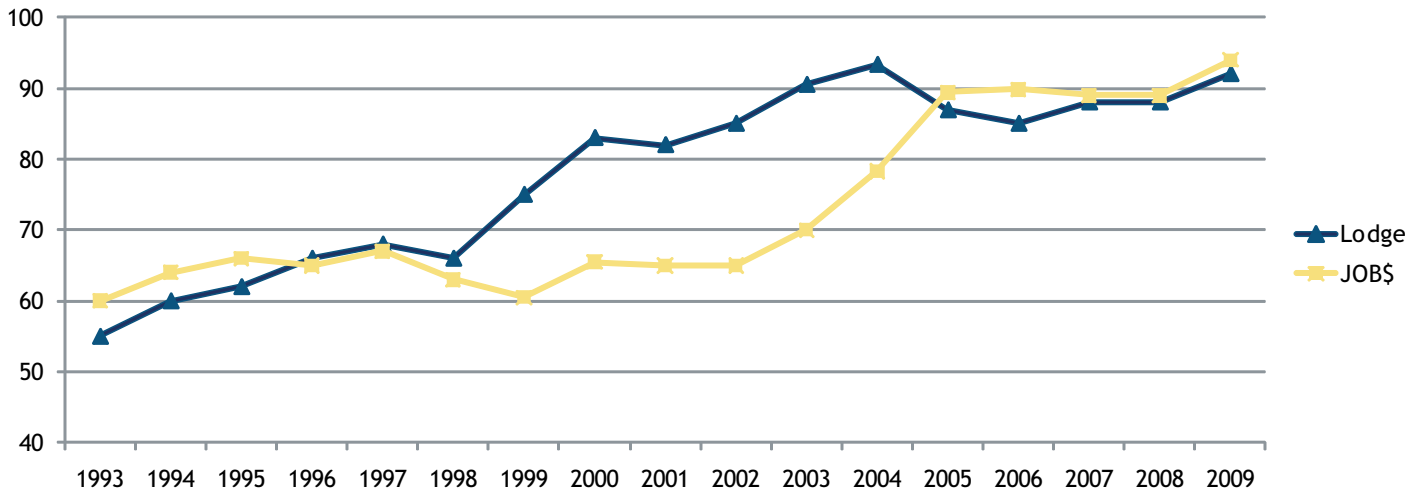
"They aren't feeling sorry for me, and I don't want them to feel sorry for me. I want to be treated as a regular worker and they do. I don't want special treatment for being mentally ill. I'll retire from here if they let me."



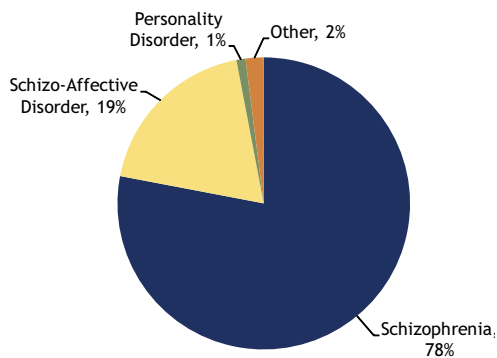
PROGRAM *results*

Tasks Unlimited's program participants continue to thrive in our supported employment and housing programs. Participants have found stable housing and employment in our program where they previously struggled, and wages continue to be significantly higher than before joining Tasks Unlimited.

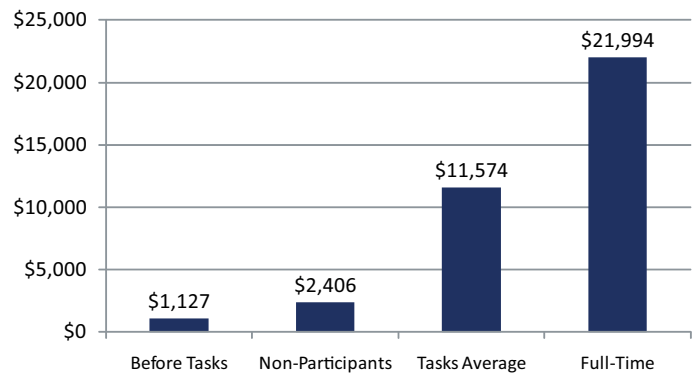
Average Daily Census 1996-2009 - All Programs



Primary Diagnosis

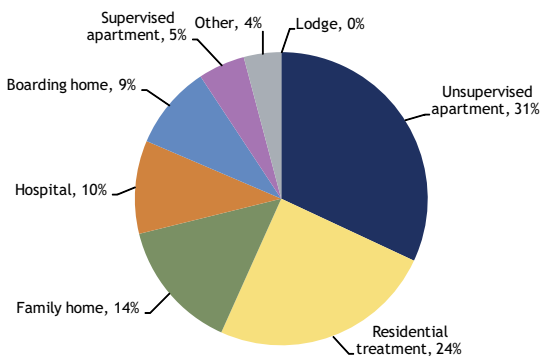


Increase in Earned Income

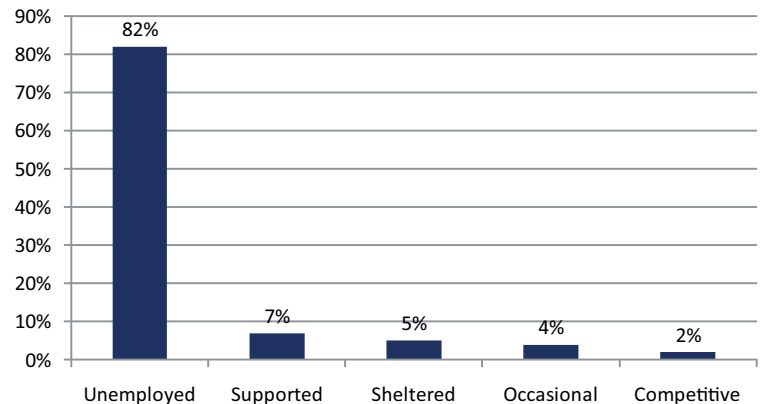


Total Client Earnings for 2009: \$3,262,616

Living situation Prior to Intake



Employment Status Prior to Intake

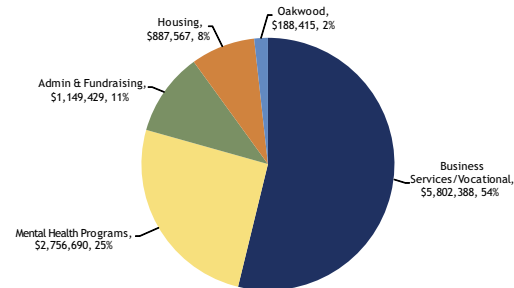
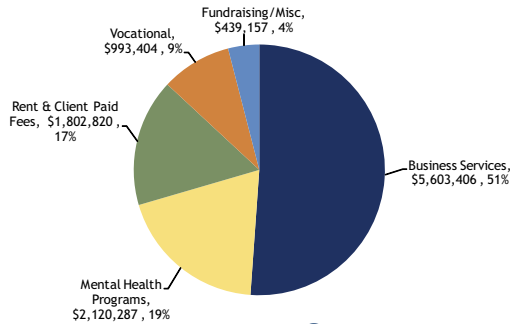


FINANCIAL *overview*

The following is a consolidated statement of Tasks Unlimited, Inc.'s financial position for 2009.

Revenue	
Business Services	\$5,603,406
Mental Health Programs	\$2,120,287
Rent & Client Paid Fees	\$1,802,820
Vocational	\$993,404
Fundraising/Misc	\$439,157
TOTAL	\$10,959,074

Expenses	
Business Services / Vocational	\$5,802,388
Mental Health Programs	\$2,756,690
Admin & Fundraising	\$1,149,429
Housing	\$887,567
Oakwood	\$188,415
TOTAL	\$10,784,489



Change in Net Assets - \$174,585

2009 *donors*

people who make a world of difference

Contributions from individuals and groups are crucial to the mission of Tasks Unlimited. We thank the following for their support from 1/1/2009 to 12/31/2009:

CORPORATIONS & FOUNDATIONS

AMRTC Auxiliary Rose Fund
Forensic Alliance For the Mentally Ill
Galilee Lutheran Church
Hoff, Barry & Kozar
John & Bonnie Crouch Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
The Michelson Foundation
Open Door Foundation
The Prudential Foundation
Standard Heating
Terhuly Foundation
Tri-State Drilling Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation

INDIVIDUALS \$1,000 +

Frank & Georgette Ario
Julia Aschburger
Lynn Brown
William & Grace Dawson (In memory of Irene Hillstrom)
Clint Hall

INDIVIDUALS \$500 +

Keith & Martha Anderson
Ted & Ruth Arneson
Lloyd Beebe
Clark & Andrea Bergman
Joseph Brochin (In memory of Dennis Coakley)
Donn French (In memory of Mary Elizabeth French)
Denny & Karen Jackson
Dean Knudson
Shelly Kopp (In honor of Douglas Aschburger)
Frank Lassman
Jane Levin & Judy Reisman
Larry Shomion
Jay & Judy Steffan
Sheryl Trepp & Nick Valentine
Maida Zimmerman

INDIVIDUALS \$100+

Howard & Lorraine Agee
John & Judi Anderson (In memory of

Lillie Horazdovsky)
Jean Antonello
Bruce Ario
Marlin Bates
John Bloom
Cassandra Boll
Linda Boll
Brian Brogmus & Claire Kotts
John & Nancy Burbidge
Lawton Cain
Diane Clemens
Phil & Nadine Collins (In honor of Kent Collins)
Roxanne Condon
Peter & Judy Crawford
Joanne Cullen (In honor of Richard Wyner)
Ernie Dorn
Lynn Fumuso
Karen Garvin
John Graber
Ruby Gustafson (In honor of Jeff Holmquist)
Greg Haley
Sarah Hall & David Fehring (In honor of Clint Hall)
Jean Hedberg
Laurel Holschuh
Gladys Holtan (In memory of Mary Ann O'Dougherty)
Diane Johnson (In honor of Tom Stake)
Phyllis Johnston (In honor of Julie Johnston)
Paul & Teresa Johnston
Robert & Lynn Keller
Mark Koller
William & Linda Kos
Mary Ann Koska (In honor of Dorothy Berger)
Charles Lyon
George & Patty Maas
Mike Mack
Carol Manning
Donald McCarthy
Joan McCollum
Dave & Janet Olson
Orval Prothe
Dave & Jeannette Putrich
Wanda Resemius

Richard Revord
Jennifer Schaidler
Jim & Mary Schmid
Robert Schuette & Mary Rossi
Stan Schwantes
William & Ruth Sharratt (In honor of David Sharratt)
Michael & Lillian Tita
John Vancini
Sharon Wright (In honor of Clint Hall)
Joe & JoAnn Zwack (In honor of Kyle Zwack)

INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTERS

Sandy Accola
Dan & Julia Adams
Rodger & Ruth Adams
Doris Allen
Doris Arnold
Gerald Beedle (In honor of Ken Beedle)
Juan Belalcazar
Richard & Frances Benson (In memory of Evelyn Swanson)
Bob & Georgia Bodeman
Caroline Brunner
Irene Clark (In honor of Monte Clark)
Sheila Clough
Cindy Colson
David & Harriet Conkey
Mehroo Cooper
Sharon Corniea (In honor of Jeff Holmquist)
Ida & Donn Darsow
Cheryl De Vaal
Keith Derand
John Donlan
David & Paula Ekerholm
Amy Ellickson
Bruce & Karen Farrington (In memory of Dorothy Bates)
John & Alta Fossum (In honor of Luke Johnson)
Mary Gordenier (In memory of Dorothy Bates)
Rose Grandt (In honor of Audrey Clay)
Barbara Greenwald Davis (In memory of Dr. Stephen Greenwald)

2009 *donors*

Janet Hall (In honor of Clint Hall)
Thomas & Shelli Hall (In honor of Clint Hall)
Carol Ann Halley (In honor of Clint Hall)
John Hanna
Michael & Delores Hauer
Janet Lee Havens
Glen & Barb Herrington-Hall (In honor of Clint Hall)
Mark Hillis
Randy Janikowski
Wayne & Karen Keplinger
Dorothy Krupp
Mary Lou Langenberger
Sue E. Larson
Lydia Lee
Steven & Olga Lindahl (In memory of Gordon Lindahl)
Rod & Cecilia Lipp
Shirley Lynch (in honor of Dorothy Berger's birthday)
Jim & Pam Mackinnon
Jill Ann Marks
Rosemary Martin
Gene Mathisen (In honor of Joy Jagstram)
Patricia Mcguire
Joseph & Marie Medvec
Dixie Mengelkoch
Peter & Myra Montgomery
Rick & Sue Muehlbach
Robert & Marcia Mulhausen
Lorraine Nash
Owen & Deborah Nelson
Doris Nestvold
Margaret Oie (In honor of Julie Johnston)
Tom & Anne Peacock
Judith Pertl (In honor of Sandra Gibson and her daughter Laura)
Rosanne & Troy Pingree
Tim & Natalie Rice

Mary Ann Rolando
Judith Romine
Doris Saholt
Mark Saltzman
K. Schaaf
Dolores Schelly
Ralph Schelly
Kathy Schuster
Lila Mae Scully
Harry & Neonila Searles
Michael & Helen Sell
Debbie Sheets
Richard Shomion
Frank & Joyce Sieh (In honor of Cathy de Hueck)
Penelope Sieh de Hueck (In memory of Peter F. de Hueck)
James & Carol Simonson
Rodger & Karin Skare
Mike & Joyce Sluss
Wendy Smith & David Drentlaw
Eugene & Amelia Sorman
Mary Sperling
Robin Sundem (In memory of Barb Breen)
Irene Teitelbaum (In memory of Daniel Teitelbaum)
Amy Tickle (In memory of Mary Tickle)
Bill Tomlinson
Peter Tracy
Fran Trygestad
Joann Trygestad
Dave & Barb Wandrei
Jean Yunker (In honor of Joe Van Valkenburg)
George & Violet Zaier
Nancy Zats
Lucille Ziebol

IN HONOR OF JOHN TREPP'S RETIREMENT

Alan & Helen Anderson
Katie Angle
Michael & Judy Ayers
John Bringewatt
David Collison

Helen Conway
Mary Crampton
Charles Erickson
Steve Erickson
Kim Feller
Roger & Mindy Greiling
Lisa Guzek-Montagne
Ray & Patricia Hartman
Lyth Hartz
Bob & Janelle Hill
Lavonne Humpal
Taimi Johnson
John & Joan Jurichko
Evangeline Karakatsanis
Lee Korby
Steve Kotz
Phil Mead
Gary Nielsen
Fred Nolan & Ellen Siewert
Esther Onaga
Patricia Pelto
Bob & Joyce Rosene
Larry Shomion
Meredyth Thue
Bryan & Mary Trandem
Patti Wagner
Dan & Kristen Walseth
David & Renee Ward
Edward Williams

TABLES FOR TASKS 2009

Thank you to all the table hosts, corporate donors and attendees for making the event a success. The time, goods and financial donations to this event raised over \$17,000 for Tasks Unlimited.

We sincerely apologize if we have omitted or misspelled your name. Please contact us with corrections so your gift can be properly acknowledged.



2419 Nicollet Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Phone: 612.871.3320

www.tasksunlimited.org

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
PERMIT #3429

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED