

# Winter 2015



As historical amounts of snow have fallen in Massachusetts this year, we now measure the depths in ‘feet’ vs. “inches”. The Plymouth Area Coalition is all too familiar with the plight of the homeless during such dangerous weather. We ask that you do your best to extend a hand to those in need. Please keep in mind not everyone has a home with a fireplace to sit in front of during a snowy, cold week.

**Lend a hand:** check on your less fortunate neighbors. Check on your elderly neighbors. Remember those who are home-bound by age or disability depend on a healthy, warm meal to be delivered to them. If the roads are impassable there are no deliveries of meals, thus no one is checking on the welfare of the recipients.

Shovel a pathway for your elderly or disabled neighbor. Offer them a ride to the market or to “pick up some items” for them while you are doing your family shopping. Bring them a meal. A simple task such as these can make a tremendous difference to those in need. Please keep in mind there is often a “Yankee Independence” mindset of the elderly who have always been able to “take care of themselves”. But do not give up on them. Same is true of the single Mom who is too prideful to ask your tall football-player-son to help her shovel a path and her driveway. We absolutely know that no one can do it all by themselves. Be a good and caring neighbor!



# Young Donor's Caring Heart !



We had a very special young man visit the Coalition just before Thanksgiving.

Shane McColgan, brought us a gift of his extremely generous efforts. This 7 year old decided *everyone* should have a Thanksgiving meal, so he decided to do something about it.

Shane organized *Shane's Giving Thanks*. He worked with the energy of a miniature super hero, promoting his idea and making sure others donated to his mission to provide Thanksgiving to others. Shane delivered many thanksgiving meals throughout the communities. The Food Pantry at the Coalition was honored to receive 20 meals to help us help others.

Proof that even the young can make a huge difference. Shane is an inspiration to us all!



*"There are people out there who tell you, you can't. What you've gotta do is turn around and say "WATCH ME"!!.* ~ We found this quote on Shane's web site.



Shane and Helen MacLean, Executive Director of Plymouth Area Coalition.



# Our Helping Hands!



Thank you!

A great group of volunteers from the A/R Department at Ocean Spray who did such a great job of organizing our FAIR program. Our Family And Individual Resource program provides clothing, household goods, and furniture at a minimal cost. The program is open to the public from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays. Donations from the community are the sole source of support. Items in good and useful condition are welcomed. We always look forward to our Ocean Spray friends volunteer days!



Thank you!



Throughout the year, residents from the Inn at Silver Lake, Wingate in Kingston hold a weekly "Knit & Chat" to create items for a Handmade Holiday Sale to benefit the Plymouth Area Coalition Food Pantry. They raised \$132 selling beautiful hand knit and homemade gorgeous items! Such a generous and caring group. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!



# What A Fun Play Space!!



Ribbon cutting ceremony of the renovated Play Space. Horizons for Homeless Children renovated the play space at Pilgrims Hope Family Shelter. Our little ones love to spend time just being kids in this bright and fun place. New toys and books to enjoy. Surrounded by a great staff of loving, caring people. A goal for our staff is to make certain the children residing at the shelter have a sense of normalcy during their stay with the families in need.



# Pilgrims Hope Play Area

THANK  
YOU



Horizons for Homeless Children is one of the few organizations in Massachusetts focused exclusively on the needs of young homeless children and their families. We cannot thank them enough for such a fabulous job!

“There are more than 2.5 million homeless American children. And family homelessness is increasing. Today, one in every 30 children in the U.S. is homeless each year.”

<http://www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org>



# Winter Fun!!!



## Sledding... Skiing... Snowmen



### ESSENTIAL WINTER WEATHER GEAR!

Hat covering ears  
Waterproof snow gloves  
Warm socks  
Snow boots  
Snow suit or ski pants  
Winter jacket



**BUDDY SYSTEM!!!** Children under 8 years old should never play outside alone. Establish a one or two buddy system with friends. Check the children often to make sure they are safe and dry. Never send your children out during a snow storm! It may look like fun but snow blowing from high winds can be extremely harmful to little children. Plus, if you live near a busy street, visibility for snow plow drivers or other vehicles is very low during a snow storm.

**JUST BE WISE AND HAVE FUN!**

**REMEMBER:** When pulling infants or toddlers in sleds they need extra bundling. Keep in mind they aren't moving. Thus, they are not generating body heat as an older child playing and running can in the snow!! *This is also true of parents pushing an infant or toddler in a stroller. A jacket will not be enough. Cover them with a warm blanket also.*





# Save The Date !!



**Bring Mom, Grandmom, your kid's Mom!**

May 9, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at the Kingston Knights of Columbus, The Plymouth Area Coalition is hosting a Comedy Fund Raiser starring local comedians Christine Hurley and John Turco. A fun night of comedy. Bring your date, bring you friends, bring your Mom! Leave the kids home with a sitter while you sit back and enjoy an evening of laughter.

*Details to follow in our Spring newsletter.*

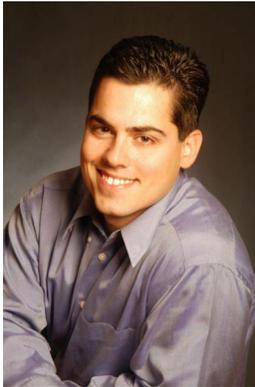
## Mother's Day May 10, 2015

### CHRISTINE HURLEY ♥

Christine Hurley is married to her high school sweetheart, Jimmy Hurley and mother to five children. Her stories of motherhood, and marriage to Jimmy Hurley are exactly what everyone is living through! People get it and love it! Christine finds on most nights, the men in the audience are laughing harder than the women. Christine has quickly become a favorite in the Boston Comedy circuit.

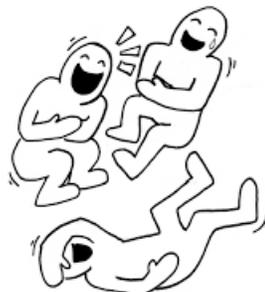


## Laughter is the Best Medicine!



### JOHN TURCO ♥

John Turco is one of the most versatile comedians working clubs in New England. He is also one of the most animated, punctuating his smart, sarcastic, satirical material with expressive faces and dead-on impressions. Perhaps you've seen John around at the Caped Cod Melody Tent or South Shore Music Circus as well as many colleges. He will keep you laughing!!



# RAD Class Scholarships



Our Thanks!  
Our Thanks!

In January (pre blizzard era) Greg Deems of Rogers & Gray Insurance presented a \$1,000 check to Coalition Executive Director, Helen MacLean. Funds will go towards the Coalition's goal to raise \$2,400 to provide RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) Class scholarships to eligible residents in our service area.

**PLEASE HELP. DONATE TODAY.**

Call (781) 582-2010 for more information. Help give someone the opportunity to learn self-defense.

**Taking a Stand,**



## RAD System of Self Defense

### RAD Mission Statement

"The mission of the R.A.D. Systems is to establish an accessible, constantly improving and internationally respected alliance of dedicated Instructors. These Instructors in turn, will provide educational opportunities for women, children, men and seniors to create a safer future for themselves. In doing this, we challenge society to evolve into an existence where violence is not an acceptable part of daily life."

<http://www.rad-systems.com>

# Rape Aggression Defense

# Cuisinart Stainless Cookware



Pilgrims Hope Homeless Shelter is the recipient of many generous donations of the Cuisinart Stainless Cookware stamps Shaw's Supermarkets had been offering. We received over \$1,000 in fabulous stainless cookware for the resident's kitchens. Thank you to each of you who were so kind to donate your stamps and stainless! We are putting them to great use every day.



# Food Pantry Donations



The students and faculty of Kingston Intermediate School collected and delivered \$2,500 in food items for the Coalition food pantry. **AMAZING!!** We are so fortunate and so very grateful to have such gracious and involved folks in our area who recognize the need of others who simply want to provide healthy meals to their families. Teaching “helping those in need” to school age children often fosters volunteerism as those students begin to understand there are many in need. Perhaps some of the children who assisted in this food drive also gained a healthier respect for things often taken for granted: food, a warm home and a closet with a variety of choices in clothing.

*Thank You*



# Holiday Meal Thank You



Our Thanksgiving and Christmas annual holiday meal food baskets were another big success in 2014. We were able to provide a Thanksgiving meal to 117 people and 404 Christmas meals.

Again, our thanks and appreciation for all your gracious donations. Without your generosity none of this would be possible. The baskets were filled with all the tasty ingredients to create a holiday meal and desserts for those who are less fortunate.



117 Thanksgiving meals.



404 Christmas meals.



# Holiday Gift Thank You



The Children's Holiday Fund was another huge success for Christmas 2014. With the support of our generous community of individuals, schools, churches and corporations we were able to provide gifts for 231 children.

Thank you also, to the Plymouth Philharmonic for the "March of the Toys" which was presented December 13th and 14th. Toy donations galore from the children who marched through Memorial Hall with Santa in the lead. An annual event so many families look forward to each year. Thank you to all the kids who brought a gift for a child and the parents who brought their kids to experience "The Phil"!!

The staff and volunteers at The Plymouth Area Coalition want to thank each of you for creating a joyous Christmas 2014 and a wonderful holiday for the families that were assisted by your donations of gifts, financial donations and gift cards.



# Spring is Coming...Honestly!



Spring is at the end of this snowy road! March 20th Spring will be officially here! *March 20th is the first day of Spring.* Can we just mention: *March 20th is the first day of Spring.* Oh, by the way, **SPRING BEGINS MARCH 20TH ♥♥♥**



Daylight Savings Time begins March 8th. Soon the sun will be in the sky longer and longer as days pass. Just an extra hour of sunlight should help perk you up! Start planning your Spring garden now!



To All Our Soldiers Both Home and Abroad...Thank You!

To All Our Soldiers Both Home and Abroad...Thank You!



For mothers, wives and children, for home and country pride  
Our flag will guard the freedom Of land and ocean wide.



# Volunteer..It Will Change Lives

## Your's Included !



Please contact the Plymouth Area Coalition to see how you can volunteer. One hour, one day, once a month. It can make such a difference. Call us.

781/582-2010

Please return for our Spring newsletter.



Plymouth Area Coalition newsletters written and designed by  
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