

## PAULA GOSS An Appreciation

During the summer of 2007, a new volunteer began at Mission of Deeds. She picked up the nuances of our office in no time and had a wonderful telephone manner. In November, she joined our staff. The rest is history. Of course, we are talking about Paula Goss.

The range of Paula's accomplishments over the next 17 years were staggering. She supported every aspect of our programs to help those in need and had special love for providing books for our clients' children. She was in charge of our Sunshine Fund and remembered the times of our lives in ways that were sometimes touching,

sometimes fun, but always memorable. Paula maintained databases, wrote a zillion thank you letters, handled the phones, ordered supplies, represented us at Town Days, and so much more.

In 2008, Paula said Mission of Deeds should have a walk. As the annual September event morphed from a walk, to a family fun festival, to a cornhole tournament, the common element was Paula's passion to make it a perfect day for everyone who attended. It also became one of our largest fundraisers. We just celebrated our 17th MODfest.

Yet no matter how busy, Paula had time for everyone. Whether it was a client in a desperate situation, a caseworker with a request, a donor just wanting to talk, or a volunteer facing life's challenges, Paula was always there for them.

After 17 years of compassion in action, Paula had to leave Mission of Deeds on June 30th to devote her time to family commitments. She will never be forgotten. If Mission of Deeds establishes a Hall of Fame, Paula will be the unanimous first ballot selection from the thousands of people whose lives she has touched.



## EVERLASTING IMPACT A Client's Story

Fourteen years ago, we helped a client who was going through a very difficult time, a situation that's all too familiar among the people we assist. He had just moved into a subsidized one-bedroom apartment in Lynn after losing his home to foreclosure. At the time, all he owned was a mattress set.

Recently, we reconnected with this client. He shared that he is still using the tables and bureau we provided to him over a decade ago. He expressed how impressed he was with their quality and durability. He vividly remembers the day he visited us to choose his furniture. As soon as he saw the name "Mission of Deeds" on

his caller ID, he instantly recognized it and was excited to reflect on his experience. "I still recall the gentleman greeting me so wonderfully that I thought he knew me," he said. "We had never met but he put me at ease during such a stressful time."

The help Mission of Deeds provided set this client on a path forward to better his current situation, giving him the tools to make his housing sustainable for years to come. This is the kind of experience we strive to provide for every client. When people arrive for their appointments, they are given plenty of time — over an hour — to select their furnishings.

Other than the beds, which are all the same, we do not choose anything for them. With the guidance of a volunteer client host, they get to pick out the essentials that will transform their space into a home. And it's all completely free.

For many, this moment is overwhelming because it marks a life-changing event. Our hope is that by helping clients furnish their homes, they can focus on starting a new chapter without the burden of worrying about furniture. "You came to my aid," the client added. "I don't know what I would have done if you hadn't come to my rescue."

## Year-to-Date Impact



## MISSION of DEEDS, INC.

6 Chapin Avenue  
Reading, MA 01867  
781.944.9797  
FAX 781.944.7697  
[www.missionofdeeds.org](http://www.missionofdeeds.org)  
EIN # 22-3252651

**Anthony J. Triglione**  
(1925-2011)  
Founder & First President

**David McIsaac**  
Executive Director

**Sarah Kelley**  
Director of Development

**Sharon L. Petersen**  
Director of Partnerships

**Board of Directors**  
**Christopher J. Barrett**  
President

**Catherine R. Kaminer**  
Vice President

**Lori A. Grayson**  
Secretary

**Arthur J. Triglione**  
Treasurer

**Eric A. Boemer**  
**Candy Brower**  
**David McIsaac**  
**Carol Moriarty**  
**John J. O'Connor**  
**Amy Roy**  
**Jason Ruel**  
**Marianne Tompkins**  
**Jan Triglione**

**Development Board**  
**Jan Triglione**  
Chairperson

**Sven Andersen**  
**James Burrow**  
**Lynne M. Burrow**  
**Steve Burton**  
**Carolyn B. Hollis**  
**Anne Lucas**  
**Edward G. Roche**  
**Michael Sandford**

## How to Get Involved!



### Host a Drive for Bedding, Towels, or Kitchen Essentials

Is your place of worship, school, or town library looking for a way to give back? We always welcome volunteers to organize drives for items that are in short supply. These items can include new towels, sheets, comforters, and blankets. We also need new or gently used pots and pans as well as other essential kitchen items.



### Group Volunteer Opportunities

Is your workplace looking for a team building opportunity? Mission of Deeds can help by hosting your next corporate team BUILDing event. In a two-hour block, groups of 8-10 assemble furniture kits. No building experience necessary. The opportunity requires a contribution that solely covers the cost to purchase the kits.

For more information on how to get involved, please contact David at [david.mcisaac@missionofdeeds.org](mailto:david.mcisaac@missionofdeeds.org).



**MISSION OF DEEDS**  
Furnishing Homes. Changing Lives.

## A MESSAGE from our EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Winter 2024

Mission of Deeds is a simple concept. We are a volunteer-supported nonprofit that gives new beds and gently used furniture, kitchen essentials, and household goods, free of charge, to people leaving homelessness and others in great need. And the need is significant. We have received more than 1,300 requests for assistance this year alone. We are endeavoring to meet the moment. Our truck is on the road for free furniture pickups in Burlington, Lexington, Lynnfield, Melrose, North Reading, Reading, Stoneham, Wakefield, Wilmington, Winchester, and Woburn.

There is plenty of availability with short wait times for free furniture pickup. We are one of a handful of organizations that picks up furniture and does so free of charge. To keep our wait time at a minimum, The Cummings Foundation stepped up yet again to fully fund the purchase of a brand-new 10' box truck. Thank you to The Cummings Foundation for their exceptional support over the years. Be on the



Brian Triglione, our founder Tony's grandson, volunteered on one of our two trucks! More trucks equal more furniture moved into clients' homes!

lookout for both of our trucks in the neighborhood. If you are downsizing or moving and you have apartment-sized furniture to donate, please call us!

On the client side, we are maintaining a modest waiting period for appointments.

We squeeze clients in if they only need a few items, and our doors are open three Saturdays every month. We provide the basics to these clients — including a bed, bureau, nightstand, kitchen table, vacuum, couch, microwave, lamps, pots and pans and dishes. These essentials are powerful instruments to launch a fresh start. Our clients are empowered by a showroom experience where they can take their time and personally pick out each item to determine what will look best in their new home.

Whether you are donating furniture that will be given directly to a household in need and/or providing a financial contribution, you make our mission possible. We could not operate without the generosity of our neighbors.

We wish you a happy holiday season and thank you for all of your support.

*David McIsaac*  
David McIsaac  
Executive Director

## SAVE these DATES!

**YARD SALE**

**Mini Holiday Yard Sale**

Saturday, Nov. 30, 2024  
Mission of Deeds

**Golden Ticket Gala**



Friday, March 21, 2025 at Spinelli's, Lynnfield

**Golf Tournament**

Monday, June 2, 2025  
Woburn Country Club





## Build-a-Bureau Partnership Launches with Northeast Metro Tech

Mission of Deeds has partnered with Northeast Metro Tech in Wakefield to launch a new program called Build-a-Bureau. Northeast Tech students have been building custom apartment-sized bureaus at the school's workshop under the leadership of Carpentry Instructor Bruce Secor. Mission of Deeds then

stains and finishes the bureaus in our workshop and provides the items to households in need. The bureaus are the perfect size for a young child.

The first batch of bureaus was delivered in December 2023 and to date, 40+ bureaus have been made and distributed to our clients.

Mission of Deeds' volunteer Howie Sepowitz led the charge in forging a partnership with Northeast Metro Tech. We look forward to the continued collaboration between Northeast Metro Tech and Mission of Deeds to provide these handcrafted bureaus to families in need for years to come.

*"Building the dressers instills a sense of social responsibility and purpose for the carpentry students at Northeast Metro Tech. Knowing that their craftsmanship positively impacts those in need fosters a deep sense of satisfaction and fulfillment. This experience goes beyond skill development. It shapes students into socially conscious individuals who recognize the transformative power of their craft. Participating in charitable projects can enhance students' portfolios and showcase their ability to use their carpentry skills for the betterment of society."*

Bruce Secor  
Carpentry Instructor  
Northeast Metro Tech



*"As a long-term volunteer in the workshop, I saw a need for smaller bureaus for children. I previously visited Northeast Metro Tech and wondered if a partnership could be set up. A pilot commenced and the collaboration worked! The result had a dual benefit. Households in need received appropriately sized bureaus for their children and students received satisfaction that their efforts and skills contributed to lift up others."*

Howie Sepowitz  
Mission of Deeds Volunteer

## 2024: A YEAR in REVIEW



Clockwise from top left: Finally sunny skies for our Annual Bill Mulrenan Golf Tournament which sold out in a record three weeks!; In 2024 we brought back our Yard Sale. It was extremely successful raising \$13,000!; This year's March Fundraiser was a Casino Night at Cafe Escadrille which had more than 200 attendees!; Another amazing year of MODfest featuring a competitive Cornhole Tournament at the Lake in Wakefield. Congratulations to this year's winners!

## The IMPACT of YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS



**\$5000**  
buys  
**31**  
Cribs with  
Mattresses



**\$2000**  
buys  
**10**  
Bed Sets  
(Mattress,  
Box Spring,  
Pillow,  
Sheet Set, and  
Comforter)



**\$1500**  
buys  
**107**  
Blankets



**\$1000**  
buys  
**3**  
Sets of  
Bunk Beds  
with  
Mattresses



**\$500**  
buys  
**25**  
Toasters  
and Coffee  
Makers



**\$250**  
buys  
**12**  
Pots and  
Pans Sets



**\$150**  
buys  
**42**  
Pillows

## PLANNED GIVING

*Leave a Legacy with Mission of Deeds*

At Mission of Deeds, your support can go beyond immediate needs. By including us in your legacy planning, you can ensure that our mission continues to make a difference for generations to come. We invite you to consider a planned gift as a lasting way to support our work.



## Ways to Give

### IRA Distributions

If you are 70½ years or older, you can make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from your IRA directly to Mission of Deeds. This donation is tax-free and counts toward your required minimum distribution.

### Gifts of Stock

Donating appreciated securities, such as stock, is a tax-efficient way to support our mission. You can avoid capital gains taxes and receive a charitable deduction for the fair market value of the stock.

### Donor Advised Funds

Recommend a grant to Mission of Deeds from your donor advised fund. This flexible giving option allows you to support our work while optimizing your tax benefits.

### Life Insurance Policies

Designate Mission of Deeds as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy. This simple gesture can provide significant support to our mission without impacting your current finances.

By including Mission of Deeds in your legacy planning, you help ensure that we can continue to provide essential services to those in need. Your planned gift is more than a donation; it's a lasting legacy of compassion and generosity.

We would be honored to discuss the various options and help you find the best way to make a meaningful impact.

**For more information on how you can leave a legacy with Mission of Deeds, please contact David at david.mcisaac@missionofdeeds.org.**

## In Their Own Words

### The brother of a client coming out of homelessness:

"My sincere thanks to everyone who was so helpful and sympathetic to my sister's needs. I was greeted with open arms, as her brother, to pick up some furniture items. My sister was homeless for over 20 years and has now been provided with housing and your help and support are more than words can provide."

### A client fleeing an unsafe living situation:

"Last night was the first night in 12 years I got to sleep on a real bed. I am very thankful right now."

### A veteran and their family:

"We were welcomed with open arms and treated with such dignity in our time of need and honestly can't express our gratitude and joyfulness enough. We love everything we have received. This organization is truly amazing and everyone who works or volunteers here deserves the utmost respect for showing people that there is still great people out there willing to help."

### An expectant mother:

"My 4-year-old picked out his own bedding and held it tight until they had to pack it in the truck...This is the best day of my life. First time that I've been able to decorate a place with my own stuff."

### A client moving out of a group home:

"It is not easy to be able to afford all the necessities in life and a new mattress at no cost saved me a lot of time and money. I really appreciate it. It is really encouraging what you are doing for the greater good of others."

### A client with a disability leaving unhealthy living circumstances:

"I couldn't be any happier. My home has never looked this wonderful. I am 60 years old and I can honestly tell you that this is the very first time that I can say that I love living in this home and it's all thanks to you. When you are barely living above the poverty level and you are gifted like I was, there aren't many words to express my gratitude."

## ALWAYS KNOW WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

At Mission of Deeds we strive to always put our clients first. We are proud that **93.2%** of our budget goes directly to client service. In pairing with GuideStar, we are giving our donors a look at where their donation goes and how they have a direct effect on our clients' lives. We hope this information helps you feel great about your decision to donate to Mission of Deeds. GuideStar is the

world's largest source of information on nonprofit organizations. GuideStar's Nonprofit Profiles provide donors with the information they need to make smart decisions, build connections, and learn from each other to achieve their missions. We are proud to have received GuideStar's Platinum Seal of Transparency — their newest and highest level of recognition.



### MOD EXPENSE BREAKDOWN

■ Programs — 93.2%  
■ Administration — 5.6%  
■ Fundraising — 1.2%



Platinum



Follow us on social media! [facebook.com/missionofdeeds](https://facebook.com/missionofdeeds) [instagram.com/missionofdeeds](https://instagram.com/missionofdeeds)