

NOVEMBER 2006

DEAR FRIENDS,

We're happy to report that despite an impressive increase in the number of calls for help we've received this year, your support has kept us in good financial health. We assisted 203 of our South Whidbey neighbors with essential prescriptions and medical services in the first three quarters of 2006—an increase of 19% over last year. We are on target to help about 275 people this year and stay within our budgeted \$70,000.

Thanks to those of you who responded to our spring call for help and those who made our first annual Mr. South Whidbey pageant a resounding success, we were able to restore our annual maximum per individual, which we had cut back in the spring. We are also in a good position to weather what we expect to be a further increase in calls once our new number appears in the phone book for the first time this month.

This has been a year of transition to new leadership and systems for us, and we are pleased with how smoothly it has gone. We now have an excellent paid part-time service coordinator, a published phone number, and an informational website soon to go online.

Our fundraising efforts for 2007 are already in high gear. We'll have fluffy woolen angels for sale at the Giving Trees at Bayview Corner and Neil's Clover Patch Café this holiday season, and next year we'll bring back both our popular plant sale in the spring and the second annual Mr. South Whidbey Pageant in the fall. Please speak to a board member or leave a message at 221-4535 if you would like to help with an event or nominate someone for Mr. South Whidbey.

Thank you for your support in this, our tenth year of service to the health needs of the community. We have enclosed an envelope for those of you who have not yet had a chance to make your annual donation.

Sincerely,

The Friends of Friends Board of Directors