



CUMAC

Feeding People & Changing Lives

P. O. Box 2721
Paterson, NJ 07509-2721

August 17, 2010

Dear CUMAC Friends,

I am writing to you personally because you have been such a strong supporter of CUMAC's mission to feed people and change lives. Once again CUMAC finds itself treading water. Because CUMAC is on the ground level of meeting people's needs, we were one of the first places to feel the effects of the struggling economy and will be one of the last to fully recover. In September 2008, CUMAC closed for the first time ever because we ran out of food. Thankfully, **despite being on track to feed even more people than last year's record high, we have managed to maintain a good supply of nutritious food** to distribute to those in need.

Our significant challenge today is we find ourselves struggling with a rapidly decreasing cash flow. We receive some significant funding from various levels and agencies of the government, but that money is only distributed via reimbursement, after we have already laid out the cash. Additionally, we have several promised grants totaling \$15,000 that have been delayed with no specific indication as to when we will receive the funds. Finally, summer is always a challenge with individuals taking vacations, and clubs and churches shutting down or slowing down during June, July and August – resulting in fewer donations.

CUMAC has used our little reserves to keep things flowing up until now, but at this point we **need to find \$30,000 by September** just to cover payroll, utilities and insurances...there is no fringe here. We have estimated that with expected (not guaranteed) income from the Thrift Shop and a variety of other sources, we have the potential to receive \$22,000 by September, but that still leaves us short of the necessary resources to run our critical programs.

We are doing everything we can. Effective immediately, we have cut back hours and staff time. We are busy preparing to send out appeals through numerous avenues (so please forgive me if you receive more than one). If there is any way you can **help us by making a donation** (online, over the phone, or via mail), please do so now. Please feel free to contact me or Laura Purdy (lpurdy@cumacecho.org) by email or phone if you have questions or suggestions. **I thank you in advance for the ways you will find to respond to and share this urgent need.**

Shalom,

Reverend Patricia Bruger
Executive Director