



Our Mission

To Bring the Love and Hope of Jesus Christ to those we serve.

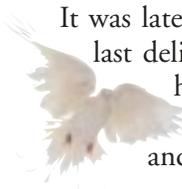
We deliver furniture, household items and food free of charge to those who seek assistance. There are no prerequisites for service.

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

"We're just the delivery people, this is the person who sent you the furniture."

"The Girl Moving into My Place Had Nothing"

By John DeAngelo, Staff



It was late Friday afternoon when we pulled up to our last delivery in Brockton at the end of a long, very hot week. David Porzio (Quincy), Joe Zucco (BC High), Ben Williams (Coyle Cassidy) and I had no idea how special this one would be.

Danielle was waiting for us with her four daughters who ranged in age from 2-months to 9 years. Her apartment was completely empty.

"How long have you been living here?" I asked. Danielle explained that she'd been living in Pittsburgh when she lost her job in January. Five months pregnant and unable to find work, she moved back to the area and stayed with her mother for the past 6 months.

Danielle deeply appreciated our efforts to make her empty apartment a home. Before she saw anything on our truck, she said, "Thank you all so much for doing this for me." Her gratitude was touching.

Danielle then watched with awe and emotion as we brought in all her furniture and the carefully prepared bags of linens and boxes of household items.

Along the way she shared more of her story with us. "You know, I had all this back in Pittsburgh. I had furniture but I couldn't see bringing it all out here when the girl moving into my place had nothing. So I knew I should leave it with her and that God would provide for me. When one door closes, He opens up another."

What a demonstration of Faith and Generosity!

Danielle loved everything we brought in. When it was all in the house, we took one last look around. The girls were already making their beds, the oldest helping her younger sisters.

I told Danielle we had one more gift for her. "The furniture," I said, "didn't come from us. We're just the delivery people. This is the guy who sent you the furniture" and I handed her the crucifix.

Danielle was so excited. She took it and said, "I know God will watch over me and my family. Thank you all so much! Hugs all around!"

She gave us each a big hug. What a great way to end the week. We headed back to My Brother's Keeper, once again all of us richer for having felt Christ's love.

My Brother's Keeper
\$1 MILLION
 Hole in One
ShootOut
 5TH ANNUAL
 WEET 103.7 FM SPORTS RADIO

Friday, September 17th 3pm-7pm
 Saturday, September 18th 11am-7pm
 Sunday, September 19th 9am, Semifinals
 1pm, Finals

September 17-19, 2010
 Golf Country Rte. 138 South Easton
Rain or Shine
 24 Covered Tee Boxes!

NO ENTRY FEE. \$10 for 12 balls, \$20 for 25 balls. All proceeds support My Brother's Keeper. Must be 18 years of age to participate. Bring the family and enjoy food, mini golf, batting cages, raffles, and much more! For more information visit MyBrothersKeeper.org/golf

25 FREE BALLS with the purchase of a \$20 bucket of balls and this coupon
 One coupon per golfer.

\$5,000 in consolation prizes to be awarded!

MasterCard DISCOVER VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS



Special Raffle Insert!!! Your choice of...
 7 Day Boston-to-Bermuda Cruise or \$3,000 Cash

PRIZE DONATED IN FULL - 100% OF PROCEEDS BENEFIT MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

The My Brother's Keeper "Produce Crew"



A group of 10-15 men and women work together every Tuesday as the *My Brother's Keeper* "Produce Crew" helping to provide fresh fruits and vegetables for families in need.

The day begins early: volunteers leave *My Brother's Keeper* at 7 A.M. (top left), braving the Boston traffic to get to the New England Produce Center in **Chelsea** where they collect fresh fruits and vegetables from generous businesses like **Grant-Stanton, B.C., Arrow, and Tavilla Produce** (middle left). Along the way they also pickup meat from **Kayem Foods** and a free tank of gas from **Dennis K. Burke Oil**.



The truck arrives back at *My Brother's Keeper* mid-morning, filled with fantastic items like 50-pound bags of potatoes, countless flats of tomatoes and berries, boxes of squash, peppers, eggplant, cucumbers, mushrooms, and crates of snap peas, corn, and lettuce. The "Produce Ladies," (bottom left) sometimes with the help of a few good men and teenagers, work together to bag the fruits and vegetables into 75 family-size bags.

Because the produce and meat donors give so generously, *My Brother's Keeper* shares these items weekly with several other local charities, including **Friends of the Unborn, Fr. Bill's & Mainspring, St. Paul's Table, The Charity Guild, and Catholic Charities**.

"For many years, *My Brother's Keeper* has stopped by our shelter-home to drop off nutritional fruits, veggies, and meats for our sixteen residents and their babies," said **Marilyn Birnie**, Executive Director of **Friends of the Unborn**. "It's so important that our expectant Moms and newborns have good nutrition and we are so very thankful."



The people we serve also tell us how nice it is to receive these fresh fruits and vegetables. It's such a joy to hear children say, "Look, Mom—strawberries!" A special thank you to all of our generous produce donors, **Kayem, Burke Oil**, and the "Product Crew" for helping provide healthy food to those we serve.

"Ministries within The Ministry"

2,000 people volunteer at *My Brother's Keeper* annually, each offering their special gifts and talents to serve others in Christ's name.

Over the years, this has led to many 'Ministries within the Ministry': small groups of dedicated volunteers who joyfully work together in community on special tasks.

This is the second part of an ongoing series sharing the beauty and impact of our volunteers' work.

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER FOOD DELIVERIES

AVERAGE RETAIL VALUE = \$110

OUR COST = \$13

COST TO RECIPIENTS = \$0

My Brother's Keeper makes 3,500 food deliveries each year in Brockton and Easton.

We are the **only** local charity delivering emergency groceries, very important to the elderly and those without transportation. Families call *My Brother's Keeper* between 12-1 P.M. and receive a substantial, healthy food delivery (left) between 3-5 P.M. the same day.

In keeping with our mission, all deliveries include a flyer with a picture of Christ and the words "*Jesus hears your prayers and He does not forget you.*" (right)



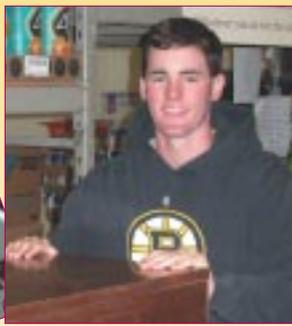
"Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread"
Jesus hears your prayers
and He does not forget you.



Jesus said: "I was hungry and you fed me."
Matthew 25:35



*Dan Barnes, Tim Grow, and Nick Keohan
from B.C. High*



*Tom Crane
from Wellesley High*



*Kelsey Grady, Amanda Jackson, and Gillian Daly
from Ursuline Academy*

“A Ministry of Education”

*Since April, 110 high school students have
volunteered more than 3,300 hours at My Brother’s Keeper,
serving hundreds of families in need and learning important life lessons along the way.*

*They attend the following high schools: B.C. High, Bishop Stang, Brockton, Catholic Memorial, Coyle Cassidy, Duxbury,
Hanover, Mansfield, Newton Country Day, Norwood, Oliver Ames, Pembroke, Ursuline, Waltham, Wellesley, and Xaverian Brothers.*

A Reflection by Dan Foley, Xaverian Brothers High School

I can truly say **Christian Senior Service** at *My Brother’s Keeper* has very possibly been the six most influential weeks of my life. For me, the most important thing about senior service was not what I accomplished or how many people I helped. The greatest gift is what I discovered about myself.

Before serving at *My Brother’s Keeper*, I never knew so many people living near me were so underprivileged and needed so much help. We went to some tough places to deliver furniture, some really poor places. We saw people who slept on cold, wood floors, or lived in apartments that were bare. We went to a stop in **Dorchester** and twenty feet away was a sidewalk memorial dedicated to someone killed there. My service shocked me at times. I realized how blessed I am that I have a nice bed to sleep in every night and that I never worry about having food in the house.

One delivery in particular changed my life’s perspective in less than 15 minutes. **John DeAngelo** (staff), **Helen Rodriguez** and **Emily Harriman (Stonehill)** were also along for the delivery of a twin bed in **Whitman**. Just a mattress, boxspring, and frame... probably the simplest furniture delivery you can get. We went into the house to meet ‘**Donna**,’ a single mom with 2 daughters ages 12 and 16. These teenage girls had been sharing a bed for months. We brought the bed in and set it up, just as **Donna** wanted it, and then we heard her family’s story.

Donna’s oldest daughter, 16, was going to prom the next night. She had to go to a consignment store to buy her dress, which they could barely afford. Her date’s parents were going through a divorce and they were short on money too. The two families decided to split the cost of the prom tickets and the cheapest picture package available. Together they were just scraping by for this one night of prom. When we gave her the crucifix, **Donna** broke down into tears, blessing herself multiple times. It was such a powerful moment.

On this delivery, **Donna** received what she needed—furniture and ‘*the Love and Hope of Jesus Christ.*’ I also got exactly what I needed—to know that I am so fortunate to have the things I have and to not dwell on the things I don’t have. It allowed me to look deep within myself, to understand why I serve and why I was sent to this earth by **God**.

“Christian Idol” Talent Show benefits My Brother’s Keeper

With help from her friends and family, **Easton** teenager **Elizabeth Leitzmann** planned and coordinated ‘**Christian Idol 2010**,’ a talent show at **New Hope Christian Chapel** featuring performances by local students like **Mike Hansen** and **Ralph Peterson**. (left)



“Help is needed around the globe so I wanted to organize an event to benefit those suffering locally and internationally,” Elizabeth shared. 100% of the ticket sales benefitted My Brother’s Keeper and victims of Haiti’s earthquake through Catholic Relief Services.

Elizabeth, a *My Brother’s Keeper* volunteer since 2005, is pictured along with her mom **Clare** dropping off a donation in the amount of **\$1,057**. (right)



My Brother's Keeper Receives "Hearts & Hands for Hope" Award



On May 8th, *My Brother's Keeper* received the "Hearts and Hands for Hope" award from **Brockton Family & Community Resources (BFCR)**, a local charity serving victims of family violence.

Pictured left to right, **David Madoff**, BFCR Chairman, *My Brother's Keeper* staff **Beth Sheehan**, **Erich Miller**, and **Ryan Thorley** with **Patricia Kelleher**, BFCR President & CEO.

In presenting the award, **Kelleher** said, "So many victims of trauma are faced with leaving what they have and relocating to new, unfamiliar surroundings—frightening for adults and often traumatizing for children, the silent victims. Fortunately we are blessed with a community partner like *My Brother's Keeper* who brings smiles to many faces, tears of joy to others, and peace to very unsettled lives."

"DEACON PLUNGE"



In May, *My Brother's Keeper* conducted a 3¹/₂-day service retreat for 12 men in the Archdiocese of Boston's Diaconate Formation Program which is directed by Deacon Dan Burns. The retreat ran Thursday night through Sunday morning. Each day included direct service, Mass, prayer, discussion, and reflection. The following reflection was written by Tom O'Shea, one of the men in formation (*standing, far right*).



Living in Exile

By Tom O'Shea, Lynnfield, Diaconate Candidate

Jim Hinkle, **Eric Peabody** and I had been doing a service retreat at *My Brother's Keeper* with nine other candidates for the permanent diaconate—"Deacon Plunge" we called it. In truth, though, we aren't deacons yet, just deacons-in-training, finishing our second year of a four-year formation program with the **Archdiocese of Boston**.

During the Plunge, we slept on mattresses in the warehouse, shared lunch with the *Keeper's* volunteer community, worked at a homeless shelter, made food deliveries to needy families and moved furniture... lots of furniture!... around the warehouse, into trucks, out of trucks and up stairs into people's apartments.

So when we pulled up to **Mike's** apartment in **Stoughton** to deliver a bed, we were three pretty tired middle-aged guys, about to have our weariness lifted by grace.

Much to our amazement, **Mike**, we learned, is also a Deacon. And not just any Deacon, but an Archdeacon, the highest of five levels a deacon can attain in his branch of Christianity, the Coptic Christian Church.

Originally from **Egypt**, **Mike** witnessed his fellow Copts suffer martyrdom at the hands of Muslim extremists and fled to the United States with his wife and two children, ages three and 12 months. **Mike** found it difficult to obtain a job in accounting,

the profession he studied in **Egypt**. He has been working at a gas station, struggling to support his family on a subsistence wage.

This past January, **Mike** told us, Muslim gunmen massacred six Copts who were attending Mass in **Nag Hammadi, Egypt**. "But we must remember that most Muslims are good people," he cautioned. "And we must always remember to pray for them, even those who make us suffer."

Erich Miller, our guide from *My Brother's Keeper* that day, suggested **Mike** give us his blessing. At first the Archdeacon demurred, but we insisted so he blessed us with a traditional Coptic prayer spoken in his community's ancient liturgical language. Then he blessed us in English, asking **God** to look over our families and help us in our formation to the diaconate.

It was humbling to be deacons-in-training in the presence of Archdeacon **Mike** and his family, living in exile far from their home, family and friends—dispossessed because they held fast to their belief in **Christ** yet still full of charity and forgiveness for their persecutors.

As **Erich** steered the truck back on the road to **Easton**, he said, "We could never have planned that." And the thought occurred to us that Someone else did.



 MY BROTHER'S KEEPER FAMILY WALK
Building Community One step at a time.

The 1st Annual *My Brother's Keeper* Family Walk was held on Saturday, June 19th. It was a beautiful celebration of the *My Brother's Keeper* family—a family in Christ serving families in need. 700 attended the inaugural event which included a prayer service, a 3-mile walk, lunch and family fun activities. We received the following e-mail from a member of our community which beautifully captures the spirit of the day.

“Thank you for such an incredible day. The Family Walk that *My Brother's Keeper* organized was nothing short of amazing. From beginning to end it was a perfect day—one that I have not stopped talking about since.

The Prayer Service was just beautiful. It was so interesting to see so many people. . . so many talents and backgrounds, gathering around to begin the event together, humbly asking God for His blessing. I could not keep my eyes off of the crowd as it seemed to continuously grow. As individuals and groups kept coming, I kept thinking about all the different backgrounds and experiences that were filling the seats.

What has always amazed me about *My Brother's Keeper* is the fact that at any given time you could be sitting next to either the CEO of a large company or someone that has needed help getting back on their feet. . . but both spectrums are desperate for God's love. . . and He provides exactly that.

As large of a crowd that I have described, I felt an overwhelming sense of God's love for me individually while amongst everyone. *My Brother's Keeper* always refreshes my understanding of the depth of God's affection for all of us. He provides a place to find His love and to share His love. To me, *My Brother's Keeper* is a sanctuary and the Family Walk truly felt like a reunion of family.”

~ Ann Marie Gill, Raynham



UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST	Monday, August 30 Stonehill College 'Into the Streets' Freshman Volunteer Day
SEPTEMBER	Friday–Sunday, September 17-19 Million Dollar Hole-in-One Shootout – Golf Country, S. Easton (www.MyBrothersKeeper.org for schedule)
NOVEMBER	Friday, November 26 – 7:00 p.m. Annual Gratitude Mass
DECEMBER	Saturday, December 4 Christmas volunteering begins!

SPECIAL KNITTING PROJECT:

Do you like to knit or crochet?

If so, you can join a group of 30 women who are knitting winter hats and scarves to give to mothers as gifts for our 2010 Christmas Program (*yarn donated to My Brother's Keeper*).

If interested, please call Beth Sheehan at 508-238-7512.



MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

P.O. Box 338, Easton, MA 02356-0338

Furniture Assistance . . . 508-238-4416

Donations / Business 508-238-7512 – Fax 508-238-3613
(501 (c) (3) tax-exempt)

www.mybrotherskeeper.org

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My Brother's Keeper Prayer

Lord . . .

When I have food, Help me remember the hungry.

When I lie in my bed, Help me remember those who sleep on the floor.

When I have a warm home, Help me remember the homeless.

When I have work, Help me remember those without jobs.

When I experience the joy of giving to my children,

Help me remember the agony of those who must watch their children go without.

By remembering, Help me destroy my indifference and arouse my compassion.

Make me concerned enough to act in your name, to help those who cry out to you
for that which I so often take for granted.