

meals."



November 2012

## Brunch November 2012

### Dear Friends

This month we made a special effort in the ultimate goal of our brunch program which is above and beyond food. With Naser's tireless effort and leadership in the kitchen we prepared the Thanksgiving meal in advance to allow ample time to share our weekly stories with one another and bringing our friends out of isolation. *Being alone can be painful but being neglected during the holidays can stir depression to the point of feeling suicidal.* We did every possible thing to sincerely create a loving and warm atmosphere with light-hearted humor.

On the 25th of November the greatest number of volunteers showed up for the joyous occasion of our 2nd annual Thanksgiving Dinner, the greatest event of our year. Barbara, Micky, Mary, Yasin and Mark all came. Naser from New Hampshire, Peter from Connecticut, James from Vermont, and Ghazal from Kansas City, all traveled to Boston to express their love for our friends at 1740 Washington Street. That was the largest number of volunteers that has ever shown up on any given Sunday. The intensity of loving collaboration and teamwork was such that we were working in many bodies with one soul, towards one goal!

The feeling of community and family was so strong that one resident remarked, "this is the most magnificent Thanksgiving dinner I have had in my life".

Our friends at 1740 Washington Street are so welcoming that oftentimes they wait outside of the building for us to come and help us take the food inside. Their anticipation of our arrival lets us know they truly look forward to our presence and their smiles upon greeting us confirm their feelings of joy.

Due to the generosity of our friends, this month's food was 100% donated. We thank everyone for their contributions, as they allowed us to reach out in exactly the way one would hope during a special time such as the holidays. Our friends at 1740 remain just as appreciative about this family meal as they are for our continued service.

*"Two to four [referring to the time we are there on Sunday afternoon] is the happiest time in the week for us". "Every Sunday is a great day because of your hard work & wonderful*

The turnout was at its busiest, as is to be expected in the festive spirit of Thanksgiving, and we brought out extra tables to accommodate all of our friends. More than enough food was prepared to go around that no one would want for anything. The variety of food could easily please every taste. The dessert consisted of various pies including: blueberry, apple, bean, and Indian pudding. They were all enjoyed throughout the meal.

The turkey was so tender that carving it was like cutting warm butter. We needed to let it cool so that solid strips could be sliced. The stuffing was soaked in butter and chicken broth for a rich flavor and the mashed potatoes had an especially spicy zing of garlic. The extra steps to stimulate the senses can be summed up with the most essential ingredient...loving kindness.



As part of our ongoing partnership with the Paul Sullivan House at 1740

Washington Street and the Pine Street Inn, we have decided to offer our neighbors the opportunity to fill out what we're calling a "Winter Wish List." This list will allow us to give each resident of the house more individualized attention by providing something he or she needs in the coming weeks.

This year, we have residents with wishes for certain items. We are on a budget of \$20 per person, so as the requests come in, we will be turning to you for help in fulfilling them. Please consider donating a small amount of money towards this project or buying one or more of the requested items yourself, either through Wal-Mart or any other gift card from another retailer in the amount of \$20. As always, we thank you for your continued generosity and kindness.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mohammad (nimatullahisufiorder@gmail.com or 617 536 0076). As always, we invite you to join us at 1740 Washington street and to become a part of this experience every Sunday between 1-4, as does our need for your monetary donations to help sustain and further our service and its goals.



What is the purpose of charity services?

Human beings have provided various answers to this question.

From religious view we do charity as meritorial actions in order to please God and secure our worldly pleasures, lodging, and jobs and have him keep us away from pains, sickness, earthquakes, wars, AND secure a place in the Heavens for us *in return*.

From philosophical & intellectual point of view there is no point in charity services. it keep us away from our jobs , entertainment , family, vacations , and is a road towards falling behind / keep us away from life and its attractions . Intellect places self and “my interest” first and prior than interest of others.

From Sufi point of view, love God is the purpose, meaning and foundation of life. However, since The Truth is transcendental and intangible, we love, understand and serve other human beings even animals that are his creation and manifestations. “... The purpose of being in this world for us is nothing than to be kind, compassionate, and loving to each other” in Sufism. Charity service especially helping the most pressing needs of our community is the short cut to embrace and experience The Divine love.

## WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED!

1. **Volunteer:** 2-4pm every Sunday. Help us cook and clean or just by spending time with our friends. It is only 2 hours of your time but the impact of these two is tremendous!
2. **Monetary Donations:** If you would like to make a contribution to the House of Sufism Charity Initiative, you can write a check or use any credit card. All your donations are tax deductible.
3. **Email the report to friends and family to share information about this great cause!**

**Hard copies of the monthly report** are available. Those who prefer to receive it, please furnish us with your address.

With the aim of **transparency in our service**, we ask that any inquiries on financial matters of Khaniqah be individually requested and we shall respond to you in a timely manner. Names of donors have been withheld for privacy reasons. Every January, all **donors receive a letter** acknowledging their contribution along with federal tax identification **for tax deductibility**.

*In gratitude and affection,*

KN Boston Charities