

*Katie is a single mother of two children who are four and six. She was laid off in January and has only basic state health insurance. She is struggling with depression and anxiety and worries about being able to care for herself, let alone her family.*

April 2009

Dear Samaritan Center Friends,

**This is your invitation to participate in Samaritan Center of Puget Sound's 2009 Samaritan Fund Campaign.** Through this fund, we strive to make counseling more accessible to people like Katie, for whom finances are a current struggle. More and more people are coming through our doors because of the anxiety that their financial situation is causing. At the same time, other clients are feeling the pressure to drop their counseling for financial reasons. The Samaritan Fund exists to directly assist these women, men, and children in need.

**We are intentionally making this year's Samaritan fundraiser a "non-event", which means that we will not be spending our communal resources on a hotel luncheon and speaker.** This is a purposeful departure from the past and while we have loved the fundraising meals we have shared with many of you, this difficult year seemed to call for something different. In place of our traditional fall event, we are asking you to support The Samaritan Fund now, and not again until next year. *(We will be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Samaritan Center/Presbyterian Counseling Service next spring and look forward to you joining us in those festivities.)*

As you know so well from this past year and the toll that it has taken on all of us, there is no going back to the way things were; to restore what once was. **This is a time instead to reevaluate our priorities, to recalibrate our giving, and to live as the resilient, Easter people God calls us to be.** Among the numerous people who received fee assistance in some way at Samaritan Center this past year, 103 women, men, and family members were served through The Samaritan Fund.

**Please take this opportunity to invest in The Samaritan Fund.** To make a difference in the lives of people in your family, your neighborhood, your church, your community. To consider your neighbor as yourself. *Will you join us in a faith-filled response?*

With grateful anticipation,



Rev. Lee Seese  
Chair, Board of Directors



Beverley Shrumm  
President & CEO

*Your gift of \$150 will cover the cost of two counseling sessions for someone like Katie.  
Please consider taking what you might spend on our annual event and adding it to your gift.*