




from Paris to Omaha

2004 Annual Report



MISSION

Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly is a national, non-profit, volunteer-based organization committed to relieving isolation and loneliness among the elderly. We offer to people of good will the opportunity to join the elderly in friendship and celebration of life.

The role of the National Office is to connect U.S. chapters to the international organization, unify and support existing chapters, encourage the formation of new chapters, promote *flowers before bread*, and identify and develop national resources.

CHAIRPERSON

LORETTA HOARD, NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly began bringing love and respect to “old friends” in Paris in 1946 as *les petits frères des Pauvres* and has continued in nine countries around the world and in nine cities within the United States - the latest expansion chapter being established in Omaha in 2003. If you look at our national and international *historical values*, you find that from Paris to Omaha, all Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly are both unique and the same.

From Paris to Omaha, our most cherished value is *love and respect* as we recognize the inherent worth of each individual - unique and irreplaceable and valuable as human beings worthy of dignity.

From Paris to Omaha, Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly is a community of *staff, volunteers and donors* - not a community of where we live, rather a community of how we live - involving each of us to bring “old friends” into this *community of love*. And in this community, *each* Little Brother-Friends of the Elderly represents *all* Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly...wherever we are.

Staff, volunteers and donors - each *committed* to provide *service*, giving freely in their own way and each using their individual skills and talents to support each other to bring love without strings to “old friends” and to be with them to the end of their life.

From Paris to Omaha, all Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly have an *obligation* to develop in other locales...to ignite little fires of love...to create the community of love and bring “old friends” into it. And so we have grown - around the world and within the U.S. - thanks to the generosity of staff, volunteers and donors. Uniting, expanding, and supporting each other in improving the *quality of life* for “old friends” and for ourselves...feeding the spirit as well as the body via the symbols of love - food, celebration, respect - for the entire community.

Thank you to each and every Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly staff, volunteer and donor in the U.S. for bringing *flowers before bread* to “old friends.”

from Paris to Omaha

Paris and Omaha don't seem to have much in common. For Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly these two cities have everything in common. Armand Marquiset founded Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly in **Paris** in 1946 igniting the first fire of love. Terry & Noreen Shaughnessy ignited another fire in **Omaha** over six years ago starting a "Friends of Little Brothers" program. The hard work and dedication of many people grew it to a vibrant chapter. In fiscal year 2004, Omaha (the ninth U.S. chapter of Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly) opened. We embrace Omaha and its elders as only Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly can. We thank and acknowledge the work of all the volunteers who made opening the chapter possible and who continue to ignite fires of love, one elder at a time. Armand Marquiset would be proud.

Armand Marquiset, founder, les petits frères des Pauvres

For Armand Marquiset, serving the poor meant bringing them respect and love. Armand Marquiset added to this timeless message his own individual touch. One fundamental principle of les petits frères is the importance of superfluity, the necessity of luxury for the poor, which translates into our motto, *flowers before bread*. The other fundamental of serving the poor for Armand was to give love. This was evident in all that he said and did with les petits frères. It was perhaps said most forcefully in his later writings, those of his last years, when he wished to retain only the essentials: "The greatest poverty is the lack of love; to be poor is above all to be poor in love."

based on an article by Mario Cipriani, Nouvelles des petits frères, M. Christolhomme (publisher), Paris 1990, Nr. 94

In June, representatives from ten countries gathered in Montreal, Québec, to conduct the business of **Fédération Internationale des petits frères des Pauvres** (International Federation of Little Brothers of the Poor).

On the International Federation's agenda was the re-organization of the Federation and strategic planning for future activities.

Through this came a **renewed, invigorated international brotherhood committed to expanding our founder's, Armand Marquiset's, vision of igniting little fires of love across the globe.**

Gratitude is extended to the International Federation General Assembly hosts, Les petits frères des Pauvres du Québec.



Member country delegates at the International Federation of Little Brothers of the Poor General Assembly, June 2004.

U.S. DELEGATES 2004 (*alphabetical order*): Christine Bertrand, Nancy Borzo, Marguerite Griffin, Marty Guerin, Loretta Hoard, Jack Jobst, Kevin McCullough, Roger Nash, Louise Olson, Tina Stretch



Chapter delegates at the 2004 USLBFE General Assembly.

Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly chapters gathered in Rochelle, Illinois, September 24 & 25 for the **U.S. General Assembly** themed "From Paris to Omaha." The General Assembly **communicated the interconnectedness and history binding the U.S. and international organizations.**

Focusing on the Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly Core Values, the two-day meeting was an opportunity to present best practices, learn innovative service delivery strategies and engender mission effectiveness.

The National Office thanks the planning committee and the Chicago chapter for use of its vacation home in Rochelle.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATES (*alphabetical order*): Chris Adams, Lucy Alfaro, Ruth Angove, Cathy Aten, Mary Bachman, Melissa Badowich, Christine Bertrand, Darla Braun, Mary Ann Burch, Mary Colleran, Karen D'Alessandro, Kate Donohue, Seth Fisher, Monica Fuentes, Marty Guerin, Alejandro Guerrero, Jack Henn, Loretta Hoard, Lorel Janiszewski, Carol Korpela, Rob Mapes, Kevin McCullough, Simone Mitchell-Peterson, Kelly Murphy, Jessica Musselman, Roger Nash, Jeannie Nelson, Gingie Pope, Diane Rack, Lynn-Ellen St. Martin, Jose Santa Maria, David Scott, Clare Shanahan, Lisa Strack, Deneen Washington, Yogi Wess, Gina Withers

The National Office sponsored the second annual **Volunteer Program Staff Retreat**. Staff members gathered to reinforce each other's commitment to the organization, its volunteers, and the elders who would otherwise be alone. Occurring immediately after the General Assembly, this gathering built on the plans created at the group's 2003 meeting and developed new plans to improve the structures, standards and policies of each chapter's Volunteer Program.



Volunteer Program Staff Retreat, September 2004

Building on the success of the volunteer program meeting, the National Public Relations Committee organized and presented a two-day **Public Relations Summit** in July at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

To create increased awareness of Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly, three work groups were established to complete tasks: creating key messages, developing a public relations tool kit, and revising the organization's websites.

Chapters accomplish their goal of connecting elders to the larger community with increasing pressure to serve more people.

Work began in 2004 on the creation of software to build the capacity of chapters to serve elders. The **Volunteer/Elder Database** project was needed to efficiently and effectively hold and dispense information about services provided. Completion of the project is expected by mid-2005.

Financial stability ensures that connections continue and the work gets done. **Intern Grants** to chapters in 2004 were distributed to San Francisco, Philadelphia, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Boston, and Houghton. **Fund Raising Grants** were made to Houghton, Philadelphia, Boston, and Minneapolis/St. Paul chapters; **Capacity Building Grants** to San Francisco, Houghton, Minneapolis/St. Paul and Philadelphia chapters.

Supporting the chapters' staff through the **Staff Exchange Program** allows chapters to share the expertise of their respective staff member. During 2004, eight such exchanges were funded by the National Office connecting volunteer program, fund raising, and elder services staff across the country.

The National Office works to **expand the organization's mission** by looking for and studying locations where it could establish new chapters or programs. The pursuit of growth is aimed at igniting Marquiset's little fires of love in as many new ways and new locations as feasible.

In addition to expanding the mission, the National Office supports existing chapters, especially newer ones, to ensure programmatic and financial stability of each chapter and the organization, as a whole. **Chapters operated by the National Office are: Cincinnati, Miami and Omaha.**

CINCINNATI

CONTINUING EXCELLENCE

The chapter's work was recognized by Southwestern Ohio Council on Aging with its "2004 Community Service Award."

583	total elders served
55	elder/volunteer matches
1,381	elders at holiday events
4,943	elder visits (incl. telephone visits)
67	social events
560	elders at social events
902	direct service contacts
17	elders on vacation
146	birthday visits
320	volunteers
7,322	volunteer hours

MIAMI

CONTINUING GROWTH

From transportation to a senior center to minor home repairs, the chapter grew in elders served & programs offered.

292	total elders served
38	elder/volunteer matches
407	elders at holiday events
2,247	elder visits (incl. telephone visits)
28	social events
562	elders at social events
4,914	direct service contacts
251	senior center days
576	food bags distributed
389	volunteers
10,550	volunteer hours

OMAHA

CONTINUING CONNECTIONS

Started as a "Friends" program by former Minneapolis/St. Paul volunteers, the chapter opened in FY 2004.

125	total elders served
9	elder/volunteer matches
140	elders at holiday events
180	elder visits (incl. telephone visits)
2	social events
125	elders at social events
72	direct service contacts
177	volunteers
402	volunteer hours

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Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly gratefully acknowledges the financial partnership and commitment our donors who make our work possible.

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Mecklenburg Gardens
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Peacock Foundation
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\$1,000+
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Finocchiaro Wine Company
Garbo's Salons
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Kevin McCullough
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Mary Kay Cosmetics
Rotella's Italian Bakery
St. Margaret Mary Church
Security National Bank
Marty & Alice Smith
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NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF

Roger Nash
 National Executive Director

Dan Gurgevich
 Director of Finance

Kevin McCullough
 Fundraising & Communications Coordinator

Brad Hansel
 Assistant to the Executive Director

REVENUE:	Affiliate Dues	\$274,031
	Contributions	\$95,008
	Investment Income	\$12,020
	Bequest/Foundation Income	\$362,346
	Grant Income	\$212,215
	Special Events	\$30,281
	Total	\$985,901

EXPENSES:	Program Services	
	Affiliate Support	\$214,810
	Expansion	\$911,921
	Support Services	
	Management & General	\$174,397
	Resource Development	\$19,019
Total	\$1,320,147	

Revenue and expenses reported are for **Fiscal Year 2004 (10/01/03-9/30/04)** reflecting the National Office and chapters operated by the National Office: Cincinnati, Miami and Omaha. Audited financial statements are available upon request from the National Office of Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly.

Each year Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly relieves the isolation and loneliness of thousands of elders. In 2004, the nine U.S. chapters provided 115,048 contacts with 6,120 elders through friendly visits, telephone visits, social events, holiday parties, drop-in senior center days, and direct services; 11,662 elders attended holiday events during the year and an additional 6,958 elders attended 259 social events. A significant amount of our work is done by a corps of 11,011 volunteers donating 179,879 hours to the elders in their home communities. It is only with the dedicated compassionate staff, volunteers and Boards of Directors at the U.S. chapters and National Office that fires of love can touch our elders. Our gratitude extends to each person who carries an ember from Paris to Omaha.

CHAPTER & NATIONAL OFFICES

Boston (est. 1979)
617-524-8882
www.littlebrothers.org/boston

Chicago (est. 1959)
312-455-1000
www.littlebrothers.org/chicago

Cincinnati (est. 1997)
513-542-7555
www.littlebrothers.org/cincinnati

Houghton (est. 1982)
906-482-6944
www.littlebrothers.org/houghton

Miami (est. 2000)
305-969-9299
www.littlebrothers.org/miami

Minneapolis/St. Paul (est. 1972)
612-721-6215
www.littlebrothers.org/twincities

National Office (est. 1983)
312-829-3055
www.littlebrothers.org

Omaha (est. 2003)
402-884-6641
www.littlebrothers.org/omaha

Philadelphia (est. 1990)
215-765-8118
www.littlebrothers.org/philadelphia

San Francisco (est. 1990)
415-771-7957
www.littlebrothers.org/sanfrancisco



National Office
954 W. Washington Blvd., 5th Floor
Chicago, IL 60607
312-829-3055 / www.littlebrothers.org