

"We Are Our Brother's Keeper" Celebrates 4th Annual Backpack Homeless Project

By Tamara Lewis

LOS ANGELES—If I may, I would like to express my greatest appreciation to all the wonderful people that worked endlessly with the 2009 4th Annual "We Are Our Brother's Keeper" Backpack Homeless Project which was held on Saturday, December 19, 2009.

We arrived in downtown L.A. with a caravan of trucks and vehicles filled to capacity with backpacks. Many of the homeless people were waiting for us and clearly stated "We knew you backpack people were coming soon."

We were fortunate to provide a "special" backpack to a man who lived in a plastic bag and was caring for a puppy. He received the very last backpack that bore a very encouraging and uplifting note. He called me his "sister" and I replied, "You are my brother."

The backpacks are an insignia of the homeless project whereby we collect backpacks and fill them with a variety of "specialty" items that the homeless people could truly utilize and



Photo by Tina Williams
Homeless men and women line up on Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009 in preparation to receive backpacks from "We Are Our Brother's Keepers" homeless project, an organization founded by Tamara Lewis and family and is supported by a host of sponsors, volunteers, contributors and friends.



Photo by Gloria Zixveem
Tamara Lewis, founder of "We Are Our Brother's Keepers" with donated backpacks.

scious efforts of great human beings, who did not hesitate to extend love, joy and kindness in a most profound way, we were able to go beyond our expectations and for that I am so grateful and thankful.

It is hard for me to understand how on a daily basis we, who are blessed and have plenty, can overlook the least of these our brothers and sisters, who are human being, who are

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Contact Information
Email:
weareourbrotherskeeper@outlook.com

Phone: (310) 892-6262

Website: www.weareourbrotherskeeper.org

*"We shall continue with our Mission.
We hope you share the Vision."*



Backpacks for the Homeless Project

Serving the Downtown Los Angeles,
Culver City, Inglewood, San Fernando
Valley, and Long Beach for 15 years



We Are Our Brothers Keeper (WAOBK) is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization. The Founder & Executive Director Tamara G. Lewis, established the organization to help bring awareness to the homeless plight, and to stand in the gap for the homeless living in

unacceptable and undesirable conditions. WAOBK charity outreach annually gives thousands of Backpacks "Filled with LOVE," throughout Los Angeles County to our homeless communities, with an underlying focus on issues surrounding homelessness, social / economic development, education, health and empowerment.

Mission

"To challenge the people of this great nation with taking action against the unfortunate plight of homelessness in the world we live. To instill and restore hope, and to love beyond self."



Brief History

In 2005 with a few family & friends, WAOBK provided hot dinners and over 100 BACKPACKS to the homeless community living on Skid Row in downtown Los Angeles. In 2019, WAOBK had greater than 200 dedicated volunteers who worked diligently to distribute nearest 5,000 BACKPACKS to the homeless, along with food and clothing. We are GROWING! We pride our success solely on God's grace, dedicated volunteers, and the donations we receive from various sources to sustain our mission.

How can you Help?

Contributions of non-perishable items, clothes, and money make it possible to continue this public and community service.



Vision

WAOBK is committed to standing in the gap for the least fortunate. Our goal is to strategically seek housing for our displaced and disenfranchised homeless family. We recognize the growing numbers of homelessness with our present economy and the challenging hardships we face.....We are seeking your support.

"We Are Our Brother's Keeper" Give Backpacks to the Homeless

By Tamara Lewis

LOS ANGELES—America are you even awake or pretending to be sound asleep? Is the pain of awareness so deep, you shy from the ownership of being "Your Brother's Keeper?" I believe we ALL have a duty of taking responsibility.



Tamara Lewis



Photos by Raven Jackson

"We are Our Brother's Keeper" distributes backpacks to the homeless.



Homeless men, women and children in downtown Los Angeles gets a helping hand from "We Are Our Brother's Keeper" on Dec. 20, 2008.

