



## Minneapolis Recreation Development, Inc.

### One Mission

*“Love One Another”*

### Three Programs

- **Youth Builder Program**
- **Samaritans Outreach Program**
- **363® Days Food Program**



### For more information:

- Visit our website at: [www.mrdinc.org](http://www.mrdinc.org)
- Email us at: [mrd.363days@gmail.com](mailto:mrd.363days@gmail.com)
- Call Allan Law at (612) 423-9923



### Our History

**Minneapolis Recreation Development, Inc. (MRD)** was founded in 1967 by Minneapolis inner city school teacher Allan Law. MRD began as an after school, weekend, and summertime recreation program for at risk inner city youth. For 45 years the Mission of MRD has been *“Love One Another”*. Over the past several years MRD has expanded in scope, dedicated to serving the homeless, poor, disadvantaged youth, and their families in the Twin Cities through **Three Core Programs**:

- **Youth Builder Program**
- **Samaritans Outreach Program**
- **363® Days Food Program**

The Guiding Principle of MRD is captured in a quote by **Hubert Humphrey**:

*“Judge our society by how we care for our children and the disadvantaged.”*



### MRD Founder Allan Law

Allan Law has devoted his entire adult life serving the homeless, disadvantaged youth, and their families.....providing urgently needed basic necessities, encouragement, and a message of hope. He founded Minneapolis Recreation Development in 1967, early in his 32 year career as a school teacher in the inner city of Minneapolis. Since 1967 Allan has volunteered more than 180,000 hours, and for the first 29 years spent over \$500,000 personally funding MRD out of his salary as a teacher. In 1996 **Minneapolis Recreation Development, Inc.** was granted Nonprofit 501(c) (3) Status, which has helped raise the funding necessary to serve the growing number of people in urgent need in the community.

Every night from 9:00pm until 10:00am the next morning, Allan drives throughout the Twin Cities serving people in urgent need in homeless shelters, and those living totally outdoors. He volunteers overnight because that’s when shelters are closed, and homeless people living on the streets are most vulnerable. Making as many as 50 stops a night, he distributes donated sandwiches, basic necessities, and encouragement to the homeless and hungry. He also responds 24/7 to several calls for help each day from people in crisis, with critical basic needs like food, help finding temporary housing etc.. When asked what motivates him he humbly explains, “Because I care . . . and this is what I believe God put me here to do each and every day. . . for the rest of my life.”



### Allan Law Awards & Recognition



*Allan Law Addressing the U.S. Supreme Court in 2000*

- **American Institute for Public Service: “Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Gold Medallion”**  
*Presented at the U.S. Supreme Court*
- **American Institute for Public Service: National “Jefferson Award”**  
*Presented at the U.S. Senate*
- **Recognition from President George W. Bush**
- **Recognition from President Bill Clinton**
- **Recognition from President George H. W. Bush**
- **Recognized in the U.S. Congressional Record by Senator Paul Wellstone**
- **Recognition from Senator Rod Grams**
- **Recognition from Senator Mark Dayton**
- **Recognition from Congressman Jim Ramstad**
- **Recognition from Governor Tim Pawlenty**
- **Recognition from Governor Jesse Ventura**
- **Recognition from Attorney General Mike Hatch**
- **Recognition from Minneapolis Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton: “The Minneapolis Award”**
- **McKnight Foundation: “Virginia McKnight Binger Award in Human Service”**
- **City of Minneapolis: “Martin Luther King” Award**
- **Points of Light Foundation: “Daily Point of Light” Award**
- **Salvation Army: Outstanding Volunteer Service Award**
- **Minnehaha Academy: “Alumnus of the Year” Award**
- **City Business Magazine: “100 Unsung Heroes” Award**
- **Catholic Charities: Volunteer Service Award**
- **North Minneapolis: Community Service Award**
- **KARE11 TV: “Eleven Who Care” Award**
- **Awards from Optimist, Rotary, and Kiwanis Clubs**
- **WCCO TV: “Hometown Hero” Award**
- **Ventura for Minnesota: Public Service Award**
- **WCCO Radio: “Good Neighbor” Award**
- **Minnehaha Academy Centennial Award: “100 Alumni Who Have Influenced Our World”**
- **Featured in Documentary Film: “Give Me Your Hungry”**

# Youth Builder Program

# 363<sup>®</sup> Days Food Program



The long term economic decline has dramatically escalated the number of homeless individuals, families, and children living in poverty. Our financial donations have also declined significantly due to the economic conditions. To help us serve the growing number of people in urgent need, we ask that you consider becoming a partner with Minneapolis Recreation Development by making a Tax Deductible Donation. A donation of any size will be greatly appreciated and utilized prudently. MRD is an entirely volunteer driven organization and no salaries have ever, or will ever be paid to anyone working for MRD. All donations are used for general operating expenses including gas and maintenance for the MRD van, or purchasing program specific items like clothing, bus tokens, and school supplies. MRD does not have an office, but is based out of Allan's apartment where he also maintains 13 freezers to store sandwiches. In addition, MRD rents two public storage units to consolidate our inventory of basic program items including blankets, personal care kits, and winter clothing. To make a donation online, just go to our website at [www.mrdinc.org](http://www.mrdinc.org). You can also mail your donation made out to Minneapolis Recreation Development, Inc. to:

**Minneapolis Recreation Development, Inc.**  
**7220 York Ave S, #610, Edina, MN. 55435**

If you have questions, or would like more information about MRD you can visit our website at [www.mrdinc.org](http://www.mrdinc.org), or Email us at [mrd.363days@gmail.com](mailto:mrd.363days@gmail.com). To reach us by phone, call Allan Law (612) 423-9923, or Steve Aase (612) 803-2287.

**Thank You for Your Compassion, Support, and Commitment!**

MN Council of Nonprofits Member  
 MN State Tax Exempt #: ES 36361 • Federal Tax ID # EIN: 41-1836443



Currently, Allan distributes an average of 1600 sandwiches a night to individuals, shelters and locations serving the homeless. Making several stops each night, he provides sandwiches and bottled water to people and families living on the street, or totally outdoors. In addition, Allan distributes sandwiches that provide an extra meal for overnight residents to 10 Twin Cities partner organizations serving the homeless and poor including:

Salvation Army/Harbor Light Safe Bay	Minneapolis
Union Gospel Mission	St. Paul
Catholic Charities	Minneapolis
Hospitality House	Minneapolis
Dorothy Day Center/Catholic Charities	St. Paul
River of Life Church Loaves & Fishes	Minneapolis
Sharing & Caring Hands	Minneapolis
Marie Sandvik Center	Minneapolis
Urban League	Minneapolis
Little Earth Community	Minneapolis



## Sign Up to Make Sandwiches!

To volunteer to make sandwiches, please fill out the request form on our website at [www.mrdinc.org](http://www.mrdinc.org). Once your request is received your name or group name will be placed on our calendar, and you will receive an Email confirmation. We will contact you prior to your sandwich making event to confirm the time, and will plan on coming in person to thank your group. We can also explain the 363 Days Food Program, share where the sandwiches will be distributed, and pick them up. Sandwich making instructions along with answers to frequently asked questions are also provided on our website. If you have any questions please call Steve Aase at (612) 803-2287, or Allan Law at (612) 423-9923.

Due to the rapid growth in the number of people living below the poverty level, in 1999 Allan began feeding the homeless and families in need on a daily basis. He purchased unsold bakery goods, and sandwiches at a discount from several stores and gas stations every night. In addition, some churches and organizations that were aware of MRD began to make and donate sandwiches.

By the end of 2006 stores and gas stations began to reduce their inventories, but fortunately the number of churches and organizations making sandwiches grew and the food program expanded.

The **363 Days Food Program** name evolved from people asking Allan over the years what he does on Thanksgiving and Christmas, since many organizations offer meals to the homeless on those two days. His response has always been, "I'll let those organizations handle those two days, and I'll take care of the other 363 days of the year".



As a result of the incredible outpouring of donor support, by 2011 the **363 Days Food Program** received and distributed more than 600,000 donated sandwiches to the homeless and hungry! In 2011 sandwiches were prepared and donated by more than 700 community groups, churches, schools, individuals, and companies! In total, more than 10,000 individual volunteers participated in sandwich making events, ranging in age from 7 to 97 Years Old!



# Samaritans Outreach Program

The **Samaritans Outreach Program** provides basic living necessities for the homeless, poor, underprivileged children, and their families. Responding to several calls for help each day, Allan makes multiple stops to deliver basic food items, clothing, personal care kits, emergency funds, and on-the-street care and support to people in urgent need. He also provides referrals to agencies that help with housing, counseling, chemical dependency, job placement, financial aid, and healthcare. In addition, he provides bus tokens, sandwiches, and bottled water to homeless people living outside. Riding the bus provides them safe refuge from the city streets, and a place to get out of the cold in winter. He also distributes tokens to people without transportation to get to job interviews, doctor visits, appointments, etc. Basics provided include:

- Emergency Food: Water, Sandwiches, Fruit, Bakery Goods, Baby Formula
- Basic Needs: Blankets, Diapers, First Aid Supplies, Personal Care Kits
- Clothing: Winter Coats, Hats, Boots, Socks, Gloves
- Funds for: Emergency Transportation, Rent, and Prescription Co-Payments