



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For information contact:

Deidre Pope, Metro Paint-A-Thon Director

Phone: (612) 721-8687 ext. 321

Fax: (612) 722-8669

Email: dpope@gmcc.org

FREE Exterior House Painting for Seniors in Need

"I intend to live in my home as long as possible. I love my neighborhood. I'm near my church and my doctors and grocery store. My house and garage were badly in need of paint. Thank you so much for helping me!" This comment, from a recent Paint-A-Thon client, reflects the desire of our senior and disabled neighbors to live in their own homes for as long as possible, and their need for help from the community to do so.

Each August, thousands of Metro Paint-A-Thon volunteers scrape, prime and paint the homes of low-income seniors and people with disabilities – at no cost to the homeowner.

The effort brings stability and beauty to neighborhoods throughout the 7-county metro area while helping homeowners live independently in their homes and remain a vital part of their community. This year, volunteers from corporations, congregations, civic groups, and schools will paint more than 100+ homes the weekend of August 7-8, 2010.

To qualify for Paint-A-Thon, homeowners must:

- * own and occupy a single-family home, in need of paint, but not in need of major repairs.
- * live in Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott or Washington county.
- * be 60 years of age or older, or have a permanent physical disability (no age minimum).
- * meet monthly income guidelines. A household size of one, for instance, can earn no more than \$1,800 per month and a household size of two can earn no more than \$2,500 per month.

If you have a neighbor, friend or family member who could benefit from the program, or if you yourself are an eligible homeowner, call the Paint-A-Thon office at (612) 721-8687, ext. 321 for further information or to request an application. You can also visit us at www.gmcc.org/paint-a-thon to download an application or e-mail dpope@gmcc.org.

The deadline to apply is May 7, 2010.

Since 1984, Paint-A-Thon volunteers have painted more than 6,000 homes across the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Paint-A-Thon is a program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC) which operates a family of social service programs to help low-income Minnesota families. GMCC unites people of faith to serve people in need.

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