

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
*December 23, 2008*

**VULCAN INC. HELPS LOCAL AGENCIES MEET INCREASED NEED**

*Church of Mary Magdalene/Mary's Place, Immanuel Lutheran Services and  
Rainier Valley Food Bank to benefit*

SEATTLE, WA /December 23, 2008/ – Vulcan believes in being a good neighbor. Best known for its re-development of South Lake Union and for the Experience Music Project, Vulcan Inc., founded by Paul G. Allen and Jody Patton, has a broad mandate to improve the way that people live, learn, do business and experience the world. Today, Phil Fujii, Vulcan's senior manager of Community Relations, announced the company's generous gift of \$30,000 and thousands of pounds of food donated by employees that will be shared equally between three local non-profits: **Church of Mary Magdalene for Mary's Place, Immanuel Lutheran Services and Rainier Valley Food Bank.**

"Times are tough for these agencies and it is important to respond to the needs of people than ever right now. We are happy to be able to help," said Fujii.

Church of Mary Magdalene has been providing survival services for homeless women in Seattle for the past 17 years. Mary's Place day center gives homeless women access to two hot meals per day, showers, and laundry facilities. A hot meal and a safe place out of the cold is often what bring women to Mary's Place.

"Once they learn to trust us we can help them by providing resources and referrals to health and social services and begin to work on the issues which made them homeless in the first place," said Marty Hartman, executive director of Mary's Place. "Our feeding program is critical to helping these women cope with their homelessness and Vulcan's donations have assured that our meals will contain protein, along with occasional fresh fruit and vegetables. The financial support of Vulcan and the donations of their employees show the women at Mary's Place that people in the community care about them and that they are worthy of love and support."

Immanuel Lutheran Services, located in the Cascade area of South Lake Union (1215 Thomas St) runs a community food bank serving 500 people each week. Director William Elder reports that Immanuel has seen an 18 percent increase since September in the demand for their services. In addition, Immanuel provides a community meal on the last Sunday of each month. Each Monday through Friday, they also offer hygiene services, including showers and laundry facilities, and they run a night-time shelter for 14 men participating in a chemical and alcohol dependency recovery program. Elder said that there was a chicken for every family at Christmas, thanks to Vulcan and their employees.

The Rainier Valley Food Bank is located in the heart of the Rainier Valley (4205 Rainier Ave. S.) and serves over 5,000 people per month from the southeast Seattle area. The number of food bank clients has increased dramatically in the past six months and RVFB is working hard to meet the need with just three part-time staff, a shoestring budget, and dozens of dedicated volunteers.

“The donation of food and funds from Vulcan goes a long way in helping us meet the ever-increasing demand,” says Gwen Mitchell, Agency Director of the Rainier Valley Food Bank. “The lines are long outside the food bank these days, but with Vulcan’s support, our clients leave with healthy food and a smile on their faces.”

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