

July 2009

So much has happened with thegiveshirt.com since I last sent out an update, which is part of the reason that it's taken me 2 months to do so!

Over 130 give shirts have now been sold, meaning that about \$1,300 has now been given to an even larger variety of charities! There are about another 50 give shirts out there that were given by thegiveshirt.com to almost as many people (many of whom have given their time and talents to thegiveshirt.com) as a direct deposit into the infinite cycle of giving. The success of this movement continues to rely on the invested participation of us all. So, please continue wearing the give shirt in public, telling many others about it, and letting them know how they can join our effort! Thank you!

The give shirt is now being sold out of PJ's Coffee in Santa Rosa, FL, where many employees immediately purchased them and wear them in the store almost daily! It is also being sold out of dynamic balance CHIROPRACTIC in Ajax, Ontario, Canada. If you know of or find out about any other establishments that may be interested in selling the give shirt please let me know!

The give shirt has also been being used more and more by charitable organizations as a fundraiser. A few weeks ago 6 give shirts were sold at the One Heartland Finale Party, raising an additional \$60 for One Heartland. Saturday 8 shirts were sold at a UWM dancathon fundraiser, resulting in an additional donation of \$80 to Children's Hospital. The quote following this paragraph can be found online in the quarterly newsletter of The Center to BE, which is also adding a link to thegiveshirt.com on their website! I am currently communicating with numerous other organizations (e.g., teamintraining.org, newthoughtcommunity.com, ucm-uwm.org, ja.org, connection-point.org, prison.dhamma.org, healingmagic.net, mymangosteen.com/connieo, drinkgive.com, charityfocus.org, charitywater.org, openchurch.cc, inspirationcorp.org, various other churches), as well as individuals who are raising funds, about working together to promote giving via circulation of the give shirt while also raising additional money for their cause. \$10 from the sale of any give shirt as a result of such collaboration is given to the organization or individual's fund, so please let me know of anyone else that might be interested in joining forces!

“Being generous can be done in large and small ways. One small way that could become a large way is The Give Shirt project. It promotes the positive effects of giving experienced both by those who give and those who receive. Tee shirts with the word “give” on the front help spread that message and benefit charities as well. Check out their website at www.thegiveshirt.com and if you decide to buy a Give Shirt, consider designating The Center to BE as your charity of choice.” Threads, Volume 13, Issue 2, April '09, <http://www.centertobe.org/>

A very talented young website developer has also recently donated his services, and is in the process of redoing thegiveshirt.com website, which will soon include a great deal of additional information, including a list and description of, and links to, supporting organizations and charities given to! Outreach is also an area of focus, and Luke already has thegiveshirt.com on twitter!

A young woman from Vietnam, who is creating a website to promote and coordinate the use of environmentally friendly products in her country, found and purchased the give shirt on ebay, and is helping to promote the give shirt in a variety of ways. Linh Ngo has already created a Facebook page for the give shirt!

Working on the sale of 750 give shirts for the youth social justice rally in Canada led to the creation of a very promising working relationship with Imagine Promotions, Inc. Matt found the give shirt on ebay, offered to support the cause by printing them cheaper than anyone else could, set up communication with a very successful marketer of non-profit start up companies who is based in CA, put me in touch with a state representative to begin the process of official 501 (c) (3) designation, and is beginning collaboration with several major churches in his area.

While participating in a Spiritual Laws class through New Thought Community, a classmate learned about the give shirt, offered her time and talents, and created thegiveshirt.com's beautiful business cards! The law of giving – the first law of all creation – was one of 11 spiritual laws discussed in the class, and for my final class project thegiveshirt.com actively and directly participated in the law of giving by giving the give shirt to each participant.

In closing, I've begun part-time employment (e.g., Marriage Tribunal Consultant, Exercise Therapist), but remain fortunately able to devote most of my time to further developing this movement, and giving all of the proceeds to charities without keeping anything for myself. Thegiveshirt.com received its first donation (the equivalent of \$85) from a Peace Corps worker following a discussion in the airport awaiting our flight home from Africa. Please let me know of anyone else, or any organizations, that may also be interested in funding this cause!

Future updates on thegiveshirt.com should be much shorter, but I wanted to share all of these exciting developments with those of you who are interested! Many have asked how they can help. Another way is to put a link to thegiveshirt.com in your automatic email signature. I've had many people ask me about the give shirt as a result of this, even those inquiring about items I have for sale on craigslist! You could also, as some others have done, recommend thegiveshirt.com on your Facebook.

Thank you for your ongoing support and participation in this group effort! As always, I am open to, and looking for, any ideas – so as you have them, please share! And if you would prefer not to receive emails regarding the give shirt, I apologize, and please let me know!

give,

Thomas