



**INNOVATE. INTEGRATE. ELEVATE.**

**THE ELFENWORKS FOUNDATION CELEBRATES CHANGE THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE  
ON OCTOBER 15, 2009**

**IN HARMONY WITH HOPE AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED TO GREGORY BOYLE, FOUNDER,  
HOMEBOY INDUSTRIES, ROBERT EGGER, FOUNDER, DC CENTRAL KITCHEN AND PETER YOUNG,  
FOUNDER, PETER YOUNG HOUSING, INDUSTRIES & TREATMENT**

BURLINGAME, CA (Spring, 2009)— On October 15, at 7 pm Pacific Time, hope and possibility for the millions of Americans currently living in poverty will be celebrated at the annual presentation of the In Harmony with Hope Awards.

The Elfenworks Foundation (TEF), whose mission is to bring domestic poverty to the top of the American public's agenda, has announced that this year's commemoration of hope will take place at the Community School of Music and Arts in Mountain View, California. The evening's festivities will pay tribute to three remarkable individuals whose examples prove that innovation can create new opportunity to integrate the poor and the marginalized, and in so doing elevate us all.

"All three of our honorees grasped the big picture and recognized the interconnectedness of issues," says Elfenworks CEO Dr. Lauren Speeth. "And then they went about fearlessly implementing new solutions that work. That's exactly what's needed right now."

This is the third year The Elfenworks Foundation will present the In Harmony with Hope Awards. The awards are the vision of Dr. Lauren Speeth, who believes that recognizing and partnering with individuals and organizations that are leading the charge to make substantive change will help lift people out of poverty. The work is even more urgent today, as our income inequality continues to grow and with an increasing number of Americans finding themselves on poverty's doorstep.

This year, TEF is pleased to announce that it will be honoring Father Gregory Boyle, founder and director of Homeboy Industries ([homeboy-industries.org](http://homeboy-industries.org)), for his work promoting nonviolence and creating training and jobs for thousands of LA's gang members; Robert Egger, founder of the DC Central Kitchen ([dcentralkitchen.org](http://dcentralkitchen.org)), for his food distribution program that repurposes excess food into nearly 5,000 meals each day and provides skills training and job placement for the poor; and Father Peter Young, founder of Peter Young Housing, Industries and Treatment ([pyhit.com](http://pyhit.com)), for his innovative rehabilitation programs that provide a path to self-sufficiency for more than 3,000 people across New York State every day.

Father Greg Boyle's Homeboy Industries is a one-stop shop for those who have decided to leave the world of LA's gangs behind. It provides addiction and recovery programs, a full range of educational services, anger management training, etiquette and courtesy classes, day care programs (and parenting classes), job counseling and placement, and tattoo removal services. Two hundred former gang members help manage and run the entire business, which includes a bakery, a café, and silkscreen, maintenance and retail shops that fund about a third of Homeboy Industries' operations. For 20 years Fr. Greg has been a beacon of hope in a blighted landscape; his efforts have directly impacted the lives of more than 100,000 people.

Twenty years ago, Robert Egger founded the DC Central Kitchen, and turned the food bank model on its head. Instead of providing a simple handout, Egger uses food as a vehicle for change: clients become employed cooks through the Kitchen's Culinary Jobs Training Program; college students learn about service and business in the Campus Kitchen Project; and 4,500 of Washington, DC's hungry are fed as the Kitchen recycles more than one ton of food every day. The Kitchen additionally provides street outreach and nutrition education for at-risk kids. Egger has also galvanized the nonprofit industry, pushing for reform and a place on the national stage.

For half a century, Father Peter Young has helped inmates and parolees overcome their addictions. Peter Young Housing Industries and Treatment (PYHIT) evolved out of Fr. Young's firm belief that effective recovery is only possible if treatment is followed up with housing and jobs training. Fr. Young has forged successful public-private partnerships across New York State. The network of treatment, housing and job training programs spans 100 sites. Three thousand people rely on services from PYHIT every day. PYHIT boasts a recidivism rate of less than 10 percent. In all, Fr. Young has helped hundreds of thousands move from addiction to becoming tax-paying members of society.

About The Elfenworks Foundation: The Elfenworks Foundation was created to support non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in innovative and unconventional ways. We strive to be *In Harmony with Hope* by shining light on causes that benefit humanity. In affiliation with U.S. centers of academic excellence, our multi-faceted, creative and hardworking team of social entrepreneurs and advisors draws on expertise in communications, technology, film, music, law, and business administration to empower the nonprofits we serve; we remove obstacles, help strengthen program and business-model capacities, build infrastructures, forge alliances, and raise awareness about these organizations and our shared agenda. In this way we work in harmony towards our common goal of positive, measurable, and sustainable change. Our current goal is to ameliorate domestic poverty and provide new hope for the disenfranchised here at home. For more information, visit [www.elfenworks.org](http://www.elfenworks.org).

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