



Vol. V, Issue 4
Fall, 2003

Hospitality Network News

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Madison Area

Together, We Are Making A Difference

IHN families have reached new heights of success, with more than ever finding and maintaining housing. This year, we will reach our long-term goals! 70% of IHN shelter families will move into housing in 2003. Of those families in housing, 70% have remained in their housing for at least a year. By the end of the year, 17 families will have moved into housing and 10 families will have celebrated the first anniversary of their move-in date.



Six families who could not have found housing otherwise are currently living and growing in the Second Chance Apartment Project. One family graduated early and moved into permanent affordable housing. Three parents found jobs and all are working closely with their mentors towards specific goals.

Former guests of our shelter network are also an active part of our successes. Two graduates serve on the IHN Board of Directors, two have joined the IHN staff, four families regularly volunteer on the weekends, and several are among the 18 members of the Tenant Advocates Group.

We thank all of you for your gifts of time, money, household goods, furniture, collaboration and creativity. Our community response is truly changing lives.

Congregation News

Lake Edge United Church of Christ will be sponsoring the sixth Second Chance Apartment, starting December 1st

Christ Presbyterian Church, Dale Heights Presbyterian Church, Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mount Horeb and **St. John's Lutheran** in Oregon have joined the Network as hosts. **First Unitarian Society** is a new buddy.

Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Madison Area serves homeless families by mobilizing religious communities to provide shelter and meals, by working with families to overcome barriers to self-sufficiency and by raising awareness of social justice issues.

To Support IHN:

Financial Gifts: Rachel Krinsky, Executive Director, 294-7998, x 302

Volunteering: Shannon Hayes, Volunteer Coordinator, 294-7998, x 306

Items for Families/Programs: Lissa Sundberg, Office Manager, 294-7998, x 301

Program Report

January – September 2003

Services:

- 24 families (49 children, 27 adults) stayed in shelter
- 12 families received case management services while on the waiting list
- 25 families participated in the housing stabilization program
- The Second Chance Apartment Project housed 6 families
- 12 families participated in the neighbor-to-neighbor program with 24 mentors
- 18 community members participated in the Tenant Advocates Group

Outcomes:

- 12 shelter families found housing; 5 remained in shelter as of October 1
- 8 waiting list families found housing
- 88% of families retained their housing 6 months or longer

Hospitality Network News

is a quarterly publication of Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Madison Area
1121 University Ave.
Madison, WI 53715
Phone: (608) 294-7998
Fax: (608) 294-8007
interfaith@tds.net
communities.madison.com/ihn
Layout: Monya Choudhury

News of Our Graduates

Gail and her kids **Donnell, Justin** and **Charlotta**, are feeling at home after being in their apartment for over a year. Since leaving shelter, Gail became a certified childcare teacher and obtained her Certified Nursing Assistant license. Gail also started a 4-H club in the Elver Park neighborhood after noticing a great need for meaningful after-school activities for neighborhood youth. Gail and the kids would like to thank everyone at IHN. “We really appreciate all the help we’ve gotten back from Interfaith Hospitality Network, and now I’m giving back as a volunteer!”

LaShaunda, Brianna and **Vernell** moved from IHN shelter into the Second Chance Apartment Project. All three are excited about working with their mentors, and are looking forward to the support they’ll have through this program to accomplish their hopes and dreams. “I now have a lot of confidence in myself and what I want to do in life. And for those who feel there is no hope – there is. Just have faith.”

homemade
has selected IHN as its charity
for the
Hilldale Mall Tree Walk
November 21- December 24.
Go and take a look!

Special Thanks

Everyone at IHN extends our sincere appreciation to...

...**John Elder** who raised \$5,130 for IHN through his Ironman Triathlon. Way to go John!

...**Phil Saunders**, “The Software Guy,” for many hours of computer upgrades, improvements and troubleshooting.

...**Capitol Indemnity** who sent a team of employees to paint and scrub walls in the day center for United Way’s Day of Caring.

...**Edgewood High School students** who cleaned the bathrooms (!) and the van

...**Alpha Chi Omega members**, who brought treats and decorations to help the shelter kids get ready for Halloween.

...**RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Project)** who have donated a hand-made quilt for every single person in shelter over the last three years, and just gave us another collection of 25.

...**Giving B.A.C.K** for ten backpacks full of schools supplies and one “move-in kit”.

...the **many individuals** who have donated items to support IHN and our families in shelter and in housing.

Why We Give to IHN

Dr. Haywood & Audrey Gilliam



We have been supporters of Interfaith Hospitality Network since 2000 when our church, Middleton Community UCC, became a host church. We took the training and began participating in MCC's hosting of the IHN guests. The interactions with our guests in the IHN program have been fulfilling. It is heartwarming to see families progress to their own residences.

The magnitude of homelessness in this country is staggering and seemingly growing everyday. We, like all Americans, would like nothing better than to have an impact on the sufferings and hardships of those who find themselves without permanent shelter. This is especially true of children so affected.

Over the past 15-20 years, we have always looked for ways of really making a difference. We have been less than satisfied with the effect of giving episodically in response to street solicitations. It has always been difficult to access the real impact of these haphazard efforts. The Interfaith Hospitality Network Program was an answer to our prayers of being able to really make a difference. It is a well-run program coordinated with other agencies in the area to maximally assist homeless families.

We give of our time and resources because IHN is making a difference in families' lives when they need it most. It's a program that really works!

Save the Date.

The 2004 Ruby Slippers Benefit

A Comedy Auction in support of Interfaith Hospitality Network

MARCH 6, 2004

cocktails & hors d'oeuvres
dessert & coffee

The Edgewater Hotel • 666 Wisconsin Ave., Madison

More information to follow

ihh
INTERFAITH
HOSPITALITY
NETWORK

Wish List

We are most in need of:

Baby Wipes
Bleach
Cleaning Supplies
Diapers
Feminine Hygiene Products
Madison Metro Bus Passes
Toilet Paper
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Pillows
Winter Blankets

We also need:

Address Books
Band Aids/First Aid Supplies
Baby Bottles
Calendars/Planners
Deodorant
Dish Soap
Dishes
Drinking Glasses
Garbage Bags (13 or 55 gallon)
Hair Gel, Mousse, etc.
Hair Grease
Hair Ties (Rubber Bands, etc.)
Infant Formula
Movies (family VHS)
New Toys/Art Kits
Paper Towels
Pens/Pencils
Phone Cards
Postage Stamps
Pots/Pans
Silverware/Utensils
Over The Counter Medicine (Ibuprofen, Tylenol, Cold And Cough)

Financial gifts allow IHN to direct resources to the most critical need

Dear IHN,

I'd like to take time out to thank the Lord for the most wonderful people I ever met, IHN. They make you feel right at home in the heart and soul. I never met such friends before who will come to a rescue in the time of need like you all. You listened to problems of ours, made sure we had a nice place to live, and loved us as we have loved you. I used to always wish for a truly good friend, then God made my wish come true with you all. Words can't really describe how much we really love and thank IHN for doing what they did, which was deliver us out of crisis.

Love,

Mary & family



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A Community Response for Homeless Families
1121 University Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53715



NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
MADISON, WI
PERMIT #2950