

THE



IHNSider

A Publication

of Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati

The Community's Interfaith Response To Family Homelessness

Letter from Georgine Getty, Exec Director



Packing stirred up as many memories as it does dust. My current office in Lower Price Hill was once a bedroom in a rectory and, years ago, a confession booth was installed

as a closet. As I began to clear out the confession booth, it opened up a whole nest of questions for me. Who slept in my office in 1847 when this building was new? How many acts of faith occurred here before IHNGC made this our home? How many miracles have happened since?

My memories of IHNGC are only two years old, but I stepped into a stream of service and care that is much older.

On April 7, 2011, we gathered at Isaac Wise Temple to celebrate 20 years of hospitality to homeless families. It was a beautiful spring evening, featuring awards, a keynote address by Mark Curnutte of the Cincinnati Enquirer, and a sneak peak of IHNGC's new Day Center. The evening ended with a toast by IHNGC founder, Joan Kempton.



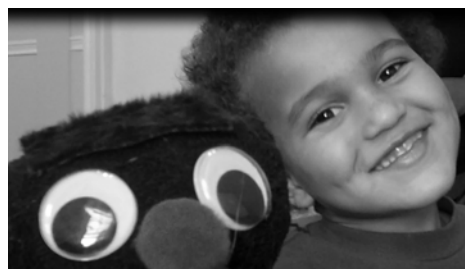
One of my favorite parts of the evening was when our 8 founding congregations (Our Lady of the Rosary, Knox Presbyterian, Sharonville United Methodist, Isaac Wise Temple, the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, St.

Paul United Methodist, Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian, and Westwood United Methodist) each had a representative come forward and add a puzzle piece to the wall. Slowly but surely, the IHNGC logo came together. I was afraid the puzzle pieces wouldn't fit together right or the weight of the puzzle would pull it off of the wall. But it did fit, and it did stick; just like it did when these congregations put us together 20 years ago.

Today, IHNGC has 27 host congregations and 66 support congregations. In 2010, IHNGC volunteers broke all the records, welcoming 130 families into their spiritual homes and serving 450 people, 297 of whom were children. Together, IHNGC served over 28,000 meals. Best of all, 89% of the families who gave IHNGC a chance, found a new home.

I had the fortune to sit down and have breakfast with a few of our founders. There was a lot of laughter at that meeting as they took us back to the beginning: There was no money, no staff, no Day Center. Finally, Donna Corrington said, "You just have to have faith." Arms were linked and a big leap was taken. Because of this leap of faith, hundreds of children have discovered kindness in the face of a stranger. Hundreds of families have found homes.

So now we take another leap. We have more resources now than we had 20 years ago but one thing has not and will never change: our faith in the faithful. The heart of IHNGC is individuals celebrating God through service in fellowship with others. This spirit will carry us home.



On Our Way Home - Really!

Many of you know that IHNGC is celebrating more than just our 20th anniversary... we are also getting ready for a new home! We plan to move to our new Day Center at 990 Nassau Avenue in Walnut Hills this June. Here are a few details:

- 12,000 sq. ft., compared with 4,000 at the current Day Center. The extra space will allow for additional office, day room and play/recreation areas, and eventually will enable us to double our capacity to serve families here in Cincinnati
- Adjacent to our building is a vacant lot which is ours too (we'd like to see this turned into an outdoor play area); and 2 vacant lots across the street (eventually to be parking)
- Solid brick and mortar building built in 1959; no crumbling foundation!!
- ADA compliant

IHN has entered into a long-term lease with an option to purchase the building/land for a purchase price of \$325,000. Information for IHN's "On Our Way Home" Capital Campaign will be distributed soon. The capital campaign will cover the purchase of the property, building improvements (which include a shower room with 6 showers & 2 full baths) and a small operating endowment.

At the 20th Anniversary celebration, if you completed a response card and left it on your table, we apologize but it was inadvertently thrown out by the catering staff. Please call us and we will send another one to you.

Please visit our website to see the latest information on our capital campaign and what you can do to help as we move forward in faith and love to serve the families of IHN.

Bring the homeless poor into your house; then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly." *Isaiah 58:6, 8*

20th Anniversary Celebration!

Twenty years of service to homeless families was celebrated among friends at this year's Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition event. The evening was a special time to reconnect with volunteers, staff and IHN's board and advisory board while recognizing IHN's 2010 successes. IHN served a record number of 130 families in 2010, made up of 449 individuals, 65% of whom were children. Of those families that gave IHN a chance, 89% moved into stable housing.



This year, IHN introduced 3 new awards to the program in honor of all the good work that is being done throughout the network. Outstanding Support Congregation went to All Saints Catholic Church for their dedicated support of St. Paul UMC. Their eleven year tenure has witnessed many lasting relationships among guests and volunteers. Outstanding Coordinator Award went to Tim Nabors of Milford First UMC. Tim's 5 years of service as coordinator comes to an end as he looks forward to focusing more fully on New Life Furniture, a nonprofit he helped begin that provides furniture to those in need, a large portion of whom have recently been homeless.

The Outstanding Volunteer Award went to Jasmine Linck, a consistent Day Center volunteer that works diligently to keep our children entertained and safe during class times and who also secretly repairs toys in her spare time. The Donna Corrington Award, which celebrates a lifetime of good work, went to Carol Burnett of Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian, for her nearly twenty dedicated years of compassionate service to the families of IHN.

Thank you to all who were able to join in our celebration. We look forward to sharing a special 21st birthday with everyone next year. Please see our website for more pictures from the evening: www.ihncincinnati.org.

Heartfelt Thanks To:

- Sunrock Farms for providing our kids the opportunity to learn about a farm during spring break.
- Jasmine Linck for consistently helping out in the childcare room and beyond. We'll miss you Jasmine!
- Mt. St. Joe volunteers for their help prepping our space for the move.
- Jamila Hunter for always volunteering tirelessly where needed.
- Anna Worpenberg and Stefanie Kremer for continuing to volunteer beyond their school's requirement and Anna for painting little faces at HalloweenFest.
- Professor Daisy Quarm's UC student volunteers from her class on homelessness. Dr. Quarm, thank you for all of the referrals; students, thank you for all of your steady help!
- Becky Lee for her wonderful parenting and life skills knowledge shared with our guests.
- Stephanie Sennett for designing a fabulous collage of memories from HalloweenFest.
- Paycor for allowing us to park both our bus and vans in their parking lot at no cost to us.
- Barbara and John Fillion for providing guests with invaluable budgetary advice.
- Abby Pescovitz for hosting a lemonade stand in honor of IHN.
- Congregations that participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring this year, bringing in over \$3,700 for IHN: All Saints Catholic, Church of the Redeemer, First Unitarian, Kennedy Heights Presbyterian, St. Columban Church, and St. Paul Lutheran.
- St. John's Bridges Program for childcare internship referrals.
- Robert Linck for standing in as Santa's helper for an exciting visit with IHN children.
- Nurse Rachel Volkerding for volunteering for many months.
- Ed Wright, 1976 Olympian & Director of the Cinci Fencing Academy, for providing fencing lessons to IHN children.
- Starfire volunteers for helping out in the childcare room.
- Marty Arlinghaus for providing trumpet lessons to IHN children.
- Ten Thousand Villages for including IHN in their holiday fundraiser, bringing in over \$450 for the agency.
- Sister Mary Bookser, Mount St. Joe's Coordinator of Service Learning, for connecting IHN with all the great Mount volunteers.

From the Playroom

By Jeanne Haungs, Childcare Coordinator

Trumpet lessons occur every Monday at 3:30 p.m. Reactions were mixed at first as the halls of IHN are rather cacophonous. However, who knew we had a budding Louis Armstrong in our midst? Eleven year old J took to the trumpet immediately. Even though he had never played any instrument before, by the end of his second trumpet lesson, he was gracing IHN with the "Star Wars" theme song! Thank you so much, Marty Arlinghaus (CCM undergraduate student) for bringing trumpeting to IHN!!



Two year old B came to IHN with what seemed to be a permanent frown. She made noises whenever she wanted something and often screamed if her mom was not with her. Fast forward three weeks. B was using words like "please" and "thank you". She was also requesting, "more songs, please". Additionally, she smiled when she came off the bus in the morning and began waving to guests and staff alike. And what of her frown? It vanished! Good luck, B! We will miss your beautiful smile and lovely singing. Stay safe and happy in your new home!



Expense Categories Detail	Shelter ¹	Housing Retention	Rapid Re-Housing ²	TAG (Children Thriving & Growing)	Transportation ³	Fundraising	Administ-ration	Related to Property Ownership	Total Agency
Personnel	\$151,994	\$53,011	\$42,178	\$28,628	\$65,794	\$12,185	\$15,221	0	\$369,010
Operations	\$46,689	\$3,884	\$2,474	\$786	\$30,082	\$26,264	\$6,313	\$161	\$116,652
Insurance	\$1,762	\$293	\$293	\$293	\$3,265	0	0	\$0	\$5,904
Direct Guest Expense	\$6,063	668.59	9.99	0	140	0	0	0	\$6,881
Other Expenses	\$11,806	\$555	\$1,209	\$0	\$86	\$99	\$3,050	10240	\$27,046
Total 2010 Expenses	\$218,312	\$58,411	\$46,163	\$29,707	\$99,367	\$38,548	\$24,584	\$10,401	\$525,493

- 1 Includes costs related to Childcare Program
- 2 This program began in 2010 and moves families into transitional housing within 2 weeks of arriving in shelter
- 3 Transportation includes both transporting IHN families to and from congregations + six months of transporting families to and from housing/employment appointments
- 4 Total Assets include checking/savings assets of \$332,836 for working capital and operating revenues (equivalent to 7.6 months of operating expenses)

Income Sources (accrual basis)

Events & Other	\$12,930
United Way	65,284
Government	171,360
Private*	113,856
Trusts and Foundations	136,565
Total 2010 Income:	\$499,996

* Private contributions include gifts from individuals, congregations and corporations

Numbers served by IHNGC in 2010:

- 130 families including 152 adults and 297 children.
- 89% obtained stable housing
- 9,477 shelter nights
- 28,341 meals provided
- Average length of stay: 21 days
- Total bus trips provided: 18,894

The volunteers were exceptional. They were friendly, they talked to us. They played and helped out with the kids. A couple of the volunteers helped my daughter with her homework.

IHN is a place that helps families get back on the right path by showing them that there are people who care.

People here are respectful, friendly and caring.

On Our Way Home Campaign

Commitment Card

Yes, I would like to help with the campaign in the following ways...

- Serve on a campaign committee
- Individuals - Personally ask others to invest in the campaign
- Congregations – Coordinate support from various congregations
- I am not able to serve on a committee, but I am willing to suggest potential donors and may “open the door” to the donor(s).
- I will make a personal gift to the campaign.
- I will make arrangements with my congregation regarding a campaign gift.
(Name of congregation: _____)
- I have construction and/or technology talents to share and would like to participate in renovating the new space.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please return to: Georgine Getty
Executive Director
georgine@ihncincinnati.org
2110 St. Michael Street
Cincinnati, OH 45204



Thank you!

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A Call for Assistance

One of the more important parts of stabilizing families to prevent them from falling back into homelessness once they leave IHN is finding gainful employment. For this reason, we are establishing a job coaching program for our guests, to include a mandatory class followed by one-on-one assessments and skills-improvement sessions. Many of IHN's guests have past stable work histories and would make excellent employees as they regain their support base and independence. We are seeking your help in establishing relationships with suitable employers that are hiring entry level jobs in restaurants, day care centers, dry cleaners, cleaning companies, warehouses or other light industrial work and similar industries.

In our coaching sessions we will screen and refer guests based on a match-up of appropriate skills with the employer's needs to ensure a good hire. We believe that our program will assist both our guests and serve as a resource for employers to efficiently hire good employees.

Any assistance you can provide in identifying potential employers and contacts would be greatly appreciated. Please contact our Assistant Case Manager/ Employment Coordinator Jonathan von Rden by phone (513-471-1100 ext 15) or email (jonathan@ihncincinnati.org) if you have suggestions.

Thank you!



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Hosting Congregations

Adath Israel	Indian Hill Episcopal-Presbyterian
Anderson Hills UMC	Isaac M. Wise Temple
Armstrong Chapel UMC	Knox Presbyterian
Church of the Redeemer	Milford First UMC
Christ Church Cathedral	Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic
Christ Church Glendale	Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian
College Hill Presbyterian	Sharonville UMC
Corinthian Baptist	St. Monica-St. George Catholic
Crestview Presbyterian	St. Paul UMC
First Unitarian	St. Timothy Episcopal
First United Church of Christ	St. William Catholic
Forest Chapel UMC	Walnut Hills Baptist
Friendship UMC	Westwood UMC
Hyde Park Community UMC	

For a full listing of all the hosting, supporting and funding congregations, please visit our website at www.ihncincinnati.org. We sincerely thank all the volunteers and donors for their support.

The **Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati** provides shelter, meals, and assistance to homeless families. The program mobilizes existing community resources: churches and synagogues for overnight lodging, congregations for volunteers, social service agencies for screening and referrals, and existing facilities for day programs. Each host congregation furnishes overnight lodging for one week every two to three months, on a rotating schedule.

Family Promise, formerly the National Interfaith Hospitality Network, a national nonprofit organization, was founded on the belief that Americans are compassionate people who want to make a difference. One of its goals is to help low-income and homeless families reclaim and maintain independence through its Interfaith Hospitality Networks. To learn more, visit www.familypromise.org.

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