

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Essex County

1987 IHN 2012

FAITHFUL
FRIENDS

25TH
Anniversary

2012 ANNUAL REPORT



*This marks our 25th year
of sheltering homeless families
and guiding them to lives of
stability and permanence.*



Dear Faithful Friends,

You are the reason for our success!

Interfaith Hospitality Network has continued to grow and serve more families over a quarter of a century because we are a network of friends providing shelter, meals, support and love to families in need.

As the years go by we have become friends and made life-enriching connections through our work with IHN. While strong relationships are important to us and the other staff and volunteers, they are even more vital to the families in crisis that we serve.

As we learn and grow in our work, we have come to realize how important a supportive network is for long term solutions to poverty and homelessness. We dream and work in hopes of finding the solutions that ensure each of our families a brighter future. Their fresh start begins when parents and children connect with each other and with volunteers in our network of congregations. Over the years we are happy to observe that many of these relationships are long-lasting.

This marks our 25th year of sheltering homeless families and guiding them to lives of stability and permanence. What's held us together and propelled our mission forward are the Faithful Friends who have partnered with us. You've come in the form of meal-makers, overnight sleepers, furniture movers, donors, job providers, tutors, housing partners, party throwers and willing listeners. Each of you is vital to our mission.

When we gather to mark holidays and occasions we honor the challenges of the families we serve, celebrate their successes and rejoice in our shared journey. We hope to gather with you this year as we commemorate our silver anniversary.

Tia Aery

Executive Director

Merle Benny

President, Board of Trustees



IHN was able to provide 270 individuals or 71 families with shelter, housing, & support services.

IHN Congregational Shelter Program

Laura Ksenak & Anna Nelson

Coordinators at Our Lady of Sorrows

Laura and Anna are two coordinators who host IHN families several times a year at their church. While Anna manages the logistics of the space, gathering needed supplies, and communicating with the church office, Laura immerses herself in finding volunteers and brainstorming activities to keep the families engaged.

Reflecting on why she volunteers with IHN, Laura shares, “Keeping families together is important to me and we have the room to do so.” Anna adds, “I feel like the church is our house that we get to share with IHN families. It allows us to do really meaningful work: caring for others while they’re getting back on their feet.”

Their favorite part is connecting people from the church and the community at large with IHN. Laura says, “My IHN weeks keep me spiritually connected because I see God at work in the different ways the volunteers give of themselves.” Anna quickly adds, “I love seeing the excitement of the volunteers and how it grows over time when they’re helping the families.”

Both coordinators feel strongly about making the shelter experience a comfortable one for the families. They go out of their way to find family activities to make the time special. But in the end, important memories can come from the everyday. Laura fondly recalls, “One Saturday morning two of the elementary-aged children in the shelter wanted to help in the

kitchen. They took such pleasure in taking pancake and bacon orders and serving breakfast to the other families. It was so completely ordinary, yet so meaningful.”



The Riddick Family

"Our story is pretty typical, I guess. Timothy was out of a job. I had just gone back to work after having a baby, but still we couldn't get ahead of the bills that were piling up for the five of us. We were just days away from eviction when I called IHN.

"Luckily, IHN was able to take us the next week and it turned out to be just the right place for us. The volunteers at each congregation were great and always made us feel comfortable and welcome. We especially enjoyed the dinners when we all ate together as a family – that was important to us.

And the kids liked meeting others their age. Of course, everyone doted on our baby. Wanting to keep up with all the "bigger kids", he even learned to walk during his fourth month in the shelter. That was exciting, but sad in a way, too.

"I guess being at IHN allowed us to get our life in order. It gave my husband and me the time we needed to save money for a security deposit and look for a new home in the town where our children attended school. Timothy was able to devote the time needed to search for a job and found employment in his third month at IHN. And our two older children who we were most concerned about fared just fine, keeping their grades up and drawing on their faith that this was a temporary situation.

"We've now been in our new home since December and have gradually furnished it with what we need. I feel like our life is slowly moving back on track and am grateful to everyone who played a part in our journey towards home."



Because of
YOU!

IHN was able to provide 52 weeks of shelter and 12,071 meals to 28 families in 2012. 64% of the individuals were children under the age of 18.

IHN Home for Good Program

Brenda Myrick,

IHN Director of Housing & Social Services

“Every family has a story. At IHN, each story I hear begins with a crisis – the emergency of homelessness and all the complications that go with it. My job is to help stabilize moms and dads so they can take steps to find a new home for their families as quickly as possible.

“If my job ended there, I don’t think I’d be as hopeful about their outcome as I am. Most families need continued help after moving day. Thankfully, IHN can provide that help through the *Home for Good* program so families have access to the resources they need to stay in their homes and eventually become independent.

“In 2012, families received services such as rental assistance, financial workshops, grocery gift cards, camp scholarships, backpacks and school supplies, help with Christmas shopping, and more. We were also able to provide transitional or service-enriched permanent housing for 27 families. Read about Jerome and Martisa and how their family’s story changed from crisis to hope. IHN has been there for them, making a tangible difference in their lives.”



The Smith Family

"We really didn't see it coming. Knowing the lease on our home was about to expire, Martisa and I had saved up a little extra for moving. But it turned out that no one would rent to us. I had a past eviction on my credit report and the rental companies wouldn't see past it. We wanted to stay in the same town until our three kids finished the school year so we had to start staying in motels. But that got expensive, so by the time school ended, we were left with a few hundred dollars. We had no choice but to split up and move in with parents and friends.



"By now, we were desperate for a solution. Thankfully, Martisa found IHN. At first, I didn't want any part of staying in a shelter, but she convinced me that it would be a safe, clean environment for our children. And it was! Then after about a month, one of IHN's *Home for Good* apartments opened up.

"Working with Brenda Myrick, we moved in about a year ago and have been trying to rebuild our lives. As part of the *Home for Good* program, we meet with IHN for weekly case management services to see how we're doing with meeting our goals. It takes hard work to move forward, especially in this economy but I'm just grateful to IHN for giving us a hand-up. We're not where we used to be, but we're getting there!"

Because of
YOU!

*43 families benefited from the IHN
Home for Good program in 2012.*

IHN Afterschool Program

Donna Zaros

"As a coordinator at my church, IHN has been near and dear to my heart for a long time now. I always enjoy getting to know the families, but that's only two weeks out of the year. I wanted to get more involved. So when I heard that IHN needed volunteers for their Afterschool Program, I jumped at the chance.

"Several days a week I come in and help the children with their homework. About fourteen attend. My favorite moment is seeing a child, like Moses, move from feeling overwhelmed by an assignment to finishing it with a sense of accomplishment and knowing they can do the work. But overall, I just love being with the kids: finding out how their day went, laughing at their silly jokes and antics, and helping them where I can.

"Volunteering with the Afterschool Program lets me see the positive impact IHN is having on the children over time. Just listening to the buzz in the room, I hear learning going on – I love that! And I can honestly say that I never regret having made the commitment to volunteer. I just feel so much joy being with the kids and learning from them."



The Rene Family

Moses came to the IHN Afterschool Program last year full of smiles. A friendly child, always ready to make friends, Moses was having a tough time in school. Sensing that he wasn't working to his potential, our Afterschool team tested him to determine what was holding him back. Armed with the results, IHN Social Worker Brenda Myrick was able to advocate for him at his school so he could start receiving the services he needed to succeed.

When asked about the difference the Afterschool Program has made for Moses, his mom Judith just gushes. "I thank

God for IHN and Miss Brenda. The Afterschool Program has helped Moses so much. Last year he wasn't reading at all, but now he's doing so much better in school. I'm so happy!"

We couldn't be happier, either. Sometimes it just takes having someone in your corner willing to use his or her skills to improve a situation. For Judith, she not only has peace of mind regarding Moses' academics (thanks to Miss Brenda!) but also newfound confidence conversing with the school about his ongoing needs.



*Because of
YOU!*

IHN was able to provide Afterschool tutoring and enrichment to 31 children and summer camp for 35 children. 20 volunteers tutored, led crafts, helped with field trips, planned parties, and more. Our Parents Program helped moms & dads learn to communicate with their children's school and advocate for them when needed.

Host Congregations

B'nai Keshet
Congregation B'nai Jeshurun
Congregation Shomrei Emenah
Calvary Baptist Church
Elmwood West Presbyterian Church
First Presbyterian Church of Verona
First Seventh-Day Adventist Church
Glen Ridge Congregational Church
Grace Episcopal Church Nutley
Grace Presbyterian Church
Morrow Memorial Methodist Church
Mount Hermon Baptist Church
New Hope Baptist Church
Notre Dame R.C. Church
Our Lady of Sorrows
Park United Methodist Church
Prospect Presbyterian Church
Saint Andrew and Holy Communion
Saint George's Episcopal Church
Saint Joseph Church
Saint Mark's AME Church
Saint Paul Baptist Church
Saint Peter Claver Church
Saint Philomena's R.C. Church
Saint Stephen's Church
Temple B'nai Abraham
Temple Ner Tamid
Union Congregational Church
United Presbyterian Church of West Orange
Vincent United Methodist Church
Wyoming Presbyterian Church

Support Congregations

Berean Seventh Day Adventist Church
Caldwell United Methodist Church
Christ Church in Short Hills
Christ Church Montclair
Church of the Holy Spirit
Congregation Beth Ahm of West Essex
Congregation Beth El
Congregation B'nai Israel
Congregation Oheb Shalom
First Baptist Church of South Orange
First Congregational Church of Montclair
First Unitarian Universalist of Essex County
Franklin Reformed Church
Liquid Church
Presbyterian Church of Livingston
Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair
Redeemer Church of Montclair
The Religious Society of Friends
Saint John's Episcopal Church
Saint Peter's Church
Seventh-Day Adventist Church
South Orange-Vailsburg United Methodist Church
Temple Emanu-El of West Essex
Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel
Temple Sholom of West Essex
Union Baptist Church
Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair

Mission Statement

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Essex County is a not-for-profit organization that provides shelter, professional support services, and housing assistance so homeless families can find and sustain their own homes. We do this with help from an extensive network of volunteers, generous individuals, and other partners throughout our community.

2012 IHN Staff

Tia Aery, Executive Director
Brenda Myrick, MPA, MSW, Director
of Housing & Social Services
Danita Hinant, Case Manager
Barbara Aaronoff, Development
Coordinator/Grant Writer
Ellen Donker, Development Associate
Kanani Briggs, Volunteer Manager
Sidney Edwards, Van Driver

IHN Board of Trustees

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Dream Team

The IHN Dream Team is a group of individuals who make a five-year pledge of \$1,000 or more annually to provide IHN with sustainable non-designated funding. Being able to count on this pledged income allows IHN to plan for the future of the organization. Our goal is to build the Dream Team to 100 members by 2014. Won't you join us? Contact Ellen Donker at ellen@ibnessexnj.org.

Peter and Lisa Abdill
William Arnold
Gerald and Linda Blume
Rene and Marvin Clawson
Susann Connors
Tim and Elizabeth Delorm
Michelle Dice
Vincent Dopolos and
Christine Larsen
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Terri and Michael Goldberg
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Kathy and Craig Stine
Elizabeth Trundle & Peter Stein
Millie Viqueira and Steve Miller
Julie and David Warren
Sharon and Joshua Weintraub
Wilf Family Foundation
Donna Zaros

DONORS \$10,000+

County of Essex
- Community Development Block
Grant (Montclair Township)
- Emergency Solutions Grant
- Social Service for the Homeless
Grant

FEMA Emergency Food & Shelter
Program

FedEx Foundation
Lois Goldring
David and Karen Mandelbaum
Nathan and Sheree Mandelbaum
Orange Orphan Society
Kathy and Craig Stine
The Healthcare Foundation of NJ
Sharon and Joshua Weintraub

\$5,000 - 9,999

Catholic Human Services Foundation
Vincent Dopolos & Christine Larsen
Episcopal Diocese of Newark
Shapiro Family Foundation
Investors Bank Foundation
Lianne and Richard Mandelbaum

The Montclair Foundation
Montclair Fund For Women
Moody's Foundation
Prospect Presbyterian Church
The Hyde & Watson Foundation
Turrell Fund
Wilf Family Foundation

\$1,000 - 4,999

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South Mountain Elementary PTA
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Elizabeth Yarborough
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Daniel and Jennifer Zinman

SUPPORT AND REVENUE:

Contributions:	
Individuals	\$269,758
Foundations	120,917
Religious organizations	21,212
Business and industry	6,320
Community groups	9,000
Government Grants	156,632
Gifts in-kind	11,113
Program Service Revenue	26,579
Investment income	23
Miscellaneous income	—
Total support and revenue	<u>\$621,554</u>

EXPENSES:

Program services	<u>\$449,965</u>
Supporting services:	
Management and general	68,025
Fundraising	85,483
Total supporting services	<u>\$153,508</u>
Total expenses	<u>\$603,473</u>
Change in Net Assets	18,081
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	<u>469,772</u>
Net Assets at End of Year	<u>\$487,853</u>

Statement of Financial Position

Year Ended December 31, 2011

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$59,927
Pledges receivable, net	338,118
Grants receivable	55,232
Rents and other receivable	4,264
Prepaid expenses	12,307
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation of \$60,316 (2012) and \$50,141 (2011)	16,773
Security deposit	9,850
Total assets	<u>\$496,471</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

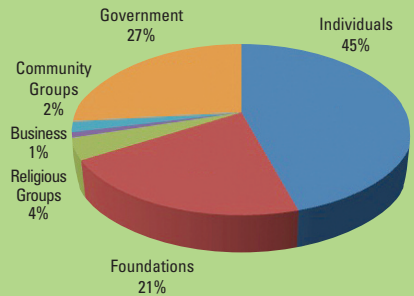
Liabilities: Accounts payable & accrued expenses	<u>\$8,618</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>\$8,618</u>

Net Assets:	
Unrestricted	\$477,522
Temporarily restricted	\$10,331
Total net assets	<u>\$487,853</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$496,471</u>

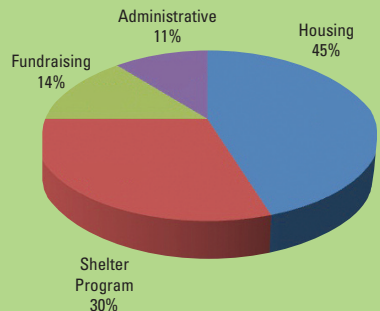
Note: A complete set of audited financial statements is available upon request.



2012 Revenue



2012 Expenses





**Interfaith
Hospitality
Network[®]**
of Essex County, Inc.

46 Park Street, Montclair, NJ 07042
973 746-1400 www.ihnessexnj.org



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