

the PAST

TOGETHER WE MADE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT, HELPING 21,583 PEOPLE.

In the past year, Interfaith served 21,583 men, women, and children. We fed the hungry, housed the homeless, and provided guidance to the unemployed, under-employed, at-risk youth, seniors, veterans, and the disabled. That is 21,583 reasons to celebrate!

In the past year, Interfaith...

...fed 12,823 hungry people with 317,800 meals from our pantry. In addition to that, we served 174,823 hot meals in our Nutrition Center. That's 492,623 meals we provided in a single year!

...provided 22,729 employment or job-related services, along with 10,960 employment lab visits and 1,980 workshops, education assistance, & classes.

...housed 770 people in emergency, transitional, or permanent housing.

...connected 5,831 volunteers with the opportunity to help their North County neighbors needing assistance.

...gained national acclaim for our work reuniting homeless veterans with their families, shelter,

work and self-sufficiency.

...helped over 150 at-risk youth make strides towards graduating and having a brighter future.

Another great accomplishment is how we have streamlined to save money. Last year, we retired or eliminated over \$4 million in mortgages with a capital campaign that reduced our overhead by over \$20,000 per month. That means more is going into service delivery helping those in need.

WE ARE WORKING TO CONTINUE OUR GOOD WORKS...

the PRESENT

Today, Interfaith is working with Tri-City Medical Center to explore the relocation and expansion of our sobering and recovery service, in collaboration with other organizations to serve the entire region.

We are joining with San Marcos Senior Services

Foundation for joint fund development to build senior services in the area.

We are studying a possible pilot project with several faith communities to offer social support services through their congregations in a reproducible

model that could help people more efficiently and effectively throughout the northern San Diego region.

Interfaith is also expanding services to feed ever larger numbers of hungry children and families.

THE CHALLENGES ARE INCREASING,

the FUTURE

WE NEED YOUR HELP MORE THAN EVER.

1 IN 6 AMERICANS LIVE IN POVERTY.

"The nation's poverty rate of 15.1% is the highest of any major industrialized nation."

~ Associated Press based on a report by the Census Bureau

"We had about 700 **HOMELESS STUDENTS** in our school district," said Rebecca Benner, the homeless outreach coordinator for the district (North San Diego County). "**NOW WE HAVE 2800.**"

~ Scholastic News

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND VETERANS LIVE HOMELESS ON ANY GIVEN NIGHT.

~ U.S. Veterans Affairs

Our humanity is best when we center it on love for one another -- on an appreciation of the dignity of each person. By loving others we become the best society we can be. By loving others we become the best and most complete individuals we each can be.

~ Richard Batt, Executive Director

According to economists, odds are

one in three

that **ANOTHER DOWNTURN WILL HIT THE U.S. ECONOMY** in the next twelve months.

~ Wall Street Journal

ONE IN THREE

of all children in California have no parent with a full-time, year-round job.

~ MSNBC based on the 2011 Kids Count Data Book by the Annie E. Casey Foundation

1 IN 6 AMERICANS are food insecure, and of that 48 million, **17 MILLION ARE CHILDREN.**

~ Huffington Post based on a report by the Center for American Progress

A **SURGE IN POVERTY** IS RESHAPING SUBURBS: THE POOR POPULATION IN AMERICA'S SUBURBS ROSE **53%** LAST DECADE, DOUBLE THE **26%** INCREASE IN THE CITIES.

~ New York Times

INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES IS ALL OF US :

To all who are Interfaith Community Services,

It is an honor to join you as Interfaith's new CEO in the critical work of helping others in need. This issue of the newsletter will be different.

This is a difficult time for many people as our economy falters again. This special edition presents the conditions we face and what we have to do individually, as an organization and as a society to meet the problems of our time... today and tomorrow.

The faltering economy has been tough on everyone -- you and those we serve. The need for our services has risen sharply over the past few months. Unfortunately, we are likely heading into even more difficult economic times ahead as a nation, which will add to the already increasing numbers of people who are unemployed and struggling with hunger, homelessness, and a general loss of hope.

“ WE FACE A DILEMMA. THE “WE” IS ALL OF US.

We face a dilemma. The “we” is all of us -- you, your family, our faith communities, our civic communities, governments, other charities, our society, Interfaith Community Services itself, and the tens of thousands of people and families we serve.

Our dilemma is that the needs are increasing as our economy falters. More people need food and shelter as they lose employment. More families and children go hungry. More teens turn to drugs and violence. More men and women lose hope and become addicted or emotionally

ill. More people become unhealthy and experience pain. Human needs are increasing everywhere in our community -- the needs that are apparent and we see, and the needs that are real and growing but largely hidden from view.

In a faltering economy not only do more adults, more children, more families need help, but also the problems for each are greater. Said succinctly -- today more people have even greater needs. “Tomorrow” these conditions will probably be even worse for many more.

As more people have greater needs, funding to help people declines. *Cutbacks have started in state and federal programs as revenues decline. Foundations that support charitable work lose money in the stock market and some foundations scale back funding of charities. Individual donors and friends who have supported our work and the charitable work of other service organizations have themselves been affected by the weakening economy -- and giving decreases.*

The dilemma is that during a weakening economy in the face of greater human need funding support doesn't increase, it usually goes down. Funding can go down a lot. Not just for us -- all the organizations and government agencies providing a safety net of services to those in need struggle to continue the current services. While Interfaith has problems financially continuing and expanding the work we do -- the dilemma is not just ours. *This dilemma is a problem for our entire society... for all of us.*

And yet, the increasing problems

for the people and communities Interfaith serves cannot be met by money alone. The problems are too great and the financial resources of our society are too limited. We need to improve the *ways* we help people.

Interfaith and other organizations will have to collaborate more, innovate more, realign our services, look for opportunities to blend programs together, and find additional resources.

“ THE DILEMMA IS THAT DURING A WEAKENING ECONOMY IN THE FACE OF GREATER HUMAN NEED FUNDING SUPPORT DOESN'T INCREASE, IT OFTEN GOES DOWN.

There just isn't enough money to help all those in need. *We and other organizations must find new, different, and expanded ways of helping people that are more efficient, more local and more relevant.*

At Interfaith we will emphasize using “best practices.” We will study and implement the very best ways to run each of our programs so the people we serve are helped in the best and most efficient ways possible.

There just isn't enough money for our society to fund all the employees required to assist the growing numbers of people and families in need. We will find better ways to organize programs and make use of volunteers to help people who are unemployed, homeless, hungry, addicted and emotionally bereft.

Interfaith has historically used

thousands of volunteers. *We will further expand the use of volunteers and better utilize their talents to fulfill the needs of those we serve.* It is the only way to cope with the great needs of more and more individuals and families as our economy falters.

We will seek more opportunities to collaborate with other organizations to work together and combine where it makes sense so programs can become more efficient, effective, and stable.

We will expand efforts to build our endowment through legacy gifts so individuals and families will be forever remembered as the gifts they leave create a never-ending means of supporting the good work of Interfaith.

We will innovate more. There are new concepts and programs that hold great potential to uplift communities that we will explore and seek to collaboratively implement that will make a huge difference in helping people and our local communities become healthier -- not just in physical health but in overall well-being.

We will revitalize our connections

“ SO WHAT CAN WE DO? WHAT WILL INTERFAITH DO? WHAT CAN YOU DO?

with local faith communities. We will explore how our services can be brought right to the members of local congregations and directly into local neighborhoods in a way that is most relevant to the needs of those communities.

Interfaith will use its strength, acumen and connections to build systems of social support to help

Donate today to help feed the hungry, house the homeless, mentor at-risk youth, stabilize struggling families, care for seniors, assist Veterans in need, and offer alcohol and drug recovery. Together we can meet these challenges!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Jason Coker, Director of Development - (760) 489-6380 ext. 220 jcoker@interfaithservices.org
Interfaith Community Services - 550 W. Washington Ave., Escondido, CA 92025

Volunteers are our lifeblood! Call or write today, you, your congregation or your workplace and neighbors in need!

Name _____

Email _____

I'd love to volunteer! Please contact me f

Jennifer Maestas, Volunteer Coordinator - (760) 4
Interfaith Community

people help themselves. In particular, we will seek to find ways to connect the capacities of our society to help people, to the needs of people, and to the network of the more than 450 faith communities who are our members. There is huge untapped potential here! *We will explore how the human needs of members of local congregations might be better met through Interfaith organizing a network of service assistance, so that people in need can get the help they require quickly, locally and effectively, with a support network involving local faith congregations and other service organizations.*

As unemployment goes up, more people lose their homes, and the ability to buy food, clothing, and medical care -- the needs of society increase just when donations decrease.

more.

As our economy falters, many people have great needs. *Interfaith has a choice: in face of funding challenges do we shrink back when human needs are much greater?*

You have a choice: in the face of economic uncertainty do you give less or give more? And if you give more is it more money or also more of yourself?

“**OUR HUMANITY IS BEST WHEN WE CENTER IT ON LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.**”

What you can do is to remain generous and to help even more when it is not so comfortable to do so. *This is asking a lot of you- to ask that you be generous, even more generous, when you yourself are concerned about the financial uncertainty that you face.*

We have choices. As we choose we should reflect on what basis should we make our decision?

I suggest our decisions should be based on love. Love of God. Love of one another. Mindful of the love of God for each of us.

If our view of life is that we are connected to one another, that we should love and care for one another, that we should care about building the humanity of our society... then our answer becomes easy. We act to extend to others our help to support them in their time of need. *In doing so, we become the best we each can be.*

“**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED -- YOUR DONATIONS ARE NEEDED AS NEVER BEFORE.**”

Our goal, simply stated, will be to help organize a system of support so that everyone gets the help they need. *We can't do this alone. We will do it with other organizations, we will do this with our faith community members, and we will do it with you!*

But as an inter-connected humanity, that's exactly what we each need to do. We need to keep our eyes open to the great needs all around us and help even more although it might be more difficult than before to do so.

Your help is needed -- your donations are needed as never before.

That's what Interfaith will do. Now to the question: What can you do?

It is well-known that individual contributions to most charities and faith communities often goes down in a faltering economy. We all tend to be more generous when we feel financially secure. But when the stock market falls, when the market fluctuates wildly, when unemployment increases, when companies cut back -- when we feel less secure -- donations decline. You know this about yourself. *It is easier to be generous when you yourself are enjoying good financial times.*

Your contributions are important, very important. But your help is needed in several other ways.

Consider becoming a volunteer with us or with another local charity. Find ways to become more generous to others in your everyday life. Look with a new vision to see the needs of others all around you. Reach out to touch others with your grace and help and love.

Your prayers, your volunteer work, your everyday help for others is what will make a difference as much as your financial support... maybe

“**PRAY FOR US AND THOSE WE SERVE.**”

I look forward to my new role at Interfaith, and I am committed to lead this organization with a passion for expanding our vital work to uplift people in need and strengthen our communities.

Sincerely,



Richard Batt
 Executive Director

INTERFAITH WILL...

- **USE** BEST PRACTICES
- **REALIGN** SERVICES
- **SEEK** OPPORTUNITIES TO COMBINE WITH OTHERS
- **EXPAND** VOLUNTEERS
- **COLLABORATE** MORE
- **INNOVATE** MORE
- **INTRODUCE** NEW CONCEPTS
- **STRENGTHEN** FAITH COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS
- **BUILD** AN EXPANDED LOCAL NETWORK OF HUMAN SUPPORT
- **ENGAGE** DONORS TO MAKE LEGACY GIFTS
- **EVIDENCE** THE PRINCIPLES OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP

YOU CAN...

- **VOLUNTEER**
- **LOOK** WITH NEW SIGHT AT THE NEEDS OF OTHERS AND **RESPOND**
- **PRAY** FOR THOSE IN NEED
- **PRAY** FOR ALL THE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED
- **INCREASE** YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT
- **MAKE** A LEGACY GIFT
- **CONNECT** WITH US

ay to plug into a volunteer opportunity for
 make an immediate difference in the lives of

Phone _____

For opportunities in:

89-6380 ext. 221 jmaestas@interfaithservices.org
 y Services - 550 W. Washington Ave., Escondido, CA 92025

Sign me up, so I can receive up-to-date information via email about Interfaith.

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

 @INTERFAITHCS *Are you following us yet?*

 FACEBOOK.COM/INTERFAITHSERVICES *Have you 'LIKED' us yet?*

Jomylene Flores, Communications Coordinator - (760) 489-6380 ext. 218 jflores@interfaithservices.org
 Interfaith Community Services - 550 W. Washington Ave., Escondido, CA 92025

FRIENDS--PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOUR ADDRESS OR NAME NEEDS TO BE UPDATED!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Interfaith Community News



PARALLEL VISIONS - NOVEMBER 12

This photography exhibit will feature the works of local Oceanside teens as well as teens in Cartagena, Colombia, by bringing into focus two different, yet parallel, communities as seen through the lenses of the youth who reside there. The exhibit features 100 captivating photographs that weave together the vibrant tapestry of everyday life in these two communities, and commences with a preview reception and silent auction fundraiser on November 12th at the Oceanside Museum of Art. All proceeds will benefit Interfaith's Transitional Youth Academy. Join us by first RSVP'ing to Larry Christensen at 760-489-6380 ext. 224 or lchristensen@interfaithservices.org

FIRST ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES

The San Marcos Senior Services Foundation is holding its First Annual Festival of Trees. Net proceeds will benefit Interfaith's Senior Services Department. The Festival (November 25, 26, & 27 from 10 AM to 7 PM) will include a holiday boutique and a gallery of 30 holiday trees alight with unique themes and decorations. The "Preview Party" on the 19th (6 PM - 9 PM) is \$35/person and will include entertainment and delicious food and drinks! For more information, call Catherine at (760) 613-1382 or email alison.driessen@cox.net



San Marcos
Festival
of
Trees

mark your calendars

Nov. 16 at 10 AM - General Membership Meeting at the United Methodist Church of Vista (490 South Melrose Drive, Vista). RSVP to Mary Ferro at (760) 489-6380 ext. 266 or mferro@interfaithservices.org.

Nov. 17 at 7 PM - POINT Thanksgiving Service at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Poway (15750 Bernardo Heights Parkway, San Diego).

Nov. 22 at 7 PM - Thanksgiving Service by the Escondido Clergy Association at the Seventh Day Adventist Church (1305 Deodar Road, Escondido).

Nov. 23 & 24 - Holiday Meals at Interfaith Community Services
Volunteers are needed for 12:45 PM - 2:30 PM shift and 2:30 PM - 5 PM shift on both days. Sign up with Jerry Morgan at (760) 489-6380 ext. 236 or jmorgan@interfaithservices.org.

Dec. 24 - Holiday Meal at Interfaith Community Services
Volunteers are needed for 2:30 PM - 5 PM shift. Sign up with Jerry Morgan at (760) 489-6380 ext. 236 or jmorgan@interfaithservices.org.

our food pantries are empty! We need your HELP!

Contact Jerry Morgan (Director of Basic Needs) at jmorgan@interfaithservices.org or (760) 489-6380 ext. 236 for more information on what you can do to help!

- > Canned chili
- > Canned beans (not green)
- > Canned fruit
- > Canned pasta meals
- > Canned vegetables
- > Dried pasta
- > Mac & cheese
- > Hearty soup

