

# Adopt an Interfaith Apartment and help **Make it a Home**

Interfaith Community Services currently has many apartment homes and families needing your love and attention. By “adopting” a home, you are helping one of our families in need with the resources, support, and encouragement to propel the family to self-sufficiency.

There are many ways you can help: **CHOOSE ONE OR ALL OF THE OPTIONS LISTED BELOW.**



## *Help Prepare the Home for a New Family*

- ✧ Help paint and clean the apartment home before a new family moves in
- ✧ Provide house-wares and linens for the new family
  - Provide items such as towels, bed linens, shower curtains, dishes and cookware, simple pantry items, small kitchen appliances, and basic cleaning products and tools for the kitchen and bath
- ✧ Provide basic furnishing for the apartment home including dressers, beds, sofas, dinettes, bookshelves, and area rugs for the new family

## *First Night Welcome*

- ✧ Bring a cooked dish or baked goods to welcome the family to their new home
- ✧ Provide a list of local resources the family might need, such as local grocery stores and schools
- ✧ Consider a house-warming gift, such as a plant or a board game for the children

## *Mentor-A-Family*

- ✧ Help a family achieve their goals by providing guidance, friendship, and a support system
- ✧ Be a role model: Help parents enhance their life skills. Provide tutoring for the children
- ✧ Celebrate birthdays, holidays, and special accomplishments with the family

## *Help Maintain the Physical Needs of the Home*

- ✧ Help with minor home repairs such as basic hardware, leaking faucets, temperamental toilets, dead-bolt locks, and squeaky doors
- ✧ Replace furniture items that have worn out

*For more information, contact:*

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Welcome Interfaith Families to their new Home through Mentoring and Apartment Adoption. Please read the following Interfaith Guidelines for Mentoring.

## *Guidelines for Mentoring*

- ✧ Faith Centers and members are asked not to engage in proselytizing as this is forbidden by our government contracts. This project demonstrates our “faith in action”. If, however, the family you are mentoring expresses an interest in your faith tradition, please do feel free to share.
- ✧ Do share your own personal journey with the family you are mentoring. It is hoped that this will happen through a genuine process of relationship building that is based upon mutual caring.
- ✧ Personal financial gifts may only be provided to the family with prior consultation with the family’s case manager.
- ✧ Opportunities for mentoring abound and are limited only by your imagination! Examples include: job shadowing, employment possibilities, envisioning a better future for this family through scholarships, and advanced educational options for the entire family. Help our families dream again.
- ✧ Cultural opportunities and social excursions are encouraged: From scouting and library cards to theatre, concerts and dance, all options are welcomed.
- ✧ We hope that you will share your favorite activities with our families and help model life skills.
- ✧ Be sure that all minors have parental permission for any offsite activities offered by your congregation.
- ✧ It is important to be able to track volunteer contribution of time, therefore, you are asked to keep a log of activities and provide this information to the case manager on a monthly basis. If you have questions or need further information please speak to the case manager.



Please contact Nusrat Symons, Volunteer Coordinator, at (760) 489-6380 ext. 221 for the volunteer application form and the fingerprint/background check form, **both of which must be completed.**