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INTERFAITH NEWS SPRING 2019

(From Left to Right)

JONATHAN LEWIS
Interfaith Associate Director of Recovery & Wellness

VERONICA BLEA
Interfaith Director of Supportive Services

JESSICA LOPEZ
Interfaith Certified Nursing Assistant, Recuperative Care Program

DR. ANDREA BARLAM
Psychologist, Neighborhood Healthcare

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HOUSING 2019 UPDATE
INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES OPENS MEDICAL CENTER AT ITS ESCONDIDO HEADQUARTERS

Partnership with Neighborhood Healthcare Allows Full Integration of Healthcare and Social Services

Homelessness can make people sick — really sick. Among the 20,000 homeless people surveyed nationally through The 100,000 Homes Campaign, more than one in five suffer with a chronic health condition, accompanied by substance use and addiction and/or mental illness. These co-occurring conditions are then exacerbated by the harsh realities of life on the streets.

In an effort to address the health conditions of our most vulnerable community members, Interfaith Community Services, in collaboration with Neighborhood Healthcare, is moving closer to fulfilling their vision that all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay, should have the opportunity to pursue physical and mental wellness and recovery, and in turn, experience healing and an improved quality of life.

By focusing on person-centered care, Interfaith’s new facility holistically addresses physical, behavioral, chronic health and substance use disorders. This whole-person approach may also include a multitude of other appropriate services, such as emergency food, basic hygiene needs, employment training, benefit assistance, tax preparation and legal assistance, transitional housing, eventual independent housing and aftercare.

Interfaith Community Services in partnership with Neighborhood Healthcare is excited to offer a continuum of care that allows for flexibility through the levels of care based on the changing needs of the individual, alongside the wraparound social services that are vital to long-term success. As always, Interfaith’s Helping People Help Themselves model ensures the commitment of each individual served to be part of the positive change in their own lives.

One element of the integration of healthcare and social services is Corinne’s Cottage, Interfaith’s short-term transitional shelter for women with a severe mental health diagnosis, located in Escondido. Resident Coordinator Saundra Davis and her certified therapy dog Jeana Boots brings joy, support and respite to the women at Corinne’s Cottage on a daily basis.
Key Components of Healthcare and Social Services Integration:

NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTHCARE:

- A federally funded, multi-service community medical clinic, located inside Interfaith’s headquarters at the Betty & Melvin Cohn Center in Escondido, that provides a variety of services addressing the physical, emotional and psychological needs of low-income individuals.

- A second Interfaith-Neighborhood Healthcare partnership clinic will open later this spring at 13010 Poway Road in Poway.

ESCONDIDO COMMUNITY SOBERING SERVICES
- A PROGRAM OF THE JOAN & LEE JAMES RECOVERY AND WELLNESS CENTER

- A short-term 38-bed residential treatment facility that addresses substance use disorders.

- Assessments, individual and group counseling, case management, education and treatment are offered. Participants learn positive coping strategies to abstain from substance abuse along with comprehensive discharge planning and recovery services.

- Recovery services are provided after discharge to assist individuals in the recovery and wellness process. Recovery services are designed to emphasize the individual’s central role in managing their health, promote the use of effective self-management support strategies, and provide internal and community resources to support ongoing self-management.

- Medically monitored withdrawal management and outpatient drug and alcohol recovery services will be added in the near future to complete the center.

- Located at the Betty & Melvin Cohn Center in Escondido.

RECUERATIVE CARE PROGRAM – A PROGRAM OF THE JOAN & LEE JAMES RECOVERY AND WELLNESS CENTER

- A short-term 32-bed recuperative care program that provides care for homeless veterans and non-veterans as they recuperate from hospital stays, participate in discharge planning and locate independent housing.

- Located at the Hawthorne Veteran and Family Resource Center in Escondido.

LIHN’S STORY
Lihn hit rock bottom before enrolling in Interfaith’s Escondido Community Sobering Services program. He has worked hard to be where he is now, but doesn’t share your typical success story. Before Lihn could enjoy his life as a successful engineer and contributing member of society, he experienced drug addiction, gang membership, imprisonment, and was even pronounced dead from a past bullet wound. “I was never sober long enough to know I had it in me. Interfaith really cared about me,” says Lihn, who, today, is not only thriving in his life and career, but has also reconnected with his family.

DARREN’S STORY
Navy veteran Darren spent five years living on the streets in Escondido before he had a stroke last May. After a month and a half in the hospital, Darren ended up back on the street for a week until an outreach worker connected him with Interfaith. Through the Recuperative Care Program, he received support to learn to swallow and speak again, as well as a safe place to rest his head and food to nourish him as he healed. Darren recently moved into an apartment of his own in San Marcos, as he reflects on his experience he says, “You want someone to catch you when you’ve fallen, and they (Interfaith) do that. I thank God for them.”
IT’S EASY TO CONTRIBUTE AT INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES

Each gift to Interfaith Community Services comes from a special person, family or organization. Someone who cares for the men, women and children faced with the crisis of homelessness, poverty, mental illness or addiction.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

CONTRIBUTE BY:

MAIL OR PHONE – Use the enclosed envelope to mail your check or credit card contribution or give us a call.

ONLINE – Visit www.interfaithservices.org – click the YELLOW DONATE BUTTON on the top right of the homepage.

SUSTAINING SUPPORTER – Create a monthly or quarterly automatic donation from your credit card, debit card, or your bank account – can be cancelled at any time.

IRA – A gift distribution from your IRA; if you are 70 ½ or older, this gift can be made up to $100,000 avoiding federal taxes.

STOCK – A stock gift often enables you to deduct the full fair market value of the appreciated stock without paying capital gains tax.

DONOR ADVISED FUND – Your DAF is a wonderful way to provide gifts of all sizes.

DONATE:

Your car or truck through the Interfaith VEHICLE DONATION Program – Call (877) 448-3123

FOOD, NEW HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, AND LIGHTLY USED FURNITURE – Call (760) 489-6380 ext. 206 for information, or to schedule a pick up.
IT’S EASY TO CONTRIBUTE AT INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES

For questions and information, or electronic and stock transfer instructions, please call, text, or email Robert Adams, Chief Development Officer at Interfaith Community Services.

CRUCIAL NEEDS AT INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES:

HELPING PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES – Interfaith’s food, basic needs and social service programs provide emergency food, basic hygiene needs, employment help, mental health and substance abuse services, and so much more. But essential is the commitment of each individual served to be part of the positive change in their own lives.

ENDING AND PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS – Interfaith’s Housing 2019 campaign addresses the growing crisis of homelessness by moving our homeless neighbors off of the streets and helping those facing imminent eviction, all while providing the practical housing assistance they need.

PROVIDE A LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE:

WILL OR LIVING TRUST – Work with your advisor to designate in your will or living trust a gift of a specific dollar amount or percentage of your estate.

ENDOWMENT – Designate your current or future gift to the Interfaith Community Services Endowment Fund. Your generosity will provide a stream of funding for needed programs annually for years into the future.

“BUNCHING” - A New Way to Look at Contributions

Ever hear of “BUNCHING” donations to save taxes? A few supporters are finding it beneficial tax-wise to combine multiple years of donations into one contribution. It is a way to save taxes. If you let us know, we promise not to “bug you” during the years of no donations.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF GIVING:

All potential benefits of investment and charitable giving strategies should be evaluated in consultation with your tax and/or financial advisor.

“As a volunteer leader at Interfaith, I can assure you that your gift is important, appreciated, and used wisely!

- Meg

REVEREND MEG DECKER, Volunteer Chair of the Board

ROBERT ADAMS
Interfaith Community Services
Betty & Melvin Cohn Center
550 W. Washington Avenue
Escondido, CA 92025
(760) 489-6380 ext. 206 – office
(760) 803-9615 – cell
Join us as we collaborate with supporters like you to end and prevent homelessness for 2,019 men, women, and children, including 250 veterans, by the end of 2019.

Interfaith’s Core Services Are Crucial for Housing Success

**SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**
Comprehensive programs and vital resources that meet the basic needs of community members, and empower them to achieve independent and thriving lives.
- Individual Assessments of Each Unique Situation
- Referrals to Appropriate Interfaith and Community Resources
- Individual and Family Case Management
- Daily Hot Morning Meals, Sack Lunches, and Emergency Food Assistance
- Shower and Laundry Facilities
- Mail, Phone, Fax, Computer, and Copy Services
- Financial, Legal, and Tax Preparation Services
- Senior Services

**EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
Support to achieve financial independence – by helping people help themselves, Interfaith empowers individuals to get back on their feet by obtaining and retaining secure employment.
- Employment Training, Job Connections, Vocational Development, and Specialized Veteran Programs
- Transitional Youth Academy – academic and employment support for at-risk youth

As of March 1, 2019, we are proud to announce that 884 of our formerly homeless neighbors (including 50 veterans) have been placed into housing of their own.

Visit [www.interfaithservices.org](http://www.interfaithservices.org) for the most up-to-date number of individuals housed through our Housing 2019 campaign.

Since 2016, 90% of the families Interfaith has worked with have maintained long-term housing stability.

**LISTEN TO OUR PODCAST AT**
[www.homelessinsandiego.org](http://www.homelessinsandiego.org)

**HOMELESS IN SAN DIEGO**
Real People. Real Stories.

**MAKE IT A HOME**
Providing the dignity of a comfortable home for those we house

**OFFERING HOPE IN HOUSING**
Ending Homelessness
Moving Those Who Are Homeless Into Independent Housing

Preventing Homelessness
Helping Those Facing Imminent Eviction
CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Founded in 1979, in direct response to rising rates of hunger and homelessness in North County, Interfaith Community Services originated from a small group of faith communities collaborating to address these issues. These innovative clergy and laypeople were determined to provide a safety net for people in need, and on May 20, 1979 started the first community discussions that eventually lead to the founding of Interfaith. Since then, Interfaith has grown to be the largest and most comprehensive social services agency in North County, providing a pathway towards self-sufficiency and independence for over 17,000 homeless and low-income community members each year.

NEW $500,000 MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE

For every dollar donated to Interfaith, locally-based charities, including the Leichtag Foundation and the David T. and Dorris E. Staples Foundation, along with private donors, will match it up to $500,000 – doubling the impact of your contribution.

Adopt a Scholar Today!

Last year, 100% of the students who participated in Interfaith’s Transitional Youth Academy (TYA) graduated high school with 98% continuing on to college. Your contribution of $300 will help low-income, at-risk students by providing:

- Graduation Expenses – cap and gown, event attendance, and yearbook
- Summer Internship Expenses – transportation and career-appropriate clothing
- College Preparation – supplies and exam fees

DONATE ONLINE OR BY CHECK AND SPECIFY TRANSITIONAL YOUTH ACADEMY.

HONORING THE SPIRIT OF GIVING & VOLUNTEERISM

You are among our most cherished supporters who make our work possible. Please join us and many special guests for an evening in your honor as we celebrate our next milestones!

Grand Opening – Escondido Community Sobering Services – A program of the Joan & Lee James Recovery and Wellness Center

Grand Opening – Neighborhood Healthcare Medical Clinic – A partnership with Interfaith Community Services

Celebrating 40 Years of Service
Tour of the Interfaith Community Services facility

Wednesday | June 12, 2019 | 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Interfaith Community Services | Betty & Melvin Cohn Center
550 W. Washington Avenue Escondido, CA 92025
RSVP by Friday, June 7, 2019 to: “B” Hernandez | 760-489-6380 ext. 273 | bhernandez@interfaithservices.org
INTERFAITH NEWS
SPRING 2019

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TRANSPORTATIONAL YOUTH ACADEMY
ADOPT A SCHOLAR TODAY!

Housing 1000 – With Your Help, We Did It!

Interfaith Community Services exceeded its goal by housing 1,198 men, women, and children, including 167 veterans in the last 12 months.

See the front cover story for exciting news in the coming year!