

SUMMER 2024

# INTERFAITH NEWS





# Message from the CEO

Dear Neighbors,

Recent results from the 2024 Point in Time Count reveal that homelessness has risen 3% overall in the San Diego Region, but that senior homelessness has risen a whopping 22%. More than 43% of the approximately 1,800 local unsheltered seniors are experiencing homelessness for the first time.

For nearly 20 years, Interfaith's Seniors Services teams have worked with care and professionalism to meet the unique needs of local seniors in need, focusing historically on successful "aging in place" practices to keep seniors safe in their homes. Today, though, nearly every senior we work with fears losing their home entirely. So many already have.

The high cost of many medications and soaring rental prices disproportionately hurt fixed-income seniors. While many receive support from Medicare and CalFresh, important items like incontinence products, wheelchairs, walkers, and pet food are not covered, forcing many low-income seniors to choose between food for themselves or food for their pets — or between keeping a roof over their head or making badly needed repairs to keep their homes safe.

Because of you, Interfaith is proud to have provided support for 3,585 local seniors last year, and this newsletter highlights some senior programs that make that support possible. The seniors who built our communities need our support now more than ever.

Thank you for being a part of this critical, compassionate work!



*Greg Anglea  
Chief Executive Officer  
Cohn Family CEO Chair  
Interfaith Community Services*

## **one** Ending Homelessness One Family at a Time

Interfaith Community Services has been selected by the Bezos Day 1 Families Fund to receive a \$5 million multi-year grant. This nationwide fund recognizes leading organizations doing compassionate, needle-moving work to help families experiencing homelessness secure housing and achieve stability. This investment has helped to launch our campaign to end family homelessness in North County, one family at a time.





The mission of Interfaith Community Services is to empower people in need to stabilize and improve their lives through comprehensive programs, in partnership with diverse faith communities and people of compassion.

Building on more than 40 years of empowering homeless and low-income community members, Interfaith has become the most comprehensive social services agency in North County, providing both immediate safety net services and long-term, life-changing services for poor and vulnerable residents.



Betty and Melvin Cohn Center  
550 W. Washington Ave.  
Escondido, CA 92025

[www.InterfaithServices.org](http://www.InterfaithServices.org)

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



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VENMO



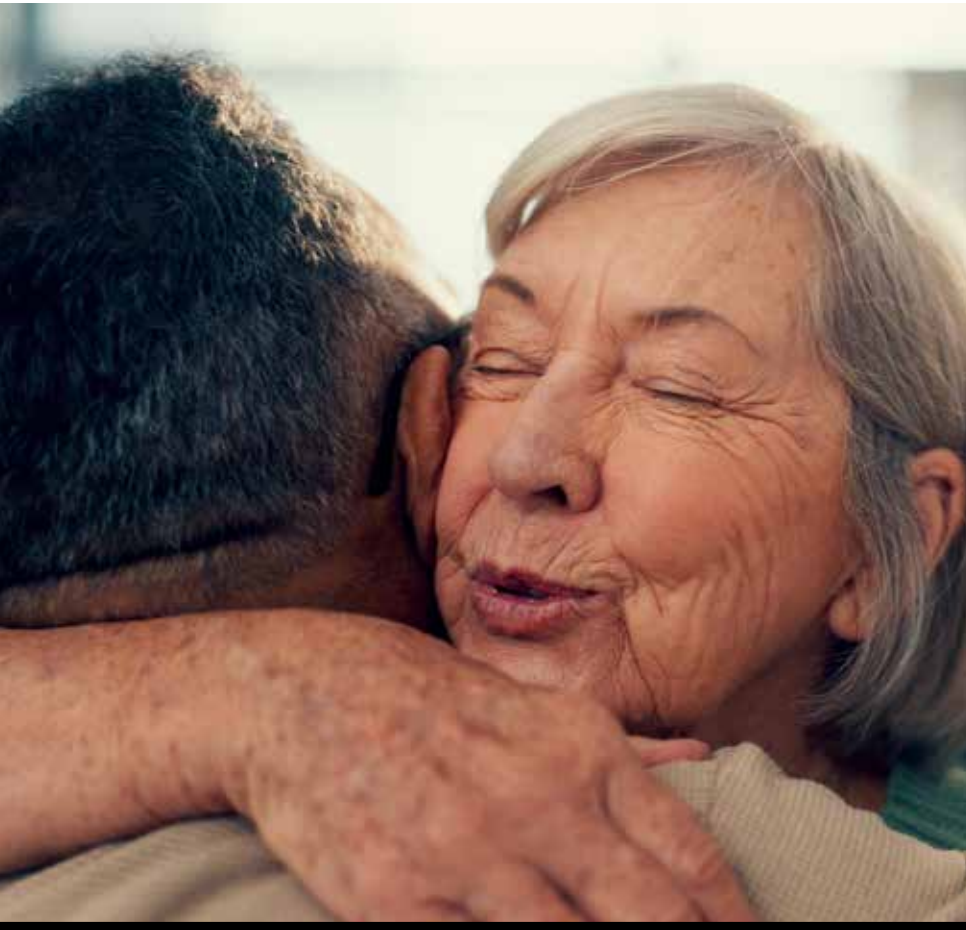
VOLUNTEER



DONATE

Call us: (760) 489-6380

# Spotlight on Seniors



*Most people know Interfaith supports the local community through housing and food, but did you know we have more than 75 programs that provide wraparound services to people in need? Check out a few of these lesser-known programs that serve our senior clients.*



## Raymond's Refuge

Raymond's Refuge is an Interfaith-owned Permanent Supportive Housing program for residents ages 55+ (8 men, 8 women) in eight 2br/2ba apartments and are provided wraparound support from Interfaith case

Arnold, pictured above with Interfaith case manager JoJo, was introduced to drugs at age 15 and became incarcerated at age 19. After his release in 1978 at age 25, he worked odd jobs for a time but spent entire paycheck on just rent alone. With no family support, he experienced homelessness for several years.

In 2012, Arnold connected with Interfaith and finally found his home at Interfaith's Raymond's Refuge Permanent Supportive Housing. He has lived for nearly 12 years.

During this time he got brand new teeth and receives regular checkups, physical therapy, and diabetes care.



To learn more about Interfaith programs or to become a



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## Minor Home Repair

This “fix-it” program provides free assistance to low-income and disabled seniors who need minor repairs and safety installations.

Repairs include:

- Minor electrical or plumbing issues
- Smoke and carbon monoxide detector installation and replacement
- Grab bars, toilet seat lifters, and wheelchair ramps

Interfaith's Minor Home Repair program served more than 225 individuals over the age of 60 last year.



## Home Safe Program

Interfaith's Home Safe program aims to support long-term housing stability to seniors referred by Adult Protective Services. Support includes:

- Immediate and safe temporary housing
- Housing navigation – apartments, independent living houses, long-term care facilities, and more
- Rental assistance, moving costs, hoarding and clean-up expenses, utility assistance
- Referrals for legal resources, senior centers, meal delivery services

In addition, Interfaith case managers provide intensive case management, including budget evaluations, income and benefit applications, medical and behavioral health needs, and ongoing healthcare needs through this County-sponsored program.



## Independence is Empowering!

Project Care supports seniors in their own home. Through this County-sponsored program, Interfaith case managers conduct home visits, providing food, hygiene supplies, and other basic needs. These services allow seniors to “age in place” and maintain stability and comfort.

Case managers also help Project Care clients apply for benefits that can be difficult to navigate, or that they may not even know they qualify for. The program also provides transportation to medical and other appointments necessary to maintain their quality of life.



## “How Are You?” Calls

Each morning, Interfaith’s senior clients receive a recorded “How Are You?” call, asking them to push 1 to confirm they are OK. Shortly afterward, Interfaith case managers receive a report that allows them to follow up with any non-responsive clients.

If the client does not answer the follow-up call, the case manager will contact the identified emergency contact and if the client is still unavailable, they will conduct a wellness check.

The “How Are You” program provides assurance for clients that if they were to fall, for instance, someone would be there to help them. It also provides peace of mind for relatives living far away.



Help us stock our pantry  
for families and individuals who  
are in a food emergency

Scan the QR code to see  
Interfaith’s Summer Needs List  
or visit: [bit.ly/SummerNeedsList](https://bit.ly/SummerNeedsList)

# MAKE AN IMPACT!



[interfaithservices.org/donate/](https://interfaithservices.org/donate/)

Interfaith helps people help themselves through long-term supportive services, with the ultimate goal of self-sufficiency. Your contribution provides transformative support and crucial access to services. *Please make a gift today!*

## WAYS TO GIVE



**365 CLUB** Join the club! Create a recurring monthly automatic donation from your credit card or debit card. You may cancel at any time.

### DONATE BY MAIL OR ONLINE

Mail your donation to  
550 W. Washington Ave., Escondido, CA 92025  
or visit [interfaithservices.org/donate/](https://interfaithservices.org/donate/)

### FUNDRAISE VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

Enact social change on social media by creating a fundraiser!

### DONATE STOCK GIFTS

Interfaith accepts stock as donations! Help us help people in need while also making smart financial decisions. If you directly transfer your appreciated stock to Interfaith instead of selling it yourself first, you will not have to pay any capital gains tax and you may be entitled to a significant deduction.\*

### LEAVE A LEGACY

Work with your financial advisor to designate in your will or living trust a gift of a specific amount, percentage of your estate, and/or specific asset.\*

### IRA CONTRIBUTION

If you are 70 ½ or older, an IRA gift can be made up to \$100,000 without incurring federal taxes.\*

### DONATE THROUGH A DONOR-ADVISED FUND (DAF)

Work with your financial advisor to learn the tax benefits of designating Interfaith as the recipient of your distribution.

\*Please contact your tax advisors to determine your estimated personal tax benefits of this action.  
Interfaith Community Services is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit tax-exempt organization.  
Federal Tax ID #95-3837714

