

SPRING 2026

# INTERFAITH NEWS





# Message from the CEO

Dear Interfaith Supporters,

Community has always been at the heart of who we are. When we come together and support one another, we create a more resilient environment where everyone has the opportunity to succeed. The belief that we are better together is central to our mission and the foundation of the work we do. That is why our local faith communities started Interfaith back in 1979. Since then, it has only continued to grow alongside the needs of our neighbors, all made possible by the generosity of our volunteers.

As we navigate these uncertain times, the support we continue to receive reminds us why standing together matters. Now more than ever, it is crucial that we show up and give our time to our neighbors in need.

Volunteering is one of the most meaningful ways to bring this belief to life. When you show up for others, it sends a powerful message to the people we serve: that they matter, they are valued, and they are not alone.

Interfaith could not do this without the compassion and dedication of our community stepping up to help. Your time, presence, and willingness to engage directly with our clients and our programs reinforce our commitment to delivering life-changing services through compassionate care.

Donating your time also offers a unique window into the heart of our organization. It allows you to see firsthand the impact of our programs, meet the individuals and families whose lives you are changing, and build a deeper, more personal connection to the mission. This experience becomes a reminder of the power of community in action.

Thank you for continuing to show up, give your time, and strengthen the community we care about. Your support makes our mission possible. Together, we are building a stronger, more compassionate future for all.



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.



Scan to learn more about Interfaith or visit [interfaithservices.org](http://interfaithservices.org)



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greg Anglea".

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

*Interfaith is built around the community, working with local agencies, organizations, and individuals to uplift our neighbors in need. Our dedicated volunteers are a crucial aspect of our organization, helping us serve individuals and families through a variety of opportunities and programs.*



# Volunteers: The



## Kind Threads and Smiles

Interfaith's new store, Kind Threads Resale Apparel, is always accepting volunteers to help curate our trendy collection, provide friendly customer service, and uplift the community.

Each purchase goes directly to our social services programs to help people in need. Kind Threads is almost completely volunteer-run and could not operate without our stylish supporters.



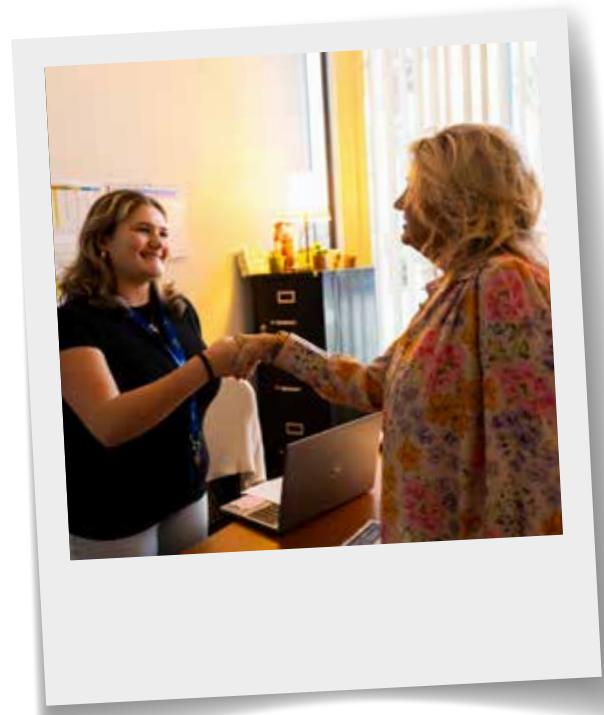
To learn more about



## Interfaith Pantry – Meet Jan Bailey

Since 2008, Jan Bailey has been a dedicated volunteer at Interfaith Community Services, serving as a welcoming and steady presence at the heart of the pantry operation. As the first point of contact for food orders, Jan receives requests from families and coordinates with pantry volunteers to ensure each order is carefully prepared and distributed. Her commitment, organization, and compassionate spirit have made her an invaluable part of the team, helping the pantry run smoothly.

From organizing donations to carefully packing food boxes and hygiene supplies, the pantry team helps ensure every client is served with compassion, dignity, and care. Since Interfaith Community Services was founded in 1979 as a small pantry rooted in community generosity, volunteers have remained at the heart of the mission — helping neighbors support neighbors every day.



# Behind Our Mission



## First Impressions Count!

Our intake volunteers are crucial to the work we do. As the most hands-on, client-oriented volunteer role we have at Interfaith, they help people get connected to basic needs such as food, shelter, and supportive services. As the first point of contact, they greet clients, help check them in, walk them through paperwork, answer questions, and help them feel welcomed.



## Oceanside Navigation Center

In October 2025, Interfaith assumed operations of the Oceanside Navigation Center, a 50 - 75 bed low barrier shelter. With its size, we welcome volunteers of various talents to assist with preparing meals and providing housekeeping to hosting life-skills workshops. Shelter volunteers ensure our residents have a warm, nurturing environment where they can thrive.

## VITA – Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) team helps people with their tax returns, ensuring they get the credits and the refunds they deserve. In 2025, VITA recovered over 3.6 million dollars for local taxpayers, making it one of Interfaith's most valuable programs. There is no minimum age requirement to receive your VITA certification, making this opportunity perfect for high school students interested in a career in finance and accounting.

During the 2026 tax season, Interfaith has its very first 16-year-old VITA volunteer, Anna! She is using her experience to enhance her Palomar College application for Business Administration, where she already has 25 credits while only being a junior in high school.

## Interfaith's Kids Summer of Service!



Summer is almost here, and Interfaith's Kids Summer of Service is coming back for a third year! Get ready to roll up your sleeves, make new friends, and have fun helping your community. Kids and teens can jump into hands-on activities serving on a variety of teams, including our Pantry Party Crew, Snack Pack Heroes, Kindness Cards Creators, and more!

Complete three or more shifts and you'll earn your very own Service Hours Certificate – a badge of honor you can show off at school and add to future college applications. Bring your friends and turn it into a summer adventure where you laugh, learn, and make a difference.



## Springing Into Action

This March, the National Charity League (NCL) Poway hosted its Second Annual Spring at Turk event for residents at our Turk Recuperative Care Program. After the success of last year's gathering, the NCL team returned with even bigger plans. Residents enjoyed interactive booths where they selected personalized hygiene items, decorated succulents, and created their own bouquets. Attendees were also entered into a drawing for gift cards.

ceanside  
a facility of this  
staff. From serving  
workshops, our  
turing environment

# WAYS TO GIVE

## DONATE BY MAIL OR ONLINE

With inflation and the high price of gas, our community's needs are at an all-time high. Please consider giving by mail at 550 W. Washington Ave., Escondido, CA 92025 or via credit, debit, Venmo, PayPal, and Apple Pay by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://bit.ly/InterfaithDonations>



### 365 CLUB

Join the club! Your year-round support helps us continue our comprehensive programs. Visit <https://bit.ly/InterfaithDonations>, click the recurring tab, select your frequency, choose your gift amount, and make the 365 commitment! Your recurring gift provides steady, lasting support for those in need. *You may cancel at any time.*

### FUNDRAISE VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

Enact social change on social media by creating a fundraiser on Facebook.

### TAX RULES HAVE CHANGED FOR 2026

Starting this tax year (2026), those who itemize their taxes can now deduct up to \$1,000 in cash donations. Couples filing jointly can deduct up to \$2,000 in cash donations. Check with your tax advisor for details.

### 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.\*

### 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.

### LEGACY GIFT

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 1/2 or older, an IRA gift can be made up to \$100,000 without incurring federal taxes.\*

### QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION (QCD)

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) lets you donate directly from your IRA — without paying taxes on the distribution. If you're 70 1/2 or older, this is a smart way to give generously while supporting the work we do every day.

### IN-KIND DONATIONS

Help fill our pantry, donate new clothing, or pass on small household items through our Make-It-A-Home program. Email [donations@interfaithservices.org](mailto:donations@interfaithservices.org) to learn more.

\*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

**Make a Difference in Your Local Community!**  
Help us stock our food pantry for families and individuals in need. Scan the QR code to see Interfaith's Spring Needs List or visit: [bit.ly/spring-needs-26](https://bit.ly/spring-needs-26)



**Interfaith**  
community services  
HELPING PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES  
Betty and Melvin Cohn Center  
550 W. Washington Ave.  
Escondido, CA 92025  
[www.interfaithservices.org](http://www.interfaithservices.org)  
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED