

Honoring the Spirit of Giving and Volunteerism

February 2017



Pictured above: Michayla, a second grade student from High Tech Elementary North County, poses with a few of the sack lunches she made for Interfaith

Interfaith honors North County Senior Connections volunteers with award luncheon

Interfaith celebrated our North County Senior Connections volunteers this month for their dedication to our local senior community. The program is completely volunteer-driven and brings affordable meals and social activities to seniors across North County five days a week. To thank them, Interfaith welcomed the volunteers to our *Betty and Melvin Cohn Center* in Escondido for lunch and an awards ceremony to recognize the volunteers that go above and beyond. Interfaith thanks all of our North County Senior Connections volunteers; without them the program would not be nearly as successful as it is in changing the lives of our senior community members.

Volunteers participate in the 2017 Point-in-Time Count

Interfaith welcomed over 60 volunteers to participate in the 2017 Point-in-Time count in Escondido last month. Volunteers participated in both the actual count, during which they drove around the region identifying the number of homeless individuals in the area, as well as in an interview portion, during which they surveyed individuals about their experience with homelessness. While the results from this year's count won't be available until later in the year, Interfaith appreciates all the volunteers who participated in the event!

High Tech Elementary makes sack lunches for Interfaith

Interfaith welcomed second graders from High Tech Elementary North County to our *Betty and Melvin Cohn Center* headquarters in January for a special volunteer project. During their visit, the students assembled over 150 sack lunches to be distributed to the individuals who attend Interfaith's daily morning meal. "My favorite part of today is that I am helping people," said Michayla, one of the second grade students. Interfaith thanks the students for their hard work and hopes to welcome them back for another volunteer project in the near future.



Pictured above: Senior Connections Program Coordinator Donna Stinson names volunteer Andres DeCasas the program's Volunteer of the Year



Pictured above: Point-in-Time volunteer Donald interviews a community member about his experience with homelessness at the Betty and Melvin Cohn Center



Pictured above: Alexis Parker and Fiona King of HomeAid San Diego drop off donations to Interfaith's Haven House Year-Round Emergency Shelter

HomeAid San Diego gives the gift of comfort to Haven House shelter residents

Interfaith thanks HomeAid San Diego for dropping off mattress pads and pillows for the residents in our Haven House Year-Round Emergency Shelter earlier this month. HomeAid's continued support of Interfaith helps so many community members in a variety of our programs. These gifts will provide *Haven House* residents with a little extra comfort during their stay in our shelter. We appreciate this donation from HomeAid and know our shelter residents do as well!

Local barber sets up a weekly shop at Interfaith

Ernie Flores, who works at All American Barber Shop in Oceanside, has found a special way to use his talents while giving back to his community. Last year, Ernie opened up a makeshift barbership at Interfaith's *Betty and Melvin Cohn Center* headquarters in Escondido; he comes in every Wednesday and cuts the hair of nearly a dozen clients each week.

"A haircut can make people feel like a million bucks and, that I'm able to do that while I am here at Interfaith, is great," said Ernie.

Interfaith thanks Ernie for using his talents with our organization!

Presbyterian collaborative donates to Interfaith's veterans programs



Pictured above, from left to right: Diana and Roger VanDuzer, David Kaney and Reverend Dr. Jan Farley of The Village Church

The Veteran's Homeless Initiative Presbyterian Church Collaborative launched in August 2016 and includes supporters from The Village Church, Solana Beach Presbyterian, Christ Presbyterian Church, Grace Presbyterian Neighborhood Church, and The First Presbyterian Church. In the last six months, each of the churches have made significant contributions to Interfaith's veterans programs including move-in kits, mattresses, food items, and cash donations. Interfaith thanks members from each of the churches for their generosity and contributions to our local veteran community!



Pictured above: Volunteer Ernie Flores cuts the hair of one of Interfaith's clients, Mike

