



HOSPITALITY

The Newsletter of the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greene County, Inc.

Volume 10, Issue 1

WINTER– SPRING 2005

A MESSAGE FROM CHERYL

Spring is in the air and so is the excitement and enthusiasm at IHN! We will finally be able to start on the hotel! This excitement has even bubbled over into our guests. So many of our guests are anxiously waiting in the wings to volunteer whatever services they can provide to get the hotel ready for future guests.

Do you realize what a compliment that is for us at IHN? That is the type of bond that is formed when our guests leave our program. Many come back and want to volunteer to answer telephone, sit in the office when staff has to leave for a short period of time, or come and talk to other guests to share their experience while in our program. Many guests have volunteered to work at our hosting churches when it is the church's turn to host IHN. Talk about people that keep on giving!

I heartily thank all of our past and present guests for their caring and commitment to IHN by dedicating this newsletter to them.

\$25,000 CHALLENGE GRANT!!!

Are we excited or what!!!!!!!!!!!!

Just before this last Christmas a local business man pledged to the IHN a \$25,000 challenge grant for the renovation of the old hotel we own at 124 S. Detroit St. You may have seen an article in the local newspaper or in your church newsletter and bulletin. We are continuing to receive donations toward that challenge grant and as of the date that this newsletter went to the press we have received donations and or pledges for a total of \$10,500.

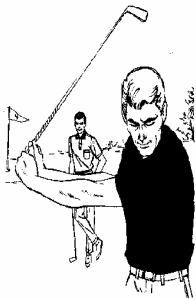
If you would like to donate toward the meeting of this challenge grant, you should write your check to the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greene County, mark on it that the donation is to go toward the hotel challenge grant, and mail it in the enclosed envelope.

Thanks to all of you who have donated to our cause. We cherish your support and are eternally grateful.



FIFTH ANNUAL GOLF MARATHON

The IHN of Greene County will hold its FIFTH ANNUAL GOLF MARATHON on May 23, 2005. This year we will again be playing on the Sebastian Hills Golf Course east of Xenia. This is a fund raising activity, and as last year, our goal is to have 40 golfers with a goal of each playing 100 holes of golf in one day. The golf course will be dedicated to our use all day and there will be a lot of very valuable prizes to include a new set of name brand golf clubs and golf vacation trips!! And, of course, there will be lots of food and drinks for the golfers. The goal is for each golfer to obtain sponsors for \$2,500.00 each and prizes will be awarded to the golfers who raise the most pledges. We raised approximately \$45,800.00 last year and we are shooting for \$65,000 this year. We are looking forward to this being another great event with everyone having a lot of fun while they raise funds for our great charity, the IHN.



A Community Response for Homeless Families

ANNUAL MEETING – APRIL 18, 2005



Our Tenth Annual Meeting, open to our supporters and the public at large, will be held on Monday evening, April 18 beginning at 7:00 P.M. at the Xenia Chamber of Commerce, located at 334 West Market St. Come meet our Executive Director, Cheryl Carter, and our Board of Trustees. Candidates for Trustee offices for the coming year will be introduced and elections will be held. You will hear about the “State of our Shelter,” along with plans for the coming year. IHN serves homeless families and single women in God’s name and on your behalf. It is you, our volunteers and supporters, who are bringing about this great support to the homeless! Come join us for a time of celebration and thanksgiving. Refreshments will be served.

GARAGE SALE ITEMS

The garage sale season is almost upon us. I have to admit, my staff has created a monster when it comes to me garage selling. What deals you can get garage selling!

My staff and I have started to go garage selling every Thursday morning (thank you Jack for volunteering at the office, thus allowing us to do this). We go armed with a list of items that our clients need, many of which we purchase. If you are having a garage sale and have leftovers from the sale, please remember that IHN does take any donations if you want to drop the items off at the Day Center at 137 N. Detroit St.

HOWEVER, we cannot take any large items such as furniture, appliances, or exercise equipment at the Day Center. Please check with us ahead of time and we will arrange for you to drop it off at our storage location.

Thank you for remembering others less fortunate by your generous donations.

NEED A SPEAKER?

We will be happy to tell your group about the IHN and how they can help. Please call 372-0705. We now have a Power Point presentation to make the experience more real.

NOW YOU KNOW

Nationally there are 96 affiliates and 111 IHN networks with more under development.

GUESTS UPDATES



Shawn, Candance and their children moved into a house in Cedarville the week of Christmas and are active in a church. New baby to arrive any day.

Tracy and her daughter also live in Cedarville. They moved into their home the week of Christmas. Tracy continues to work two jobs.

Amanda and Kaitlin are in their new home.

Nancy, Leah, and Brianna also found their new home and have been in it since November.

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STORAGE SPACE NEEDED!!!!

As most of you are aware, we have been accepting donations of household furniture that we then provide to our guests as they find a place to live. We have been storing those furniture items in a small storage building at the McKee’s residence and in the hotel we own at 124 S. Detroit St.

This summer we will be losing the storage space at the McKee's because they are planning to move after school is out. In addition, we are planning to continue the rehab work on the hotel so we will not be able to use it for storage, as we have the last couple years. Consequently, we will need to find other space to store the donated furniture items.

Currently, we have enough items to fill a two car garage. Of course the amount of items varies as we move guests into new homes. Please tell us if you or anyone you know has space they would like to donate. We would prefer space in Xenia or Beavercreek.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greene County is a nonprofit interfaith ministry committed to uniting the religious community in Greene County to provide shelter, meals and assistance to homeless families and single women. Our mission is to reach out as messengers of God, reflecting His unconditional love with compassion and acceptance, providing help, hope and a safe haven for our guests while they seek permanent employment and affordable housing.

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A Community Response for Homeless Families



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