



HOSPITALITY

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

Volume 11, Issue 1

WINTER– SPRING 2006

A MESSAGE FROM CHERYL

I find myself being humbled before you, and again thanking you all for all of your thoughts and prayers during my recent illness and my husband, Jack's, knee replacement (both coincided within 1 day of each other). I am a firm believer that God has a reason for everything that happens. I believe this time God wanted me to learn humility. This time around Jack and I could not do anything for ourselves and had to depend totally on our friends and family for basically all of our needs.

This is exactly what our IHN guests do everyday! Our guests are virtually totally dependent upon the kindness and generosity of all of our volunteers and donors. Now I better understand what they experience in regards to needing their meals supplied, having to depend on someone else's schedule to do laundry, needing prescriptions at a moments notice and wondering how they are going to get them, needing groceries, needing special project material for their children's homework, etc.

At IHN we try to anticipate and accommodate everything our guests and our guest's children might need. Since I have come back we try even harder!

WELCOME KATIE

I would like to introduce to you our new intern, Katie Nichol. Katie is a junior at Cedarville University majoring in social work. We have been blessed to have Katie since October.

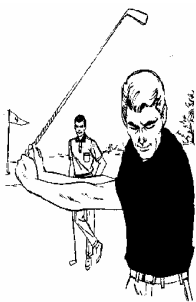
Katie has assumed the role of social worker for the IHN guests. She makes sure they are doing what they need to do in a timely manner, schedules appointments for them with other agencies, and researches further any need a guest may have that we at IHN are not currently able to fulfill. Katie will also be working with Cheryl to develop a self-esteem course for our women. Unfortunately Katie will be leaving IHN in March to finish out her junior year.

Thank you Katie for everything you have done for the guests of IHN, their children, as well as the staff.



SIXTH ANNUAL GOLF MARATHON

The IHN of Greene County will hold its SIXTH ANNUAL GOLF MARATHON on May 22, 2006. 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 \$50,000.00 last year and we are shooting for \$75,000 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 17, 2006



Our Eleventh Annual Meeting, open to our supporters and the public at large, will be held on Monday evening, April 17 beginning at 7:00 P.M. at the Xenia Chamber of Commerce, 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.

WELCOME DR. CARTER

In our last newsletter we asked for a healthcare professional to volunteer at least twice a month to look down throats, in ears, and in general just provide basic health care items for our IHN Guests. Dr. David Carter, the Chief of Staff at Greene Memorial Hospital and one of the emergency room doctors at Greene Memorial Hospital, has graciously volunteered to provide these needed services for us. Welcome aboard Dr. Carter, we are greatly appreciative of your services.

CONGRATULATIONS ROBBIN

Our weekend staff person, Robbin Brannum, married Mr. Farris Mathney and they are now living in Jamestown. Congratulations Robbin and our best wishes to you both.

GAS CARDS

Still one of the most serious needs we are facing is gas cards. Yes, some of our guests actually do have cars. They drive back and forth looking for housing, jobs, going to mandatory meetings, or taking their children to school. We currently have 6 families. Out of that number 2 families have cars. Please, if you can help, that would be great.

NOW YOU KNOW

Nationally there are 116 affiliates and 131 IHN networks with more under development.

GUESTS UPDATES



Tina, Everett and the girls are doing very well in their new home in Xenia.

Takoga and her son moved to an apartment in Bellbrook.

As you remember Takoga loved to walk. So, she is within walking distance of all of her needs.!

Lawrence and Rachel found a nice home in Lebanon. Their baby should be here any day!

As I always say, it is a treat to see our families move into places of their own and getting their lives back to normal. Congratulations to you all!!

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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.

We may lose the storage space at the McKee's at any time. 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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