

Services provided through churches

Shelter

Shelter is provided 24 hours a day. Evening and overnight accommodations are provided by area congregations who serve as Host Congregations.

During the day, guests stay at one of our two family centers in Crafton and Washington. Each center works with a network of churches to host families for one week at a time on a rotating basis.

Meals

An evening meal is served family-style by Host Congregation volunteers who join the guests for the meal. Breakfast and lunch are provided at the Family Center.

Hospitality

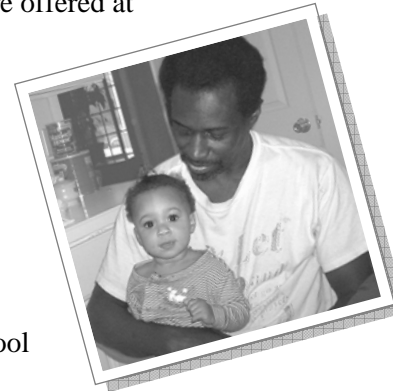
IHN offers more than just shelter. By definition, hospitality is “offering a pleasant and sustaining environment.” Our volunteers are the essential providers of this component of IHN’s services. Network guests form lasting relationships and friendships with our volunteers. As a direct result of this example, many former guests have returned as IHN volunteers.



What is the Family Center?

The Family Center is a special and unique part of the Network. During the day, it provides a comfortable, home-like place where families work closely with staff to re-establish financial independence. The following are some of the many social services that are offered at the Family Center:

- Referrals, training and information to help families reach their goals
- Access to other services, benefits and agencies
- Personal counseling
- Help arranging medical care, dental care and school enrollment
- A temporary address and phone number so guests can receive mail and phone calls regarding housing and employment



As part of our commitment to our former guests' success, we provide after-care services. These services include continued referrals to area agencies and holiday gifts.

Ways you can help!

Interfaith Hospitality Network offers many ways for individuals, groups and congregations to participate in this hands-on mission, which include:

Volunteers

The Network is staffed by volunteers from Host and Support Congregations, along with community groups and individuals. Volunteers jobs include:

- Dinner preparers
- Evening hosts
- Overnight hosts
- Van drivers
- Setup and takedown

Host Congregations

Host Congregations offer their facilities and members to provide shelter and support for Network guests. Additional congregations are welcome and encouraged to join IHN.

Support Congregations

Support Congregations offer volunteers, finances and supplies.

Financial Support

There is constant need for donations and new sources of funds to maintain and expand the services offered by the Network.

Donating Supplies and Goods

Donations of household supplies, furniture and cars are always needed by the Network and its families.

If you are interested in helping or would like additional information, please contact Susan Donnan at 724-229-1129.

**Families can count on
Interfaith Hospitality Network
when they...**

- Unexpectedly find themselves homeless due to natural disasters and house fires.
- Are experiencing financial difficulties due to unforeseen circumstances, such as lack of employment, medical bills, divorce or credit problems.
- Have overestimated the time and expense of starting over.



Our network cannot serve individuals with current drug or alcohol problems; severe mental health issues; single, childless adults; or individuals unable to pass a police check.

How IHN makes a difference

“I was at the end of my rope. I didn’t know what to do. Sometimes I would think there was only one way out. Then I would turn around and look at my kids. Everybody here listens and is supportive. The people who run this are an awesome group of people. I couldn’t ask to be put in a better place.”

*Bonnie, Guest
Washington Family Shelter*

“The church just came alive. People called to ask, ‘What can we do?’ What can we give?’ It was so exciting!”

*Mary Jean White, Volunteer
Trinity United Methodist Church, McMurray*

“It’s great how the right volunteer can be there at the right time to help someone in a particular circumstance. We have several volunteers from job programs, and they have been available to talk with families about ways to better their lives. ...Every volunteer has something to offer.”

*Kathy Leavitt, Volunteer
First United Methodist Church, Washington*

“As the pastor of a host church participating in IHN, I can attest to the rewards such a ministry brings to volunteers; particularly families that involve their children in meal preparation, playing with IHN children or staying overnight with our guests”

*Rev. Linda Jaberg, Pastor
Thomas Presbyterian Church, Eighty-Four*



Interfaith Hospitality Network
of the South Hills

Washington Family Shelter Second Circle Family Center
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Washington, PA 15301 Crafton, PA 15205
724-229-1129 412-921-2916

www.homelessfamilies.org



**Interfaith
Hospitality
Network**
of the South Hills



**Care and Compassion
for Homeless Families in
Southwestern Pennsylvania**

IHN, part of the national organization Family Promise, links homeless families to local congregations that offer shelter, meals and transportation.