

Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line

2020-21 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT





FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...

Over the past year, we discovered new terminology and practices as we pivoted, zoomed, realigned, and attended virtual events. We have lived differently because of the pandemic.

The pandemic exposed the gaps in our safety net, which caused families in our community to experience unplanned difficulties. Still remaining is uncertainty about our health, the job market, and our overall economy.

Despite this, we remain hopeful and resilient as our volunteers, donors, partners, board of directors, and staff continue the work of addressing disparities and the injustice of homelessness and housing insecurity. Hope comes from the adaptation, flexibility, and vision to create new opportunities and programs to assist our most vulnerable community members, families experiencing homelessness.

Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line (IHN-ML) continued to operate in person, offering the Interfaith Hospitality Network Emergency Shelter Program on-site, utilizing the day center facility to shelter families in place. Also, the Graduate Self-Sufficiency Program offered to all shelter graduates provided ongoing case management and financial assistance for families to maintain housing stability. Additionally, with a new Prevention Program for rental services, we were able to proactively stop families from ever entering the homelessness system. Because of your assistance with these programs, a significant number of families in our community were able to find help and continue to hope.

We expect there will be challenging times ahead of us, but we remain hopeful and committed to working together to strengthen the community safety net and to help families in their times of need. We will continue to walk alongside families as they gain stability and reach for opportunities. Please continue to walk with us on this journey of transforming the lives of families at risk of experiencing homelessness. Every family needs a home.

Sincerely,

Allegra Cressman, Executive Director





OUR MISSION

To help families experiencing homelessness and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response.



In recognition of our organizational growth and alignment with the values of Family Promise, Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line (IHN-ML) has updated our mission statement. We join nearly 200 other affiliates in adopting the Family Promise commitment to a holistic solution to family homelessness.



OUR PROGRAMS

Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line (IHN-ML) utilizes three programs to assist participants for a life without homelessness. Our new Prevention Program proactively helps families avoid homelessness with rental and utility assistance, budget counseling, and other services to stop homelessness before it happens. The Emergency Shelter Program provides temporary shelter for families who are experiencing homelessness while counseling and preparing them for economic independence and housing stability. Finally, our Graduate Self-Sufficiency Program ensures those that who have graduated from the Emergency Shelter Program maintain stable housing and do not return to homelessness.

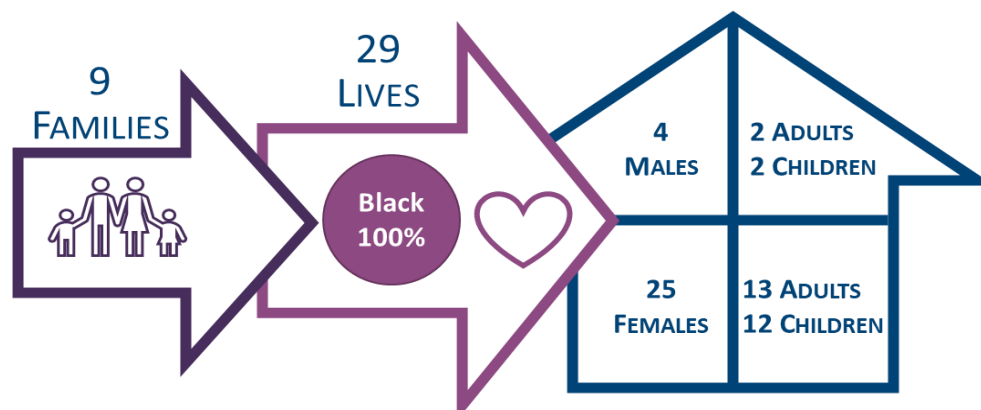
"Not only did you help me with my rent, but also my life! Thank you, thank you." –Marta



Marta lives on a fixed income and needs extra income to afford her apartment, which she earns through providing in-home health care services. Her position ended immediately when the pandemic struck, and she found herself unable to pay her rent. Marta reached out for help and qualified for our rental assistance program. During a phone call with Marta, the IHN-ML Program Manager quickly realized Marta was not in good health and requested she call the doctor for help. Marta hung up the phone, called the doctor, and was immediately rushed to the ER for life-saving treatment for Covid-19. Marta made a full recovery and even contacted our Program Manager to thank her. As often happens when you are busy caring for others and managing crisis, Marta had not realized how ill she was.

THE PREVENTION PROGRAM

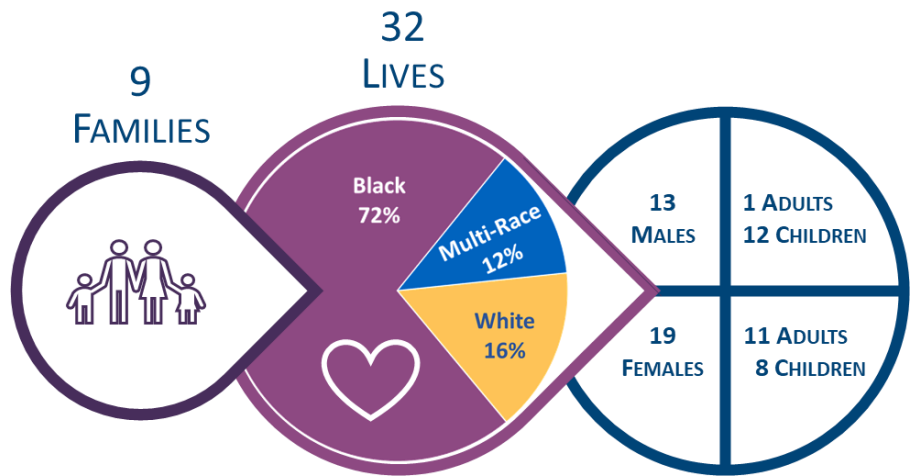
In October 2020, IHN-ML launched prevention services for Montgomery County families facing imminent eviction. Services include rental and utility cash assistance alongside prevention case management that includes landlord negotiations to pay rent and stop evictions, budget counseling, and maximizing sources of income. This year evictions were prevented for all families in the program!





THE EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM

The Emergency Shelter Program temporarily shelters Montgomery County families who are experiencing homelessness. It provides shelter, food, crisis intervention, financial assistance, and trauma-informed intensive case management to prepare families for long-term economic self-sufficiency and housing stability. This program is provided in partnership with the interfaith community and the Montgomery County Your Way Home collaborative.



Even though the Covid-19 pandemic interrupted shelter operations because social distancing guidelines prevented congregational partners from hosting families overnight, we were able to transform our day center to a 24/7 residential facility for the families. We maintained compliance with CDC guidelines while providing homeless families access to kitchen appliances, private areas, play spaces, and the technology with internet access they needed for job seeking or virtual schooling.

As a result of this program, seven of the nine households obtained affordable housing during the year. The two remaining households moved into their own housing within three weeks of our year-end. All nine households were connected to two or more benefits and increased or maintained their income. All school-aged children were able to maintain their education and all households remain in affordable housing today!

[Click for Video](#)

“I am thankful that every day I get to wake up and make a change/difference in me and my family’s life in a positive way. Grateful for the shelter for helping.” –Emergency Shelter Participant

KATE AND DAVID

Like many other families, Kate and David were living paycheck to paycheck. This young couple was raised in the foster care system, and they were determined to succeed for their little boys, ages 10 months to six years. David worked as an Uber driver and Kate worked full-time, earning just above minimum wage.

Then everything came to a crashing halt – literally. While driving, David was hit by an uninsured driver. Their car was totaled. The insurance company paid what was left on the car loan, but the family did not have the funds to purchase another vehicle.

With no car and little support, they spiraled into homelessness, eventually entering our Emergency Shelter Program. Working alongside our Program Manager, the family quickly found new employment and housing, and established realistic financial management goals. Kate began taking a 45-minute bus ride to work each day while David was home with the children.

Through the generosity of parishioners from a partnering host congregation, the family received funds to purchase a car. With this car, they began increasing their income. Kate found a higher-paying job that David drives her to each day, and David returned to driving for Uber.

With support and guidance from IHN-ML, Kate and

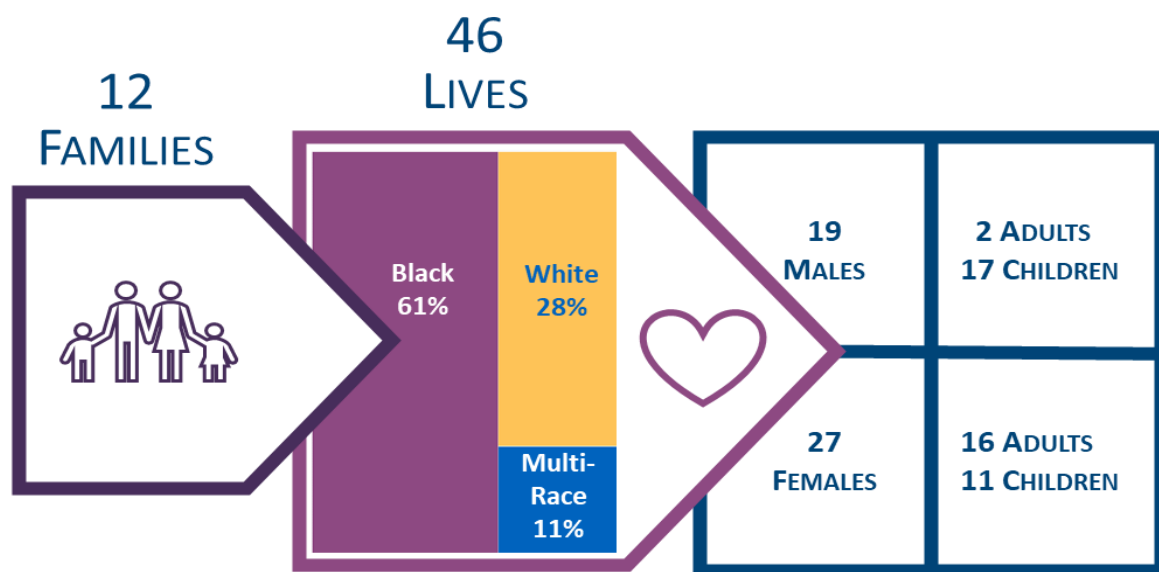
David have achieved the stability they wanted for their children. They moved into an apartment, they’re paying their rent on time, and they’re even giving back by donating snacks to other families in need.



THE GRADUATE SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM

Our Graduate Self-Sufficiency Program offers diversion services to Emergency Shelter Program graduates to ensure their housing retention. This program provides ongoing case management, connectivity to available community resources and eligible benefits, landlord/tenant mediation, and temporary financial assistance for expenses such as cell phone bills, utilities, car repairs, and essential goods. These and other stabilizing strategies are designed to maximize housing stability and prevent an episode of homelessness. Our program is an essential service that provides an extended safety net so families can maintain their stability and avoid a repeat housing crisis.

100% of the families we served have successfully maintained their housing and have increased their income. All families were connected to two or more community resources, and 100% of children were aided to ensure a transition to remote schooling.



“You guys really made a lasting impact on my life. Thank you for the continued support, guidance, and opportunities.” –Graduate participant

It often takes years for recently housed families to gain stability after an episode of homelessness. So, when the pandemic hit, Sharon was already in a vulnerable position, living paycheck to paycheck. She lost her job because of the pandemic, and the support services she relied on were suspended.



Having had a positive experience in the Emergency Shelter Program, she contacted us and immediately enrolled in the Graduate Self-Sufficiency Program. Our Program Manager met face-to-face with Sharon outside, and inside her apartment at a safe distance. In-person case management was exactly what she needed. Through the Graduate Self-Sufficiency Program, Sharon received food, paper products, school supplies for her children, and financial assistance to keep her internet and phone turned on. With the on-going help of case management services, Sharon also found a new job. As a result, Sharon has been able to maintain her housing throughout the pandemic.



YOUR SUPPORT & HELP PROVIDED



2,648 BED NIGHTS



\$8,810 IN GIFT CARDS
for food & housing
essentials



**3,600 POUNDS
OF FOOD**



**34 BACK TO
SCHOOL PACKS**



8,000 DIAPERS
& 400 packs
of wipes



83 GIFTS
for holidays
& birthdays



1,450 LOADS
of laundry completed
at day center



48 CHILDREN
provided with
summer care
& activities



**6,552 ROLLS OF
TOILET PAPER**



100% OF FAMILIES
received the resources
& connections
needed



100% OF PARTICIPANTS
attended Covid-19 Health Ed
with vaccine availability





FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position - June 30, 2021

Assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 395,400
Grants and contributions receivable	27,200
Prepaid expenses	2,181
Investment in certificates of deposit	217,466
Property and equipment, net	<u>131,833</u>

Total Assets \$ 774,080

Liabilities:

Accounts payable	\$ 7,530
Accrued payroll	0
Deferred revenue	0
Loan payable	<u>0</u>

Total Liabilities \$ 7,530

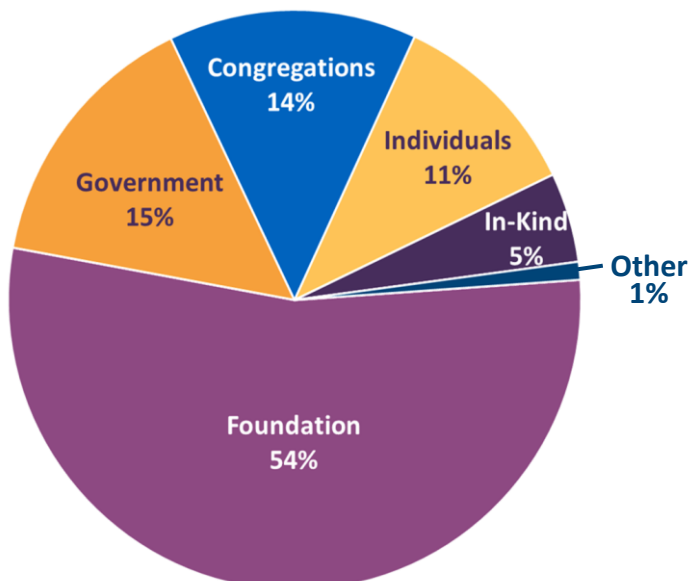
Net Assets:

Without donor restrictions	\$ 746,200
With donor restrictions	<u>20,350</u>

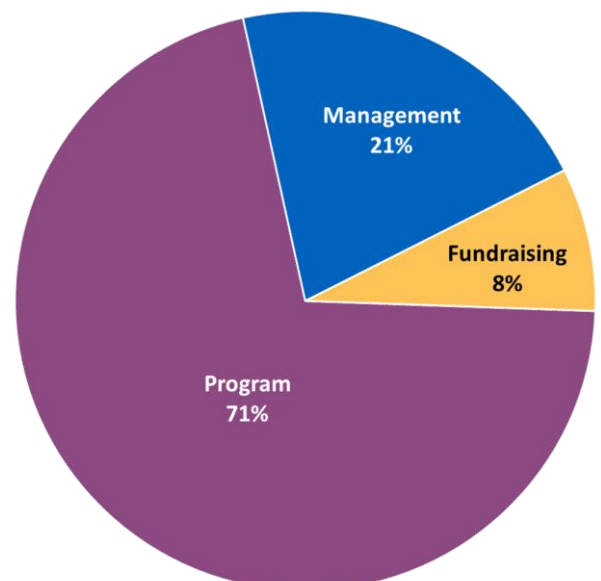
Total Net Assets \$ 766,550

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$ 774,080

INCOME



EXPENSES



Volunteers Make This All Possible!

Covid-19 changed how we interact with volunteers, but that did not stop volunteers from continuing to help. Over the past year, volunteers have been “virtually hosting,” making meals, collecting non-food products, snacks, and toys, as well as writing notes of encouragement to our families. They assisted with mailing, office repairs, and collection of first aid kits, food, clothing, and more. Our volunteers’ passion and commitment to this mission and their flexibility to help meet any need are truly inspirational.

MEET VOLUNTEER MARY HOPKINS

Mary Hopkins of Berwyn has been a member of Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, for many years. She began volunteering with the Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line in 2010.

Mary: “Everybody has a picture in their mind of what a homeless person looks like. My biggest thing that I’ve realized as a volunteer for IHN is that anyone can become homeless. Anyone can be one auto accident away from being injured and not being able to work, to losing their job, to losing their housing. Homelessness is right here in our Main Line neighborhood.”

Pre-Covid, Mary’s favorite volunteer job was to be an evening host. She enjoyed being with the families and playing with the children.

Mary: “I like to welcome the families to our church when it is our congregation’s turn to host for the week. We eat dinner together and then we play, usually outside. I always have bubbles with me. Blowing bubbles with the kids, who doesn’t enjoy bubbles?”

Mary recently retired as coordinator of volunteers recruiting other volunteers to prepare the meal, host, and even sleep over. Mary now volunteers at the IHN-ML day center in Norristown once a week.

Mary: “I’ve learned so much watching all the things the staff does. It is very busy in the office. There are the families coming in and signing up for emergency shelter, then learning how to make a plan to gain new housing. All the services are personalized because every family is different. Then there is the fundraising, grant-writing, and so much more. There’s a lot to do for the small professional staff. Montgomery County, Pennsylvania residents are among those who have the highest incomes in the country. But picture this: here is where our homeless are. You need to be willing to change that picture, so all children have a home.”

Mary concludes:

“Homelessness is right here in our Main Line neighborhood. My community is expanded because of IHN. My community includes homeless families. And if I can help families through my volunteering for IHN, well, that’s what I can do.”



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

OF THE MAIN LINE



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St. John Neumann Parish



Anthony Vale
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Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish



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Assistant*



**Donald
Johnson**
*Transportation
Manager*



**Andrea
McFadden**
*Transportation
Assistant*



THANK YOU FOR HOSTING FAMILIES AND ALL YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

Host Congregations:

All congregations hosted virtually during 2020-2021 delivering cooked meals, non-food products, toiletries, children's activities, snacks, and so much more.

- Beth David Reform Congregation, Gladwyne
- Bethel AME Church, Ardmore
- Central Baptist Church, Wayne
- Central Schwenkfelder Church, Lansdale
- Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr
- Main Line Unitarian Church, Devon
- Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish, Bryn Mawr
- St. David's Episcopal Church, Wayne
- St. John Neumann Parish, Bryn Mawr
- St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Ardmore
- St. Thomas of Villanova Parish, Bryn Mawr
- Wayne Presbyterian Church, Wayne



Family Support Coordinators (Congregational Host Coordinators):

- Mr. Marc Leader and Mrs. Amy Leader • Beth David Reform Congregation
- Reverend Carolyn Cavaness and Sister Vikki Asbury • Bethel AME of Ardmore
- Ms. Julie Kimsey-Carol, Ms. Nancy Thayer, Mr. Dan Burnham, and Mr. Wally Pope • Central Baptist Church
- Mrs. Patricia Simpson and Mrs. Amy Ramsey • Central Schwenkfelder Church
- Ms. Andrea Cayley, Ms. Barbara Billings, Reverend Jo Ann Jones, and Ms. Marian Lockett-Egan • Episcopal Church of the Redeemer
- Mr. Bob Batt, and Ms. Donna Monturo • Main Line Unitarian Church
- Mr. Joe Carey and Mrs. Karen Carey • Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish
- Mrs. Cindy McCallum, Mrs. Samantha Hansell, Mrs. Joanne Frey, and Mrs. Jennifer Newhall • St. David's Episcopal Church
- Mrs. Mary Beth Wolanin • St. John Neumann Parish
- Ms. Meg Cave and Mrs. Dale Cleary • St. Mary's Episcopal Church
- Mrs. Cathy Van Kula • St. Thomas of Villanova Parish
- Mrs. Leslie Dudt, Mrs. Nancy Monahan, and Mrs. Susan Hirshman • Wayne Presbyterian Church

"We are thankful we did not have to leave our apartment and enter the shelter. You helped us keep our belongings and our home." —Prevention participant

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOLUNTEERED TIME AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE!

Support Congregations: They dropped items off at our host congregations to be delivered to the IHN-ML day center for the families sheltering in place and or donated financially.

- Ardmore Presbyterian Church
- Berwyn United Methodist Church
- Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church
- Congregation Beth Or, Ambler
- First Baptist Church of Wayne
- Gladwyne Presbyterian Church
- Haverford Monthly Meeting of Friends
- Olivet-Schwenkfelder UCC
- Radnor Friends Meeting
- Second Baptist Church of Wayne
- St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
- St. Denis Roman Catholic Church
- St. Katharine of Siena Parish
- St. Luke United Methodist Church
- St. Margaret Parish
- St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Wayne
- St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
- St. Peter's in the Great Valley
- The Baptist Church the Great Valley
- The Church of St. Monica
- Wayne United Methodist Church
- Zion Baptist Church of Ardmore

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP!

Foundations and Corporations:

- Betty and Leo Balzereit Foundation
- Connelly Foundation
- Fox Chase
- Genuardi Family Foundation
- Henry E. Niles Foundation
- Lawrence Saunders Fund
- Phillies Charities Inc.
- The Buck Family Fund
- The Cleveland Family Charitable Foundation
- The George W. Rentschler Foundation
- The Glenmede Trust Company, N.A. Trust Funds
- The GT Foundation
- The Hess Foundation
- The Montgomery County Foundation
- The Neighborhood League Shops Foundation
- The Neubauber Family Foundation
- The Scholler Foundation
- The Sea Stone Foundation
- The Ulderico & Anna Milani Charitable Foundation
- The Welsh Family Foundation
- W. W. Smith Charitable Trust
- Walmart Community Grant Program
- WSFS Bank



Community Groups:

- Cradles to Crayons
- Family Promise
- Main Line Chamber of Commerce
- Mitzvah Circle
- Oms FOR HOMES
- Philadelphia Diaper Bank
- Siana Carr O'Connor and Lynam, LLP
- The Common Market Food Share
- The Saturday Club
- TruMark Financial Credit Union

Government Organizations:

- Community Development Block Grant
- Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- Emergency Solutions Grant – Cares Act
- MontCoStrong Fund
- The Your Way Home Fund

JOIN US IN HELPING TO END HOMELESSNESS FOR A FAMILY

Join in by volunteering, providing items from our wish list, or with a financial donation.

- ❖ **Volunteer:** You can [volunteer](#) at both Host and Support congregations as well as with fundraising or special events. See details on our website.
- ❖ **Wish List Items:** The [Wish List](#) contains items families often need to make the journey out of homelessness. A current wish list is located on our website with options to fulfill this need.
- ❖ **Donate:** Donations make a difference by funding programs that provide families with a safe place to live, and the tools needed to prevent future homelessness.
 - Donate via [PayPal](#) – Quick, Secure, and Easy!
You do not need a PayPal account to donate.
 - Checks can be sent to: IHN-ML
1449 DeKalb Street
Norristown, PA 19401





INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK OF THE MAIN LINE

Email:
info@ihncares.org

Phone:
610-277-0977

Website:
www.IHNCares.org