

Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line

An Affiliate of  Family Promise

A community in which every family has a home.

November 2021

Dear Friends of Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line (Family Promise of the Main Line),

"Stronger Together" is the mantra of three sisters and their two young daughters as they rebuild their lives, moving from homelessness to housing stability. They became homeless after the tragic death of their mom. A series of unexpected events followed, including the loss of transportation and employment. The sisters tried to manage all of this during an unprecedented pandemic. Grief stricken, they sought help, only to be told they needed to shelter as three separate households.



A car accident caused by an uninsured driver left a family of five without transportation. Their insurance company paid off the loan on the totaled car, leaving them with no funds to purchase another. Dad was the primary income earner but now could no longer serve as an Uber driver. Loss of income led to eviction, leaving mom, dad, and three little boys homeless.

Covid-19 struck, causing a grandmother, the sole caretaker of her grandson, to become hospitalized for several weeks. During her illness, her landlord refused to renew her lease. When she was discharged from the hospital, she and her grandson found themselves homeless and dealing with the long-term effects of Covid-19.

These are just a few of the families IHN-ML has helped over the past year. Many more families are at risk. While employment is rising across the nation, it remains low, particularly for our lowest wage earners. Thirty-five percent of households with children still have trouble covering usual expenses, including rent, food, car payments, and medical expenses. While the community has benefited from rental assistance funding released from the government through the CARES Act, some families do not qualify for the funding despite their need, leaving them vulnerable to eviction. In Montgomery County, forty-four percent of renters are cost-burdened (US Census), and the pandemic is exacerbating their already stretched financial capacity. These are the families we serve, and we are deeply concerned about how many of them will become homeless since the eviction moratorium was lifted. ➡

During the past year, IHN-ML has maintained expanded critical services to help struggling families. The Interfaith Hospitality Network Emergency Shelter, the Graduate Self Sufficiency Program, and the Prevention Program provide ongoing case management focused on housing stability and retention, financial management and assistance, connectivity to community supports and benefits, and most of all – hope.



Because of donors like you, we have been able to provide help, housing, and hope to thirty households, including the three sisters, the family of five, and the grandmother and grandson. Each of these families has found housing success. The sisters are employed full-time and paying rent on their own. The family of five has a car, and mom and dad are both working and renting an apartment. The grandmother and grandson are exiting the shelter right before the start of the holiday season into long-term affordable housing. They'll celebrate Thanksgiving in their new apartment. In addition to these families, we've provided critical information and referral services to seventy-five households in our community facing housing insecurity, helping them maintain their stability.

Your gift truly can make a life-changing difference.

As you think about your holiday giving this year, please consider a special-reaching gift to ensure our critical services remain uninterrupted. The costs of operating during a pandemic have strained our budget, and our community's need is growing by the day.

Checks can be made payable to Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line and returned in the enclosed envelope. For ease, your credit card information can be filled in on the remittance envelope and then mailed. For secure giving online, visit www.ihncares.org.

With warmest holiday wishes,

Handwritten signature of Allegra Cressman in blue ink.

Allegra Cressman
Executive Director