



Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line

Embrace. Inspire. Restore.

A Self Sufficiency Program for Homeless Families

Newsletter, Spring 2011

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- Sue White-Herchek
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- Sonya Reynolds
Case Manager
- Mike Coughlin
Van Driver
- Bill Riggins
Van Driver

Learning Skills Center
1449 DeKalb Street
Norristown, PA 19401

Phone:
610-277-0977

Website:
www.IHNcares.org

Find us at:
[Facebook.com/IHNmainline](https://www.facebook.com/IHNmainline)

Thank you to everyone who attended our fundraiser celebrating the 20th Anniversary of IHN – Main Line!

Over 130 people came together on April 3, 2011 to celebrate IHN – Main Line's 20th Anniversary. They shared wine and hors d'oeuvres while visiting with old friends and making new ones at Appleford in Villanova. Everyone also enjoyed a silent auction, bidding on over 40 items. "What I enjoyed best about the IHN fundraiser was that it not only raised funds for a wonderful and caring organization.



Elizabeth Chesick

It also provided a forum to meet with others who are committed to helping homeless families," said Tom Bang, IHN – Main Line Vice



Dick Yanko, Catherine McLaughlin & John McLaughlin

Chairperson. This event raised over \$33,000 and after expenses made over \$26,000 for IHN – Main Line. We call that a success! Thank you to everyone who helped out with the event, attended the event, and supported IHN – Main Line.



Joe Murphy, Pat Murphy, Tony DeCarlo & Ellen DeCarlo

Photographer: Joan Bang

A Special Thank You to the Sponsors of our 20th Anniversary Fundraising Event

Gold Sponsors: Janet and John Haas and K Ten Kids Foundation Inc.

Silver Sponsors: Bryn Mawr Trust Company; Elizabeth Chesick; and Paul and Susie Lichtman - Independent Insurance Advisors, Inc.

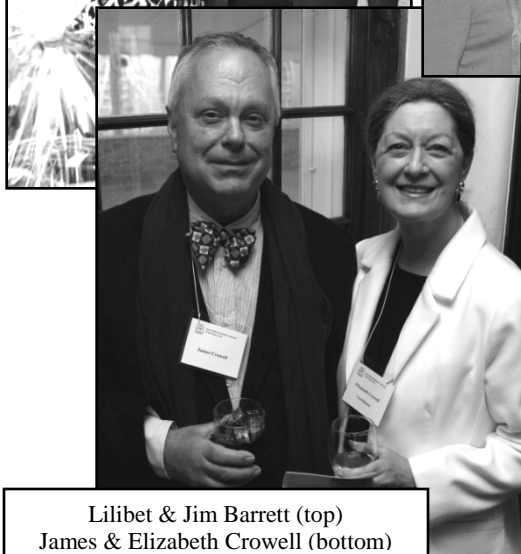
Bronze Sponsors: Chadwick & McKinney Funeral Home; David G. Faw, CPA; Kohlhepp Advisors; Steve and Vicki Lipoff; Matthews Paoli Ford; and Steve Melniczak State Farm

Photographer: Joan Bang



Ann Shaud, John Graham & Patricia Graham

Sara & Kent Weymouth



Lilibet & Jim Barrett (top)
James & Elizabeth Crowell (bottom)



Ed Hoffman, Susan Hoffman, Karen Wilson, Rabbi Jim Egolf, & Carole Weinbraub

Thank you to our Auction Item Sponsors

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Message from the Board Chairperson

This is my last letter as Board Chair and I am filled with appreciation. Thank you to our guests for having the courage to take on our program, which asks for a good bit of hard work, gumption and strength to meet each day. We are privileged to help these families find a way back to living in safety with hope and dignity. We couldn't do it without the volunteers in our congregations who make the meals, sleep over and contribute in untold ways. I thank the Board for their commitment to our goals and I hope in the years to come we accomplish our dream of providing transitional housing through our IHN. I thank Sue White-Herchek and her staff who keep the wheels rolling at our center, literally and figuratively. We have been so lucky to find an executive director with her skills and commitment. And I wish the new Board Chair, Derek Luther, the wonderful experience I have had working with our IHN.

In saying good-bye to my current role (but not the organization) I think we have accomplished so much in the last few years but it is not enough. As we marked our 20th year in operation with our lovely event, I am sure I am not alone in wishing we could put ourselves out of business! In a world where we can accomplish the most amazing things, we have not been able to make sure children in our own country are not hungry and homeless. Because this need continues we must meet the challenge and step forward to help. We cannot turn away.

Thank you.....

Karen Kutcher Wilson

New Case Manager

We are excited and pleased to welcome Sonya Reynolds as the new case manager at IHN – Main Line. Sonya holds a Master's Degree in Social Science from Bryn Mawr College and comes to our program with over 15 years of social work and teaching experience. She is eager to begin working closely with our families as they move towards meeting their goals of employment, education, and housing.



Pennsylvania State Budget Cuts

Many of you may already have heard that the proposed 2011 -2012 Pennsylvania State budget includes significant cuts in human services. These cuts will not significantly impact our shelter program but if this budget is approved the funding for our two families in the Bridge Transitional Housing Program will end this June. Currently IHN – Main Line has a subcontract with the Salvation Army which allows us to provide case management to two of our former shelter families as they live in transitional housing apartments. This program is funded through the Pennsylvania State budget and receives a dramatic cut in funding in the proposed budget. These families will no longer be able to receive subsidized rents through this program after June 2011. *What you can do:* Call your PA State Senator and/or Representative and ask them to reinstate money to the Human Service Development Fund and to increase funding for the Housing Assistance Program.



New Van

Thanks to Matthews Paoli Ford, the McLean Contributionship, the Catholic Human Services Foundation, and private donors IHN – Main Line was able to purchase a new 2011 Ford EconoLine van. Our families and van drivers are especially grateful. It is great to have a new, reliable and safe van to transport our families from the Learning Skills Center to the congregations every day.

Thank you Professional Duplicating for providing the printing for this newsletter



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Together we can make a lasting difference by breaking the cycle of homelessness.

Our Mission

The mission of the Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line is to *provide a caring and positive environment for homeless families and their children while they design and implement a plan to break the cycle of homelessness in their lives. Using the energy of over 2,500 community volunteers we are dedicated to families who seek to be accountable, resilient, and strive for a better tomorrow for their families.*

How you can make a real difference in the life of a homeless family in need:

Volunteer your time: by making a meal, helping to turn a congregational space into a home for our families, helping children with home work, or spending time with a homeless family.

Contact Sue at 610-277-0977 to learn more about how you can volunteer.

Donate: your tax deductible contribution will go a long way towards helping our families reach self-sufficiency.

Donate by mail: Send your tax deductible check or money order to: IHN – Main Line
1449 DeKalb Street
Norristown, PA 19401

Donate on-line: Visit **www.IHNCares.org** and click on the Make a Donation link.