

**EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL**

*Minutes of January 11, 2000*

**Next Meeting 12:00 PM February 8, 2000**

**First Presbyterian Church, 1720 100<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Bellevue**

**Topic: Cognitive Relationship Skills Training for Youth**

The meeting was called to order by co-chair John Waltner at 12:07 PM. The opening prayer was given by Glenda Estes.

The 26 members and two guests present introduced themselves.

**PROGRAM** Geoff Ethelston presented the program, "How should congregations and clergy advocate for social issues?"

The faith community in general advocates on these issues:

- ✓ Against violence; for peace
- ✓ Against injustice; for fairness
- ✓ Against discrimination; for equity
- ✓ Against oppression; for compassion
- ✓ Against religious persecution; for tolerance.

Why should we advocate for social issues? Geoff said the main motivations are: to carry out our civic responsibility, to correct injustice, and for humanitarian reasons. Also churches need to advocate for social programs for self preservation, to prevent undue stress on congregational resources.

How should clergy approach advocacy? Clergy persons need to urge their congregations to vote their consciences. Democracy won't work if most of the people aren't participating. National advocacy is best done through denominations.

How do we make our views known? It is important to get informed first. Use newspapers, radios, and legislators as resources. Locally, pay attention to city councils and school boards. regarding upcoming legislation. You can work with the Washington Association of Churches at the state level. It is important to develop relationships with legislators so they know who you are when you contact them. It is always a good idea to contact legislators when they do something consistent with your principles, in addition to contacting them regarding upcoming legislation. Nationally, there are at least twenty denominational networks in Washington D.C. There are also single issue networks.

The Episcopal and Presbyterian networks publish newsletters, and maintain on line communications.

State legislators this year need to balance the social services we expect with the taxes we're willing to pay. I-695 is forcing some hard decisions.

Does advocacy work? Economic sanctions helped speed the end of apartheid in South Africa. The World Council of Churches urged the United Nations to extend operations in East Timor to protect the population there. A coalition of religious organizations, representing both the left and the right, supported the International Religious Freedom Act and were influential in its passage. In our state, cuts in children's programs were restored after the Children's Alliance and congregations brought pressure to bear on legislators.

The Washington Association of Churches is sponsoring 2000 Church Advocacy Day in Olympia on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Participants can sign up for an appointment with their legislators after the morning workshops.

Geoff suggests avoiding lobbying for specific legislation unless your timing is exactly right. It is better to advocate for principles and directions you think should be pursued. It is important to contact the legislators for your district.

The Interfaith Alliance is an advocacy group which stands for fairness and justice for all in our divisive society.

Locally, Nadine Shannon and Geoff Ethelston have lobbied for affordable housing. They would welcome help in this effort. Watch for public hearings on this topic. Anyone can sign up to make a short presentation to the Council before the meetings.

After Geoff's presentation, Tom Quigley talked about the Church Council of Greater Seattle's advocacy work. A priority issue for the Council now is the Jubilee 2000 Debt Cancellation, canceling the debts owed to the United States by the 41 most impoverished countries. To publicize this issue, the Council put on a Prayer Service at St. James prior to the WTO meetings, and "created a human chain to break the chains of debt." A year ago priorities were to defeat I-200, the anti affirmative action initiative, and to pass the initiative to increase the minimum wage. They are now working for a death penalty moratorium. The churches have good lobbyists in Olympia and Washington D.C. but are weakest at the local level.

Currently the Church Council is lobbying the King County Council to change the logo of King County from the imperial crown to a likeness of Martin Luther King. Thirteen years ago the County Council resolved that King County was named after Martin Luther King, but the logo has not been changed. Jane Hague, David Irons and Louise Miller are the three key legislators who need to be contacted. Send a letter on your congregation's letterhead to these three to tell them how you feel about this issue.

Nadine Shannon reminded us the legislative hot line number is 1-800-562-6000. Call to leave a message for your legislators.

John Waltner reported his denomination has an advocacy group in Washington D.C. working for passage of a bill to establish a Conscientious Objector category for taxpayers. Tax payments could be diverted from the military budget to other uses.

Jennifer Cole-Wilson gave a report on the Emergency Services Program. The Multi-Service Center has been renamed Hopelink, and has moved to 14812 Main Street, across from K-Mart. This location will also house the Roto Care Clinic providing free medical care on Saturdays from 9:30-11:30 AM. Jennifer said this clinic is currently under utilized.

The Emergency Services Program has seen a large increase in the number of working poor people needing assistance. There has been a 200% increase in use of the evening food bank. In 1999 the program served 718 families. Sixty per cent required help with rent; 26% needed assistance with utility bills. EISCC provided 17% of the total expenditures of the program.

**MINUTES** The minutes of the December 14 were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Jim Palmer reported that we received \$490 in dues payments in December. Congregations for the Homeless received \$9,032 in contributions. EISCC had a bank balance of \$69,046.33 at the end of December.

**OTHER BUSINESS** Nadine Shannon gave out contracts for host and support churches for Congregations for the Homeless.

Jim Palmer said nominations for the Best of Bellevue awards for citizen and volunteer of the year are due by January 14<sup>th</sup>.

JoAnne Way announced that the Firearms Concerns Committee at East Shore Unitarian Church is sponsoring a forum dealing with firearms concerns on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 PM at the church. Speakers include King County Sheriff Dave Reichert. Co-sponsors are MAVIA (Mothers Against Violence in America) and Bet Alef Synagogue.

John Waltner gave the closing prayer.

JoAnne Way, Secretary

## MINUTES OF EISCC FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2000

PO Box 662, Bellevue WA 98009-0662

*Next Meeting 12:00 PM March 14<sup>th</sup>*

*First Presbyterian Church, Bellevue*

*Topic: report of project on training youth in cognitive relationship skills*

*Ralph, Allen, speaker*

*(Previously scheduled for February)*

The meeting was called to order by co-chair Terry Kimber at 12:08 PM. Opening prayer was read by James Printz.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Terry announced a change in the scheduled program. Rebecca George of Eastside Domestic Violence Program will speak today. The speaker originally scheduled for today will present the program next month.

Forms for ordering new "Where to Turn" pamphlets from the crisis clinic were passed out. **WILL WHOEVER PICKED UP THE DIRECTORY (NOT THE ORDER BLANKS) PLEASE RETURN IT AT THE NEXT MEETING.** Cost of the directories is \$8.00.

Ken Kenyon made an announcement about a Family History Open House to be presented February 13<sup>th</sup> at the Renton North Stake Center. There is no charge and visitors are welcome. Resource people will be available to help people use the computers.

**PROGRAM** Rebecca George from EDVP presented the program. She described the Safehome Community Network.

Domestic violence is present in families in all social, educational, and income levels. Ninety-five per cent of domestic violence victims are women. The Eastside Domestic Violence Program maintains a network of resources for women and children in abusive situations. Services include support groups, a crisis line, legal and community advocacy, an emergency shelter, and hotel/motel vouchers.

The Safehome Community Network is the newest program. Members open their homes to women and children victimized by domestic violence, for periods of two days to one month. Rebecca is looking for congregations to help with this network. Both safehome providers and support families, who would help provide food, clothing, and other necessary supplies, are needed.

The women in the most dangerous situations would be placed in the shelter, not in safehomes. EDVP ran a safehome program for ten years, from 1982 to 1992 when their first shelter opened. The shelter alone is inadequate now; for every woman accepted in the shelter, 18 are turned away for lack of space.

Safehome providers receive 15-18 hours of training. Women are placed in safehomes in an area away from their usual territory, and women whose partners are actively searching for them are not considered for the program. Safehome owners can specify if they can accept children, and what ages would be suitable. They can also stipulate length of stay.

Safehomes are screened by fire marshals and must meet Washington State code.

**PUGET SOUND BLOOD CENTER** Steve Kasner, from the Puget Sound Blood Center, spoke about blood drives. Ten per cent of the blood in the Center comes from churches. High schools also have a good record of donating blood. Anyone over 18 can be a donor; 16 and 17 year olds can donate blood with their parents' permission. Summer is the most difficult time for the Center to replenish the supply of blood. Call Steve if your congregation would like to schedule a blood drive.

**MINUTES** The minutes of the January meeting were approved as mailed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Jim Palmer said we collected \$135 in dues payments in January. If your congregation has not yet paid dues for this year please pay promptly.

The Congregations for the Homeless Fund received \$11,493 in payments and contributions, raising the total of that fund to \$68,961. The Housing Task Force fund was closed out and that \$27 was transferred to the Congregations for the Homeless Fund.

**FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS** Joy Pocasangre attended the Jewish Voice Lobby Day in Olympia. Today is the cutoff date for financial issues to be presented to the legislature. Please express your support for funding for higher education for people coming off welfare. Also, call Jennifer Dunn and tell her military assistance should not be given to Columbia.

Betsy Mathieu will have the phone number for the new employment center at the next meeting.

Nadine Shannon reported that Congregations for the Homeless is going well and she is updating the brochures.

Dorothy Schindler mentioned the Buddhist-Christian Dialogues, which will be held monthly until June. The topic of the February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, to be held at St. Louise Parish, is *Religion and Violence*.

Terry Kimber gave us the web site for the Hunger Site. If you go to [www.thehungersite.com](http://www.thehungersite.com) and click on "Donate Free Food" you can make a free donation of food to hungry people around the world. You can do this once daily.

Paul Hunsberger gave the closing prayer

Meeting adjourned.

JoAnne Way, Secretary

EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL  
Activity Report - All funds  
For month ended January 31, 2000

	General Fund	Congregations for Homeless	Employment Job Fair	Cultural Div/Racism	Housing Task Force	Seed Money Fund	Total
Fund balance, beginning Jan. 1, 2000	\$1,641	66,270	502	105	27	500	69,046
Receipts							
Dues	135						135
Contributions-Congregations		2,204					2,204
Contributions-individuals		150					150
United Way grant		1,164					1,164
City of Kirkland		2,258					2,258
City of Issaquah		875					875
King County		3,750					3,750
Transfer HTF funds to CFH		27			(27)		0
ESAP & FEMA grants		900					900
Interest	2	164					166
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>11,493</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(27)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11,602</b>
Disbursements							
Catholic Comm Svc - Nov 99		8,782					8,782
Postage & copies	26	20					46
Bank charge	3						3
							0
<b>Total disbursements</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>8,801</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,831</b>
<b>Ending balances - Jan. 31, 2000</b>	<b>\$1,749</b>	<b>68,961</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>71,818</b>

Cash balances - Jan 31, 2000

Checking	943.51
Money Market savings	70,874.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$71,817.91</b>

## **MINUTES OF THE EISSC MARCH 14, 2000**

**NEXT MEETING APRIL 11**  
**TOPIC: CRIMES AGAINST CONGREGATIONS; HOW SAFE ARE WE?**  
**12:00 NOON**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**1717 BELLEVUE WAY NE**

The March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM by co-chair John Waltner, who gave the opening prayer.

Members and guests present introduced themselves.

**Announcements:** Joy Pocasangre called our attention to Pope John Paul's two powerful statements concerning penance and forgiveness. She also gave us some updates from the Religious Action Center, a ReformJudaism group that publishes a weekly legislative update. We were encouraged to call our senators asking them to co-sponsor S.1917, the Federal Death Penalty Abolition Act of 1999. It is also important to ask them to vote against HR322, which would permit religious discrimination by including charitable choice in education.

Carol Meisels told us we can contribute to the Red Cross and designate our donation for relief of Mozambique flood victims.

Rev. Joyce Manson from the Church Council of Greater Seattle discussed the Interfaith Council's program of Buddhist/ Christian dialogs. A conference is planned in Tacoma in August, in addition to the evening programs currently scheduled. The Thai Team, which will be in this area in August, would like to meet with people working on interfaith projects.

**Program:** Ralph Allen and Dave Ainsworth of Performance Spectrum presented the program, Teaching Cognitive Relationship Skills to Youth. They have developed curricula for use with preschoolers to adults. The material was field tested in several school districts, including Bellevue. A survey of school children found their internal assets (commitment to learning, positive values, social competencies, and positive identity) were weak. The Performance Spectrum program is designed to strengthen these areas.

Dave involved the EISSC attendees in an exercise to identify areas of concern in the ways adults and children/youth relate. We saw problems including lack of respect for adults, kids spending too much time "glued to the tube", understanding kids and making ourselves understood. Some kids have too much to do; some need more activities.

Parts of the curricula were developed to teach relationship skills, which many children/youth lack. Teachers can be trained to teach the program "Skill Talk for Kids" as part of the regular school day.

The program focuses on "Mind Talk," teaching students they can control what part of the "committee" talking in their heads to listen to, and they can control their behavior. Teachers work with kids to change their habit patterns. Students are taught empathy, and skills to use in working with other people.

People communicating with one another actually "miscommunicate" about 75 per cent of the time. Performance Spectrum teaches students to paraphrase, listen with empathy, and collaborate rather than use avoidance, competition, or accommodation. Kids can learn to present themselves in a positive manner.

This program is for sale after training is completed. They do have a non-profit foundation as part of the company.

**Minutes:** The minutes were approved as mailed with one spelling correction.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jim Palmer reported we received a total of \$11,953 in grants and contributions in February. We spent \$9,916.

**Newsletter:** Send information to Dr. Sally Wing for the spring newsletter.

**BESF Guidelines:** The latest revision to the Bellevue Emergency Services Fund Guidelines was approved February 10, 2000. Contributions to the Fund should be sent to Hopelink, Bellevue Service Center, 14812 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98007. Please designate your donation as an EISSC contribution.

**Employment Resource Center:** This center will be open on Tuesdays from noon until 8:00 PM and Wednesdays from 9:00 AM until 4:30 PM. The phone number is 425-643-6880. The center is in the east wing of the Bellevue Stake Building at 14536 Main Street in Bellevue.

**Other:** There will be a Youth Worker Forum next Wednesday (March 22<sup>nd</sup>) on Building Relationships.

We still have \$500 seed money available in the Gwen Lewis fund.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM.

*JoAnne Way, Secretary*

#### EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL

Activity Report - All funds  
For month ended February 29, 2000

	General Fund	Congregations for Homeless	Employment Job Fair	Cultural Div/Racism	Cong. for Kids	Seed Money Fund	Total
Fund balance, beginning Feb. 1, 2000	1,749	68,961	502	105	0	500	71,818
Receipts:							
Dues	160						160
Contributions-Congregations		250			400		650
Contributions-individuals		202					202
United Way grant		1,164					1,164
City of Bellevue		6,628					6,628
St. Margaret's Thrift Shop		2,000					2,000
							0
							0
							0
							0
ESAP & FEMA grants		900					900
Interest	2	247					249
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>11,391</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11,953</b>
Disbursements:							
Catholic Comm Svc - Dec 99		9,795					9,795
							0
Postage & copies	111						111
Filing fee	10						10
							0
							0
<b>Total disbursements</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>9,795</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,916</b>
<b>Ending balances - Feb. 29, 2000</b>	<b>1,790</b>	<b>70,557</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>73,855</b>
<u>Cash balances - Feb. 29, 2000</u>							929.58
Checking							72,925.45
Money Market savings							\$73,855.03
Total							

**MINUTES OF THE EISSC APRIL 11, 2000**

**NEXT MEETING MAY 9, 2000  
TOPIC: SENIOR HEALTH CARE ISSUES  
12:00 NOON  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1717 BELLEVUE WAY NE**

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Terry Kimber. Diana Stice gave the opening prayer. Members and guests introduced themselves. A sign-up sheet for prayers to open and close EISSC meetings was circulated.

Terry announced that Betty Smith, an EISSC member, was honored with a Best of Bellevue award as the Best Diversity Advocate.

**PROGRAM** Nadine Shannon introduced the speaker, George Heart. George is the Chief Security Advisor for the Pacific Northwest Region of the Anti-Defamation League. A former law enforcement officer and military security specialist, he has been a crime prevention consultant since 1991. He has written extensively on crime prevention issues, and was recently interviewed on Channel 13 News for their WTO and Millennium stories.

The Anti-Defamation League, an international human rights organization, was founded in 1913. Its mission is to stop defamation of Jewish people, and to secure fair treatment of all people. The ADL does research on hate groups, teaches diversity and tolerance, works for laws against hate crimes, and files *amicus curiae* briefs in courts. Sixty per cent of the discrimination complaints the League responds to are from Jewish people; the other 40 per cent from all faiths. The League's web site is [www.ADL.org](http://www.ADL.org).

George described safety pointers we should all be able to use. If you are attacked, GET OUT, GET LOUD, AND GET HELP. An attacker has least control over you in the first few seconds. RUN towards help. In a building, go to a safe room, which is a room that can be locked and which contains a telephone. Pepper spray can be very helpful, since you do not need to be too close to your attacker to use it. The speaker pointed out the perils of guns in the hands of people not adequately trained to use them. Guns can easily be taken from you and used against you by an attacker. Also, you cannot take back a bullet. Anyone shooting a gun must be willing to take a life.

Perpetrators look for victims. Stay alert, stay aware of your surroundings, and walk purposefully.

Asking police to increase drive-by patrols may not be useful. If police units are called to a crime scene, they will not be able to perform routine patrols. If you really need security, hire uniformed personnel. Security should be visible. If you have an alarm system, be sure the sign is conspicuous. It may be useful to have a generic sign, rather than one listing a specific company. People seeking illegal entry to the building may have learned how to disable a particular company's system.

Closed circuit TV can be very helpful. Post signs outside the building advertising that CCTV is on 24 hours a day.

Have good locks on all doors and windows. Check your landscaping. No one should be able to hide in front of windows. Bright lighting around the building is a good crime deterrent, if the entire building is illuminated.

Have a risk and vulnerability assessment done, and develop a security plan. There can be liability issues if you have no plan.

The ADL maintains a Security Alert List, and will notify organizations of potential security problem dates. If congregations or agencies sign up for this service they must designate one contact person. The Anti Defamation League will give security presentations to groups also. Staff training is the most important part of any plan. DON'T BE PARANOID-BE AWARE.

**YOUTH CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM** Suzanne Seaton, Chaplain Director of Administration of the Youth Chaplaincy Program, described the program. This program, which operates in the Youth Detention Center, is part of the Church Council of Greater Seattle.

More than 80 per cent of the youth in the center are in need of treatment for their drug or alcohol addiction. Most have suffered losses and violence. Many youth are homeless, either by choice or because they have been thrown out of their homes. A disproportionate number are minority youth. The number of females is increasing. All youth attend school at the Center.

Volunteers are needed to work with the detainees. They are all "kids", and need adults to listen to them. The Center provides training, support and supervision for volunteers. A commitment of two hours a week is requested. A new program, JOY (Joining Our Youth), has been started to help youth who are being released from the Center. Volunteers will be trained for this program also.

**MINUTES** The minutes of the March EISSC meeting were approved as mailed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Jim Palmer gave the treasurer's report. Congregations for the Homeless has a balance of \$64,843. Jim explained in response to a question from the floor that we keep a balance of that size in order to keep the program viable for several months if contributions/grants are not received in anticipated amounts. Assistant Treasurer Louise Wong said there are still five congregations and six agencies who have not paid their dues for this year.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Nadine Shannon reported the death of Darren Day, a former resident of Congregations for the Homeless. Darren was killed in an accident in California.

Joy Pocasangre shared the areas of focus for the Children's Alliance for this year:

- Ensure that there is adequate public funding available to support children and their families.
- Provide support to help children and families in crisis or with special needs.
- Ensure fair and equitable treatment for children in the juvenile justice system.
- Promote equitable access to services and supports for children and families of color.
- Ensure that all children can be successful at learning.

Nancy Jacobs made an appeal for congregations to have a Baby Shower on May 14<sup>th</sup> to benefit the Eastside Baby Corner. The Corner distributes new and used baby clothing, furniture, and other infant necessities to families in need. Eighty local service care providers use the Baby Corner. For more information call Nancy Jacobs at 425-883-6406 or the Eastside Baby Corner at 425-865-0234. The email address is [babycorn@gte.net](mailto:babycorn@gte.net). The web site is [www.babycorner.org](http://www.babycorner.org). Also, the kickoff meeting for Congregations for Kids Good Start Back to School Drive will be held on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at First United Methodist Church. The church is at 1934 108<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Bellevue.

One of the project teams of Advance Bellevue has compiled a resource guide for needy seniors. The brochure will be available at Hopelink and other resources used by seniors. *A motion was made and seconded that the EISSC mailing list be made available to Nancy Jacobs for the sole purpose of getting the list of resources for needy seniors to congregations. Motion passed by voice vote.*

The meeting was adjourned

JoAnne Way, Secretary

## MINUTES OF THE EISCC MEETING MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2000

**NEXT MEETING: JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2000**  
**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY**  
**12:00 NOON**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**1717 BELLEVUE WAY NE**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM by co-chair John Waltner. The 25 members and two guests present introduced themselves.

**Minutes** The minutes were approved as mailed.

**Treasurer's Report** Jim Palmer reported we received \$65 in dues in April. We paid Catholic Community Services \$9343. The Congregations for the Homeless Fund has a balance of \$58,761.

We have \$500 in seed money from the Gwen Lewis Memorial Fund. The executive council suggests we use this money to buy calculators, or other needed items, for Congregations for Kids, since no one has come forward with a request for seed money for a new project. JoAnne Way reported that the Social Justice Council at East Shore Unitarian Church, and Bob Lewis, approved this change in the use of the fund. An objection was raised. One member felt that the money should only be used for seed money, as this would be a more appropriate use of a Memorial Fund. It was moved, seconded and passed to refer this question back to the executive council.

**Newsletter** Sally Wing would like to include a list of appropriate web sites in the next newsletter. She would welcome suggestions of sites, with brief descriptions.

**Congregations for the Homeless** Area cities gave their grant expectation at a meeting Nadine Shannon attended on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Membership** Betty Spohn reported that the membership lists are being updated.

**Eastside Emergency Services Fund Report** Jennifer Cole-Wilson handed out reports giving specifics of congregational donations, and where the money was used. The EESF (formerly known as the Bellevue Emergency Services Fund) was created by EISCC (then known as the Bellevue Ecumenical Social Concerns Committee) in 1982. The administering agency, Hopelink, was previously known as the Multi-Service Center. Clients are assisted with expenses for rent, utilities, water, prescription medications, and gas. Hopelink used \$10,549 from the fund to assist 166 households from January to March 2000.

EISCC contributes 75% of the EESF. The money in the fund is especially helpful because it allows the agency some flexibility. Other funds are often earmarked for a specific purpose.

**Program (SHIBA)** Peg Corwin, a volunteer with the Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA), spoke about this statewide network of volunteers who help people with insurance problems and questions. They also act as advocates for consumers.

SHIBA is part of SHIP, the State Health Insurance Program. It is sponsored by the Insurance Commissioner's office, and financed by the legislature. Volunteers are trained in medicare rules and medicare managed supplemental plans as well as long term care insurance and other plans. They also assist disabled persons with coverage questions, and hold clinics to explain insurance plans. People of any age can request information.

Some of the volunteers do 1:1 counseling: some do internet research. The goal is to enable consumers to make appropriate insurance choices based on reliable information. The phone number for SHIBA is 1-800-397-4422. The University of Washington sponsors the program. That phone number is 206-616-2435.

Peg cautions everyone to READ contracts carefully. Consumers have 30 days to accept or reject policies. SHIBA is looking for volunteers. Training is provided for this rewarding, frustrating work.

**Senior Services** Jennifer Riegge, Senior Services Satellite Programs Director, described the program at the Northshore Senior Center. The Satellite serves 7,000 people, with the aid of 700 volunteers. Northshore

has two adult day care centers. Jennifer facilitates programs, including arts and crafts, computer classes, fitness classes, support groups and many others. There are over 300 programs available every month. The center's goal is to treat each senior with respect, dignity, and honor. Seniors are supported in the life choices they make.

She described three classifications of seniors, based on ability not age. The "sandwich generation" seniors are taking care of elderly parents, and also may have had to assume responsibility for their grandchildren. Active seniors are healthy, often working as volunteers. The third group is a more fragile population, unable to live independently because of physical or mental handicaps.

Northshore uses United Way funds to support adult family homes in the area. Plans are underway to build a Health and Wellness Center. Eleven vans are used to bring seniors to programs.

Many seniors are learning to cope with multiple chronic conditions. Unfortunately, not enough research has been done on the interactions of drugs prescribed for different conditions.

**Announcements** Anna Porter reported that St. Andrew's Lutheran Church is serving hot meals on Thursday evenings at 5:30 PM. Anyone is welcome.

Paul Hunsberger called our attention to the Bellevue Environmental Scan brochure, prepared by the city of Bellevue. There is no mention of churches or synagogues in the book. It was moved, seconded, and passed that Paul call the city and ask them to include houses of worship in the next edition.

Congregations for Kids will kick off the 2000 Good Start Back to School campaign at a meeting May 24<sup>th</sup>.

The Multicultural Choir Concert 2000 was held May 5<sup>th</sup> at First Presbyterian Church. It was sponsored by the Christian News, a northwest Christian broadcasting company.

The meeting was adjourned after a closing prayer by Glennda Estes.

JoAnne Way, Secretary

#### EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL

Activity Report - All funds

For month ended April 30, 2000

	General Fund	Congregations for Homeless	Employment Job Fair	Cultural Div/Racism	Cong. for Kids	Seed Money Fund	Total
Fund balance, beginning Apr. 1, 2000	1,817	64,843	502	105	0	500	67,767
Receipts:							
Dues	65						65
Contributions-Congregations		1,000					1,000
Contributions-individuals							0
United Way - grant		1,164					1,164
United Way - individual payouts		22					22
							0
							0
							0
							0
ESAP & FEMA grants		900					900
Interest	2	290					292
Total receipts	67	3,376	0	0	0	0	3,442
Disbursements:							
Catholic Comm. Svc. - Feb, 2000		9,343					9,343
Fidelity Bond		115					115
							0
P.O. box rental - 1/2 yr.	22						22
							0
							0
Total disbursements	22	9,457	0	0	0	0	9,479
Ending balances - April 30, 2000	1,861	58,761	502	105	0	500	61,730

#### Cash balances - April 30, 2000

Checking	533.45
Money Market savings	61,196.36
Total	<u>\$61,729.81</u>

## *MINUTES OF THE EISCC JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2000*

**NEXT MEETING: JULY 11, 2000  
TOPIC: RESTORATIVE JUSTICE  
12:00 NOON, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
NO REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY MEETING IN AUGUST  
AUGUST 3, 2000  
LUNCHEON MEETING WITH THE THAI TEAM  
(DETAILS BELOW)**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM by acting co-chair Tom Shepard. Louise Wong gave the opening prayer. The 35 members and guests present introduced themselves.

**Minutes** The minutes were approved as mailed with one correction. The date of today's meeting was incorrectly given as June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Treasurer's Report** Jim Palmer reported that there is a balance of \$65,825 in the Congregations for the Homeless Fund. The general fund totals \$1,874. Jim proposed a resolution that the seed money in the Gwen Lewis fund be used to establish a fund to enable youth to go to summer camp. The fund would be administered by Congregations for Kids. Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the resolution.

**Newsletter** Sally Wing reported that the newsletter will be published the end of the month. Call her now with any contributions. Sally also distributed the revised EESF guidelines.

**Legislative Task Force** Joy Pocasangre made copies of Initiatives 728 and 725 available for signing.

**Employment Task Force** Bud Mathieu told us there is little unemployment today. The Task Force is mainly working with people with special problems. Each one is a challenge.

**Congregations for the Homeless** Nadine Shannon is working on grant proposals for the cities. The audit review has been completed.

**Diversity Task Force** Betty Smith received the Diversity Award from the city of Bellevue.

**Other Business and Announcements** Tom requested nominations for people to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Committee will report in September and elections will be held in October. Dorothy Scott, Betty Smith and Paul Hunsberger were nominated. The slate was accepted unanimously.

A sign-up sheet was made available for congregations to volunteer to make presentations at EISCC meetings.

Ken Wong from YES passed out posters and sign up sheets for the 24 hour relay challenge. YES is looking for adults and teens to both participate in the relay and to provide food for participants. There will be a "relay within the relay" from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM to accommodate seniors and small children.

More than 100,000 free and reduced price lunches are served each month to school children on the eastside. These lunches end when the school year ends. Hopelink is asking for assistance to help these children this summer. The "Brown Bag Lunch Brigade" will supply the lunches to hungry kids. A donation of \$25 provides food for 16 children's meals. Send donations to Hopelink, P.O. Box 3577, Redmond WA 98073.

**Program** Sally Wing introduced the panel. The first speaker was Craig Rennebohm, from the Mental Health Chaplaincy explained that people experiencing mental illness have trouble accessing services. Outreach workers are needed to develop relationships and trust with these clients. The Mental Health Chaplaincy workers find clients on the streets of Seattle and Capitol Hill. They also work with individuals and families long term, and train local congregations to be centers of help for the mentally ill.

In the 1960's 6000 people were in state mental hospitals. The average stay was 25 years. These people were released from the hospitals, but only about one quarter of the planned mental health centers were built. Today, there are about 5500 homeless people in Seattle, about 20 per cent with serious mental

illness. Almost ten per cent of the population experiences serious mental illness at some point in their lives.

The Mental Health Chaplaincy provides a three hour training session for volunteers to enable them to help those in need.

David Burn from Mentor Health Northwest was the second panel speaker. Mentor Health Northwest provides a full range of housing assistance and out patient counseling utilizing volunteers, social workers, and psychologists.

The first anti-psychotic drugs were developed in 1959. In 1969, many people with persistent mental illnesses were released from hospitals into the community. \$70 billion is lost in the North American economy each year due to the effects of mental illness.

Gail Efroymsen described the HOST (homeless outreach, stabilization and transition) project, which started in downtown Seattle. HOST has now been mandated to serve the homeless adult, seriously mentally ill population throughout King County. The project now covers a very large area with limited funds.

HOST looks for the most vulnerable people, who have been homeless a long time and are unable to organize themselves to access services. These people need assertive outreach. HOST staff goes to the clients, and tries to establish rapport. They try to transition these clients to long term services, such as Mentor Health Northwest.

Churches can be centers of hospitality for the vulnerable. Nine downtown churches have joined together to hire a part time community minister. Training for church staff is available. Call Craig Rennebohm at 206-622-2472 for information.

The fastest growing segment of the homeless population is women and children.

The cost of medication is a big problem for many of the mentally ill.

The House of Healing is a new facility for patients discharged from Harborview. Clients who would otherwise be discharged to the streets can stay from two weeks up to 18 months.

**Closing Prayer** Terry Kimber gave the closing prayer.

*JoAnne Way, Secretary*

*Luncheon with the Thai Team will be held at noon Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, at First Presbyterian Church. The Thai Buddhist and Christian team is interested in interfaith projects. All EISCC members are welcome to attend. Bring finger food to share for the potluck lunch.*

Activity Report - All funds  
For month ended May 31, 2000

	General Fund	Congregations for Homeless	Employment Job Fair	Cultural Div/Racism	Emergency Svc Fund	Gwen Lewis Youth Camp Fund	Total
Fund balance, beginning May 1, 2000	1,851	58,751	502	105	0	500	61,730
Receipts:							
Dues	10						10
Contributions-Congregations		340			165		505
Contributions-individuals		563					563
United Way - grant		1,164					1,164
United Way - individual payouts		347					347
City of Bellevue		6,871					6,871
City of Issaquah		875					875
City of Kirkland		2,258					2,258
City of Redmond		2,500					2,500
ESAP & FEMA grants		900					900
Interest	2	237					239
Total receipts	13	16,055	0	0	165	0	16,233
Disbursements:							
Catholic Comm. Svc - Mar., 2000		8,991					8,991
Emergency Svc. Fund - remit					165		165
							0
							0
							0
							0
Total disbursements	0	8,991	0	0	165	0	9,156
Ending balances - May 31, 2000	1,874	65,825	502	105	0	500	68,806
Cash balances - May 31, 2000							
Checking							779.95
Money Market savings							68,026.45
Total							\$68,806.40

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: The East Shore Unitarian Church has contributed \$500.00 in honor of one of their members, Gwen Lewis, now deceased, and

WHEREAS: While such gift was originally designated as "Seed Money" for a possible new project for EISCC to undertake, and

WHEREAS: Gwen Lewis was closely involved with youth programs of their congregation and the Lewis family has heartily endorsed a program that would involve youth in need --

THEREFORE, be it resolved that a new fund shall be established by EISCC to aid youth unable to afford summer camp, such fund to be known as the Gwen Lewis Youth Camp Fund, and that such a program as now administered by CONGREGATIONS FOR KIDS, shall receive this initial donation from East Shore Unitarian of \$500.00, and that all congregations that wish to do so be encouraged to make a contribution to this program.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

## *MINUTES OF THE EISCC JULY 11, 2000*

**NEXT MEETING: 12 NOON SEPTEMBER 12, 2000  
TOPIC: FOCUS ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1717 BELLEVUE WAY NE**

Co-chair Terry Kimber called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM. Betty Spohn gave the opening prayer. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Program** Ron Ein from the Northwest Institute for Restorative Justice was the presenter. The Institute, which has its roots in the Mennonite community, was started 16 years ago in Canada. Its mission is *To strengthen the community's ability to repair the damage caused by conflict and crime*. Ron presented a group exercise which showed that a criminal situation may call for aid for the victim as the first response, but the first response of the law is to catch the offender. Paying attention to the victim implies different values than the goals of punishment and deterrence.

The Institute for Restorative Justice is interested in healing, both for victims and offenders. There are two million people in jail in the United States, though the rate of crime is declining. The legal system focuses on the offender. If you commit a crime, you have offended against the state.

We need a different way to deal with conflict. Our faith traditions teach us that there is a possible process for the offender to recognize his/her error, and ask the victim for forgiveness. The victim must also participate, and say what they need to heal.

Victims and offenders meet face to face in the mediation process. The victim's needs must be addressed. Detention is not enough for the offender; kids must understand there are consequences to their actions. Often kids in detention complain they have been "done to"; they must acknowledge they have done something wrong. The system is very punitive, and kids do not feel loved.

The Institute is starting a new program for parents and teens in conflict. Go to their website at [www.restorejustice.org](http://www.restorejustice.org) to find more information.

Mediators serve all areas of King County. Forty to fifty per cent of funding for the Institute comes from King County.

**Hopelink Report** Jennifer Cole-Wilson described the Reading and Feeding Program. On the East Side 100,000 reduced price and free meals are given to students during the school year. In the summer families need extra food to replace those meals. Hopelink provides easy to fix food, as kids are often left alone and must fix their own lunches.

Kids accompanying their parents who are picking up food at the food bank can participate in the summer reading program. Congregations are encouraged to donate books, both new and used, for kids K-12. Prizes will be awarded for the number of books read. Last year 158 children participated. Call Jennifer at 943-7559 if you have questions.

**Bellevue Emergency Services Fund** Jennifer handed out a report detailing fund activity over the last quarter. Congregations contributed \$4,716.40 from April to June. In the second quarter this year 187 households were served. This has been an atypical summer so far. Usually the requests for aid decrease in the summer months but that has not happened. The largest cash expenditure was for rent assistance. Many households needed money to buy gas.

**Minutes** The minutes were approved as mailed with the following correction. Betty Smith's award came from Best of Bellevue, not the City of Bellevue.

**Treasurer's Report** Louise Wong reported that \$1400 was received in contributions to Congregations for the Homeless in June. In addition we received \$1164 from United Way and \$900 from FEMA and ESAP grants. We paid Catholic Community Services \$8884. An audit of EISCC funds cost \$795.

**Newsletter** Sally Wing said the newsletter would be mailed the end of this month.

**Congregations for the Homeless** Nadine Shannon said Louise Wong has agreed to be liason for Congregations for the Homeless when St. Louise is the host congregation. St. Andrew's Lutheran Church will host in October, replacing East Shore Unitarian. Anna Porter will be liasion. Funds received for the program include \$16,539 from United Way, \$1800 from United Way write-ins, and \$6,150 from Episcopal Charities Appeal.

A nurse practitioner is coming one night a week. She has been very helpful in addressing the men's medical needs.

Nadine reminded us the Roto-Care Clinic at Hopelink is open Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM for free medical care.

**Diversity Task Force** Alicia Martinez has finished school and is available to translate and interpret.

**Proposed Mental Health Task Force** Sally Wing announced this Task Force will start up in the fall. Anyone interested in working on these issues is encouraged to call Sally at 425-747-5924.

**Thai Team** The team will meet with EISCC members on August 3 at noon. The three team members are interested in learning about interfaith projects.

**Other Announcements** Gail Efroymsen distributed new brochures for the HOST project.

Terry Kimber welcomed new members.

JoAnne Way reported that it is possible to go to [greatergood.com](http://greatergood.com) and link with both the Hunger Site and the RainForest site. You can donate food and buy land once a day!

The meeting was adjourned after Tom Shepard gave the closing prayer.

*JoAnne Way, secretary*

EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL  
Activity Report All funds  
For month ended June 30, 2000

	General Fund	Congregations for Homeless	Employment Job Fair	Cultural Div/Racism	Emergency Svc Fund	Gwen Lewis Youth Camp Fund	Total
Fund balance, beginning June 1, 2000	1,874	65,825	502	105	0	500	68,806
<b>Receipts:</b>							
Dues	0						0
Contributions-Congregations		1,400					1,400
Contributions-individuals							0
United Way - grant		1,164					1,164
United Way - individual payouts		23					23
							0
							0
							0
							0
							0
ESAP & FEMA grants		900					900
Interest	3	304					307
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3,791</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,795</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>							
Catholic Comm Svc - April, 2000		8,884					8,884
Audit - review		795					795
Youth Camp Program, Cong/Kids						500	500
							0
Postage & copies	146	76					222
							0
<b>Total disbursements</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>9,755</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>10,401</b>
<b>Ending balances - June 30, 2000</b>	<b>1,731</b>	<b>59,862</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>62,200</b>
<b>Cash balances - June 30, 2000</b>							
Checking							531.98
Money Market savings							61,668.22
<b>Total</b>							<b>\$62,200.20</b>

## MINUTES OF THE EISCC SEPTEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2000

**NEXT MEETING: 11:45 AM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2000  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BELLEVUE  
ANNUAL AGENCY HOLIDAY PRESENTATIONS  
LIGHT BUFFET LUNCH PROVIDED**

The meeting was called to order by Tom Shepard, acting co-chair. Sally Wing gave the opening prayer.

The 31 attendees introduced themselves.

Changes to the printed agenda were proposed and accepted: add the Mental Health Task Force; Paul Hunsberger has accepted the nomination for vice-chair; and Barbara Smith will make an announcement.

### **PROGRAM: AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Linda Hall, Acting Director of St. Andrew's Housing Group, was the first speaker. St. Andrew's Housing Group was started 12 years ago, with the objective of providing housing for the working poor. SAHG has ties to St. Andrew's Church, but is a separate entity. The group has built several multi-family rental units, including Andrew's Arms, Andrew's Heights, and Highland Gardens. Anyone who needs affordable housing can be referred to the managers of the buildings. (Refer to handout distributed at the meeting for names and phone numbers of the managers or call the EISCC secretary at 425-747-3031 for a copy).

The majority of the clients served by SAHG have incomes 50% below the median income for this area. SAHG plans to add over 100 units over the next two years to meet the needs of these workers. There is no time limit on length of residency—incomes are verified periodically.

Linda can be reached at 425-746-1699.

Art Sullivan, program manager of ARCH, can be reached at 425-861-3677. ARCH (A Regional Coalition for Housing) was founded eight years ago. Every city in East King County except Sammamish is a member of the coalition. ARCH's role is to help governments do a better job of encouraging more forms of housing in the community.

Workers making a "moderate" income in King County earn from \$18-\$24 an hour. People making 50% of the median income earn \$11-\$15 an hour and can afford to pay monthly rents of \$500-\$750. Average rentals in East King county are in the \$800-\$1000 range. Lower income workers may earn only \$7-\$10 an hour and can only afford rents in the \$300-\$400 range. No more that thirty per cent of income should be spent on housing.

ARCH encourages cities to look critically at rules and regulations to allow for a wider range of housing. Part of their education and outreach is directed toward expanding dialog with the business community. The Housing Trust Fund is working to keep low income housing off the open market and to preserve Section 8 Housing. **ARCH is looking for someone from the faith community to serve on its advisory board.** Anyone interested in serving can call Art.

David McDaniels, phone 425-869-6007, the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of East King County, was our third speaker. David announced that 100,000 homes have been built world-wide by Habitat. Every house on the Eastside has been built in partnership with the faith community and local government. Ninety-five per cent of the work has been done by volunteers.

Currently Habitat is working on 12 new units at Newcastle. These units will be built in 16 "days" of Saturdays. Land has been secured for the next 100 housing units.

**MINUTES** The minutes were approved as mailed with editorial corrections and the following factual corrections: Louise Wong will be the liaison for *Sacred Heart Catholic Church* when Sacred Heart serves as *Support Congregation* for Congregations for the Homeless.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Jim Palmer gave the Treasurer's Report. See financial statement at the conclusion of the minutes. Note: Louise Wong's telephone number is listed incorrectly on the agenda. The number is 637-0822.

**TASK FORCES** Send items for the newsletter to Sally Wing. The next issue will be published in November or December.

Joy Pocasangre will present materials on the initiatives appearing on the November ballot at the October meeting.

Jim Palmer announced that the population utilizing Congregations for the Homeless Housing is down significantly. Only 8-10 men have been present each night.

The Mental Health Task Force is an outgrowth of the June EISCC meeting. Sally Wing is leading this group which will meet on Friday September 29<sup>th</sup> at Grace Lutheran Church. If you are interested in joining the task force or have input for it, please call Sally at 747-5924.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT** The nominating committee proposed the following slate of officers for next year: Chair, Lloyd Van Vactor; Vice-Chair, Paul Hunsberger; Co-Secretaries, Glenda Estes and JoAnne Way; Treasurer, Jim Palmer and Louise Wong; and Delegate at Large, Dorothy Scott. Elections will be held in October.

**CONGREGATIONAL REPORT** Jim Palmer gave a report on the Easter Project at First Presbyterian Church. A flyer was made and distributed to the congregation itemizing needs for school supplies, Easter baskets, and paper goods and cleaning supplies. Participants each took a bag, provided by the committee, and returned it to the church filled with the requested items. Jim said good pulpit announcements and an enthusiastic committee were essential for the success of the program. Bags were delivered to Bridge Ministries for Disability concerns, Hopelink, and the Union Gospel Mission Family Shelter.

**THAI TEAM MEETING REPORT** John Waltner reported on the August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting with the Thai Team. The Team was in this area to facilitate Christian Buddhist dialog. Refugees are currently a big concern in Thailand.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Barbara Smith distributed flyers from Lighthouse of Hope, a Christian organization planning Thanksgiving Explosion 2000 on October 14<sup>th</sup>. The event will be a Day of Declaration and Celebration for Christian GLBTQ people.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM after Jim Palmer gave the closing prayer.

*JoAnne Way, Secretary*

EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL  
Activity Report - All funds  
For two-month period ended Aug. 31, 2000

	General Fund	Congregations for Homeless	Employment Job Fair	Cultural Div/Racism	Emergency Svc.Fund	Gwen Lewis Youth Camp Fund	Total
Fund balance, beginning July 1, 2000	1,731	59,862	502	105	0	0	62,200
Receipts:							
Dues	25						25
Contributions-Congregations		750			215		965
Contributions-individuals		203					203
United Way - grant		2,757					2,757
United Way - individual payouts		647					647
Episcopal Charities		6,150					6,150
City of Issaquah		875					875
City of Bellevue		6,871					6,871
City of Kirkland		2,258					2,258
City of Redmond		1,250					1,250
ESAP & FEMA grants		1,799					1,799
Interest	5	528					532
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>24,087</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24,332</b>
Disbursements:							
Catholic Comm. Svc. - May, 2000		9,507					9,507
Catholic Comm. Svc. - June 2000		9,405					9,405
Newletter - printing & postage	120						120
Liability insurance premium		1,160					1,160
Remit to Emergency Svc. Fund					215		215
Trailer licence		23					23
<b>Total disbursements</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>20,094</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,429</b>
<b>Ending balances - August 31, 2000</b>	<b>1,641</b>	<b>63,855</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>66,103</b>
Cash balances - August 31, 2000							
Checking							356.91
Money Market savings							65,746.15
Total							<b>\$66,103.06</b>

## MINUTES OF THE EISCC OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2000

**NEXT MEETING: NOON, NOVEMBER 14  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1717 BELLEVUE WAY NE, BELLEVUE  
TOPIC: CHILDREN'S ISSUES; SPEAKERS FROM THE CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE AND  
THE CHILDREN'S RESPONSE CENTER**

The meeting was called to order by co-chair Terry Kimber at noon. Jim Palmer offered the opening prayer.

The 50 members and guests present introduced themselves.

**PROGRAM** Twelve agencies participated in the program, outlining their needs for donations and volunteers.

1. The Crisis Clinic Pat O'Hara described the Community Resource Center. The Crisis Clinic maintains a database with programs available to clients. Last year it responded to 2100 calls for holiday assistance. If any congregation has a program which is open to the community at large over the holiday season, please call Pat at 206-461-3210 to be included in the database.
2. DSHS/Department of Children and Family Services Tracey Mullian said DSHS needs gifts for children. KIRO takes calls on the air to get gifts; volunteers are needed to help with the phones during this drive.

Volunteers are also needed in other areas of the holiday program. At any time of year office volunteers, mentors, and foster parents are needed. Call Tracey at 425-649-4154.

3. HOST Gail Efroymson reminded us HOST helps the homeless, hard to reach, mentally ill. You can call the office at 425-254-0523, extension 100, to refer people in need of help.
4. Eastside Baby Corner Teresa Lindo said the Baby Corner assists moms, pregnant women, and children up to 12 years of age. The Corner takes orders from food banks, social workers and others. Last week 400 orders were filled.

Baby Corner needs volunteers to help sort items and fill orders on Monday nights. Youth groups can be especially helpful. They also need help with food and clothing drives. Items needed include cribs, infant seats, clothing for school age children, and layettes. If you would like to help with any of these activities, or make quilts, call 425-865-0234.

5. Emergency Feeding Program This program was founded by the Church Council of Greater Seattle and Black United Clergy for Action. The goal is to fill basic needs until clients can access other long range services. The Food of the Month Club is one way they collect supplies.

450,000 meals were distributed to 75,000 people in King County last year, including special meals for diabetics and low salt meals. There are six distribution centers on the East Side. Call Catherine Hillard at 425-562-0698 to help.

6. Habitat for Humanity Habitat hopes to build 100 new homes in the next five years. They offer alternative opportunities for Christmas giving, such as donations in someone's name, or giving money for a specific item. Call Habitat at 425-869-6007 if you are interested in this type of gift.
7. Hopelink Jennifer Cole-Wilson described the needs and volunteer opportunities at Hopelink for the holiday season. Hopelink runs a holiday gift room, where parents can shop for gifts for their children. Volunteers are needed to manage the gift room and sort food for the food bank. Donations of food, cash for perishable food, and gifts would be welcome. Call Jennifer at 425-943-7555 if you have questions.
8. Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank Ways to help clients of this organization include: sponsor a family

for the holidays; give holiday gift certificates from a local grocery store; take a tag from a holiday giving tree and purchase gifts; or donate cash, new toys, or a gift certificate to a toy store to the toy bank. Volunteer tasks could include sorting incoming donations of food and clothing, packaging commodities or directly serving clients. Call Kathy Ulmer at 425-391-5084 for more information.

8. Jewish Family Services Jennifer Mohr, 206-461-3240, is the person to contact about helping with this agency. A Hanukkah giving program and a food bank serve people in three zip codes. Family Services also sponsors Operation Brotherhood, which matches people who don't celebrate Christmas with workers who want to be with their families that day.
9. Mentor Health Northwest Mentor Health Northwest is the largest and oldest provider of mental health services on the Eastside. Tom DiStefano, 425-827-9100, told us of several needs the agency has over the holidays. MHN provides housing facilities for over 100 adults, who need Christmas trees, decorations, gifts, and holiday dinners. Congregations could organize holiday parties, and help residents decorate their trees.
10. Salvation Army Disaster relief, emergency housing, and the Toy and Joy program at Christmas are all projects of the Salvation Army. Over 3,000 people were helped last year, and 34 children were sent to summer camp. At Christmas time the Army sponsors a Senior Program, giving Safeway vouchers to needy seniors. Call 425-827-1930 to help.
11. United Way Betty Smith, 425-869-0586, told us the United Way has screened volunteers available to help agencies over the holidays.
12. Youth Eastside Services YES works with families, provides parent support groups and drug and alcohol programs, and provides individual counseling. Over 400 volunteers are active in a variety of programs, and more are needed. You can be a receptionist, an intake worker, or a mentor, among other opportunities. YES has a Sharing Sleigh at Bellevue Square at Christmas which goes up November 24<sup>th</sup> to obtain presents for teens. Call Wendy at 425-747-4937 for more information.

**MINUTES** The minutes were approved as mailed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Jim Palmer gave the financial report. See the written statement.

**APPRECIATION** John Waltner and Tom Shepard were thanked for their services on the EISCC executive board.

**ELECTIONS** Officers for 2000-2001 were elected. The new officers are: Co-chairs, Lloyd Van Vector and Paul Hunsberger; Co-secretaries, Glenda Estes and JoAnne Way; Treasurer, Jim Palmer; Assistant Treasurer, Louise Wong; and Delegate at Large, Dorothy Scott. Officers were elected by consensus.

**THANKS** Nadine Shannon presented Terry Kimber with a gift and a certificate thanking her for serving on the executive board.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** Joy Pocasangre distributed a handout with a summary of the Coalition for a Jewish Voice board's position on initiatives that will appear on the Washington November ballot.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** John Waltner announced that Ten Thousand Villages is open again. This store sells fair traded handicrafts obtained from craftspeople around the world. It is located at 6417 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle.

Diana Stice announced there will be a meeting of the Fellowship of Reconciliation Eastside chapter at the Bellevue Library October 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. This is an ecumenical organization.

Betty Spohn gave a written announcement about a free Thanksgiving Day dinner which will be provided by Kirkland Gives Thanks. The dinner is for single persons or families in need who would like to eat with others on Thanksgiving. Dinner will be served from 2:00 PM-7:00 PM at a location to be announced. For more information call Michele at 425-481-6830.

The meeting was adjourned after Joy Pocasangre gave the closing prayer.

*JoAnne Way, secretary*

## MINUTES OF THE EISCC NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2000

**NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2000**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**1717 BELLEVUE WAY NE**  
**TOPIC: WELCOMING REFUGEE FAMILIES TO OUR COMMUNITY**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM by Vice-chair Paul Hunsberger. Al Bagley gave the opening prayer. Members and guests present introduced themselves.

**Program:** Gabriella Quintana spoke about the Children's Alliance, which is a statewide public policy advocacy organization. The Alliance lobbies for children and working families in Olympia. For this year's Legislative session, which begins January 8<sup>th</sup>, the Alliance has four main goals. 1) Seek legislation to expand the use of federal CHIP funding to create new slots in the Basic Health Plan. 2) Seek funding for a new proposal for four community based demonstration projects that will provide care management, family support and other services to families who are having a crisis with their adolescent children. 3) Pursue state legislation and the necessary appropriation needed to continue Medicaid coverage for foster children who have reached the age of 18. 4) Seek \$2.9 million in state funds to reinvest in WIC (the Women's Infants' and Children's nutrition program).

Gabriella reminded us we can help shape public policy. Check the website [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov) to find out what bills are being considered and where they are in the legislative process. The legislative hotline number is 1-800-562-6000. During the legislative session you can use this number to check on legislation and to leave a message for your legislator.

You can sign up for the Children's Action Network and get weekly alerts about legislation affecting families and children. Call the Children's Alliance at 206-324-0340.

Our second speaker was Lauren Slovic from the Children's Response Center, which is part of Harborview Hospital. TAPP, The Abuse Prevention Project, is working to address family violence issues. In February 2000, TAPP started working with faith communities to involve more clergy in its meetings or as consultants. The group is also surveying congregations to ascertain their needs. TAPP is prepared to give workshops on teen violence and does some counseling in high schools. It receives state and municipal funds. To learn more about TAPP, you can email Lauren at [lmslovic@u.washington.edu](mailto:lmslovic@u.washington.edu) or call her at 425-688-5130.

**Congregational Report:** Harvey Buer from First Congregational Church in Bellevue gave the congregational report. First Congregational has formed several alliances based on their coveted location in downtown Bellevue. A YMCA daycare center and the Bellevue Parks Senior Citizens Classes use their facilities. The church would like to work with other faith communities who want to have programs downtown. Serving the needs of the city and nearby residents are priorities.

**Hopelink Report:** Jennifer Cole-Wilson gave the quarterly report on the Emergency Services Fund. EISCC member congregations contributed 52% of this fund this quarter. Recently the biggest draw on the fund has been for rent. Hopelink provides many services, including home delivery services to disabled adults. Jennifer gave a phone number, 1-877-980-9130, which prospective clients can use to determine eligibility for services. The web site [www.wa.gov/workfirst/workingfamilies](http://www.wa.gov/workfirst/workingfamilies) is also helpful.

**Minutes:** The minutes were approved as mailed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Louise Wong gave the financial report. See written statement.

**Newsletter:** Sally Wing reported that the newsletter will be published the end of December or the first of January. Call her at 425-747-5924 if there are any corrections to be made in the newsletter.

**Congregations for the Homeless:** Nadine Shannon reported that Terry Kimber has agreed to co-chair this task force. Louise Wong is helping with the grant applications. A grant application of \$23,000 has been made to King County.

**Mental Health Task Force:** This group will meet November 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 PM at Grace Lutheran Church. Call Sally Wing if you are interested in joining the Task Force.

**Announcements:** Betty Spohn distributed forms to nominate candidates for Best of Bellevue.

There will be a free Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving Day at Holy Family Church in Kirkland. Everyone is welcome.

Thanksgiving Eve there will be a Service of Thanksgiving at St. Louise. Several congregations are participating.

On Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a service at the Friends' Center remembering people killed by terrorists. Speakers will address issues concerning the School of the Americas.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM after closing prayer by Terry Kimber.

*JoAnne Way, Secretary*

**EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL**

Activity Report - All funds

For month ended October 31, 2000

	General Fund	Congregations for Homeless	Employment Job Fair	Cultural Div/Racism	Eastside Emergency Svc.Fund		Total
Fund balance, beginning Oct. 1, 2000	1,564	60,309	502	105	0	0	62,481
Receipts:							
Dues	25						25
Contributions-Congregations		4,575					4,575
Contributions-individuals		300					300
United Way - grant		1,378					1,378
United Way - individual payouts		433					433
King County		7,272					7,272
City of Kirkland		2,258					2,258
City of Redmond		1,250					1,250
							0
							0
ESAP & FEMA grants		908					908
Interest	1	252					253
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18,625</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18,651</b>
Disbursements:							
Catholic Comm. Svc., -August svc.		10,823					10,823
							0
Postage & copies	26	0					26
P.O. box rental	22						22
							0
							0
<b>Total disbursements</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>10,823</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,871</b>
<b>Ending balances - Oct. 31, 2000</b>	<b>1,543</b>	<b>68,111</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70,261</b>

Cash balances - Oct. 31, 2000

Checking	618.23
Money Market savings	69,643.24
Total	<u>\$70,261.47</u>

## MINUTES OF THE EISCC DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2000

NEXT MEETING 12 Noon January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2001  
First Presbyterian Church, Bellevue  
Topic: Crisis Clinic Resource Line

The meeting was called to order at noon by Co-chair Lloyd Van Vactor, who gave the opening prayer. Members and guests present introduced themselves.

**Program** Tom Shepard introduced the program, "Welcoming Refugee Families to our Community."

Jan Stevens, from Lutheran Services, described refugees as people outside (usually) their own countries who have been persecuted, or who have a well-founded fear of being persecuted, for their membership in certain (for example) racial or religious groups. If they escape to a border country, they can register with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the American Embassy. Jan distributed a handout which explained the steps taken by refugees, from flight from their homeland to arrival in the United States or another country, or settlement in the country of first asylum.

The web site [www.refugees.org](http://www.refugees.org) is a good source of information about the approximately 12 million refugees in the world today. Jan distributed a chart with the breakdown of numbers of refugees admitted to this country from different areas each year from 1975 to the present.

Cal Uomoto from World Relief stated the largest single group of refugees in King County has been from the former Soviet Union for the last five years. In the year 2000 more diversification appeared. Refugees arrived here from Somalia, Sudan, Liberia, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq. He expects to see increasing numbers from Africa.

If refugees have no relatives here, attempts are made to find a church to sponsor them. World Relief links them with social services, and provides help finding jobs and obtaining citizenship. Refugees from some under-developed areas of the world face major transitions when they arrive in this country. They lack the life skills needed in developed countries.

Volunteers are needed to house and sponsor families, help with ESL training; and drive refugees to appointments. Eighty per cent of refugees settled by World Relief go to South King County, since there is more affordable housing in that area. The largest hurdle faced by refugees is mastery of English.

Janette Lozovsky of Jewish Family Services was the third speaker. Jewish Family Services was founded 100 years ago to help new arrivals to this country. The majority of the refugees they are assisting today are Russian, from urban areas, and many are well educated. Today Russians can be interviewed in the American Embassy in Moscow to determine refugee status. They must have family in the Seattle area to sponsor them. Jewish Family Services helps with financial assistance, employment, and ESL classes.

Staff members at Jewish Family Services speak a total of seven different languages. They are able to help people apply for food stamps, SSI disability, and medical coupons. If you would like to volunteer to help with ESL tutoring or in any other area, call 206-461-3240.

**Congregational Report** Karen Smith from St. Madeleine Sophie described the care teams for assisting AIDS patients. Care partners provide food, transportation and other services.

**Minutes** The minutes were accepted as mailed with editorial corrections.

**Treasurer's Report** Jim Palmer is ill. Louise Wong, assistant treasurer, gave the report. Dues statements have been mailed to agencies and congregations.

**Newsletter** Sally Wing reported that the newsletter will be mailed in January. Call her if there are any items you would like to contribute.

**Legislative Task Force** Joy Pocasangre announced that February 7<sup>th</sup> is Church Advocacy Day in Olympia. The possibility of getting a bus to transport EISCC members to Olympia was mentioned.

**Congregations for the Homeless** Nadine Shannon has recently made presentations about the program at two churches. Several grants have been submitted. Men seem to be moving in and out of the program faster. We averaged 12-18 men per night last month.

**Mental Health Task Force** This group will meet January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:30 PM at Grace Lutheran Church. New members are welcome to join. Contact Sally Wing if you have any input on how this task force can help educate congregations about mental health.

*JoAnne Way, Secretary*

**EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL**

Activity Report - All funds

For month ended November 30, 2000

	General Fund	Congregations for Homeless	Employment Job Fair	Cultural Div/Racism	Eastside Emergency Svc.Fund		Total
Fund balance, beginning Nov. 1, 2000	<u>\$1,543</u>	<u>68,111</u>	<u>502</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>70,261</u>
Receipts:							
Dues	25						25
Contributions-Congregations		4,946					4,946
Contributions-individuals		732					732
United Way - grant		1,378					1,378
United Way - individual payouts		433					433
City of Bellevue		6,871					6,871
City of Issaquah		875					875
							0
							0
ESAP & FEMA grants		908					908
Interest	4	256					260
<b>Total receipts</b>	<u>29</u>	<u>16,398</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,427</u>
Disbursements:							
Catholic Comm. Svc., -Sept.00 svc.		9,070					9,070
Sleeping mats - 10 items		706					706
Postage & copies	121	71					192
Bulk mail permit	100						100
Newsletter - stamps	25						25
							0
<b>Total disbursements</b>	<u>246</u>	<u>9,847</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,093</u>
<b>Ending balances - Nov. 30, 2000</b>	<u>\$1,326</u>	<u>74,663</u>	<u>502</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>76,596</u>
 <u>Cash balances - Nov. 30, 2000</u>							
Checking							\$437.07
Money Market savings							76,158.71
Total							<u>\$76,595.78</u>

EIFunds112000.wks

12/13/2000