

EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL  
P.O. Box 662, Bellevue, WA 98009-0662  
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EASTSIDE  
*Interfaith*  
SOCIAL  
CONCERNS  
COUNCIL

EISCC NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1994  
Sally Wing, Editor  
Phone (206) 747-5924

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WELCOME TO EISCCI

Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council (EISCC), provides a basis for exchange of information for Eastside congregations, in order to improve the quality of life for all on the Eastside. We trust that EISCC was called into being and is guided by the moving of God's spirit in our community. EISCC encourages interfaith dialogue.

Membership is voluntary, open to all Eastside congregations of all faiths and creeds. Member congregations contribute \$20.00 annually to EISCC and select two voting delegates (clergy and/or lay).

Associate members are social and health service programs whose purposes and activities are consistent with the purposes of EISCC. Each pays a fee of \$10.00 annually, and has voice but does not vote.

Priority issues are: housing/homelessness; families in crisis; hunger; health care/-mental health; cross-cultural relationships; and liveable income/employment.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (except August), 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. (sack lunch), at the Rock Room of the First Presbyterian Church, 1720 - 100th Ave. NE, Bellevue. At each meeting, community experts present information about resources and programs; and members share information and ideas.

For information on membership, call Nadine Bentsen, Treasurer (747-1543).  
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EISCC ELECTS 1994-1995 OFFICERS

Recently elected as officers of EISCC are Nadine Shannon, Chairperson (746-6019); Joy Pocasang, Vice Chairperson (747-0877); Nadine Bentsen, Treasurer 747-1543); Bill Graden (641-5674) and Betty Spohn 451-3651), Co-Secretaries. They began service following the October meeting.



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EISCC NEWSLETTER RETURNS!

After a lapse of several years, we are presenting this initial issue of what we hope will be a three or four times yearly publication. Please give us information about coming events in your congregation, task force, or organization open to others in the community. Letters to the editor are also welcome. Send your items to the address above or to the Editor, Sally Wing, P.O. Box 5556, Bellevue, WA 98006-0056. 747-5924. Fax: 746-0462.  
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*Interfaith*

SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOUSING/HOMELESS TASK FORCE

According to Nadine Shannon, Task Force chairperson, there are 21 support congregations for Congregations for the Homeless, which provides shelter and social services to homeless men. In the first year of the program, which began in September, 1993, 151 persons were housed, of whom 60 have moved into permanent housing. The average stay is 12 nights, and about 12 men are housed each night at an Eastside congregation. Host congregations provide facilities for a month, and are assisted by support congregations with financial and volunteer support.

For information, phone Nadine Shannon, 746-6019.

EMPLOYMENT TASK FORCE

Persons looking for a job are welcome at the employment program, which meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m., Room 13, Latter Day Saints Church, Main Street just west of 148th Avenue SE (near K-Mart).

A small Job Fair will be held each first Thursday from February through May, 1995, including employer panels and instruction on resumes.

For information, phone Mark Hoover (455-2703).

CLOTHING BANK

Space and volunteers are needed for a clothing bank. Please notify any EISSC officer if you can provide information or assistance.

BLESSINGS OF SERVICE

"May your work bring order where there was chaos, wisdom where there was ignorance, brightness where there was obscurity, purpose where there was confusion, warmth where there was harshness, laughter where there was pain, challenge where there was boredom, and God's holy peace where there was hate. May you create in the name of God who creates. Be wise in the name of God's revealing word and love in the cause of God's spirit who serves."

Rev. Andrew Greeley, A book of Irish American Blessings and Prayers. Quoted in New Ministries, published by New Models for Ministry, 1102 Stannage Ave., Albany, CA 94706.

**PLEASE NOTE...**

HIV/AIDS TASK FORCE

Diana Roger, chairperson, announced a regular 4th Tuesday evening prayer service, 7:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 9460 NE 14th Street, Bellevue. The service will celebrate a eucharist of healing for persons with HIV/AIDS and their loved ones.

The Task Force regularly provides listings of Eastside resources for persons living with HIV/AIDS, and encourages congregational participation.

For information, phone Diana Roger, chairperson (277-6528).

RACISM TASK FORCE

Recent activities include a report of an Undoing Racism conference, recognizing Bellevue as an ethnically diverse community, with different lifestyles and different religions. The conference sought to use Eastside technology to become involved in global markets, and to create a welcoming community which would foster respect for all and share a common vision.

For information, phone Betty Smith, 883-1422.)

MULTI-SERVICE CENTER PROVIDES CHRISTMAS BASKETS

According to Shelly Noble, Bellevue Multi-Service Center (747-4826), 600 families will sign up for Christmas baskets, provided by community sponsors.

There is a continuing need for emergency funds. Checks may be made payable to Bellevue Multi-Service Center, designated for EISSC Emergency Services Fund.

BONES IN CHURCH BODY

What are the main bones in the body of the church? According to the newsletter of Bethany Lutheran Church, Bainbridge Island, and the Northwest Lutheran of the Northwest Washington Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, there are five. The WISHBONES wish someone else would do something about it. The JAWBONES do all the talking, but nothing else. The KNUCKLEBONES knock everything. The BACKBONES carry the load and do the work. And the FUNNYBONE sees the hand of God in it all.

PRAYER FOR THE GIFT OF HUMOR

"We praise you, Lord, for the strange and the silly. For supernovas and odd-shaped animals. For the whimsical shape of a cloud, and the toothless grin of a baby, for prisms, caves, and sneezes. You have brightened our days with the gifts of wonder and mirth. Through the work of Your hand, we are invited to giggle and gawk, to stand wide-eyed and speechless before the dance of creation."

Quoted in The Joyful Newsletter, published by the Fellowship of Merry Christians, P.O. Box 895, Portage, MI 49081-0895.