

CULTURAL DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

Chair: Betty Smith (643-2221)

The Task Force will coordinate a spring workshop on the subject of "Day of Dialogue on Race," in cooperation with Bill DeTally, Church Council of Greater Seattle Racial Justice Coordinating Committee.

FAITH AND VALUES TASK FORCE

Chair: Bill Graden, 641-5674

This Task Force has accomplished its goal of obtaining Faith and Values programming on Viacom Cable Channel 15, Monday through Friday, 4:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Considerable letter-writing to Viacom has resulted in this coverage. You can help accomplish additional goals of the Task Force, inclusion of the Faith and Values Channel schedule in newspaper television listings, and extension of hours of programming, by continuing to write to the Journal-American and to Viacom Cablevision.

HEALING SERVICE FOR  
PERSONS AFFECTED BY AIDS

Sacred Heart Catholic Church AIDS Outreach invites persons affected by AIDS to a healing service at 7:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of each month, at the church, 9640 NE 14th Street, Bellevue. For information, call 454-9536.

SACRED CIRCLE (SUPPORT LETTER)

A support letter of hope and healing for Christians in recovery from sexual abuse, assault, and incest, will publish its premier issue in February, 1996. To be placed on the mailing list to receive the first issue free, write to the Rev. Nola M. Eisenbrandt, 1315 South Thompson St., Bottineau, ND 58318.

STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY

Contact person: Babs Pingree (454-5508)

The Task Force is developing a booklet, whose cover will be designed by a commercial artist, with information about activities and programs to assist families. Further ideas are welcomed.

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

To: Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council  
P.O. Box 662, Bellevue, WA 98009-0662

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone Number .....

Congregation/Agency .....

Congregation member: \$25 \_\_\_\_

Agency member: \$10 \_\_\_\_

Newsletter only: \$5 \_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer for .....

Please send information \_\_\_\_

EISCC NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY, 1996  
Sally Wing, Editor  
Phone (206) 747-5924  
Fax (206) 746-0462

CONGREGATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS

Information: Nadine Shannon (746-6019)

Regular meeting: 3rd Tuesday, 12 noon - 1:30 p.m., Temple DeHirsch Sinai, 556 - 124th Avenue NE, Bellevue.

The purpose of Congregations for the Homeless is to provide stability in homeless men's lives and to return them to being members of the community. Shelter and nutritious meals are offered, in a collaborative atmosphere of volunteers with professional counselors and site managers.

The Task Force is in its third year of providing shelter, three meals per day, and social services for homeless men at congregational facilities. Host congregations, who provide facilities for a month, are assisted by support congregations with financial and volunteer support. Catholic Community Services provides social services.

Between September, 1993, and December, 1994, 181 men were assisted. Permanent housing was located for 72 men and other housing for 46. The program provided 5,437 bed nights and 12,985 meals. Ninety-four men have gained employment. Between 80 and 300 volunteers participate each month.

Of the \$100,000 annual budget, 40% must come from local congregations, to supplement grant and other funding. Volunteer support is also needed for smaller host congregations.

When making contributions to United Way for this program, please write in EISCC Congregations for the Homeless. You may also send support directly to Congregations for the Homeless, P.O. Box 662, Bellevue, WA 98009-0662.

Homeless men may be referred to these Eastside agencies for screening:

Catholic Community Services (643-1937)  
Eastside Mental Health (828-1449)  
Jewish Family Services (451-8512)  
Salvation Army (454-4568)  
Multi-Service Centers of North & East King County  
Bellevue (747-4826)  
Bothell (485-6521)  
Carnation (333-4163)  
Kirkland (889-7880)  
Redmond (869-6000)

EMPLOYMENT TASK FORCE

Chair: Tony and Marian Copeland (643-5212)

Regular meeting: Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Relief Society Room, Latter Day Saints church, 14536 Main Street (just west of 148th Avenue SE), Bellevue.

Persons looking for a job or for employment upgrade are welcome at the weekly employment program, where job listings are available. They will receive assistance in interviewing and resume' writing. Networking has resulted in regular filling of available positions.

Congregational representatives are encouraged, to sponsor local candidates and to provide information to their congregations.



EASTSIDE

Interfaith

SOCIAL  
CONCERNS COUNCIL

P.O. Box 662, Bellevue, WA 98009-0662

WELCOME TO EASTSIDE INTERFAITH

Welcome, visitors and members, to Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council (EISCC). The Council provides an exchange of information among 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. There are currently 42 member churches and social agencies. Member congregations contribute \$25.00 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.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (except August), 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. (bring your sack lunch; beverages are available), at the Rock Room of the First Presbyterian Church, 1717 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue. At each meeting, community representatives present information about resources and programs; and congregations, agencies, and task forces share information and ideas.

Priority issues are: housing/homelessness; employment; HIV/AIDS; strengthening the family; hunger; cultural diversity; and health care/mental health. The Council publishes annually an Emergency Services Directory, which is distributed to congregations and agencies.

For information on membership, call Betty Spohn, Membership Chair (451-3651).

HUMAN SERVICES COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

Representative: Pam Toelle, 746-8659

Quarterly meetings seek communication among the religious community, City of Bellevue, Bellevue School District, and human service agencies, working to help Bellevue children and families at risk. A survey has been sent to congregations, seeking information on current involvement and needs for information. At a January meeting participants will develop strategies for a Community School program.

EISCC NEWSLETTER

Editor: Sally Wing, (747-5924)

Publication is three or four times yearly. Please give us information about coming events in your congregation, task force, or organization that are 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.

WINTER AND SPRING MEETING CALENDAR

February 13. "Commitment to end poverty: Decency Principles Project Fosters awareness and action." Rev. Dr. Peter Strimer, Urban Worker, Decency Principles Project, St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle.

March 12. Other faiths.

April 9. Bridge Ministries. Henk Wepstra as speaker.

Report on legislative issues and advocacy day.

May 14. Collaborative leadership. Rob Beam, chair of the group, has accepted the invitation as speaker.

June 11. Strengthening the Family.

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

Chair: Joy Pocasangre, 747-0877

Purpose of the Task Force is education and advocacy for faith communities on federal, state, and local issues.

Activities include annual participation in Church Advocacy Day in Olympia and liaison with Washington Association of Churches and other advocacy groups.

The Task Force would like to work with groups including Interfaith Alliance of Washington State, Decency Principles Project, and Washington Association of Churches, as well as others working against the forces of intolerance and working to give voice to the disenfranchised.

HIV/AIDS TASK FORCE

Chair: Diana Roger (277-6528).

The Task Force is working with the MultifaitH AIDS Project (MAPS) of Seattle, to avoid duplication of effort. MAPS provides housing and pastoral care for persons with AIDS, and education for the community.

CHRISTMAS IN APRIL

Christmas in April is a nationwide program, currently available in Seattle, in which volunteers give one day to repair and refurbish the home of a low-income family. Professional contractors provide materials and volunteer help.

On Tuesday, January 30, at 7:30 p.m., St. Thomas Episcopal Church (corner of 84th Ave. NE and NE 12th St., Medina), will host a presentation. We invite representatives from other Eastside congregations to join St. Thomas volunteers in our third year of participation. If there is sufficient interest, we can form an Eastside board to repair Eastside homes. For more information, call Beverly Goucher (232-1030).

EISCC 1995-1996 OFFICERS

Geoff Ethelston, Co-Chairperson  
(486-5665)

Nadine Shannon, Co-Chairperson  
(746-6019)

Joy Pocasangre, Vice Chairperson  
(747-0877)

Jim Palmer, Treasurer (747-2977)

Sally Wing, Co-Secretary (747-5924)

Betty Spohn, Co-Secretary (451-3651)