

EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL  
P.O. Box 662, Bellevue, WA 98009-0662  
Address Correction Requested

EISCC NEWSLETTER  
FEBRUARY, 1997  
Sally Wing, Editor  
Phone (206) 747-5924  
Fax (206) 746-0462

#### EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL DEVELOPS MISSION STATEMENT

At the January meeting, members of Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council approved this mission statement:

We, Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council, are guided by the moving of God's spirit in our community to work together in a spirit of caring and celebration. We honor and respect each others' religious heritages, welcome and pray for each other, and share information about pressing community needs.

We provide a forum to educate, advocate, initiate, coordinate, support, and, through task forces and other means, work for the common good of the Eastside community to address human needs and improve the quality of life.

#### 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.

#### FINANCE TASK FORCE: STEWARD OF FUNDS

Chair: Jim Palmer, Treasurer  
(747-2977)

Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council budget includes both a general fund and a separate fund for each task force, which the treasurer reports at each month's general meeting.

Each task force has funds specifically donated to accomplish its purposes. Both grants and donations are essential to maintain Congregations for the Homeless, which has the largest budget, based on high expenses.

Volunteers are needed to assist the treasurer in preparing the budget and seeking additional sources of funds. Development experience is not necessary; the Task Force will provide training.

#### EISCC 1996-1997 OFFICERS

Geoff Ethelston, Co-Chairperson  
(486-5665)  
Beverly Goucher, Co-Chairperson  
(232-1030)  
Terry Kimber, Vice Chairperson  
(644-1729)  
Jim Palmer, Treasurer (747-2977)  
Sally Wing, Co-Secretary (747-5924)  
Betty Spohn, Co-Secretary (451-3651)  
Nadine Bentsen, Co-Secretary  
(747-1543)

#### WELCOME TO EASTSIDE INTERFAITH

Welcome, visitors and members, to Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council (EISCC). The Council provides exchange of information among Eastside congregations, and encourages inter-faith 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. 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).

#### CHRISTMAS IN APRIL

Christmas in April is a nationwide program, currently available in Seattle, in which volunteers give one day to repair and refurbish homes of low-income families. For information about a chapter being formed on the East Side, call Fred Barkman (646-9367).

#### GRACE EPISCOPAL, DUVALL, CLOTHING CENTER

Carol Lund Price, (788-5791), Outreach Task Force chair, has established a Clothing Resource Center, providing shoes, clothing, and school supplies to more than 20 children in September, 1996. Grants or donations are needed to maintain the Center.

#### TENTATIVE EISCC WINTER PROGRAM SCHEDULE

February 11, 1997. Eastside Sexual Assault Center for Children.

March 11, 1997. Housing programs: St. Andrew's Lutheran Church; Habitat for Humanity; Congregations for the Homeless.

April 8, 1997. "Faces of unemployment."



### 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, provided by Catholic Community Services.

The Task Force is in its fourth 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 and other volunteers with financial and volunteer support.

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 (382-9704)  
Carnation (333-4163)  
Kirkland (889-7880)  
Redmond (869-6000)

### STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY

Contact person: Babs Pingree (454-5508)

The Task Force has developed a booklet, called "Strengthening the Family," copies of which are available from Betty Spohn (451-3651).

### 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 fourth Tuesday of each month, at the church, 9640 NE 14th Street, Bellevue. For information, call 454-9536.

### 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.

### IS YOUR ZIP CODE CORRECT?

Postal Service rules require that we verify correctness of all zip codes on our mailing list. If yours is not correct, please notify Betty Spohn (451-3651).

### HUMAN SERVICES COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

Representative: Pam Toelle, 746-8659

Congregations for Kids Committee: Rev. Ann Lukens (454-9541) and Sherri Mill, Co-chairpersons; Pam Toelle, liaison.

The Task Force encourages partnership among the religious community, City of Bellevue, Bellevue Public Schools, and human service providers, working together to provide services to Bellevue schoolchildren and their families. Quarterly meetings are held on the first Wednesday from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Bellevue Public Schools Board Room. A citywide forum is tentatively planned for February.

### CULTURAL DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

Chair: Betty Smith (643-2221)

Information is available for congregational use from the chairperson, as well as from Bill DeTally, Church Council of Greater Seattle Racial Justice Coordinating Committee (525-1213).

### EMPLOYMENT TASK FORCE

Chair: Tony and Marian Copeland (643-5212)

Regular meeting: Thursday, 7:30 p.m., 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.

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

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Marilyn Canfield: 869-6007

A multi-family project is being constructed for families who provide "sweat equity" and make payments on a no-interest mortgage. Volunteer labor and assistance with land acquisition are particularly welcome.

### 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 about \_\_\_\_\_