

EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL

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

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EASTSIDE

EISCC UPDATE
January, 2004
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Interfaith

SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL

EISCC UPDATE

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Seattle Mental Health—Eastside

Seattle Mental Health - Eastside serves severely mentally ill persons and persons with grief and stress-related issues. They provide services at offices on Northup Way and also at an Overlake Office on 140th Avenue NE between NE 20th Street and NE 24th Street. SMH

also provides services in Redmond, Snoqualmie, Renton, Auburn, and Kent, in addition to services in Seattle.

Agency information: (206) 324-2400; access to services: (206) 324-0206. These numbers will connect you with other offices.

Rebuilding Together

Rebuilding Together, formerly known as Christmas in April * Eastside, has continued to provide rehabilitation for homes of low income homeowners, using volunteer labor and donated materials. Volunteers provide services on the last Saturday in April to enable Eastside recipients to maintain their own homes. Services have included building a wheelchair ramp, obtaining a furnace, doing



yard work, and house painting. The Eastside affiliate, which has repaired 68 homes since it began in 1997, will accept applications from both volunteers and homeowners throughout the year.

Information: (425) 455-0179, rebuildingtogether@comcast.net

Tentative EISCC Program Schedule

February 10, 2004 - EISCC overview & planning

March 9, 2004 - Interfaith program

April 13, 2004 - Advocacy

Welcome To Eastside Interfaith

Is Your Congregation or Agency Represented?

Welcome, visitor and members, to Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council (EISCC). The Council provides a forum for exchange of information among Eastside congregations and agencies, and encourages interfaith dialogue. Volunteers help to maintain Congregations for the Homeless, the legislative task force, and other programs.

Membership is voluntary, open to Eastside congregations of all faiths. There are currently 42 member congregations and 20 social agencies. Member congregations contribute \$25.00 annually to EISCC and select two voting delegates (clergy and/or lay). Clergy, youth representatives, persons who work with youth or social ministry programs, and other lay persons are especially invited.

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

EISCC 2003-2004 Officers

Rick Russell, Chairperson (425) 746-2411—russells@attbi.com

Lloyd Van Vactor, Vice Chairperson (425) 885-6993—lgvv@aol.com

Sally Wing, Co-Secretary Pro Tem (425) 747-5924

Marilyn Haymond, Co-Secretary (425) 641-1497

Nadine Bentsen, Treasurer Pro Tem (425) 747-1543

Louise Wong, Ass't Treasurer (425) 637-0822

Dorothy Scott, Delegate-at-Large (425) 453-1425

each month (except August), 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m. (bring your sack or fast food lunch; beverages are provided), in the Chapel Lounge (Room 315, former sanctuary, entered through the upper parking lot on NE 17th Street, off 100th Ave. NE), of the First Presbyterian Church, 1717 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue. No reservations are necessary. Parking is free, either in the upper lot near the meeting room, off 100th Avenue NE; or in the lower parking lot, off Bellevue Way.

Information: Rick Russell (425) 746-2411.

EISCC UPDATE JANUARY, 2004

This newsletter has been edited by Sally Wing since 1994-1995. Since then, three or four issues have been published each year, with the help of many volunteers. An EISCC newsletter was published previously between 1986 (possibly earlier) and 1989, with Carla Vendeland as editor.

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 welcome. Send your items to the EISCC address or to the Editor, Sally Wing, P.O. Box 5556, Bellevue, WA 98006-0056. (425) 747-5924. Fax: (425) 462-5601. Email: drswing@webtv.net

Emergency Services Directory

Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council publishes an Emergency Services Directory, which is distributed to congregations and agencies at two-year intervals. Additional copies of the 2004-05 directory are available on request. Information: Nadine Shannon (425) 746-6019.

Head Start Program For Families

Head Start is a federally-funded preschool program for low-income families. Three- and four-year olds participate four days a week for three and one-half hours a day; three- to five-year olds five days a week from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Services include breakfast, lunch, and snack; bus transportation; health services; family support; employment and training; and mental health counseling. Services are free or low cost depending on family eligibility.

Volunteers are needed to assist teachers,

EMPLOYMENT TASK FORCE

Information about the job market and assistance in planning a job search, interviewing and resume writing are available at the Employment Resource Center, Bellevue Stake Center, 14536 Main Street (near 148th Avenue and the Hopelink Center) Tuesdays, 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. and Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (206) 687-6942. Services are available to all persons regardless of church affiliation, and are also available in Renton and Everett, as part of the international network of employment offices established by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

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 Marilyn Haymond (425) 641-1497

Thank You

Thank you to Paul Burnham, Betty Spohn, Marilyn Haymond & other volunteers for publishing this newsletter.

read to children, play music, cook with the children, or simply be a friendly face. To volunteer or to refer someone, contact Heather Duncan, Family Service Worker, (425) 456-5766.

Crisis Clinic Resource Center

The Crisis Clinic community resource center yields referrals for such needs as food and toys, and the crisis line, staffed by volunteers, responds to calls on such subjects as relationship issues, mental illness, grief and loss, domestic violence, and chemical dependency. Information: (206) 461-3200, Crisis line: (206) 461-3222 or www.crisisclinic.org

St. Andrew's Housing Group

Provision of housing for the working poor is emphasized by St. Andrew's Housing group, which has several multi-family rental units, and is developing more. Information: (425) 746-1699.

Congregations For Kids

Congregations for Kids works with the Bellevue School District to help needy children within the school district. It held its annual Good Start Back to School drive in late summer to help low-income children get ready for school with new school supplies. Later in the fall, the group collected Warm Coats for Kids. Information: Nancy Jacobs, chair, (425) 883-6406 or bnjacobs@juno.com



Salvation Army

The Salvation Army Eastside is located at 11555 Northup Way, Suite 100, Bellevue, WA 98004 (Mailing address: P.O. Box 749, Bellevue, WA 98009), according to Bob Giuliano and Captain Ken Perine. Telephone number (425) 827-1930.

Emergency and disaster services include food, shelter, clothing, and utilities. They provide services to sick and housebound elderly persons, to "latch-key" children, and to incarcerated persons and their families.

Saint Margaret's Thrift Shop

The Saint Margaret's Thrift Shop is located next to St. Margaret's Episcopal Church on Factoria Boulevard SE. Their hours are Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. They have

Assistance League Of The Eastside

Operation School Bell, a program of the Assistance League, provides children in Bellevue, Lake Washington, and Northshore school districts with clothing and school supplies. They also provide assault survivor kits, including clothing and hygiene items, to local hospitals; and companionship at two long-term care centers. *Information:* Leslie Young, (425) 881-0298 or www.alecares.org.

EISCC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

EISCC needs a secretary and a treasurer to replace pro tem persons in these positions. Your time and energy can help to maintain EISCC services, including Congregations for the Homeless, legislative task force, and other programs. Please contact the editor, Sally Wing (425) 747-5924, or drswing@webtv.net

continued to receive donations of clothing and other goods, and to make donations to a variety of Eastside causes. *Information:* Joan Abel, (425) 641-6830.

PUGET SOUND BLOOD CENTER

This regional resource is supported by volunteer blood donors and volunteer workers, who assist in coordination, registration, and monitoring. *Information:* Leigh Chapman, Donor Resources Representative, (425) 462-4395. E-mail: leighc@psbc.org.

Friends Of Youth

Services for children, youth, and families encourage individual growth and promote constructive relationships. Services include counseling, housing, support for young parents, chemical dependency treatment, and foster care. *Information:* (425) 869-6490 or info@friendsofyouth.org.

Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank

Year round and holiday provision for food, clothing, and children's toy needs are available through the Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank. *Information:* (425) 392-4123.



Congregations For The Homeless

Chair: Nadine Shannon (425) 746-6019
Larrynadine@comcast.net

Regular meeting: 1st Tuesday, 12 noon to 1 p.m.
St. Luke's Lutheran Church - 3030 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue

This program celebrated its tenth anniversary in September, 2003. It provides safe secure shelter, three meals daily, and employment assistance for homeless men on the Eastside, to return them to being members of the community. Host congregations, who provide facilities for a month, are assisted by support congregations and other agencies and individuals who provide financial and volunteer support. A total of 67 congregations currently participate. The cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, and Redmond, and United Way have provided grants for our services. Services by 3108 volunteers enable 99% of the income to be used for direct services.

Currently there are between 15 and 22 men

in the shelter each night. Clients' average age is between 34 and 55. Clients must be at least 18, and occasionally one is 75. Clients typically have good employment skills, but struggle in a difficult job market.

We contract with Catholic Community Services to provide counseling as needed and employment case management. There is always one site manager at the host congregation with the clients. Sleeping facilities at the host congregation and three meals daily are provided pro bono by volunteers.

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

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

Catholic Community Services
(425) 284-2211 or 1-800-872-3204

Jewish Family Service

(425) 461-3240

Salvation Army

(425) 827-1930

Hopelink

Bellevue (425) 943-7555

Northshore (425) 485-6521

Carnation (425) 333-4163

Kirkland (425) 889-7880

Redmond (425) 882-0241

Children's Response Center

This agency, a service of Harborview Hospital, serves children who have been abused, as well as those who have observed other traumatic events, and family members, and provides medical and legal advocacy and educational programs as well as group and individual counseling.

Information: Gayle Zeller, education and prevention coordinator, (425) 688-5130.
www.childrensresponsecenter.org

Hopelink

The Bellevue office of Hopelink provides services, which include programs for senior citizens and people with disabilities, and a day care center for children.

Children whose families cannot afford lunch are provided with free and reduced lunches during the school year, and the "Brown Bag Lunch Brigade" in the summer.

Also part of Hopelink is RotaCare Clinic, a free walk-in medical clinic offered Saturdays (except in August) from 9:30—11:30 a.m. The clinic, sponsored by Eastside Rotarians, is staffed by two volunteer physicians, and works with social service agencies to provide follow up care and care for chronic illness. Volunteers also include social workers and interpreters.

The Family Development Program assists low-income families to set and accomplish goals. The program provides emergency services, life skills workshops, parenting classes and support groups, and ongoing support and advocacy. *Information:* (425) 943-7550.

EISCC members and others regularly contribute to the EISCC Eastside Emergency Services Fund, administered by Hopelink. Other Centers serve the rest of North and East King County. Expenditures are made for rent, utilities, water, gasoline (automobiles), and motel occupancy. Contributions may be sent to East-

side Hopelink, Bellevue Service Center, 14812 Main Street, Bellevue, 98007. *Information:* Jennifer Cole-Wilson (425) 943-7555.

The Eastside Literacy Council is part of Hopelink, teaching people to read, write, and speak English. Alice Ferrier, director of the Literacy Council, is head of literacy programs at Hopelink.

HEALING MASS

Sacred Heart Catholic Church holds a healing mass on the fourth Monday of each month, 5:30 p.m. at the church, 9460 NE 14th Street, Bellevue. Prayers are offered for and with all persons who are in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing. The presider will anoint anyone who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Healing. All are welcome to attend, especially those in need of healing and their families and friends. *Information:* (425) 454-9536.

Bellevue Crop Walk

The third annual Bellevue Crop Walk will be held Saturday, May 15, 2004, beginning and ending at First Presbyterian Church, to alleviate hunger world-wide. All are welcome to participate. Proceeds will be divided, 25% to Hopelink and the Emergency Feeding Program, 75% to Church World Service. *Information:* Carol Ready (425) 744-8783, or bellevuecropwalk@mindspring.com

Family Resource Center

Family Resource Center, whose executive director is Pam Mauk, houses 23 health and human service agencies on a campus in Redmond. Services include a food bank, counseling, medical and dental care, and housing. *Information:* (425) 869-6699 or www.familyresourcecenter.org.

Catholic Community Services

Catholic Community Services at 12828 Northup Way, Suite 100, Bellevue 98005-1932, provides emergency and transitional housing, legal advocacy, and counseling. *Information:* (425) 284-2211 or 1-800-872-3204.

Volunteer Chore Services, a program of CCS, helps elders and adults with disabilities to maintain independence in their own home, by assisting with such tasks as grocery shopping,

light housekeeping, minor home repair, moving, and yard work.



Habitat for Humanity is an international organization which partners with other programs and constructs modest but adequate housing. It empowers families by constructing homes, for which the new owners provide "sweat equity" and assume a no-interest mortgage. Eastside Habitat for Humanity is currently building up to 30 town homes in Patterson Park, Redmond. Since 1988, homes have been built on the Eastside for more than 50 families.

Information: Jean Ann French, manager of resource development (425) 869-6007 or jeanann@habitatekc.org. Website: www.habitatekc.org

ARCH: A Regional Coalition for Housing

ARCH is an 8-year-old regional consortium of cities in East King County, including Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Duvall, Woodinville, and Newcastle, which provides funding for affordable housing. *Information:* Art Sullivan (425) 861-3677. E-mail archhousing@aol.com

MAMMA'S HANDS

Denny Hancock, founder and director of Mamma's Hands, has provided food on Wednesday evening in downtown Seattle for several years, and has also picked up and delivered furniture to House of Hope in North Bend, which provides transitional housing for homeless women. He has arranged for donation of telephones for homeless person to call home. *Information:* (206) 915-2073 or Website: www.MammasHands.org.

Invitation to Participate

To: Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council
P.O. Box 662, Bellevue, WA 98009-0662
Marilyn Haymond (425) 641-1497

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Cong./Agency _____

Congregation member: \$25 ____

Agency member: \$10 ____

Newsletter only: \$5 ____

I can volunteer for _____

More Info about _____

WWW

Websites You May Find Useful

Since many people use the Internet regularly both for e-mail and for seeking information on the Internet, we'd like to encourage you to share favorite Websites with other EISCC members.

- ♦ **Churchcouncilseattle.org** is the site of the Church Council of Greater Seattle, which provides links to other ecumenical organizations, peace and justice groups, children's organizations, government, etc.
- ♦ The Interfaith Alliance is a faith-based voice countering the radical right and promoting the positive role of religion. You have an opportunity to subscribe to updates on legislative issues. Its website is **tialliance.org**.
- ♦ The U.S. House of Representatives **house.gov** and the U.S. Senate **senate.gov** each have a website, which includes their current schedules, bills, history, and directory.
- ♦ Vatican news releases in four languages are provided by an independent international

news agency at **Zenit.org**.

- ♦ Shamash: The Jewish Internet Consortium provides information, education, discussion, and community-building resources, at **shamash.org**.
- ♦ The American Jewish Committee identifies local chapters, coming events, and national legislation, at **ajc.org**.
- ♦ Worldwide Faith Network whose website is **WFN.org**, provides news releases from a wide variety of faith groups.
- ♦ Information about status of legislation in Washington is available at **leg.wa.gov**.
- ♦ United Religions Initiative is a grassroots international interfaith organization. Its Emergency Response Network offers a model in which more than 100 religious leaders have formed a network to respond instantly to acts of hate violence perpetrated against religious, ethnic, and racial minorities. **www.uri.org**



Children's Action Network

Children's Action Network, a program of the Children's Alliance, promotes action on child care, health care, juvenile justice, welfare reform, and other children and family issues. They publish Children's Action Alerts, especially during the legislative session, providing background information for contact with legislators and other action. There is no charge; if

you join the Network you are asked to take five minutes each week to speak up for children.

Information: Gabriela Quintana, Field Organizer, 172—20th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122. Phone: (206) 324-0340; Fax: (206) 325-6291; e-mail: Gabriela@childrensalliance.org. Website: www.childrensalliance.org.

Mental Health Task Force Seeks Your Response

Task Force Information: Sally Wing, (425) 747-5924 or Fax: (425) 462-5601 or Email: drswing@webtv.net

The Mental Health Task Force can provide

suggested prayers, suggestions for offering assistance, a list of community resources, information about the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and publications by Pathways to Promise.

Eastside Baby Corner

This thirteen-year-old, all-volunteer program collects, sorts, and distributes through agencies everything for babies up to 14-year olds. They are the "last safety net," providing a toy bank, layettes and other supplies year round. Volunteers, including children and parents, are needed to sort materials. Cash donations are needed to supplement donated materials. Donations may be left at St. Louise Catholic Church, 141 - 156th Avenue SE,

Bellevue. *Information:* Karen Ridlon, President (425) 865-0234 or babycorn@gte.net.

North Bellevue Community Center

Bellevue residents of all ages can participate in a variety of classes and services offered at the North Bellevue Community Center, including senior trips, and classes and programs for families and adults.

The Center is located at 4063 - 148th Avenue NE, Bellevue, *Information:* (425) 452-7681 or cityofbellevue.org (click on departments, parks, and recreation.)

Hot Meal Program

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church sponsors a hot meal program for all interested persons, each Thursday evening at 5:30 p.m. at 2650—148th Ave. SE, Bellevue. Volunteers are needed to expand the program.

Information: Jan Jeide (425) 881-5370 or salinfo@salcbellevue.org

Kinderling Center

The Kinderling Center is a non-profit neurodevelopmental center which provides services to children and their families with disabilities and special needs from birth to three years. Services include language therapy, parenting classes in four languages, and counseling. *Information:* Jennifer Pineda, (425) 747-4004 or www.kinderling.org

Jewish Family Service

Programs include services for seniors, disabled persons, children, and youth. A monthly Eastside food bank is available, as well as emergency assistance and refugee resettlement, at 1811 - 156th Ave. N.E., Bellevue (425) 643-2221. They serve an ethnic population, which includes Hispanic, Asian, and European, with English as a Second Language classes, employment services, social services, and holiday gifts for children. *Information:* Carol Mullin (206) 861-3176 or myeager@JFSSEATTLE.org

BRIDGE MINISTRIES

Bridge Ministries serves persons with physical and developmental disabilities and their families. A guardianship program is available for developmentally disabled persons who lack family support. Volunteer opportunities include one-to-one friendship and circles of



friends, obtaining and repairing durable medical equipment and providing it to persons in need, and assisting congregations to

provide a welcoming environment. *Information:* The Reverend Bruce Knofel (425) 828-1431 or bridge@bridgemin.org



Emergency Feeding Program

This county-wide program, with Church Council of Greater Seattle as the parent organization, has 37 distribution sites, including St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Overlake Park Presbyterian Church, and First Congregational Church in Bellevue. They request specific basic

foods, encouraging food-of-the month donations. The agency serves the needs of persons in emergency hunger situations and provides counseling and referrals to enable independence. *Information:* Catherine Hillard (425) 562-0698.

City Of Bellevue Supports Diversity Program

The City of Bellevue's cultural diversity program provides workshops, events, and programs designed to help residents of all races and cultures to be productive contributors to the community. The program, which began in 1992, has received awards from the Association of Washington Cities and the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials.

Weekly radio program on voices of Diversity is broadcast on Mondays 7:30 p.m. KBCS-FM, 91.3. Hosted by Kevin Henry, the program is jointly produced by KBCS-FM and the City of Bellevue Parks and Community Services Cultural Diversity Program. It features people and organizations which foster diversity, and spotlights diversity and social service programs in Bellevue. *Information:* (425) 452-2835.

A television program, also called "Voices of Diversity" airs on Bellevue Channel 21 at 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, and

1:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Fridays.

The program is coordinated by Kevin Henry, and his cultural diversity assistant Callie Shanafelt, Office of Cultural Diversity, Parks & Community Services, P.O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009. (425) 452-7886 or (425) 452-7922. Fax: (425) 688-2814. Website: www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/parks/diversity/welcome.htm.

CITY MINISTRIES

Located at the City Church in Kirkland, City Ministries provides perishable food through 35 distribution outlets on the Eastside and in Seattle. Clothing and home furnishings can also be obtained. They distribute to individuals and families, network and partner with other churches, and provide training for other ministries. *Information:* Joel Pike (425) 881-0366.

Legislative Task Force

Chair: Joy Pocasangre (425) 747-0877
e-mail: good4me@earthlink.net



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

ties include annual participation in advocacy days in Olympia in the spring; and liaison with Washington Association of Churches and other advocacy groups. During the legislative session, you can send a message to your state legislators through the legislative hot line, 1-800-562-6000.

Multifaith Works Aids People With AIDS

Multifaith Works oversees several projects which mobilize volunteers, primarily from faith communities, to provide critical services which assist people affected by life-threatening or chronic illnesses to live with personal dignity and integrity. Multifaith AIDS project (MAPS) provides supportive low-income housing to

people living with AIDS. CareTeam volunteers offer practical support and friendship to individuals and households living with AIDS. Shanti volunteers provide one-to-one emotional support to people with life-threatening illnesses included HIV/AIDS.

In addition to these HIV/AIDS related programs, Multifaith Works also includes the MS Housing Joint Venture with the Multiple Sclerosis Association of King County to open a home for people moderately disabled by multiple sclerosis.

Its programs also include the Multifaith Alliance of Reconciling Communities (MARC), which builds bridges between faith communities and the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered/Questioning community.

Information: (206) 324-1520 or info@multifaith.org

Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns

Council Mission Statement

We, Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council, believe that we 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.

Youth Eastside Services

Youth Eastside Services (YES) provides parent support groups, drug and alcohol counseling, and individual counseling. Volunteers are active as receptionists, intake workers, and mentors. *Information:* (425) 747-4937