

EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL

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

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EASTSIDE

EISCC UPDATE
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Interfaith

SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL

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



Congregations For The Homeless

Director: Steve Roberts (206) 295-7803
StevesRoberts@comcast.net

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

The program celebrated its twelfth anniversary in September 2005. It is an operating agency of EISCC and is supported by EISCC members. CFH provides safe and secure shelter, three meals daily and life coaching for homeless men on the Eastside. The goal is to move men from homelessness to permanent housing. Support congregations who provide food, financial assistance and volunteers assist host congregations who provide facilities for a month. A total of 40 congregations currently participate. The cities of Bellevue, Redmond, Issaquah, Kirkland, the United Way and King County provide funds for our operations. Services by volunteers enable 99% of the income to be used for direct services.

Life coaching provides a one to one relationship between a homeless man and his life coach. The coaches who have taken 12 hours of specialized training provide relationship, accountability, resources assistance and advice for the men. They set goals together, work on resumes and job interviews, help with credit management and generally mentor the clients toward permanent housing. Coaches stay with

each man through transitional housing to permanent housing.

CFH hires a site supervisor and three site coordinators to manage the day to day operations of the shelter. We provide extensive screening of clients and the site coordinators stay with the men each night. We also hire a professional case manager to coach our life coaches and provide special care for our more difficult cases.

You may send support directly to Congregations for the Homeless, P.O. Box 662, Bellevue, WA 98009-0622. When making contributions through the United Way please designate EISCC Congregations for the Homeless.

Homeless men can reach our Shelter Supervisor for intake screening at 425-749-8369.

Contributions are welcome to the Nadine Shannon Memorial Fund to honor our program's Founding Director.

Tentative EISCC Program Schedule

April 11, 2006 - Tent City 4

May 9, 2006 - Ending Homelessness



Salvation Army

The Salvation Army Eastside Corps is located at 911 - 164th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA 98008-3518 (Mailing address: P.O. Box 7478, Bellevue, WA 98008-1478), according to Captain Kelly Nolan. Telephone number (425) 452-7300. Email: Kelly_Nolan@usw.sarmy.org.

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

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.



Emergency Feeding Program

Emergency Feeding Program is now an independent agency, after its founding 29 years ago by the Black United Clergy for Action and the Church Council of Greater Seattle.

It provides healthy food for a two-day period to meet a variety of dietary needs, including diabetic, Asian, Latino, and vegan, as

well as a seven-day supply of infant formula and baby food.

There are Eastside distribution centers in Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, and Bothell.

Information: (425) 653-1652 or info@emergencyfeeding.org

PUGET SOUND BLOOD CENTER

This agency collects blood from volunteer donors, and provides blood services to hospitals and health care organizations in 14 Puget Sound counties. Programs also include a small laboratory. It 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. Email: leighc@psbc.org.

FRIEND To FRIEND

Friend to Friend is a 30-year-old program of the Church Council of Greater Seattle which recruits and trains volunteers to make regular visits to residents of nursing homes and retirement homes.

Information: (206) 246-5150 or www.friendtofriendamerica.org

Seattle Mental Health—Eastside

Seattle Mental Health - Eastside serves severely mentally ill persons and persons with developmental disabilities or grief and stress-related issues. They provide services at 14270 NE 21st St. Bellevue, WA 98004. SMH also provides services in Redmond, Snoqualmie,

Renton, Auburn, and Kent, in addition to services in Seattle.

Agency information: (206) 302-2200; or www.SMH.org. Bellevue, Northcreek / Northwest Counseling Institute (425) 653-4900.

Evergreen Hospital Medical Center

This inpatient and outpatient medical care facility provides comprehensive medical services, including 24-hour emergency care and hospice services. Answers medical questions on Evergreen Healthline (425) 899-1700. It offers

parent education and support groups, budget counseling, school supplies, financial assistance for heating and energy bills for low income families. *Information:* (425) 899-1046. Website: evergreenhealthcare.org

United Way of King County (Eastside)

United Way is a county-wide agency which raises funds, recruits volunteers, and distributes resources to health and human service non-profit organizations. The Eastside Program Liaison is a liaison between United Way and participating organizations, providing support, information, resources, and advocacy. *Information:* (206) 461-5075.

Website: uwkc.org

EISCC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Your time and energy can help to maintain EISCC services, including Congregations for the Homeless, task forces, and other programs. Please contact the editor, Sally Wing (425) 747-5924, or drswing@webtv.net

Multifaith Works

Aids People With AIDS

Multifaith Works, with its new Executive Director, Arthur Padilla, continues to pursue its mission of building a community of compassion, providing friendship and practical support for person with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses, and promoting understanding and acceptance of human diversity.

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

HOPELINK

Hopelink's services, which began in 1971, include programs in five centers in North and East King County for senior citizens and people with disabilities, a day care center for children, literacy programs, and feeding and housing programs.

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 & support groups, & ongoing support and advocacy. *Information:* (425) 943-7550.

Hopelink also sponsors occasional Conversations for Change, with the general theme of Faith, Hope, and Action, on such subjects as domestic violence and homelessness.

EISCC members & others regularly con-

EISCC 2005-2006 Officers

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 (425) 562-1228

tribute to the EISCC Eastside Emergency Services Fund, administered by Hopelink. Expenditures are made for rent, utilities, water, gasoline (automobiles), and motel occupancy. Contributions may be sent to Eastside Hopelink, Bellevue Service Center, 14812 Main Street, Bellevue, 98007. *Information:* Rochelle Clayton-Strunk (425) 943-7559 or www.hopelink.org

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.

Invitation to Participate

To: Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council
 P.O. Box 662, Bellevue, WA 98009-0662
 Betty Spohn (425) 451-3651

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Cong./Agency _____

Congregation member: \$30 ____

Agency member: \$15 ____

Newsletter only: \$5 ____

I can volunteer for _____

More Info about _____

Catholic Community Services

Catholic Community Services at 12828 Northup Way, Suite 100, Bellevue 98005-1932, provides foster care, food, emergency services, 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.

Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace have been members of EISCC for many years. Their mission is to work for peace and respond to the social concerns and needs of the time. Their ministries include meeting and retreat space in Bellevue for nonprofit organizations and church groups; regional health systems, including St. Joseph Hospital in Bellingham; housing for low income persons; and the Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center, which provides a regular newsletter and Women's Justice Circles. *Information:* (425) 451-1770. Website: csjp.org/olp/



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. Since 1988, 60 homes have been built on the Eastside by congregational and interfaith groups.

Information: Sarah Schieron (425) 869-6007 Website: www.habitatkec.org

Bellevue Crop Walk

The fifth annual Bellevue Crop Walk will be held Saturday, May 27, 2006, beginning and ending at First Presbyterian Church, to alleviate hunger world-wide. All are welcome to participate. Proceeds will be divided, 25% to local hunger programs, 75% to Church World Service.

Information: Nancy Bent (425) 957-4756 or nancybent@comcast.net
 Website: www.bellevuecropwalk.org

Jewish Family Service

Programs include services for seniors, victims of domestic violence, disabled persons, children, and youth. A monthly Eastside food bank is available, as well as emergency assistance and refugee resettlement. They serve a multi-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:* (425) 643-2221 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

Legislative Task Force

Chair: Joy Pocasangre (425) 747-0877
e-mail: good4me1@earthlink.net



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

Activities 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.

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/



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

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.

Kindering Center

The Kindering 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, specialized toys, parenting classes in four languages, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and family counseling. *Information:* (425) 747-4004 or www.kindering.org

Crisis Clinic

Crisis Clinic has, since 1964, provided telephone support for persons in emotional crisis, information about human service resources, and an evening help line for youth.

A new information service, 211, provides statewide information and telephone interpreta-

tion for non-English speaking callers.

Information: (206) 461-3200
or crisisclinic.org

Crisis line: (206) 461-3922

Teen link: (206) 461-4922

National Alliance on Mental Illness

Eastside National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is a voluntary organization which provides support, educational programs,

and advocacy for mentally ill persons, their families and others affected by mental illness.

Information: (425) 885-NAMI (6264) or
info@nami-eastside.org.

Acres of Diamonds

Acres of Diamonds is a ten-year-old organization which provides a transitional home, support and education for homeless women and children to equip them for independence as productive community members.

Information: (425) 788-9999 or
info@acresofdiamonds.org.

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, educational programs, and group and individual counseling.

Information: (425) 688-5130.

Children And Family Services

Children and Family Services is a division of the State Department of Social and Health Services. Services include investigation by Child Protective Services of complaints of child abuse, neglect, and exploitation. They provide referrals to support services, including crisis counseling, day care, and out of home placement if necessary. Services for runaway youth may include crisis counseling, respite place-

ment, and intensive family counseling. Out of home placement may include emergency short-term care, specialized foster care, or group homes.

King County reporting line: 1-800-609-8764. Local reporting: (425) 649-4110. Local address: 14360 SE Eastgate Way, Bellevue, WA 98007

Information: (425) 647-4103

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. Information is conveyed through an e-mail list serve.

Eastside Baby Corner

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