

March 15, 2018

EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL
PO Box 662
Bellevue, WA 98009-0662

re: **2018 EISCC Participation**

Dear Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council member,

2018 Membership Please support us again in 2018. Annual membership is \$45 for congregations, \$30 for agencies. EISCC has no paid staff or employees - all funds go toward operations.

We Welcome Your Participation! Since the 1960's, EISCC has been a forum for Eastside faith communities and social service agencies to share concerns and provide solutions for the problems of the marginalized among us. EISCC also serves as a link for congregations to local government.

Monthly Meetings Attend our monthly (free) noon lunch meetings to report and share your work, needs and resources. Learn of service opportunities for your group as you review agency presentations. EISCC.net has program information, meeting minutes, announcements, and Emergency Service contacts to help EISCC members help those in need to access vital community services.

Sub-Agencies EISCC currently sponsors two sub-agencies: Congregations for Kids¹, and Back Pack Meals². EISCC also supports the Eastside Emergency Services Fund³. Congregations for the Homeless, and The Sophia Way started as sub-agencies of EISCC.

¹. **Congregations for Kids** - This coalition of local congregations, helped by Eastside businesses and community organizations, provides backpacks and/or school supplies for students from low income families within the Bellevue School District. It is the only organization in Bellevue to provide these for students in kindergarten through high school throughout the district who the district determines need them the most of all those who qualify for the federal free and reduced price lunch program. Since Congregations for Kids' first Good Start Back to School project in 1996, over 24,250 requests from the district have been filled. Already this school year, nearly 1,400 students in 28 schools have been helped. Participants in 2017 included 24 congregations, two service organizations, one corporation, four businesses, two foundations and a school's fifth grade classes. www.congregations4kids.org

². **Backpack Meals Bellevue** - This volunteer run program provides weekend meals children in all grades in the Bellevue School District. This 2016-2017 year, 330-350 students received bags of food. There are around 4,000 students eligible for free and reduced lunches and over 200 homeless students. Thanks to the many community supporters, we have been able to provide the food requested by children and families each year. www.backpackmeals.org.

³. **Eastside Emergency Services Fund** . EISCC sponsors the Eastside Emergency Services Fund (EESF) through Hopelink, to help prevent homelessness by assisting with eviction prevention (rent), utility bills and prescription drug costs. EESF payments may be sent to Hopelink at 14812 Main Street, Bellevue, WA. 98007.

Thanks for your kind support and participation in EISCC.

Yours in service,
Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council

Linda Hillesheim, President

.....cut and mail

Please send checks to:

Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council
PO Box 662
Bellevue, WA 98009-0662

Name of Congregation or Agency_____

Individual representative _____

Address_____

Phone_____email_____

Congregation Member \$45. Agency Member \$30