

## EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL (EISCC) GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, April 11, 2023 - Noon-1:30 PM (Pacific Time) – Virtual**

- ✚ **Welcome and Opening Prayer**
  - ✚ **Attendees were asked** to introduce themselves and enter their name, organization and email address in the chat.
  - ✚ **Brief reports:**
    - EISCC Treasury report: see <http://eiscc.net> for details
    - Congregations4Kids: 2,000 kids needing assistance; backpacks for kids in K, 2nd, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> grades; supplies for home use will be provided to schools to give to students;
    - Eastside Human Services Forum: Thursday, strategic planning board meeting; **Reproductive Health Access in East King County**, Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:00 PM, Register at <http://eastsideforum.org> to obtain link for presentation;
    - Legislative Update: House Bill 1240--Ban of Assault Weapons moving forward; Following House Bill 1260—Aging, Blind and Disabled; House Bill 1477—Working Family Tax Credit; House Bill 1559—Hunger Free Campus; encourage members follow legislation on Bill Tracker at <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/>
    - WA leg session ends Apr 23. <https://leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/cutoff.aspx>
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  - ✚ **Link to join Eastside Interfaith** <http://eiscc.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2023-EISCC-dues-letter-Jan-2023.pdf>
  - ✚ **Voted in New Board Member: Reverend Sandy Larson** – Evergreen Mennonite. Sandy, is a certified Interim Pastor. She has been a minister since the days when almost no one had ever met a woman pastor. She began her pastoral ministry in North Carolina and most of her years of ministry have been in Oregon. She and her husband George also spent a year serving as pastors for Presbyterian World Mission in a French congregation in Reims (east of Paris). Sandra has recently served in interim pastorates, focused on helping congregations find fruitful vision for the church. Her current passion is inclusive faith beyond childhood theology. She and George enjoy sharing excitement about adventure of life with their 2-year old granddaughter and her parents.
  - ✚ **Spotlight: *Alternatives to Police Response to Mental Health Crisis*** presented by Kat Pipkin from **Indivisible Eastside**. **Prop 1 Vote:** pertinent to April 25th King County Behavioral Health Levy vote. <https://yeskcprop1.com/>  
**KC Prop 1 Funds:**
    - Establish five crisis care centers, including a center dedicated to serving youth
    - Maintain and restore residential treatment beds
    - Grow the behavioral health workforce with career pathways and equitable wages
    - Provide immediate services to meet our immediate needs
- Flyer: <https://yeskcprop1.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/yes-on-prop-1-5.5x8.5-3.pdf> **Remember this: Someone To Call, Someone To Come, Somewhere To Go**

Tax impact tool for specific parcels <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/assessor/newsroom/NewsReleases/2023/Apr012023TransparencyTool.aspx>

- ✦ **Main Presentation: *Evidence-Based Approaches to Ending Homelessness -- What Is Really Evidence-Based?*** with Mike Mathias of Anything Helps (<https://www.anything-helps.org/>), plus Karina O'Malley (**Safe Parking**) speaking on application and reality for Eastside providers and clients:

Modes of housing on Eastside:

- Market rate, individual gets themselves into an apartment
- Rent subsidies, e.g., DSHS vouchers
- Buildings that have mandated lower rents
- Agencies specifically for housing, e.g., Imagine Housing
- Agencies for transitional housing, e.g., Attain

- ✦ **General Announcements:**

- <https://nami-eastside.org/2023-youth-mental-health-conference/>
- **Bellevue LifeSpring Annual Luncheon** on April 25th at Meydenbauer Center. If you would like to join me (Jennifer Fischer, E.D.), email me at [jennifer@bellevuelifespring.org](mailto:jennifer@bellevuelifespring.org) and I will get you registered. For more information, <https://www.bellevuelifespring.org/luncheon/>
- <https://www.501commons.org/resources/northwest-nonprofit-venues-map>
- Megan Duncan, Community Engagement Coordinator with **The Sophia Way** (2 shelters for women experiencing homelessness in Bellevue (serving 21 women) and Kirkland (serving 40 women) I am the staff contact for meal donations, in-kind donations and volunteering. [Megan.d@sophiaway.org](mailto:Megan.d@sophiaway.org); Meal Sign up: <https://thesophiaway.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=67898>
- **People Affected by Homelessness Support Group** Every Thursday at 5:30 PM; More info at [www.anything-helps.org/groups](http://www.anything-helps.org/groups)
- To receive weekly action alerts from **Faith Action Network (FAN)** along with the Action Tracker, sign up at [www.fanwa.org](http://www.fanwa.org)
- Once the FAN Board votes on FAN priorities, the FAN website will be updated with more information on each. Visit [www.fanwa.org](http://www.fanwa.org) for more information.
- Helpful links to our **rent fairness website** with an important action alert: <https://rentfairness.org>
- Link to 2023 **rent fairness priorities**: <https://www.wliha.org/advocacy/2023-public-policy-priorities>
- **Issaquah Meals Program**—Catholic Community Services, <https://ccsww.org>; Griffin Cole, contact;
- **New Bethlehem Meals**: Genevieve—food; Lorri—education support; <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/756984491408312015/false#/invitation>
- **LWUMC Safe Parking** meal sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d45ada823a1f5c43-meals#/>
- **Bellevue College's Benefit Hub and food pantry** is up and running and needs donations. To donate, contact Ranulfo Molina, Coordinator, [ranulfo.molina@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:ranulfo.molina@bellevuecollege.edu) or Sapan Parekh, [sapan.parekh@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:sapan.parekh@bellevuecollege.edu)

- ✦ **Closing Prayer** by Linda Hillesheim

**UPCOMING 2nd Tuesday EISCC Meeting: Tuesday, May 9, 2023**

**Topic: Prison Release and Recidivism, with Communities of Belonging and Passage Point**  
Supporting prisoner release and families, and preventing prison recidivism

EISCC BOARD MEMBERS 2022-2023—President and Eastside Human Services Forum Rep: Linda Hillesheim, Unity of Bellevue; Treasurer: Warren Marquardson, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Secretary: Judy Buckmaster, St. Luke's Lutheran; At Large Member-Outreach/Islamic Center of Eastside Mosque and the Muslim Association of Puget Sound Mosque: Farida Hakim; At Large: Elizabeth Maupin, M.Div., Spirit of Peace UCC; At Large Member-Khizer Sherriff

BOARD CONTACT: [eastsideinterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:eastsideinterfaith@gmail.com).

*EISCC Mission Statement--Members of Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council (EISCC) believe 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 other's religious heritage, welcome and pray for each other, and share information about pressing community needs. We provide a forum to educate, advocate, initiate, coordinate, and support through task forces and other means, to work for the common good, and to address human needs and improve the quality of life of those living in the Eastside communities.*