

Interfaith Sanctuary

SHELTERING, SUPPORTING, AND ADVOCATING FOR
HOMELESS MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2005

WINTER 2015

NEWS

TEN YEAR MIRACLE

-Board President,
Ed Keener

Page 7

HOMELESS TO HOUSING: ONE FAMILY'S STORY

-Aeriel Henwood, LMSW

Page 6

READY TO WORK!

-Tim Flaherty
Employment Specialist

Page 3

I AM PROJECT

- Jodi Peterson,
I AM Project Manager



Interfaith Sanctuary partnered with Author, Alan Heathcock, photographer Jay Saenz, Boise State University Theater Arts professor Michael Baltzell, and Public Arts Manager for Boise City Department of Arts and History, Karen Bubb, to create a special installment at this year's Modern Art event in May, called "I AM..."

Interfaith Sanctuary Guests were asked to write down their hopes, dreams, favorite foods, and to select a word that describes their best quality. The statement was "I AM..." and the words they chose were inspiring and lovely. Jay Saenz came to the shelter and took up-close and personal portraits of the guests participating in the "I AM..." Project.

The project initially debuted at the Modern Hotel on May 7 at Modern Art.
I AM Project Video: <http://tinyurl.com/sanctuarysiamproject>.

#I Donors

Thank you! Sanctuary and the guests we serve are smiling because of donors like you! Thank you for investing in our people and our work. On behalf of Interfaith Sanctuary and our guests we thank you again. Your generosity and commitment are invaluable, and we are proud to call all of you part of our donor family.

#I !
TO US YOU'RE ALL DONORS !

*Calling All
New Donors!*

◆ \$100,000 ◆

*The Double My Gift
\$100,000 Challenge is On!!*

For every dollar up to \$50,000 raised from NEW DONORS from faith-based organizations or individual congregants/adherents from religious/spiritual organizations, **The Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise** will reduce Sanctuary's outstanding building mortgage by the same amount. Hence the \$100,000 Challenge. In offering this matching gift only to new donors from faith-based organizations, the Diocese is encouraging Sanctuary to expand our base of supporters from a diversity of congregations to sustain our future.

Whether your NEW gift is large or small - it will make an immediate impact by providing safe shelter for men, women, and children experiencing homelessness in our community.

If you have never donated to Interfaith Sanctuary and you belong to a religious/spiritual organization, please note in the memo section of your check, "New Donor" (and the name of your organization). If you donate online (<http://interfaithsanctuary.org/donate-2/>), please mark the Designation Box, "New Donor" (and the name of your organization).

The CHALLENGE will continue through June 30, 2016.

A BIG Thank You to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise!!

Ready to Work!

“To solve homelessness for a night, you need shelter. To solve it for good, you need work.”
-The Doe Fund

When Sanctuary decided it wanted to start helping our guests overcome the barriers to employment, it did so with gusto! As a team we looked at a number of options and decided to model

ourselves after **The Doe Fund**, a program that has been successfully replicated across America. Some of the most significant barriers that our participants face in their search for employment are lack of reliable transportation, diminished access to communication, limited access to laundry facilities and food insecurity.

We solved all of those problems. We did this mostly with the help of our private donors, a grant through the Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation, and local churches. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the First United Methodist Church, Cathedral of the Rockies, have teamed up to help us supply lunches to our working guests and our employment program participants. Also, through the LDS Employment Services, and the help of Boise Stake’s Self-Reliance Program, our guests are getting some of their other needs met through clothing vouchers for interview and work clothes. The Cathedral of the Rockies has also generously made some gas vouchers available to our working guests who need a little help between pay checks.

The Ready to Work Program at Sanctuary, fully launched this October, is a rapid, comprehensive approach that combats barriers to employment faced by our guests. Key components of the program are paid workforce training, social skills development, team building, conflict resolution activities, as well as intensive case management. One aspect our program modeled from The Doe Fund, is that stipends are provided to participants to attend classes and work training. We had a lot of guests that were skeptical because they thought there was no way Sanctuary would actually pay someone to come to a class to learn how to get and keep a job! But that is exactly what we are doing. We are providing an incentive through a stipend to help our guests forgo the embarrassment of begging on a street corner or working a dead end day labor job. Our goal is to help them lift themselves out of abject poverty by providing the tools necessary to do so.

We ended up with five dedicated individuals for the first twelve-week training period. Every day I see them trying so hard to overcome their individual barriers to success. It is amazing to watch them try and fail, only to get up and dust themselves off and try again. After just five weeks of class, all of our participants secured employment!



The work training component for the Program is a new start-up business called G.U.D. Food (Grace, Understanding, Dignity) conceived of and managed by Jodi Peterson, Interfaith Sanctuary Marketing Consultant. Once a week, Ready to Work Program participants train at Congregation Ahaveth Beth Israel in the Kitchen and Community Center where they are learning to mix, package, and sell G.U.D. Food Holiday Spice Instant Oatmeal packed in to-go cups. The hope is to sell the product into the wholesale system to create a revenue stream to help fund the Job Training Program and participants. This new product will be available for sale the first time at the Xtreme Holiday Xtravaganza on December 20 & 21 at the Egyptian Theatre.

As we move into 2016, the Ready to Work Program will engage other shelter guests each quarter in classes and work training, and will continue to provide case management services for our guests as they seek employment.

-Tim Flaherty, Employment Specialist

Depressed Cake Shop Coming to Boise!

Interfaith Sanctuary is bringing the Depressed Cake Shop to this year's Xtreme Holiday Xtravaganza!

The Depressed Cake Shop, a grassroots initiative bringing mental illness awareness to cities around the world, is seeking volunteers for its first pop-up shop in Boise.



“We want to call out to anyone in the community who has either dealt with depression themselves or is supporting someone within their community who is battling depression,” Interfaith Sanctuary Marketing Consultant Jodi Peterson said. “We’re trying to create this safe community for people. We don’t want it to just be about the pop-up. We also want it to be a place to start a conversation.”

Established in 2013 in the United Kingdom, the Depressed Cake Shop has raised nearly \$100,000 for charities around the world by recruiting local bakers to donate and sell gray baked goods at temporary, pop-up shops. The project continues to grow as the message spreads through social media and press attention in outlets like Time Magazine, the Huffington Post, Vice and Oprah Magazine.

Depressed Cake Shop Boise will debut December 20 and 21 at the annual Xtreme Holiday Xtravaganza at the Egyptian Theatre in partnership with Interfaith Sanctuary. Peterson is seeking professional and at-home bakers to donate goods, as well as volunteers to help with transportation and sales.

Interested volunteers should email depressedcakeboise@gmail.com.

-Jodi Peterson, Interfaith Marketing Consultant



As the cold weather arrives and the winter Holiday Season approaches, we're very blessed to be able to respond to the needs of individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness. Thanks to your generosity of spirit, 165 children, women and men who are without a home will find shelter and support at Interfaith Sanctuary each night this Holiday Season. Because you care we are able to help those most in need in our own community. Your generosity through Sanctuary provides over 60,000 bed nights to over 900 unique individuals every year, along with a well-rounded offering of Supportive Services programs to transition our guests out of homelessness. Thanks to strong community support, Sanctuary staff and volunteers provide a bed, a light meal and supportive services for \$10 per person, per night. Your volunteer efforts, partnerships and donations keep our doors open to the long lines of our homeless neighbors seeking our services. Your Holiday gift will fund the shelter's general operational expenses for 2016. Formed in 2005 as a community response to a crisis, Interfaith Sanctuary successfully brings together the best of people of all faiths to work for the common good. Thank you for joining us in the belief that every person has a right to safe and adequate shelter.

Donations can be made online at www.interfaithsanctuary.org/donate or sent by mail to: Interfaith Sanctuary, PO Box 9334, Boise, ID 83707

My Life, My Dreams, My Future

-Jayne Sorrels, Executive Director

Interfaith Sanctuary's **My Life, My Dreams, My Future Retreat** was held at the Nazareth Retreat Center in Boise July 30 - August 1 and focused on employment and financial education, and creating healthy and supportive relationships within the community of women who are experiencing unemployment or under-employment in conjunction with homelessness. Twelve women from Interfaith Sanctuary participated and were supported by a team of four retreat staff over the weekend.



Throughout the weekend, a variety of workshops and activities were offered, including:

- Living Intentionally! with Jayne Sorrels, Executive Director, Interfaith Sanctuary
- Living Boldly! and Dress for Success with Ruth Romero, Image Consultant and Dress for Success Board Member
- Money Matters with Todd Christensen, Director of Education, Debt Reduction Services
- Field Trip to Paul Mitchell Salon
- Arts Activities
- Walking the Labyrinth

Retreat participants were enthusiastically positive about the retreat and shared in their evaluations that the experience increased their knowledge of job search and interview tools, and their knowledge of personal finances. As a follow-up support, the women attending the retreat were invited to participate in Sanctuary's Ready to Work Program where they could receive one-on-one case management and support at the Sunday Night Employment Group Meeting.

The *My Life, My Dreams, My Future Retreat* was made possible through a grant by the **Idaho Episcopal Foundation**.



A BIT ABOUT SANCTUARY...

- Interfaith Sanctuary offers a bed, a light meal, and supportive services for up to 165 men, women, and children each night, providing a total of 60,000+ bed nights each year.
- Sanctuary offers services to underserved populations that are unable to find shelter elsewhere, including two-parent intact families and single fathers.
- Our Supportive Services Program is designed to promote well-being and self-sufficiency, through case management, disability support, family strengthening, and assistance with permanent housing acquisition.
- Interfaith Sanctuary relies heavily on volunteer support in order to fulfill our mission. Last year Sanctuary Volunteers performed 7,300 hours of service working alongside shelter staff.
- More about Interfaith Sanctuary, is available on our website at www.interfaithsanctuary.org. To stay up to date with the latest news subscribe to our eNewsletter by texting SANCTUARYHOUSING to 22828 or sign up on our website.

Homeless to Housing: One Family's Story



At the end of July 2015 the Rogers family came into the Supportive Services office seeking case management initially just to get diapers and wipes for their three young children. The family consists of two parents and three children (all under the age of 3 years old). One of the primary focuses in case management is to help shelter guests secure permanent housing. Through these initial contacts with the Roger's family over diapers and baby wipes, a more in-depth assessment of their barriers to housing was assessed.

The family had three barriers that were impacting their ability to find permanent and stable housing: sufficient income to sustain the family, lack of a vehicle, and the need for further job training. A case management plan was implemented to remove these barriers.

Through the Ready to Work Program, the mother was connected with Bishop Duffin from the LDS Church. Bishop Duffin was able to connect the mother with Deseret Industries, where she was offered employment and training. In order for the mother to get to Deseret Industries with any degree of regularity, reliable transportation would need to be acquired. Supportive Services Staff was able to locate a reliable vehicle for the mother through an anonymous donor. Sack lunches, work clothes, and gas were also services provided to better insure the mother's success with her new employment.

The Rogers Family



Now with greater financial stability the Supportive Services Team began working towards finding housing for the Roger's family. By way of the Homeward Bound Program, the family was linked to El Ada Community Action Partnership and Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority. It took all of six weeks from the beginning of this process for the family to be moved out of the shelter and into housing! Once moved into their home, Supportive Services Staff provided additional links to the LDS Church for beds, blankets, and sheets for every member of the family. The family was now successfully re-homed! It couldn't have happened without the assistance of the Homeward Bound Program, funded through the Nagel Foundation and individual donations; the Ready to Work Program, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and the generosity of anonymous community members. Thank you all!

-Aeriel Henwood, LMSW, Case Manager

Support for Shelter, a Ten Year Miracle



Interfaith Sanctuary Housing Services is a collaboration of people of faith and people of conscience who have joined together to shelter and serve individuals experiencing homelessness.

Sanctuary provides overnight shelter for men, women, and children, and supportive services that promote greater self-sufficiency, improved well-being, and permanent housing acquisition.

We believe every person has a right to safe and adequate shelter.



Interfaith Sanctuary Shelter
1620 W. River St. | Boise, ID 83702
208.343.2630

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 9334 | Boise, ID 83707

www.interfaithsanctuary.org
info@interfaithsanctuary.org

Text *SANCTUARYHOUSING* to 22828
for current Sanctuary News!



Would you like to volunteer for Sanctuary?

There are currently over 40 community volunteer shifts available each week!!

For more information on volunteering, please scan the QR Code, go to www.interfaithsanctuary.org/volunteer, or you can email our Volunteer Coordinator at volunteers@interfaithsanctuary.org.

On Saturday, Nov. 14, Sanctuary Volunteers, Board Members and Staff reached out to the community asking for needed supply donations at the 16th Street Albertsons. Thank you Albertsons! What we encountered in interacting with the community was nothing short of a miracle which we who are still around after ten years with Sanctuary witnessed.



Unlike ten years ago our volunteers didn't need to explain who Sanctuary is and what we do. The community is now very aware of what we do, very aware of our track record, very aware that we deliver safe, reliable, judgment free shelter, and very aware of wide-spread community support. As we now say, "They get it." On Saturday we received generous donations to replenish our supplies.

Very important in this conversation and action concerning poverty and homelessness is that there is not anything close to an adequate supply of low-income affordable housing. This fact keeps people in homelessness.

Knowing about poverty and homelessness by the general population of valley residents has reached an unprecedented high. Now our actions to provide adequate, affordable housing must follow if we are to feel that we are doing what is right as a community.

-Ed Keener, Sanctuary Board Chair

Interfaith Sanctuary Housing Services

PO Box 9334
Boise, ID 83707

UNIQUE WAYS TO GIVE!!

Do you shop on Amazon?

The holidays are approaching and you may be busy shopping for gifts. You can help Interfaith Sanctuary Housing Services by shopping at smile.amazon.com. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Interfaith Sanctuary Housing Services whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. You can support us by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

Are you a Fred Meyer Customer?

You can link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit (Interfaith Sanctuary Housing Services) by following the link below. Whenever you use your Rewards Card when shopping at Freddy's, you will be helping us earn a donation from Fred Meyer. If you do not have a Rewards Card, you can sign up for one at the Customer Service Desk of any Fred Meyer store. This is a simple way of helping Sanctuary earn a donation while you shop.

<https://www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4>

