

## What can you do?

### SHARE....

#### ... Your Time

Become a volunteer in our Network to assist homeless families by preparing food, hosting guests at host sites in evenings or overnight, playing with children and helping them with homework, or teaching living skills - parenting, home management, budgeting, nutrition, and other needed skills.

#### ... Your Money

Contribute to IHNOC to help fund our programs.

... *This brochure* with your Church Leader and congregation.

To learn more about IHNOC and how you can help, cut out and send us the form below.

Mail: **IHNOC, Inc.**  
407 Lexington Avenue  
Toms River, NJ 08753  
(732) 736-1550  
oceanihn@gmail.com  
www.ihnoc.net

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like more information on IHNOC programs.  
 I would like to volunteer my time.  
 I would like to make a Tax - deductible contribution to IHNOC of:

\$25     \$100  
 \$50     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your interest and generosity*

**WE NEED YOU!**

IHNOC is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization

## Participating Host Congregations

### Christ Episcopal Church

Toms River  
732 349 5506

### Christ United Methodist Church

Lakewood  
732 363 8885

### Congregation B'nai Israel

Toms River  
732 349 1244

### Epiphany Roman Catholic Church

Bricktown  
732 458 0220

### Point Pleasant Presbyterian

Point Pleasant  
732 899 0587

### Refuge House Of Prayer COG

Toms River  
732 503 4408

### St. Andrew United Methodist

Toms River  
732 349 5367

### St Barnabas Roman Catholic Church

Bayville  
732 269 2208

### St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

Toms River  
732 349 0018

### St Mary's by the Sea

Point Pleasant  
732 892 9254

### St. Mary Roman Catholic Church

Lakewood  
732 363 0139

### St. Paul Lutheran Church

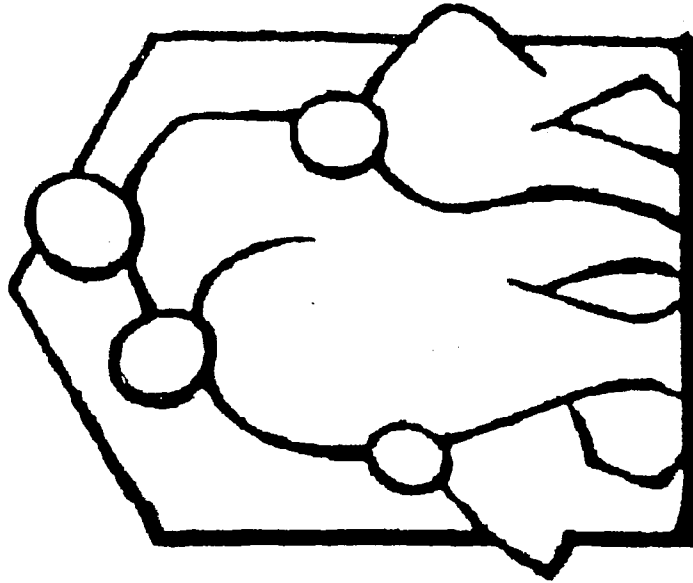
Beachwood  
732 349 0871

# Interfaith Hospitality Network

of

## Ocean County, Inc.

*An Affiliate of Family Promise*



(732) 736-1550

www.ihnoc.net

**A Community Response  
to Homeless Families**

## Our Mission

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Ocean County is a non-profit, interfaith ministry committed to providing shelter, meals and assistance to homeless families. With our trained volunteers, we reach out with compassion and acceptance, providing help, hope and a safe haven for our guests while they seek permanent employment and affordable housing. We increase community awareness and advocate responsible solutions to homelessness.



## How does IHNOC carry out this mission?

The Program mobilizes existing community resources: churches and synagogues for overnight lodging, congregations for volunteers, and a church owned house for the day center and network office. Each host congregation furnishes overnight lodging and meals for three to five families for one week each two to three months on a rotating schedule. The religious communities provide a safe, peaceful and welcoming atmosphere for the guest in need. We provide financial, career, individual and family counseling through professional volunteers. Referrals from social service agencies and the community are accepted.

## Who administers the program?

In the Summer of 1995 concerned individuals began meeting and a formal Board of Trustees was formed in the Fall of 1996. The Board of Trustees oversees a full-time Network Director and volunteer Coordinators from each Church. We are part of a National Program with 171 Networks operating in 41 states.

## Who are the homeless?

Today's homeless population includes a growing number of two parent families, one parent families, working people, victims of domestic violence, and many others. Over half of the homeless are women and children, with families being the fastest growing segment of the homeless population. A major illness, loss of job, domestic violence or other forces can thrust these working families into homelessness.

## How are guest accepted into the program?

All guests are personally interviewed and screened by our Director. A background check is performed and an agreement of guidelines is signed before anyone is accepted into the program.

## Why are volunteers important?



The volunteers are the heart and soul of the network and without them it could not exist. Beyond providing meals, staying overnight and other services essential to the program, volunteers offer compassionate assistance to those who have suffered the loss of their home. They do simple but immeasurable things. They talk to the guest... and listen. They treat the guest with respect and respond to them with compassion. They can be the source of hope. They can also help the families search for housing or employment opportunities.

## Why should my congregation get involved?

Participating in the IHNOC hands-on program, that serves the homeless, fosters congregational unity and interfaith cooperation. Congregations are encouraged to make financial contributions to support the operation of the Network and to open the doors of their facilities to provide overnight shelter and meals.

