



ANNUAL REPORT

2017

WE PROVIDE HAVENS FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES AMONG INTERFAITH HOUSES OF WORSHIP WITHIN SOMERSET COUNTY. WE HELP HOMELESS FAMILIES PLAN THEIR TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE — HOMELESS NOT HELPLESS. WE CONNECT FAMILIES WITH NEEDED RESOURCES ALONG THEIR PATH TO INDEPENDENCE.



EMPOWERING HOMELESS FAMILIES
TO ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN
INDEPENDENCE

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WHAT A YEAR FOR IHNSC! CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SERVING HOMELESS FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN WAS CERTAINLY THE HIGHLIGHT OF 2017. WITH THE OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FROM OUR CONGREGATIONS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY, IHNSC HAS TRULY BECOME A STAPLE IN SERVICE FOR SOMERSET COUNTY. WITH THE GENEROSITY FROM ALL THAT BELIEVE IN OUR MISSION, WE WERE ABLE TO SUSTAIN THAT 90% OF OUR FAMILIES MAINTAINED THEIR INDEPENDENCE IN 2017. BY OFFERING WELL-ROUNDED PROGRAMS AIMED AT LONG-TERM STABILITY, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS PROVIDED CRUCIAL SERVICES FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN IN OUR COUNTY.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SUPPORT FROM OUR CONGREGATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN IT IS NOW. WE WILL CONTINUE TO LEARN, OBSERVE AND EVOLVE BASED ON THE TRENDS OF HOMELESSNESS IN SOMERSET COUNTY AND NEW JERSEY. I WANT TO PERSONALLY THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU THAT SUPPORTED OUR AGENCY THIS PAST YEAR AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETHER IN 2018 AS WE REMAIN UNITED IN COMBATING FAMILY HOMELESSNESS.

WITH MUCH GRATITUDE,
ALYSSA MARTINI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STAFF

ALYSSA MARTINI, **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
KAREN DONOHUE, **DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES**
KAYLA ELLIS, **CASE MANAGER**
ELYSE SCHOEPP, **MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR**
ROBERTA SNEAD, **WEEKEND SUPPORT STAFF**
RICHARD FREEMAN, **VAN DRIVER**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STEVEN H. VOLLERS, **PRESIDENT**
BILL JONAT, **VICE PRESIDENT**
KATHY RUE, **SECRETARY**
GARY SURVILL, **TREASURER**
SHARON HOWARD
DOTTIE DRISCOLL
CHRISTINE PETRANE
LEE MATYOLA
ROBERT J. FOLEY
KATE SARLES
DR. ANGELA TOIA
RABBI ARNIE GLUCK, **MEMBER EMERITUS**
REV. GEORGE MONTANARI, **MEMBER EMERITUS**
KATHY SAVO, **MEMBER EMERITUS**



FLYNN DAY CENTER

OUR 2017 PROGRAM IMPACT

IHNSC'S CONTINUUM OF CARE PROVIDES STRUCTURED SERVICES AND BASIC NEEDS THAT SUPPORT THE PREVENTION OF RELAPSE BACK INTO HOMELESSNESS. THIS WELL-ROUNDED PROGRAM APPROACH ACCESSES CLIENTS CRUCIAL SUPPORTS THAT ENABLE STABILITY AND INDEPENDENCE, WHILE CREATING CLIENT EMPOWERMENT.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDES NIGHTS, MEALS, BASIC NEEDS, INTENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT, FINANCIAL COUNSELING, MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION TO FAMILIES WHO ARE HOMELESS.

6 FAMILIES SERVED
18 INDIVIDUALS, 12 CHILDREN
6 SINGLE MOTHERS
6 ADULTS SECURED EMPLOYMENT WHILE IN SHELTER
5 FAMILIES MOVED TO INDEPENDENT HOUSING
810 HOURS OF CASE MANAGEMENT

SUNRISE HOUSE ACCOMMODATES FAMILIES WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY IN OUR EMERGENCY SHELTER AND HAVE PREPARED THEMSELVES FOR INDEPENDENCE BUT FIND THEMSELVES STALLED BY THE SEARCH FOR PERMANENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING. INDIVIDUALIZED CASE PLANS ARE CONTINUED AND BASIC NEEDS ARE SUBSIDIZED AS FAMILIES WORK ON EDUCATIONAL AND EMPLOYMENT GOALS.

3 FAMILIES SERVED
3 ADULTS, 2 CHILDREN
2 ADULTS EMPLOYED
650 HOURS OF CASE MANAGEMENT

PHASE 2 OFFERS 18 MONTHS OF CONTINUING CASE MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT TO CLIENTS WHO HAVE LEFT OUR EMERGENCY SHELTER AND/OR SUNRISE HOUSE FOR THEIR OWN INDEPENDENT HOUSING. THIS FILLS AN IDENTIFIED GAP IN SERVICES TO SUPPORT PREVIOUSLY HOMELESS FAMILIES TO PREVENT RELAPSE(S) BACK INTO HOMELESSNESS.

22 FAMILIES
54 INDIVIDUALS, 30 CHILDREN
19 SINGLE MOTHERS
15 ADULTS EMPLOYED
830 HOURS OF CASE MANAGEMENT

SOUND MINDS PROVIDES ALL CLIENTS, JUVENILE AND ADULT, WITH PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION, MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING AND CRISIS INTERVENTION. OUR COUNSELOR



PROVIDES DIRECT SERVICES TO CLIENTS AT OUR HOST CONGREGATIONS, AS WELL AS IN-HOME COUNSELING.

94 INDIVIDUALS, 50 CHILDREN ACCESSED TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
15 INDIVIDUALS, 6 CHILDREN PARTICIPATED IN CONSISTENT COUNSELING
3 FAMILIES PARTICIPATED IN FAMILY THERAPY
NO MENTAL HEALTH HOSPITALIZATIONS

RAPID RE-HOUSING SERVES CLIENTS WHO ACHIEVED INDEPENDENT HOUSING. CLIENTS RECEIVE HOMELESS TRUST FUND ASSISTANCE AND ARE CONSIDERED AT HIGH RISK OF RELAPSE BACK INTO HOMELESSNESS. CLIENTS RECEIVE INDIVIDUALIZED CASE MANAGEMENT, FINANCIAL COUNSELING, BASIC NEEDS SUPPORT AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

11 FAMILIES SERVED
17 INDIVIDUALS, 0 CHILDREN
11 ADULTS EMPLOYED
610 HOURS OF CASE MANAGEMENT



DAYCARE PLUS ACCESSES CHILDREN, AGES INFANT THROUGH 5, TO LICENSED AND AGE APPROPRIATE CHILD CARE AND PRESCHOOL AT THE SOMERVILLE YMCA AT NO COST TO THE PARENT(S). WE OFFER THIS PROGRAM SERVICE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE YMCA WHO PROVIDES 50% OF TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS TO OUR REFERRED CHILDREN. IHNSC FUNDS THE ADDITIONAL 50% WHILE OFFERING CASE MANAGEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE PROGRAM.

1 CHILD ENROLLED IN CHILDCARE
1 CHILD COMPLETED PROGRAM



2017 VOLUNTEER IMPACT



IN 2017, YOU RESPONDED TO
THE NEEDS OF **42** FAMILIES

94 INDIVIDUALS

50 CHILDREN

RESOURCES

2,735 NIGHTS OF SHELTER PROVIDED

7,865 MEALS SERVED

TIME

9,469 HOURS OF VOLUNTEERING
OVER **1,000** VOLUNTEERS

SHELTER

17 HOST CONGREGATIONS

14 SUPPORT CONGREGATIONS



ALL DONATED FOOD AND BASIC
NEED SUPPLIES WERE USED FOR
EVERY IHNSC FAMILY

FURNITURE WAS DONATED FOR
FIVE FAMILIES FOR INDEPENDENT
HOUSING

OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



WE CELEBRATED OUR 25 YEARS OF SERVING HOMELESS FAMILIES AT THE IHN ANNIVERSARY GALA ON OCTOBER 26 AT THE BASKING RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB. BILL JONAT OF GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANCHBURG ROTARY, TEMPLE BETH-EL AND VOLLERS FAMILY FOUNDATION WERE HONORED FOR THEIR YEARS OF DEDICATION TO THE IHN MISSION.

REVEREND GEORGE MONTANARI OF HOST CONGREGATION MIDDLEBUSH REFORMED CHURCH PRESIDED OVER THE EVENT, WHICH WAS FILLED WITH GOOD FOOD AND GREAT COMPANY AS SUPPORTERS JOINED TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THIS MILESTONE. SILENT AUCTION BASKETS, EACH WITH A SPECIFIC THEME, WERE GENEROUSLY DONATED BY NETWORK CONGREGATIONS. THE BASKETS WERE ASSEMBLED BY VOLUNTEERS FROM THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH IN SOMERVILLE. AN INSPIRING OPENING PRAYER WAS LED BY MSGR. GREGORY E. S. MALOVETZ WITH CLOSING REMARKS GIVEN BY LEIGH FREEMAN OF TEMPLE BETH- EL.

SINCE 1992, OVER 360 FAMILIES HAVE SOUGHT EMERGENCY SHELTER THROUGH OUR HOST CONGREGATIONS WITH OVER HALF OF THOSE SERVED BEING CHILDREN. WHAT STARTED OUT AS A VISION TO HELP THE HOMELESS HAS EVOLVED INTO A FULL CONTINUUM OF CARE THAT AIMS TO ADDRESS THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL THAT WALKS THROUGH OUR DOOR.

WE ARE SINCERELY GRATEFUL TO ALL WHO HAVE SUPPORTED OUR MISSION OVER THE LAST 25 YEARS!



OUR LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

IHNSC FEELS STRONGLY THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO ENGAGE INTERNS IN LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND PROVIDE THEM WITH A WELL-ROUNDED APPROACH TO SOCIAL WORK, AS WELL AS OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES. IN 2017, IHNSC PARTICIPATED IN SUPERVISING 13 STUDENTS WHILE THEY WORKED TOWARD EDUCATIONAL GOALS.

SOCIAL WORK INTERNS

SENIOR FIELD WORK

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ

ONE STUDENT COMPLETED 450 HOURS OF FIELD WORK AND GRADUATED WITH A BACHELORS IN SOCIAL WORK DEGREE (BSW). ONE STUDENT COMPLETED 250 HOURS OF FIELD WORK AND WILL COMPLETE THE INTERNSHIP IN 2018.



IMANI MCKELVEY, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

SENIOR FIELD WORK

KEAN UNIVERSITY

ONE STUDENT COMPLETED OVER 100 HOURS OF FIELD WORK AND GRADUATED WITH A BA IN SOCIOLOGY.

REACH SENIOR OPTION PROGRAM

HILLSBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, HILLSBOROUGH, NJ

TWO STUDENTS EACH COMPLETED A SEMESTER WORKING AS MENTORS TO IHNSC EMERGENCY SHELTER CHILDREN, AS WELL AS WORKING ON SOCIAL WORK PROJECTS.

SERVICE LEARNING

RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, BRANCHBURG, NJ

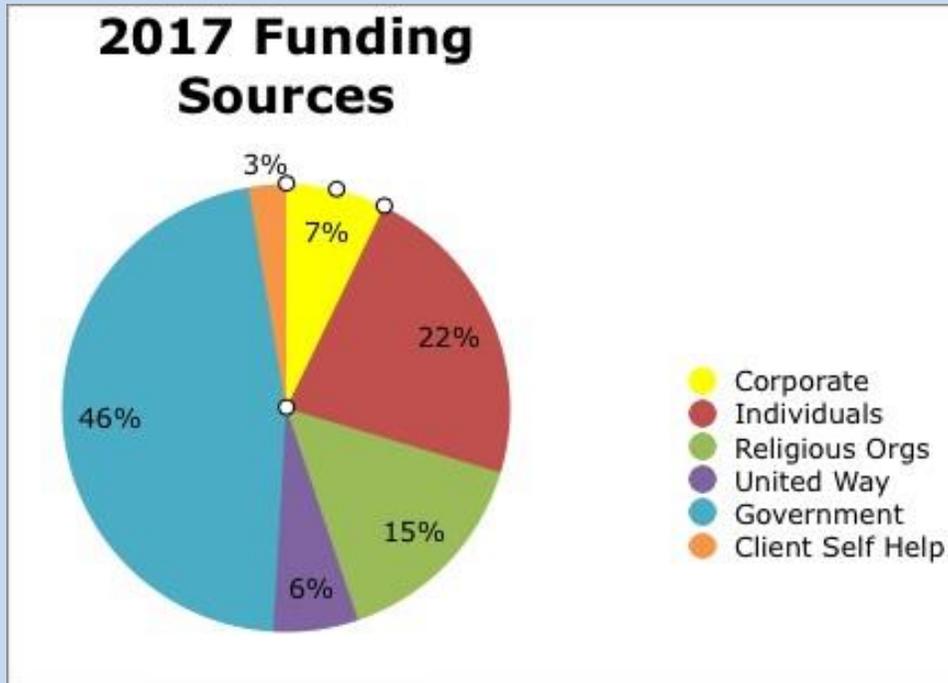
EIGHT STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES BY VOLUNTEERING TIME AT HOST CONGREGATIONS.

HOMELESS PLUNGE

IMMACULATA HIGH SCHOOL, SOMERVILLE, NJ

STUDENTS FROM IMMACULATA HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATED IN A HOMELESS PLUNGE, IN WHICH THEY CAME TO THE FLYNN DAY CENTER TO LEARN ABOUT THE IHNSC PROGRAMS OFFERED. THEY THEN WERE TRANSPORTED TO A HOST CONGREGATION TO EAT A MEAL WITH THE EMERGENCY SHELTER CLIENTS. THIS EXPERIENCE CONNECTED STUDENTS TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE SHELTER SCHEDULE WORKS AND THE ROUTINE THAT OUR CLIENTS HAVE EACH DAY.

OUR 2017 FUNDING SOURCES



A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

I LOOK BACK AT 2017 AND I FEEL THAT WE HAVE BEEN SO BLESSED.

I BELIEVE WE ARE TO LIVE OUR LIVES IN FAITH AND STILL “ROW AWAY FROM THE ROCKS” WHICH I FEEL WE HAVE BEEN DOING THIS PAST YEAR.

LOSING RENEE WAS TRAGIC BUT HER VISION OF SUSTAINED INDEPENDENCE AFTER EMERGENCY SUPPORT HAS CREATED SUCH PASSION THAT THE BOARD, CONGREGATIONS WITH OUR MANY VOLUNTEERS AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF LED BY ALYSSA OVERCAME CHALLENGES SO THAT THE NETWORK’S MISSION CONTINUES TO MOVE FORWARD.

I KNOW THAT I HAVE PERSONALLY EXPERIENCED THE BENEFITS AND GREAT SATISFACTION OF WORKING WITH SUCH A TALENTED AND PASSIONATE GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS THAT MAKE UP OUR BOARD.

WITH ALL THIS BEHIND US, I ONLY SEE A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR IHNSC WHERE OUR GUESTS THRIVE IN THEIR INDEPENDENCE AND LIVE TRULY IN CONTENTMENT.

THANK YOU ALL!
STEVEN H. VOLLERS
BOARD PRESIDENT



OUR CLIENT INSPIRATION

EACH CLIENT THAT COMES THROUGH IHNSC HAS A UNIQUE STORY.

LINA CAME TO THE IHNSC EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM IN 2003 WITH HER TWO CHILDREN. AFTER IMMIGRATING TO THE UNITED STATES FROM PORTUGAL, LINA TRULY SOUGHT THE LIFE OF THE AMERICAN DREAM.

LINA FOUND IHNSC DURING A VERY TRAUMATIC TIME IN HER LIFE AND SPENT THE NEXT 15 YEARS LEARNING HOW TO HEAL, COPE AND GROW WHILE REBUILDING A LIFE FOR HERSELF AND HER CHILDREN. IHNSC HAS BEEN THERE FOR HER EVERY STEP OF THE WAY, WITH LINA UTILIZING SEVERAL RESOURCES AND GOING THROUGH OUR CONTINUUM OF CARE TO ASSIST IN HER INDEPENDENCE.

IN APRIL 2017, LINA ACCOMPLISHED A GOAL THAT SHE HAD BEEN TRYING TO REACH SINCE COMING TO THIS COUNTRY ALMOST 30 YEARS AGO. LINA FINALLY BECAME A UNITED STATES CITIZEN. IHNSC HAS WORKED INTENSELY WITH LINA ON THIS GOAL FOR OVER 10 YEARS, IN THE HOPES THAT SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO LIVE AND WORK AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN IN THE COUNTRY THAT SHE HAS SO PROUDLY LIVED IN FOR SO MANY YEARS.

AS A RESIDENT OF OUR SUNRISE TRANSITIONAL HOUSE FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS, HER NEWFOUND FREEDOM AND ACCESS TO SERVICES HAS ALLOWED LINA TO TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENT HOUSING. WE ARE SO PROUD OF LINA AND ALL OF THE IHNSC STAFF THAT HAVE DEDICATED TIME TO HELPING HER ACCOMPLISH THIS MAJOR GOAL. LINA'S STORY IS ONE OF PERSISTENCE, RESILIENCY AND FAITH THAT EMBODIES IHNSC'S GOAL OF EMPOWERMENT AND INDEPENDENCE.



STAY CONNECTED WITH IHNSC IN 2018

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SUPPORTED BY



United Way
of Northern New Jersey