

# NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023

## A DELICATE TIME

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO
Courtney Hall

#### Dear Friend:

We are hearing it from many corners of Interfaith Works programs: pressures are mounting. The neighbors we serve are feeling more vulnerable as the challenges they face become less manageable.

### Why?

Many pandemic programs have sunsetted. This includes emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) payments that provided families with more assistance each month to buy food during the pandemic. While the pandemic may have subsided, inflated costs of food and other staples are very present and are increasing the burdens on already-struggling families. Similarly, moratoriums on eviction have expired while rents continue to escalate.

Our IW Connections program...

### HIGHLIGHTS

Annapolis Visit

New Leaf Update

March News

**Upcoming Events** 

Impact By the Numbers



Read more here

## **ANNAPOLIS VISIT**

Interfaith Works staff and board members went to Annapolis to meet with our elected leaders and share information about our programs to help our neighbors find a pathway to stability.

We are grateful for the time our elected officials and their staff spent with us and look forward to collaborating to address the needs of people experiencing poverty and homelessness.





# Turning Over A New Leaf

Interfaith Works' newest emergency shelter was named with great intention: New Leaf. The name captures all that Interfaith Works hopes to accomplish at this all-gender facility, which is to provide our clients with the tools and resources they need to turn over a new leaf in life.

New Leaf offers a stable place to live for individuals from all walks of life. A large percentage of our current residents are between the ages of 35-44; 63% have had multiple episodes of homelessness. More than half of our residents are living with a disabling condition.

Currently 25 residents are living at the shelter which is in Rockville. Since the shelter opened, all clients have been connected to a case manager, and many have been able to enroll in food assistance benefits and Medicaid.

Read more here

### **MARCH NEWS**

### Welcoming community leaders to our programs



Montgomery County Councilmember Sidney Katz and his staff toured the IW Essential Needs Center in Rockville and met with our staff to discuss programs that help our neighbors including free clothing and homegoods, food, and emergency financial assistance to pay for rent and utilities.

# Can you lend a hand?





IW would like to apply for the World Bank Community
Connections Campaign and to be eligible, we need to list 10
people on the application who would agree to donate to IW
through the Campaign. In addition to receiving your donation, the
Bank will match all donations to IW made through the Campaign!
We have one nominator – can we find nine more? If you are a
World Bank retiree or current Bank staff working at the DC
headquarters, please contact Alex Cross at <a href="mailto:across@iworksmc.org">across@iworksmc.org</a>.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**JOIN US FOR A** COMMUNITY **CONVERSATION FOOD INSECURITY: HUNGER CLIFF** 

## **THURSDAY, MARCH 30** 7 - 8 PM ON ZOOM

**REGISTER HERE:** bit.ly/IWCommConvoMarch2023 (registration required)



# **TUESDAY APRIL 11**

location only

# BY THE NUMBERS



people requested rental assistance in the second quarter of this fiscal year from IW Connections. This is double the number who requested help in the previous quarter, pointing to increasing stresses on renters.

**Montgomery Women and Montgomery Commission for** Women selected Supriya Mordecai, Program Director of IW Drop-In Center & IW Shelter at Progress Place, as a Woman Who Makes **History in Montgomery** County!



#### **CONTACT US**

www.iworksmc.org

### DONATE AND VOLUNTEER

(301) 762-8682 info@iworksmc.org

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