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The banner features the Interfaith Works logo on the left, which consists of a stylized human figure with arms raised, formed by two green curved lines and a blue square. To the right of the logo, the text "INTERFAITH WORKS" is written in a dark blue, sans-serif font. Further right, the word "connection" is displayed in white, lowercase letters inside an orange rectangular box. Below this box, the text "Monthly Bulletin from Interfaith Works" is written in a smaller, dark blue font. At the bottom of the banner, a dark green horizontal bar contains the text "Donate | Volunteer | Wish List" in white, followed by "January 2017" in a larger white font.

A New Day, A New Home

Earlier this month, the new Interfaith Works Women's Center at 2 Taft Court in Rockville opened for business.

This was an important day in the lives of the women we serve. The night before, the IW residents left the old Wilkins Avenue shelter on a bus bound for the new site. Upon arriving, Interfaith Works staff greeted them in the parking lot, shouting, "Welcome to your new home!" Many of the women **responded with cheers of joy**. Staff and volunteers had worked



tirelessly assembling beds, moving furniture and lockers, and making sure that the shelter was ready and welcoming.

This is so much more than just a move. It is a new beginning.

The new Interfaith Works Women's Center is a spacious, modern facility that will give residents **easy access to timely, life-changing programs**, including IW case management and vocational services programs, along with on-site dental, medical and behavioral health services, thanks to partnerships with Cornerstone Montgomery and CCI Health & Wellness. IW Women's Center residents will not have to leave the building to get what they need. This is a far cry from their only option being taking two or even three buses to access vital services.

Our new facilities, including the new Interfaith Works Empowerment Center in Silver Spring and the expanded Interfaith Clothing Center, are examples of IW's efforts to provide multiple, crucial services at a single location to help those we serve lift themselves out of poverty.

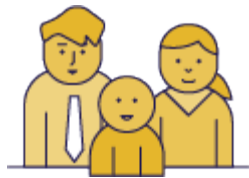
We thank you, our supporters, for making it possible to serve our clients with the dignity and respect they so richly deserve.

Take a look at some of the media coverage of the Taft Court opening [here](#). We look forward to working with you in 2017.



Shane Rock, CEO

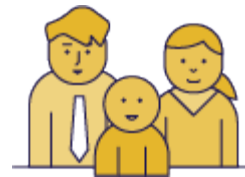
Interfaith Works By The Numbers



2,742

Families

have shopped for free clothing and homegoods at the [Interfaith Clothing Center](#) since July 2016



23

Families

have escaped eviction and other financial crises through grants and loans from the [IW Hand to Hand](#) emergency assistance program since July 2016

Latest News

A Fresh Start

Things are looking up for June, thanks to help from Interfaith Works' Family Services Program. June is a 37-year-old single mother with four children. She came to Interfaith Works after fleeing an abusive partner, at first staying temporarily at a shelter for domestic violence victims and then briefly in a motel.

Without any family support in the area, she eventually found herself homeless and struggling. Although June had a full-time job, she did not make enough money to rent a

place of her own. Despite becoming homeless and having her life turned upside down, June persevered, maintaining her job and providing as much normalcy as she could for her children.

She began working with the Interfaith Works Family Services team, and things began to turn around. Not long ago, she and her family got a fresh start, moving into a townhome through the **Interfaith Housing Coalition**. Housing Coalition. The family is settling into their new routine, with the children attending their neighborhood schools. June continues to work closely with her Interfaith Works case manager to set goals to continue her path to economic independence.



She also got some great news: the offer of a new job with a big pay increase. June starts her new job this month!



Volunteers provided a financial literacy session at our job-readiness class series and assembled move-in kits, complete with linens, cleaning supplies and personal essentials so that men and women moving into the Interfaith Works Residences will feel welcomed and have what they need from day one. Many thanks to Patti Kane of the **Home Builders Care Foundation** and **Bank of America** volunteers for giving back. If you would like to get involved with Interfaith Works, contact volunteer@iworksmc.org.



Save the Date: 20th Anniversary Companies Caring Breakfast!

Mark your calendar! Interfaith Works' 20th annual Companies Caring Breakfast is **Thursday, April 20**, at the Bethesda North Marriott on Marinelli Road. We will honor extraordinary community leaders, and also take a look back at the many dedicated Montgomery County pioneers who have contributed so much over the years to Interfaith Works' efforts to battle poverty and homelessness.

Sponsorship and ticket information will be available soon. For more information, contact Mary Jo Bean, 301.315.1096, mbean@iworksmc.org.

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