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INTERFAITH WORKS

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Monthly Bulletin from Interfaith Works

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Equipped for Success

Take a look at the smiles on their faces. Every Friday this month, students are picking out brand-new backpacks filled with school supplies at the Interfaith Works Clothing Center.



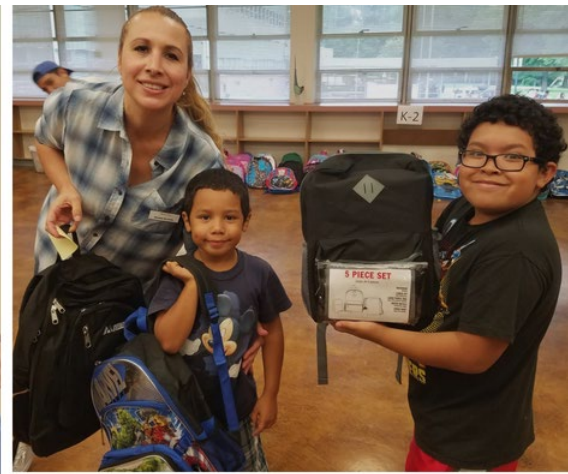
Being able to pick their favorite backpack from the generous selection donated by hundreds of community members can make an enormous difference. Starting the year with proper school supplies and the knowledge that people care, sets each student on a path of hope and high expectations.

So far, over 1,500 students have received backpacks. When we asked for your help, you made this possible with so many workplace, organization and individual drives and a tremendous outpouring of financial contributions. We are halfway to our goal of distributing 3,000 backpacks this month.

On behalf of all these students, thank you.

Shane Rock
CEO

P.S. I hope to see you at the Park Potomac Ice Cream Social and Exotic Car Show to benefit Interfaith Works School Supplies Drive this Saturday!



You Are Invited!

This Saturday, August 25 - Park Potomac Ice Cream Social to benefit the Interfaith Works backpack and school supplies drive. The Exotic Car Show starts at 11am and the Ice Cream Social begins at 1pm. Donate a backpack during the event and receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win from a large collection of excellent prizes. Find the details on [this flier](#) and discover why Margo and Bruce Fonoroff have been dedicated to this effort for the past decade by watching the video below.





Saturday, October 20 - Interfaith Works' **Race to Empower MoCo 5K/1K**, starts at 8:30am from the Interfaith Works Clothing Center. With a new name this year, this highly-regarded run/walk, takes place at the same beautiful course along the paved Rock Creek Trail! Register at [this link](#) for the discounted, early bird fee. Find out more about sponsorship

opportunities on the [Interfaith Works' website](#).

Gratitude Corner

We are filled with gratitude! After putting out the call for volunteers to provide three full weeks of meals in July at the Interfaith Works Women's Center, the response was astounding. With great generosity, all the meals were provided.



Thank you to everyone! Regular servers, North Bethesda United Methodist Church and Temple Beth Ami (pictured above) were joined by Beth Chai, Church of the Redeemer, Joseph & Brown Family, Okunseinde Family, WIN (Women's Impact Network), Justine and Family, Mosaic Community Fellowship, Bender JCC of Greater Washington, Haynes Family, Yana, Sow A Seed Community Chest, Saint Francis Episcopal Church, Mundy Family, Diane and Friends, KindWorks and Community Food Rescue Network, Bibi and Purpose of Life, and CTC Summer Camp.

At the Interfaith Works Clothing Center, summer brings a great deal of activity. In July, many groups and camps volunteered to sort and display clothing and homegoods, including Encounter the Gospel of Life, City of Rockville Latino Youth Development Program, Church of the Redeemer, Zion Church in Landover, Spark the Wave (summer camp) and YSOP & Change Foundation

Emergent BioSolutions hosted a school supplies and professional clothing drive. Afterward, Interfaith Works staff visited to say "thank you" and had fun announcing which department won the competition to collect the most.

At the Interfaith Works Empowerment Center, volunteers from Restore Church spent two days setting up bookshelves and organizing various spaces (photo below).



Mieko Vail and Ben Reister, interns from C3M Power Systems, donated a collection of much-needed everyday items, toiletries and school supplies worth over \$400 when they were volunteering at the Interfaith Works Empowerment Center. The Church of Latter-Day Saints provided travel toiletries and go-go yogurt, which is a much-anticipated favorite of participants meeting with their case managers.

Both the Dermatology and Skin Cancer Center and Rock Creek Dermatology immediately agreed to donate sample-size bottles of sunscreen when they learned that our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness were in great need of sunblock when out on the streets.

As part of their “Serve Day”, Church of the Redeemer fanned out across Interfaith Works’ programs. At the Interfaith Works Women’s Center, members thoroughly cleaned/organized the shelter and collected and donated paper goods, canned food, breakfast supplies, toiletries, feminine products, laundry detergent, hand soap and cleaning supplies. At the Interfaith Works Clothing Center, their volunteers sorted and arranged clothing (photo below).



Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped in July!

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