



INTERFAITH
Family
Shelter

March 2022

Spring 2022 Newsletter

Uniting in service to families,
with children, facing homelessness

From Our Executive Director:

Dear Friends of Interfaith,

We announce the public phase of our **Fortifying Families' Future Capital Campaign**.

Early last year, we learned that we might lose our lease on our core shelter building in downtown Everett. The former Dominican Convent we had leased for 22 years might go up for sale in the next few years.



The Interfaith Family Shelter Board decided not to wait for the "For Sale" sign and made an offer to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church to purchase the site. In November 2021, we signed a purchase-and-sale agreement for \$1,500,000 with the Catholic Archdiocese to purchase the site of our current shelter.

I am happy to report that with an \$800,000 capital budget request stewarded by 38th Legislative District **Representatives Emily Wicks** and **Mike Sells** and 38th Legislative District **Senator June Robinson**, we are well on our way to raising the \$1.6 million needed to buy the property.

This is a win for families experiencing homelessness in Snohomish County. We hope to continue providing a warm safe room children and their parents struggling to find housing in our community.

Our incredible Capital Campaign Committee, led by **Don Whitfield** and **Jesse Deason**, has raised pledges for over \$140,000 so far, and look forward to support from the City of Everett and Snohomish County Human Services.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

FORTIFYING FAMILIES' FUTURES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The capital campaign to purchase the main **Family Shelter** building and site from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church is now underway!

We have leased our main shelter from the parish since 1999, and the church now plans to sell the building. Purchasing the Family Shelter will ensure that this vital and efficient program continues to operate and continue serving families.

We need to raise a total of **\$1.6 million**. And we have already received **\$43,400** in donations and **\$940,600** in pledges.

Your support and generosity are integral to the success of this campaign and the Family Shelter's existence.

Please visit

[www.interfaithwa.org/
fortifying-families-futures](http://www.interfaithwa.org/fortifying-families-futures)

to learn more, and
make a gift or pledge
to Fortify Families' Futures!



SCAN ME

Every gift makes a difference!

Visit our website:

www.interfaithwa.org

And follow us on:

: @InterfaithFamilyShelter

Since **2009**, the Family Shelter has served:



585
families



2,160
individuals



1,285
children

Partner Spotlight: Trust-based Support

Earlier this year, the Interfaith Family Shelter was proactively selected by the Puget Sound Energy Foundation (PSEF) as the recipient of a **trust-based philanthropy** program. Among a handful of other regional nonprofits, Interfaith was recognized as an *"exceptional nonprofit organization leading the way in the prevention and elimination of homelessness throughout PSE's 10-county service area."*

This unique philanthropic approach focuses on an organization's core aspirations, principles, and best practices. It reflects PSE's commitment to help local communities and support programs that benefit those experiencing homelessness by providing pathways to home ownership. Unlike competitive grants, trust-based philanthropy involves an in-depth examination of carefully pre-selected

Candidates: A detailed analysis of their history, reputation, governance and leadership, vision and strategy, communications with community stakeholders, resiliency, and social equity all factor into this thorough assessment.



"We hope this trust-based philanthropy model inspires nonprofit organizations who are working diligently in this sector to know that they have the trust and confidence of funders like the PSE Foundation to continue their great work. We view this as the beginning of a fruitful partnership," says Karlee Deatherage, Senior Community Engagement Representative at Puget Sound Energy. "On behalf of PSE and the PSE Foundation, I look forward to supporting the vital work Interfaith Family Shelter does for our community members in Snohomish County without stable housing."

The **\$25,000 unrestricted grant** has been allocated to Interfaith Family Shelter's ongoing Capital Campaign to purchase the Family Shelter, and enable us to continue serving families in our communi-

A New Resource



Look for future information about **Faith Family Village!** The Interfaith Family Shelter is working with Faith Lutheran Church and Faith Foodbank to create additional shelter units in central Everett.

We're using federal, state, and city funds to site a Pallet Shelter village on unused Faith Lutheran property.

We will partner with Faith Foodbank as the case managers and operators of this new shelter site: a great example of faith groups, nonprofits, and municipalities working together to reduce homelessness among families in our community!

Donor Spotlight: Gibby Home Fire Prevention

"Thank you for letting us perhaps save a life," says Gerry Gibson. "Seven people die every day in home fires, almost all of these are preventable. Smoke alarms save lives."

Gibby Home Fire Prevention (GHFP) was formed after the Gibsons lost their son, Greg, in a fire at a rental house that had no smoke alarms. Since then, GHFP has advocated for fire safety information, and also installed free smoke alarms. Their efforts led to the Greg "Gibby" Gibson Home Fire Safety Act, which

enforces smoke alarm and fire safety among landlords, and promotes fire safety education.



In December '21, GHFP installed their **5,000th free smoke**

alarm... at the Family Shelter! We are so proud to mark this milestone with the Gibson family, as they secure the safety of our family clients at the shelter!

GHFP & volunteers celebrate 5,000 free smoke alarm installations at the Family Shelter

Interfaith Association of NW Washington

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