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2016 Sleep Out: Ignite the Night Fundraiser Event

Nonprofit goal: raise \$2.1 million to serve 2,184 families

WHAT: Plymouth-based Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners announces its 21st annual Sleep Out campaign, kicking off with an Ignite the Night celebration – 500 luminaries will be positioned in the shape of the new Interfaith Outreach logo in the parking lot.

The annual Sleep Out is the community-wide campaign to support struggling families in eight west suburban communities. During the campaign, kids, families, school groups and church organizations sleep outside to raise money for the campaign. Each year, funds from the Sleep Out campaign help more than 2,000 families with food and housing, as well as life-changing assistance through education and employment.

This year's goal is to raise \$2,184,000 between now and Dec. 31, 2016 – breaking down to \$1,000 per family the organization serves. The money helps move families forward on the road from survive to thrive.

WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 12, 7 p.m. start (Participants sleep out overnight)

WHERE: Interfaith Outreach parking lot, 1605 County Road 101 N, Plymouth

WHY: **The Need and the Response**

- Suburban and rural poverty in the seven-county metro area rose by 92% from 2000 to 2013, while it grew by 24% in the two core cities. (Metropolitan Council)
- Housing is affordable at 30% of income. For Interfaith Outreach families, housing costs alone are often 70% of their income.
- A family of four is in poverty when they earn \$24,250 or less in one calendar year. (U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services)
- More than 93% of families at Interfaith Outreach have household incomes below 200% of the national poverty rate, which is \$31,860 for a family of two and \$48,500 for a family of four.

MORE: Donations can be made on the NEW mobile-friendly website at www.iopc.org/donate

Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners is a human service nonprofit that ignites the power of community to provide urgent and strengthening services in eight Twin Cities western suburbs so families can live their best lives, children can succeed and the entire region can prosper and shine. Serving the west Hennepin County communities of Hamel, Long Lake, Medicine Lake, Medina, Minnetonka Beach, Orono, Plymouth and Wayzata since 1979.

For more information about the Sleep Out campaign, email
Jill Kohler at jkohler@iopc.org or visit www.iopc.org/SleepOut.

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