It all started with a **small** food shelf and a **huge** vision

In 1979, Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners started as a small food shelf and transportation service. We are now one of the largest human service providers in the Twin Cities west metro. With the help of this generous community, we distributed 1 million pounds of food and household essentials last year, helping families stretch budgets and prevent hunger.

However, despite our community’s will to share its abundance, the need for food shelves that offer no-cost food, household supplies and other resources continues to grow. Poverty is on the rise, especially in the suburbs.

Poverty in suburban Hennepin County has grown nearly four times faster than in Minneapolis and St. Paul. 14% of the people living in our eight-city service area lack the income to meet their basic needs.

Because of you, resources are available to prevent hunger and provide individualized and holistic family support services. **Your gift helps nearly 2,000 families stabilize, strengthen and thrive each year.**

Our community continues to live into its vision – and tackle the root causes of hunger, such as unemployment and lack of adequate resources. Together, we are breaking the cycle of poverty and removing barriers that keep people from achieving their dreams.

Minnesotans visited food shelves 3,402,077 times in 2017 - the highest number of visits in recorded history. "

- Source: Hungersolutions.org

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**Prevent Hunger goal:**

$200,000 and **100,000 pounds** by March 31, 2019

**Gifts will be DOUBLED** by The Mosaic Company up to $20,000
A while ago, a working mom shared her between-payday habit of sitting out her lunch break in her car. Between pay periods she was often without funds to bring or buy a lunch at work and didn’t want her co-workers to know.

Keeping gas in the car, her job intact, and a roof overhead took priority on those days. While driving home from work, her question wasn’t what to prepare for dinner for her kids but how far she could make their last couple of cans of soup go.

It’s hard to imagine this kind of struggle until or unless you’ve been there. And, it’s unthinkable, isn’t it, in a community like ours, that any mom or family or individual go hungry – even for a day?

Fortunately, for this mom and her kids and so many others, our food shelf became a supplemental resource and a path to other timely family support services. What she and other struggling families and individuals find here – thanks to people like you – is not only help with the basics, but ways to prevent and overcome the causes of hunger and other issues that keep people stuck in chronic economic hardship.

Support for the Prevent Hunger campaign not only provides access to nutritious and culturally appropriate food, but a host of family support and employment services that set people on the path to new and hopeful futures.

An ounce of prevention…100,000 pounds of cure

FOR EVERY $1 DONATED TO THE PREVENT HUNGER CAMPAIGN, INTERFAITH OUTREACH CAN SOURCE $9 WORTH OF FOOD

with your help, we can do this!

$200,000 and 100,000 pounds of food and goods by March 31

The Prevent Hunger campaign is part of Minnesota FoodShare, which supports 300 Minnesota food shelves each year. Your contributions of dollars and goods will leverage additional financial support in the month of March.

Nigina volunteering in the food shelf she once used as a program participant

LaDonna Hoy, Executive Director, Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners

It’s hard to imagine a better return on a $200,000 and 100,000 pound community investment, wouldn’t you say? Stay with us, friends. This is exactly the kind of thing we’re good at!
Growing up in Wayzata, David Anderson had always known about Interfaith Outreach. But he never thought he would need to ask for help.

A few years ago he experienced a divorce. He lost his job and was unemployed. His mother and father were both diagnosed with Alzheimer’s and dementia, and he was the primary caregiver for his mother. He exhausted his entire 401(k) fund and all savings in order to support his three children and get by. David felt embarrassed by his inability to make ends meet. His best friend, now wife Jessica, encouraged him to go to Interfaith Outreach for help.

David said, “When I first came here, I felt humbled because I once had a great job. My self-esteem was low and it was not the way I expected my life to go. Even though I felt inadequate, the people at Interfaith were full of love, joy, kindness, encouragement and hope.”

David applied to thousands of jobs on his own and while working with the Employment Services team. They helped improve his resume and strengthen his interview skills. He also utilized the Interfaith food shelf to help stretch his grocery budget. David says, “Interfaith Outreach provided me a bridge over abject poverty that allowed me to stay focused on my job search and helped me maintain hope.”

Now David has a great job with a major corporation. He and Jessica have recovered financially and are enjoying building a new life with the children in Plymouth.

The Andersons make a donation every month as they pay it forward for the love and kindness they experienced here. Thank you, David and Jessica!

A

David had extensive business experience and skills

B

Job loss and a divorce left him in a financially difficult spot

C

David accessed the food shelf to stretch his limited resources

D

He worked with the Case Management team to connect to other community resources

E

He worked with Employment Services to conduct career exploration and career assessments

F

David and staff worked to update his resume, practice interviewing and create a tailored job search plan

G

Today, David has a full-time job at a major corporation and is a sustaining (monthly) giver to Interfaith Outreach
A donor perspective: do we have enough?

Scott and Lynda* worked their whole lives with the critical question in the back of their minds, “Do we have enough to retire?” It was their constant goal to be financially secure and prepared for retirement. While raising their kids. While sending kids off to college. While planning for family vacations and purchases. While enjoying the wonderment of grandkids. They constantly asked themselves, “Do we have enough?”

In 2017, Scott and Lynda’s financial planner told them, “Yes, you have enough.”

“Ok,” Scott proclaimed, “We can now set money aside for charities when we die.” It felt safer to Scott and Lynda to have the money sitting there just in case the market dropped or they had an unexpected and expensive emergency. But after searching their hearts, talking through their values and learning more about charitable giving options, they decided to start giving larger amounts of money away.

It took a big leap of faith for Scott and Lynda to set up a donor advised fund.

A donor advised fund is a charitable giving vehicle administered by a public charity created to manage charitable donations on behalf of organizations, families or individuals. It’s a great way to create a legacy.

Contact Jill Kohler at 763-489-7512 to learn more

This change of giving strategy allows them to witness the effects of their gifts firsthand. Donor advised funds allow donors to disperse funds as they see needs arise in their community. “It feels good to see the results of a gift as opposed to just having it dispersed when we pass away.” Since 2017, Scott and Lynda have made a number of disbursements to nonprofits through their donor advised fund. “It’s really liberating and fun to see the results. The money does not do any good in the bank if we are not going to use it.”

The generous couple also listed Interfaith as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy in their will. To this day, Scott and Lynda give financially and give time as volunteers in our community. We could not be more grateful.

* Names changed for donor privacy

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GRANTS September-November 2018

The Grainger Foundation, Employment
RBC Foundation, Family Support, Early Childhood Mental Health
The Rotary Club of Plymouth, Education & Youth
SandCastle Foundation, Housing & Neighborhoods
SuperShelf, Food
Target Foundation, Housing & Neighborhoods
TCF Bank, General Operating
The Rotary Club of Wayzata, Food

MEMORIALS September-November 2018

Donna Adams / Kathleen Anderson / Nancy Armstrong / Brittany Boegel / Beverly Born / Gail Burton
Dr. Samuel Carlson / Jerome Felling / Fr. Thomas Garvey / Elaine Glore / J. Diann Goetten / Anne Heideman
Anne Marie Hennen / Donald Hess / Barbara Hoye / Herb Kahler / Arne Kolbjornsen / Tom Kreckow
Greta Kriener / Wallace Krueger / Howard & Sally Lemmon / Iona Rose McLaughlin / Donald Meier
Kathleen Michaelson / Susan Mueller / Keith Nord / Betty O’Neill / Carol Paulson / Barbara Prescher
John & Marion Ranger / Richard "Dick" Reed / Terry Reilly / Peter Rennebohm / Mark Scheidhauer
Ruth Shannon / Hana Shaw / Deane Skjonsby / Sandy Willis

$1 DONATED = $9 WORTH OF FOOD
iocp.org/donate
Hunger is all around us. The primary cause of hunger in our resource-abundant community is not a lack of food, it is a lack of access to food due to poverty. Folks are struggling to make their budgets work – which, some months, is nearly impossible.

Because of you, 1 million pounds of food were distributed at Interfaith Outreach last year. Employment Services helped 222 adults get and keep jobs, and our case management team worked with people to help them move toward a better day.

Struggling to make budgets work!

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At Interfaith Outreach, we see people struggling to keep food on their tables, skipping meals and needing resources to help make their budgets work. Housing is too expensive. Health insurance premiums are rising. Families are working two and three jobs to try to make ends meet – and the ends are just not meeting.

– Yvette Giles, Manager of Casework Services

PREVENTING HUNGER MEANS:
Access to food
Staff, volunteers and the community provide a respectful and welcoming experience to all those who use the food shelf.

Skill-building training and Employment Services
A powerful team of volunteers, businesses and staff helps adults secure and keep living wage jobs.

Caring Family Support
A case management team of 10 help families address issues that keep people stuck, such as the lack of affordable housing and unmet mental health needs.
You raised $2,472,000 by Dec. 31. And, thanks to your 2018 Sleep Out gifts, this year will bring even more families hope. The spirit of love, community and home has never been stronger. Together in support of one another, we live out our shared humanity. Because of you, the Sleep Out has prevented homelessness more than 32,098 times in 23 years.

You did it! Thank you!

Join us at this special anniversary gala to help achieve our collective vision of a community becoming the best version of itself. More than 450 supporters including local businesses, community partners and individuals will be there. Join us. Buy tickets or sponsor today at iocp.ejoinme.org/SpreadYourWings.

MISSION – To engage the heart and will of the community to respond to emergency needs and create opportunities for all to thrive.

VISION – To build a vibrant community where everyone counts and all sectors and systems work together for the good of all.

Subscribe to our e-news at iocp.org/getconnected

Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners
1605 County Road 101 N, Plymouth, MN 55447  763-489-7500  iocp.org

SERVING THE CITIES OF HAMEL, LONG LAKE, MEDICINE LAKE, MEDINA, MINNETONKA BEACH, ORONO, PLYMOUTH & WAYZATA

Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners and the Interfaith Outreach Endowment Fund, which solely benefits Interfaith Outreach, are registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. Gifts to either organization are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.