



Our Community
Our Home
40 Years Together

OCTOBER - DECEMBER
2019



“Interfaith’s Project Success program has given my family a chance to evolve into the best version we can be.”

– Alison, program participant

Alison had a chance to change her story

Alison* is our neighbor. She belongs here. But, as she entered high school, Alison began processing childhood trauma. Alison says, “I was struggling with my mental health. I stopped caring about my grades and started hanging out with people that did not care about me.”

Alison did not graduate her senior year.

But Alison is resilient.

“It wasn’t until I met the incredible people at Interfaith Outreach and Wayzata Public Schools Adult Education that I had a chance to change my narrative.”

Interfaith Outreach and its partners, donors and supporters gave Alison the gift of belonging and support as she worked toward her goals. And, most critically, the stability of a home for her daughter Karin and partner John through Project Success, a transitional housing program funded in part by donations to the Sleep Out.

“While I’m excited to be celebrating one of my goals, completing my GED, I can’t help but be even more excited for the future. I’m currently employed and being trained for a career in the health profession. And, I have a stable place to call home.”

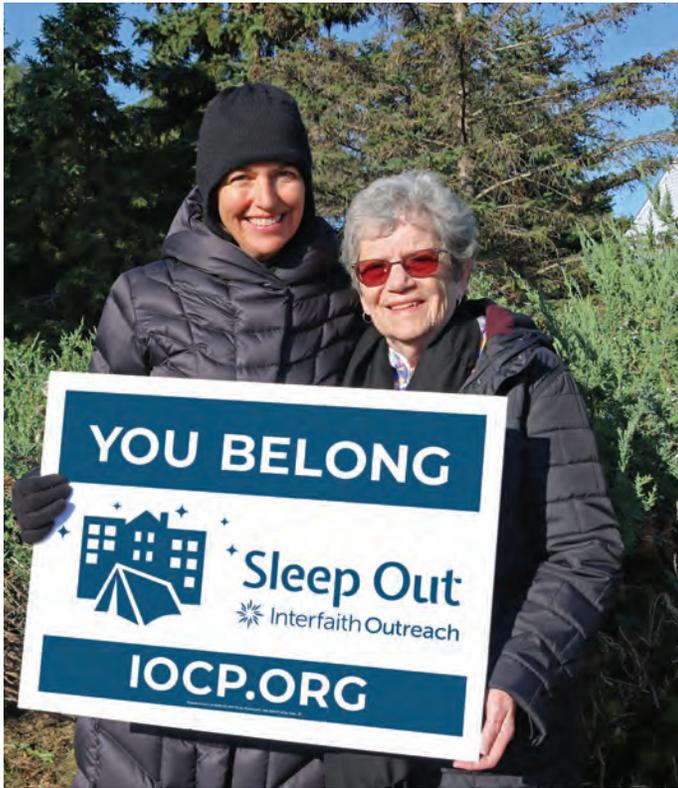
Housing is foundational

For the past 23 years, amazing community members like you have slept in boxes, tents, cars, and on living room floors to prevent homelessness through the Sleep Out. The Sleep Out supports struggling families and kids with:



* Names changed to protect privacy

- ▶ **Donate by Nov. 14 and double your impact!** In memory of longtime Interfaith Outreach supporter and former board member Bill Munsell, his friends and family will match gifts up to \$250,000.
- ▶ **The Sleep Out goal: \$2.6 million to prevent homelessness**



Holiday Gift Program

Sponsor by Nov. 1

Last year 2,822 neighbors experienced holiday joy thanks to your generosity. Learn more and sponsor at iocp.org/holidaygift.

Community Sleep Out

Saturday, Nov. 9, all over town

Join hundreds of community members and pitch a tent or host a Bedless Night as we ignite our collective power. Before you sleep out, swing by the **Fire of Belonging** between 7-10 p.m. at Interfaith Outreach to pick up a *You Belong* yard sign. iocp.org/sleepout2019.

Shop with a Purpose

Friday, Dec. 20, all over town

Finish your last-minute holiday shopping! Local caring businesses are generously contributing portions of their sales on this one day to the Sleep Out. View participating merchants and their special offers at iocp.org/swap on Nov. 1.

Join Lani Willis (left) and LaDonna Hoy (right) on the Sleep Out's biggest day – Give to the Max Day – and participate in the new *You Belong* Sleep Out experience.

NEW this year! The *You Belong* Sleep Out Experience

Thursday, Nov. 14, all over town and online

On Give to the Max Day, share a photo or video of yourself with a *You Belong* Sleep Out sign to remind others that we all belong here, as neighbors. Set up a Sleep Out fundraising page and inspire your family and friends to donate. Tell our neighbors, "*You Belong*" by planting a Sleep Out yard sign. Pick up your sign at the Fire of Belonging on Nov. 9 from 7-10 p.m. at Interfaith Outreach. We'll have a little treat for you. Learn how you can share a powerful message of belonging at iocp.org/youbelong

2,000 families – our neighbors – need your help.

The Sleep Out is the all-in community effort to help families stabilize in times of crisis. Together we can create a caring community that creates a real sense of belonging, for everyone.

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT
Double your dollars up to \$250,000 when
you donate between now and Nov. 14.
iocp.org/sleepout

Help our neighbors recover their dreams



LaDonna Hoy,
Executive Director, Interfaith
Outreach & Community Partners

Most of us who live in this community would say there's no better place to live, to work, to raise a family, to grow old. Because for most of us that's true. But, now, in what has become a very tough housing market, for too many others of us, that "no better place" has become more dream than reality.

A safe, stable place to call home is what anchors people's dreams, but for the 1 in 5 households who came to us last year, homelessness was their current reality. And for others of us, as rents gallop ahead of real

incomes, as formerly affordable rental properties have gone to market rate, their "no better place" — to live, to raise their families, to work, to grow old — is at risk of disappearing.

Who are those others? They are us. The people God has placed in our path. They belong here. With us. We need to help them recover their dream. We can. A successful \$2.6M Sleep Out Campaign will power up the new and revitalized efforts and partnerships and resources needed to make it happen. Let's do it!

Rental housing is less affordable than ever

In Minnesota, working full time (or more) doesn't mean you'll have enough to pay rent. According to a report from Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP), the gap between wages and rent is growing. Wages are not keeping pace with rent increases.

Building on an annual report from the National Low Income Housing Coalition, MHP's Out of Reach Minnesota 2019 reveals the wage necessary to afford a two-bedroom apartment in Minnesota has jumped by 9% over the past

decade. Meanwhile, as housing costs have climbed, median renter income declined by 5% from 2000 to 2017, with disproportionately severe impacts on communities of color.

From personal care aides and cashiers to restaurant cooks and nursing assistants, top in-demand jobs in our area simply don't pay enough to afford a modest apartment.



Housing Wage
+9%



Median Renter
Income
-5%

Rental housing is less affordable than ever: Wages decline as rents increase
(from mhponline.org)

New! Take the Quiz

Every day we are inspired by Interfaith Outreach families. Our community is amazingly diverse and resilient. Take a one-minute online quiz to learn more about your neighbors living right here in the west metro suburbs.

Do *you* know your *neighbors?*
TAKE THE QUIZ



iocp.org/neighbors

If it has been done, it must be possible!

We often speak of just-in-time miracles that turn the *im*-possible into the possible. Powered by the resolve that all of us have a place to call home and opportunities to become all we can be, this amazing community steps up, and miracles happen.

We take heart from past successful all-in community partnerships that have made 253 units of affordable rental housing available to low- and middle-income families and individuals of our community. The Sleep Out has been — and still is — a critical support for the life-changing opportunities that safe, affordable housing makes possible.

We take heart from the renewed focus of the Outreach Development Corporation (ODC) in galvanizing the complex and collaborative public/private resolve, as well as partnerships and resources needed to preserve, acquire and develop more urgently needed affordable housing.

Comprised of local professionals who specialize in affordable housing finance and community development, — developers, realtors, representatives of the public sector experienced in addressing housing crises, local business leaders, and Interfaith Outreach board and staff representatives — the ODC board is the just-in-time people to lead the way.

Our families, our kids, need a just-in-time housing miracle now. Your support will make it happen.



Development	Units	Partner
Lakeview Commons	64	Cornerstone / Real Estate Equities
Shenandoah Apartments	64	Private Developer Jim Deanovic
Stonecreek Apartments	33	Dominium, LLC
Medina Townhomes	26	Dominium, LLC
Vicksburg Commons	50	CommonBond Communities
Village Homes	4	Habitat for Humanity
Maggie Manor	6	Interfaith and ODC
Boulevard Apartments	6	Interfaith and ODC
Total Affordable Units	253	

Thank you! Gifts to the Sleep Out have helped create 253 affordable apartments and townhomes in the Twin Cities west metro over the years.

GRANTS June-August 2019

**Frey Foundation,
Housing & Neighborhoods**

**City of Plymouth HRA,
Housing & Neighborhoods**

**General Mills Foundation,
General Operating**

**Hennepin County,
Housing & Neighborhoods**

**Target Foundation,
General Operating**

MEMORIALS June-August 2019

Kathleen Anderson / James Budd / Dr. Samuel Carlson / Sharon D'Amico / David Davenport / Jerome Deiley
 Steve Erickson / Howard "Howie" Guest / Sharon Johansson / Roger Johnson / Frank Leu / Bette McIlrath
 James & Kathleen Michaelson / Vergene Miller / Flavian Mueller / Lowell "Tom" Olson / Mary Carol Pederson
 Dave Remen / LaVern Stempson / Joseph Wierschem / Marie Williams / Tanya Williams / Paul Youngberg



2019 Sleep Out Campaign

Goal: \$2.6 million by Dec. 31, 2019

Housing is the foundation of family stability.

Many pay 60% or more of their income for rent every month (30% is deemed affordable) and are barely scraping by.

Without housing, it's hard to get anything else in life to work. But not all our neighbors have a home and family or friends to help them stabilize in times of crisis.

Your gift helps Interfaith Outreach deliver services in the areas of family support, food, housing and neighborhoods, education and youth, employment, and transportation to 2,000 local families.

One in five families that needed Interfaith Outreach services last year experienced a crisis of homelessness. Some were sleeping in their cars. Many were doubled up with friends or family.

Donate to the Sleep Out and send a message to our neighbors: *"You Belong,"* while also preventing homelessness. iocp.org/sleepout

Through the Sleep Out, our community has prevented homelessness 33,272 times



The Sleep Out inspires hundreds of people to sleep in tents, boxes, cars and on floors to raise funds and bring help and hope to local families.

A few examples of how Sleep Out dollars make a life-changing difference:

- ▶ **\$2,908** provides services to stabilize and strengthen a family for a year
- ▶ **\$1,964** provides employment services for a parent to land a "career job"
- ▶ **\$1,530** provides a child one month of care in a quality early childhood center
- ▶ **\$899** keeps a family in their housing for a month
- ▶ **\$400** puts tires on a car so a family can get to work
- ▶ **\$259** offers a utility payment assist that keeps the lights on

Your contribution today will prevent homelessness tomorrow.

HOW YOU CAN HELP



DONATE Donate to the Sleep Out by Nov. 14 to double your gift up to \$250,000

▶ iocp.org/sleepout



SLEEP OUT Host your own Sleep Out or Bedless Night between Nov. 9-Dec. 31

▶ iocp.org/sleepout2019



GET SOCIAL Participate in the *You Belong* experience

▶ iocp.org/youbelong

Thank you for contributing \$30 million over the 23-year history of the Sleep Out



Bob Fisher in his tent

Twenty-three years ago, local businessman Bob Fisher started it all! Help us raise **\$2.6 million** this year in support of local families and kids. iocp.org/sleepout2019



Gordy Engel (far right) and his family during SWAP

Gordy Engel, owner of The Foursome, inspired the first Shop with a Purpose (SWAP). Come support the Sleep Out while holiday shopping on **Dec. 20, 2019**. Participating merchants listed at iocp.org/swap on Nov. 1.



Youth and their faith leaders gather on Youth Night

200 youth gather at Interfaith Outreach for a powerful service and learning experience during the 2018 Sleep Out.

HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM needs sponsors & support

2019

KEY DATES

TO SPONSOR A FAMILY

SEP 6-1 NOV

Sponsors Register Online

DEC 6-7

Sponsor Gift Drop-Off Weekend

DEC 8

Family Gift Pickup Day

How to help

1. Sponsor a family or individual by purchasing gifts or gift cards
2. Provide a financial contribution
3. Volunteer your time

iocp.org/holidaygift

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.

Newsletters are available online at iocp.org/getconnected. To be removed from the mailing list, please email communications@iocp.org.



Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners

1605 County Road 101 N, Plymouth, MN 55447 763-489-7500 iocp.org

SERVING: 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.



HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM



*a great way to give back
this holiday season!*



Did You Know?

94% of our clients
live in poverty*

The Interfaith Outreach Holiday Gift Program is our community tradition of providing gifts for struggling neighbors. Thanks to sponsors and donors like you who purchase gifts and gift cards, the holidays are a little brighter for local seniors, families and kids. This program is 100% community-based and volunteer-led, ensuring your investment has the greatest impact possible.

Who you help

Last year 2,822 people in our community experienced the warmth of your kindness through the Holiday Gift Program, including:

- Individuals with disabilities
- Seniors on fixed incomes
- Families and kids with lean budgets and/or experiencing homelessness

How you help

1. Sponsor a family or individual by purchasing gifts or gift cards
2. Provide a financial contribution
3. Volunteer your time

Sign up to be a sponsor at iocp.org/holidaygift

With the support of our generous community and partners, Interfaith Outreach provides assistance to families celebrating a variety of holiday traditions including Chanukah, Christmas, Eid al-Fitr and Thanksgiving.

*Based on Federal Government near and near poor poverty guidelines

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SEP 6-1 NOV 6-1
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DEC 8
Family Gift Pickup Day

Prefer an easier way to give?

Give \$10 or \$15 Target gift cards through Dec. 13 or donate online at iocp.org/donate