



## About IFC

In 1963, a group of seven local women united their volunteer efforts to address the conditions of poverty in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. More than five decades later, Inter-Faith Council continues its mission to confront the causes and respond to the effects of poverty in our community.

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Chapel Hill, NC  
Permit No. 77

Inter-Faith Council  
for Social Service  
110 W. Main Street  
Carrboro, NC 27510



Photo credit: Jack Benjamin

# Our Next Chapter: IFC COMMONS



# Executive Director: Our Next Chapter



Seven women declared in 1963 that poverty in Chapel Hill and Carrboro is unacceptable. Then they invested resources to do something about it. This powerful vision for social justice *still* unites people at IFC from all walks of life. Fifty-seven years later we are living in a pivotal time with a lot at stake.

We need you now more than ever. The COVID-19 pandemic is highlighting historical inequities and disproportionately affecting people of color. During this crisis, we are pressing forward, finding innovative and virtual ways to build community and listen to people as they articulate their needs. With your help, we continue to address increased food insecurity and increased need for housing and emergency financial support.

In response to our country's other pandemic, racism, IFC joins together as diverse people with varied perspectives and lived experiences to work toward a common approach. We have renewed our focus on community building and member-led advocacy through the civic engagement, leadership, social justice, and anti-racism programs we call REAL Transformation (Race.Equity.Action.Leadership.) This work is complex, but necessary to confront the causes of poverty and make long-term change. While our country votes on a direction for the next four years and beyond, we are inspired to roll up our sleeves and keep working with you to build a just community.

In the midst of this double pandemic, and after 30 years rent-free, IFC will move out of Chapel Hill's Old Town Hall into our own dignified space. While food security is a major focus, the new building will house so much more! This will be the location of IFC's main offices and all of our non-shelter programs: Community Kitchen, Community Market (formerly the Food Pantry), Emergency Assistance, Housing Support, Activate! IFC, and REAL Transformation. It will also offer three meeting spaces to the community-at-large. And the building will be aptly named **IFC Commons**, to describe our centrally located space at 110 W. Main Street *belonging to the community*.

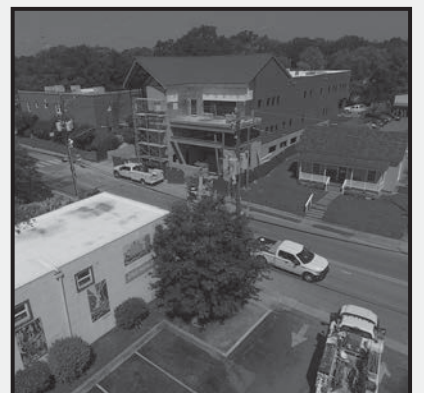
Thank you for standing with IFC to be a part of the celebrations and the challenges. Let's continue to work together to build community, listen to people as they articulate their needs, and create real transformation. It's a challenging time and it won't be easy. Our response will not always be perfect, but we will be stronger and more connected. We find courage, strength, and hope in each other and in our shared vision since 1963 to create a community where *everyone's* basic needs are met.

In community,

*Jackie*

Jackie Jenks  
Executive Director

The IFC community eagerly anticipates the completion of our new building.



Drone image of building courtesy of CT Wilson



IFC staff team members take a tour of the building under construction.

## Construction Progress in Carrboro

Construction at the newly named **IFC Commons** at 110 W. Main Street in downtown Carrboro has progressed steadily all year. Pedestrians regularly stop to admire the attractive brick and the impressive windows, and so many members express excitement about the building's grand opening. After the steel frame and concrete floors were finished, numerous subcontractors started their trade work. The building was dried-in by August, and now the exterior work is nearly finished.

Stay tuned for information about our virtual building opening event being planned for early 2021!



# IFC Shelters Adapt to Life During the Pandemic

In May, all single residents of IFC's Community House and HomeStart were able to move to a local hotel for their health and safety through a partnership with Orange County and the Town of Chapel Hill. Doing so was a true collaboration to take care of the whole community during the pandemic.

Residents will remain at the hotel as long as the need is present and funding through FEMA is available.

Almost five months later, what is life like at the hotel? And how are the ten families at HomeStart shelter doing? They were able to stay in place because the layout already supported social distancing. To talk about how life has been since May, we visited with a few folks in the know.

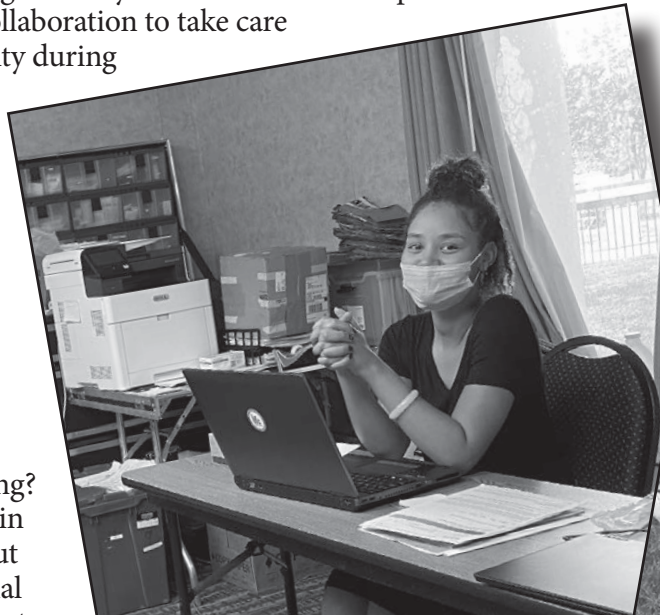
The hub of staff life and work at the hotel are two rooms that were cleared and redesigned for IFC use. One room houses technology for administrative work while the other is where residents pick up pre-packaged breakfast, lunch, and dinner, provided by a local caterer through the County contract.

Ka'Tiera Truett, program manager for Community House shelter for men, says she's observed that residents are enjoying having their own private spaces. On the other hand, social distancing guidelines indicate that residents cannot visit each other in their rooms. Instead, folks meet outside, including for Activate! IFC get-out-the-vote meetings. Additional innovative ideas are also being

implemented such as social distanced group check-ins over coffee. And of course, shelter staff continue working with residents on their housing and employment goals. Shelter management is splitting time between the hotel and the shelter buildings to supervise health and safety upgrades and other maintenance taking place in the absence of residents.

Back at HomeStart, there are 10 school-aged children and their parents experiencing online school at the shelter. Wifi was already in place, the school system provided computers for all students in the district, and IFC staff has set up study areas for each child in empty offices or other free space. Several churches have donated backpacks with supplies, including earphones, notebooks, highlighters, and pencils. Tracey Hagan, program manager at HomeStart, says she is incredibly impressed by the resilience of families to respond to life in shelter during the pandemic.

While we are all dealing with uncertainty and challenges caused by COVID-19, the pandemic adds yet another stressor to the lives of folks experiencing homelessness and working to gain shelter. If you would like support residents of our shelters, please visit our "Current Needs" webpage under the "About IFC" tab at [www.ifcweb.org](http://www.ifcweb.org). Your donation is tax-deductible and very much appreciated.



Hotel rooms operate as a shelter staff office and resident meal pick-up location. Outside the hotel, members meet to get-out-the-vote.



Both shelters are upfitted with plexiglass partitions (r) and medical grade curtains (l) for health and safety when residents return.



# IFC is Getting REAL

In December 2017, IFC made the intentional decision to shift from a charity model (doing for) to a social justice model (doing with). It was a vision for our future, grounded in the tradition of IFC's seven founders: position ourselves at the leading edge of social change. The work was led by a newly formed Racial Equity Team. So what does equity and justice at IFC look like today? It looks like sharing decision-making power with people who are typically excluded from decisions that affect their lives.

Here are a few examples:

- Shelter residents advocated for and achieved changes to shelter policies to improve their daily lives
- Residents joined in creating a pilot affordable housing program in Chapel Hill, which is still operating
- Shelter residents, members, and all levels of staff now participate on hiring interview panels
- IFC's job postings now state that lived and/or relevant work experience is valued as much as formal education
- Lived experience of poverty or homelessness is a qualification equivalent in weight to other areas of expertise for consideration for the board of directors

Where do we go from here? We're getting REAL (Race.Equity.Action.Leadership.) Real because in order to transform our practices and harness the power of community, there must be an honest assessment of where we are as an organization, as a community, and as individuals living and working in these spaces. We expect resistance to change; we



acknowledge that culture shifts take time and patience. So we have work to do, and we are committed to seeing it through.

Enter Soteria Shepperson, IFC's newly hired REAL Transformation Coordinator. Soteria is a poet, educator, artist, activist, and advocate – an “artist,” as she likes to say.

Through her work in prisons, homeless shelters, and local community colleges, she has helped marginalized individuals find their voices through words and self-expression. Her hope is to apply her lived experience, professional experience, and community relationships to advance IFC's equity work.

Soteria joined IFC as REAL Transformation Coordinator in August this year. She says,

*“I like to think of myself as a resource, not an answer.”*

Her vision as REAL Transformation Coordinator includes: implementing tools to address systemic racism; uplifting voices that are often suppressed; using an organizational lens that embodies resilience; creating spaces at IFC where ALL are truly welcomed; and introducing the power of art and self-expression as a way to dismantle systems of oppression and invite healing and hope. The events of 2020 have reminded us that we need each other now more than ever. We hope you'll join us on our journey toward becoming and staying REAL.

## Soteria Shepperson: IFC REAL Coordinator



Soteria Shepperson has performed at venues including the International Civil Rights Museum and was a featured performer at the 2019 and 2020 Women's March in Raleigh, NC. She is co-founder of Grow Your World, a nonprofit organization focused on youth-driven community engagement, grounded in the belief that equity and access create a win-win-win for people, community, and the planet. She is also co-owner of Johnny's Gone Fishing in Carrboro. Soteria is currently working on a special project with the Criminal Justice Department and Orange County Arts Commission called Our Lens, Our Voice. You can find out more about this project at <https://artsorange.org/ourlens/> and more about Soteria's work as an artist (artist and activist) at [www.iamsoteria.com](http://www.iamsoteria.com).



IFC current and former staff attend an event hosted by Soteria to celebrate local artists.

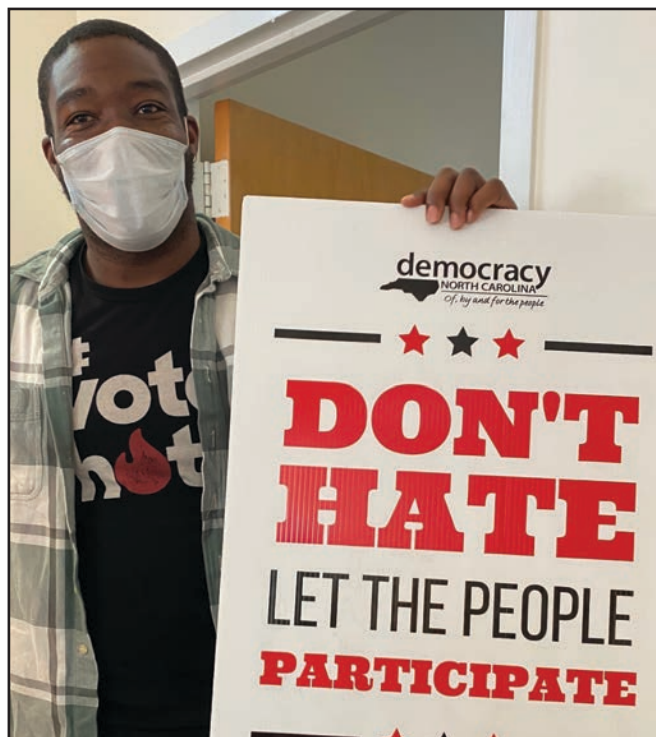


# IFC is Getting ACTIVATED

Earlier this year, thanks to a generous donation, we introduced a new program: Activate! IFC, a civic engagement and leadership development project with the goal of making sure more community members are registered to vote and motivated to participate in the political process. Since that time, members of our Activate! IFC team (A-Team) have been meeting virtually and visiting the temporary hotel shelter and the Community Kitchen socially distanced. At one recent event, A-Team members registered 11 people to vote in only two hours!

As the program matures, we are learning valuable lessons. One is that, for many people, the conversation around whether they vote is a very personal - one rooted in feelings about their personal value, their relationship to their community and people in positions of power. These conversations are profound. Members of the A-Team are hearing and sharing compelling experiences.

***“To date, the A-Team has registered 121 people to vote and 454 people have made a pledge to vote.”***



Quinton Harper is Activate! IFC's Coordinator.

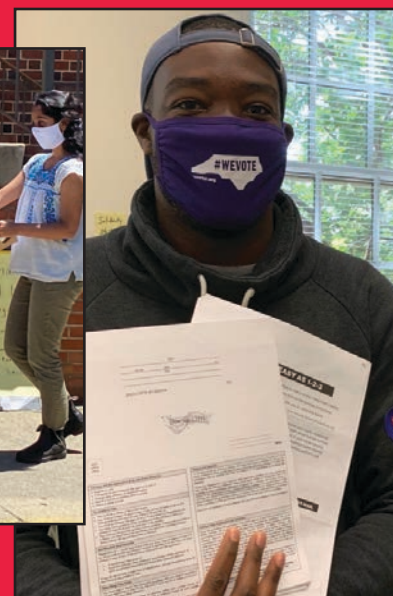
Quinton Harper, Activate! IFC Coordinator, says he sat down with one community member who had avoided updating voter registration due to an abusive relationship. She and Quinton sat down together socially distanced, with masks on, disinfectant wipes close by, when he asked why she was updating her voter registration this year. Her brave and selfless reply:

***“There's too much at stake.”***

Bravery and vulnerability are themes with the A-Team. Working together they support and encourage each other to tell their powerful stories. The A-Team is training leaders who speak up, speak out, and represent their experiences to political representatives. In short, they are coaching folks on what it means to advocate. And they are already impacting change. As a result of sharing their voter

experiences during the public comment

section of a recent government meeting, A-Team members secured Sunday and Saturday early voting, and extended early voting hours for six locations in and around our community. A-Team, you are making a difference. Keep up the good work!



Members of IFC's A-Team are around town getting out the vote! They have registered 121 people to vote (and counting)!

## Activate! IFC Reminds Our Community:

1. Voter registration deadline is October 9
2. Visit the NC Voter Search Lookup Tool at <https://vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup> to:
  - Confirm you are registered at your current address
  - View sample ballots
  - Check your Election Day Polling Place as it may have changed due to COVID-19
3. Update your voter registration at any Early Voting site in your county during the Early Voting period, October 15 through October 31
4. Call Democracy NC's toll-free hotline at 888-OUR-VOTE (888-687-8683) with any questions or problems



## Inter-Faith Council for Social Service

Board of Directors

**Bettina Shuford, President • Molly De Marco, Vice President**

**Cameron Barr, Treasurer • Susan Berendzen, Secretary**

Tom Bond • Ronald Carnes • Bernadine Cobb • Michelle Hamilton • Vicky Kim

Susie Laidlaw • Joseph Liegl • Jay Miller • Jennifer Player

Amy Rix • Will Rose • Sharon Van Horn • Patrick Watkins

*Honorary Life Board Member: Robert Seymour*

## IFC PROGRAMS

### REAL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMS

IFC's REAL Transformation initiatives are how we directly live out our mission to confront the causes of poverty in our community.

*IFC's goal: Stand with low-income residents and workers as they raise their voices in public forums and within IFC regarding their lived experience and priorities.*

#### Activate! IFC

A civic engagement and leadership development project with the goal of amplifying the voices of IFC members and residents and increasing representation of low-income people in the political process. IFC trains volunteers, registers votes, learns from community leaders about the local political process, and gets out the vote.

#### REAL Transformation Team

Members meet regularly to self-assess and advance anti-racism work within IFC's programs and in the community-at-large.

#### Meeting of the Minds

A group of low-income community leaders and residents that meets regularly at Community Empowerment Fund to discuss issues that prevent full participation in community life. The people experiencing a problem are best equipped to lead us to a solution, so IFC defers to Meeting of the Minds' advocacy priorities and adopts them as our own: increasing affordable housing for people making up to 30 percent of area median income, making public transit more accessible, and increasing living wage jobs.

### SHELTER AND HOUSING

The number of chronically homeless individuals in Orange County has increased during the past three years; and since the start of 2020, the number of calls and emails to the county housing helpline, along with requests for emergency housing assistance are also increasing steadily according to the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness.

*IFC's goal: Facilitate access to permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness, while honoring their right to make choices about how to live their lives and work toward their goals.*

#### Community House: Shelter for Men

1315 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
919-967-1086

#### HomeStart: Shelter for Women and Families

Chapel Hill, NC 27516  
919-932-6025

The only shelters in Orange County for people experiencing homelessness, Community House and HomeStart are open 24/7 and house 52 men, 14 women and 10 families. IFC also opens 20 cots to overnight guests during cold weather. While residents wait for affordable housing opportunities to open, they can work with staff who connect them with resources that will help them maintain housing like income, transportation, medical or mental health care, or childcare. The shelters include an on-site health clinic run by Piedmont Health Services, libraries, a playground for children, and gym equipment for adults. Best practices include: housing-focused case management, trauma-informed, emergency shelter.

#### Housing Support

IFC administers rent subsidies and provides case management for residents to support their occupancy in permanent housing. Permanent Supportive Housing is a federal program for the county's most vulnerable residents. Master-Lease subsidies are funded by the Town of Chapel Hill. Best practices include: housing-first, trauma-informed, public-private partnership.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

In Orange County 50 percent of renters are cost-burdened, spending more than 30 percent of their income on housing and utilities (5-Year American Community Survey). This leaves little to

sustain through a crisis or to meet basic needs for food, clothing, transportation, essential medications, or school supplies.

*IFC's goal: Prevent the instability of housing loss by increasing a family's financial flexibility.*

#### Community Market

The largest pantry in the county with broadest eligibility requirements. Members may shop for pantry staples, fresh foods and hygiene items as often as once a month. Households choose the foods most appropriate for their families and receive about a week's worth of groceries. Best practices include: member-choice, walk-in and scheduled appointments, access to fresh food, Spanish-language materials

#### Community Kitchen

Co-located with the Community Market the Community Kitchen is open 365 days a year so that nobody has to go hungry. Approximately 50 volunteer groups rotate to serve lunch every day and dinner every week day. Like the Community Market nearly all of the food is donated. Best practices include: low barrier - no questions asked and no sign-in required

#### Emergency Financial Assistance

IFC schedules 12 appointments every week for people seeking financial assistance to apply toward rent, utilities and other essential needs. Members are eligible to receive up to \$200 once every 12 months. Best practices include: public-private partnership, housing loss prevention

#### Published by IFC

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ifcweb.org

Visit us on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter!



### IFC Staff Roster

#### Executive Director:

Jackie Jenks

#### Development and Communications Director:

Jennifer Gill

#### Community Services Director:

Kristin Lavergne

#### Finance & Operations Director:

Jeff Causey

#### Shelter and Housing Director:

Jessica Aldavé

#### Development and Communications Manager:

Stephani Kilpatrick

#### Community Kitchen Manager:

Bill Culton

#### Community House Manager:

Ka'Tiera Truett

#### HomeStart Manager:

Tracey Hagan

#### Community Services Manager:

Gricelidy Marrero

#### Project Manager:

Allan Rosen

#### Construction Manager:

Peter Kamel

#### Activate! IFC Coordinator:

Quinton Harper

#### REAL Transformation Coordinator:

Soteria Shepperson

#### Finance and Operations Associate:

Tara Stephenson

#### Community Services Staff:

Shannon Gigliotti,

Valeria Hernandez

#### Case Managers:

Bernestine Austin, Tom Bainbridge, Linda Ellison, Rebecca Tate, Annette Clark, Debra Vestal

#### Facilities Staff:

Sylvester Bethea, Eric Davis

#### Kitchen Staff:

Thomas Lee, Vonzell Williams

Tonya Garner (Community House)

#### Shelter Staff:

Natalee Atwater, Angela Clapp, Drake Clapp, Annette Clark, Shan Collins, Charlotte Horton, Chris Horton, Anna Kenion, Ronnie Kimble, Rhonda Lee, Halimat Oloko, Kaneesha Person, Kris Quick, Greg Watrous, Algin Wiley

## Ways to Give

- Mail a donation in the included envelope
- Donate online with a credit card at [www.ifcweb.org](http://www.ifcweb.org)
- Designate a gift to IFC through a Donor-Advised Fund
- If you are 70 ½ or older, designate your IFC Required Minimum Distribution directly to IFC
- Transfer stocks and securities
- Consider a planned gift

Please contact Jennifer Gill, Development and Communications Director, for more information at [jgill@ifcmailbox.org](mailto:jgill@ifcmailbox.org) or call her at 919-929-6380 x15.

## Current Program Needs

- Updated list of program needs: [www.ifcweb.org/currentneeds](http://www.ifcweb.org/currentneeds)
- Amazon wish list: [www.bit.ly/IFCwishlist](http://www.bit.ly/IFCwishlist)
- Target registry link: [tgt.gifts/IFCforSS](http://tgt.gifts/IFCforSS)
- Credit card donations: [www.bit.ly/donatetoIFC](http://www.bit.ly/donatetoIFC)

IFC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization so your donation is eligible for tax deduction.

## Holidays are for sharing...

Turkey, greens, mashed potatoes, pie — all the fixin's!  
Share holiday cheer and fill a local family's table for just \$25.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_



I'll share with:  20 families (\$500)  10 families (\$250)  4 families (\$100)  
 2 families (\$50)  1 family (\$25)  Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Together, we'll give out 800 holiday meals! Thank you for your generosity.



Mail this coupon with your gift to 100 W. Rosemary St., Chapel Hill, NC 27516  
Give online at [www.ifcweb.org/donate](http://www.ifcweb.org/donate), or call Tara at 919-929-6380 x 26.

## STEWARDS FUND 2:1

### ALL OR NOTHING CHALLENGE GRANT

Up for a challenge? Your gift helps unlock **\$71,677**

All financial donations received by 12/31 qualify.

## In Memoriam

Devon Andrews	Henry Moody
Bolton Anthony	Willie Ruffin
Deanna Carson	Donald Russell Schoene
Gary Feathers	Miriam Slifkin
James Goode	Joseph Twamley
Linda Griffin	Calvin Wade
Warren Levy	Jon Williams
Daryl Marshall	

## RSVVP Rain Check

IFC has always enjoyed our partnership with local restaurants. Together we have helped make sure people are fed well through our annual one-day joint event called RSVVP (Restaurants Sharing 10 Percent). For more than 30 years, this event has been held the Tuesday after election day, providing IFC's Community Kitchen and Food Pantry with ten percent of participating restaurants' proceeds. Through 2019, the amount donated is more than \$520,000.

As we approach November this year, we are aware that our restaurant friends have faced extreme hardships due to the pandemic. With this in mind *we have made the difficult decision not to hold the event this year* out of concern that doing so would create additional undue

burden for those who own, manage, and staff our favorite local restaurants.

In spite of their own hardships, many restaurants have arranged delivery of food and meals they were not able to serve. Their community spirit has enabled neighbors at IFC to eat, even in the absence of RSVVP. Thank you for opening your hearts during your own time of need. Together we will continue to partner and work through the challenges our community faces.

To show support for local restaurants, we encourage you to please consider dining at any of the restaurants who participated in RSVVP 2019.



411 West Café  
2nd Wind  
Acme Food & Beverage Co.  
Akai Hana  
Alfredo's Pizza Villa  
Amante's Gourmet Pizza  
• Carrboro  
• Falconbridge  
Armadillo Grill  
Bandido's Mexican Café  
• Franklin Street  
• Hillsborough  
Bin 54  
Bonefish Grill  
Blue Horn Lounge  
Bread & Butter Bakery  
Breadmen's  
Caffè Driade  
Capt. John's Dockside  
Carolina Club  
Carrburritos  
Chick-fil-A - University Place  
CholaNad  
City Kitchen  
Crossroads at Carolina Inn  
Elaine's on Franklin  
Elmo's Diner  
Fiesta Grill  
Glasshalfull  
Hickory Tavern  
Il Palio at Siena Hotel  
Jade Palace  
Jersey Mike's Subs  
• Chapel Hill North  
• Elliot Road  
• Falconbridge  
Kipos Greek Taverna  
Kitchen  
Lantern

Linda's Bar & Grill  
Local 22  
Lucha Tigre  
Mama Dip's Kitchen  
Margaret's Cantina  
Mediterranean Deli  
Nantucket Grill & Bar  
• Farrington Road  
• Sutton Station  
Napoli Café and Gelateria  
Nasher Museum Café  
Neal's Deli  
Oishii  
Open Eye Café  
Orange County Social Club  
Pantana Bob's  
Parizade  
Pazzo  
Pita Grill  
Pizzeria Mercato  
Provence  
Rasa Indi-Chinese  
Refuge at The Franklin Hotel  
Squid's  
Steel String Brewery  
Subway at Glenwood Square  
Sunrise Biscuit Kitchen  
Thai Palace  
The Loop Pizza Grill  
The Pig  
The Root Cellar Café  
Village Burgers  
Vimala's Curryblossom Café  
Weaver Street Market  
• Carrboro  
• Hillsborough  
• Southern Village  
Ye Olde Waffle Shoppe  
YoPop

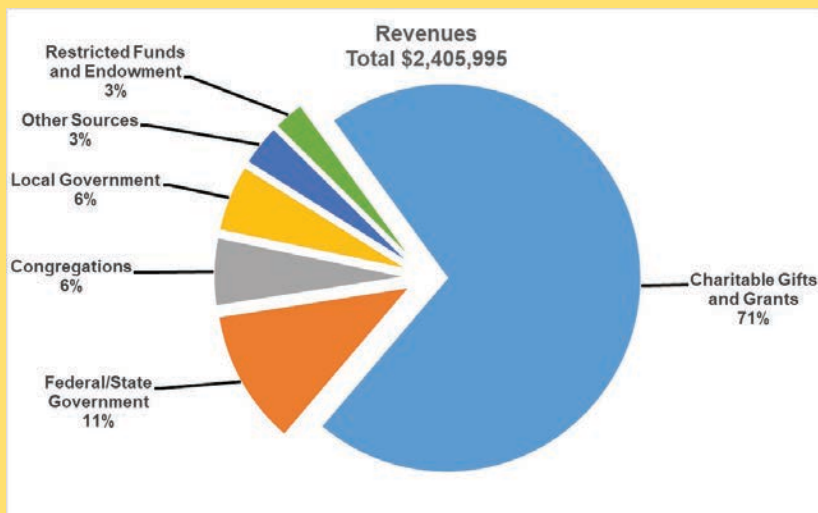
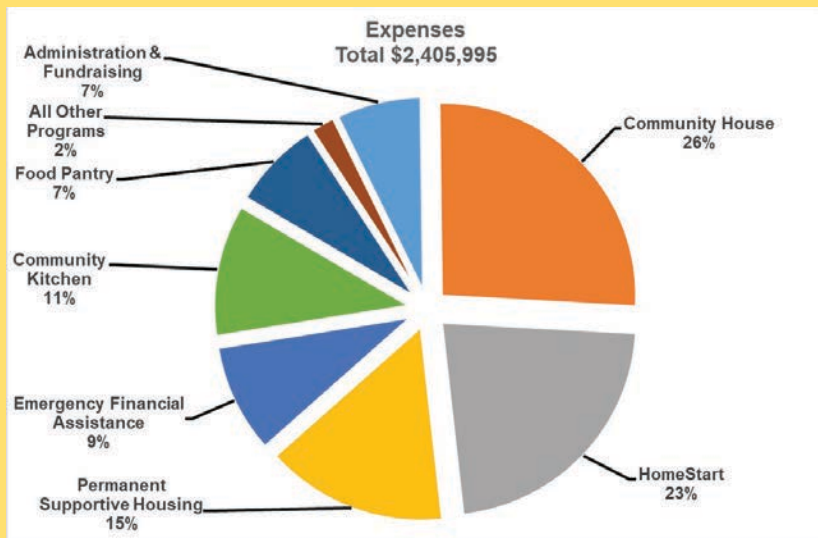


## Fiscal Year 2020 Financial Summary July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 (unaudited)

IFC is committed to transparency and accountability for the resources that you give to confront the causes and respond to the effects of poverty in our community. We are happy to provide you with this snapshot of fiscal year 2020.

We are indebted to the Town of Chapel Hill for in-kind use of the Historic Town Hall, including maintenance and utilities, which subsidized operating costs for the Community Kitchen. IFC will assume these costs when we open the new building. IFC programs would not be able to operate without significant in-kind donations from individuals, congregations, local businesses, UNC-Chapel Hill and others.

IFC's Form 990 can be found at [guidestar.org](http://guidestar.org), and audited financial statements are available by request.



# COMMUNITY IMPACT FY 2020



## FOOD SECURITY

**54,589** HOT MEALS

54,589 hot meals served at the Community Kitchen, HomeStart shelter for women and families, and Community House shelter for men

**15,080**

**BAGS OF GROCERIES**

15,080 bags of fresh produce, pantry staples, and hygiene items

**735** HOLIDAY MEALS

735 family dinners provided for the holidays

## ENDING HOMELESSNESS



**32,336**  
NIGHTS OF SHELTER

32,336 nights of shelter to 239 men, 65 women, 33 children, and 25 parents

**34%**  
MOVED INTO  
PERMANENT HOUSING

34% of IFC shelter residents moved into permanent housing

## EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

**\$119,822**  
EMERGENCY FUNDS DISTRIBUTED

\$119,822 in rent, utility, and other emergency assistance funds to 826 households

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

**454** PEOPLE PLEDGED TO VOTE

**121** PEOPLE REGISTERED TO VOTE

**58** PEOPLE TRAINED TO REGISTER VOTERS

