

connections



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Jackie Jenks
President and CEO

These are unprecedented times. We hear those words frequently these days. They ring true for us here at IFC, as daily changes at the federal level exacerbate already unrelenting pressure to meet growing needs with fewer resources. Our members, staff, and volunteers feel it every day in our programs.

Our community partners feel the strain, too. In light of this reality, we continue to find alternative ways to address these challenges while supporting each other in the process.

We are grateful for each other, and for you. You continue to sustain the work with your contributions. You reach out to check on us. You ask how policy changes and potential cuts at the federal level will impact our local community. You share our commitment to keep our Black, indigenous, people of color, immigrant, and LGBTQIA+ community members safe, understanding that they are especially vulnerable. You want to know what more you can do.

We don't yet know all the ways the decisions being made in Washington D.C. might impact IFC. One thing we do know is that, as an organization deeply immersed in the everyday lives of people in our community, we must prepare ourselves.

KEEP THREE IMPORTANT THINGS AT TOP OF MIND:

1. The challenges we face are caused by systems that do not support a community where everyone's needs are met and where everyone is treated fairly.
2. The causes of poverty and homelessness are rooted in a housing market and employment system that values profit over people.
3. The system is designed so that some people continue to benefit while others suffer, and it will take all of us working together to change that system.

We know you know this, and we're counting on you to be activated in these unprecedented times. We appreciate when you check on us, and we'll do our best to keep you informed. More than anything, we are counting on you to stand with us in the ways that matter most. We need your contributions now more than ever. We need you to join us as advocates and allies in local meetings, lending your voice and power to help us keep everyone in our community safe from the harmful impact of unjust systems.

In the famous words of poet Amanda Gorman: "There is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it." Let us be brave and act together to create the community we want to be!



This year's Carrboro Film Fest featured "Welcome Home? A Reentry Housing Crisis in Orange County," highlighting the issues of homelessness in our area.



Our amazing partners at Inter-Faith Food Shuttle have provided us with a refrigerated truck!

Nat Flow, IFC Food Resources Team Lead speaks at CROP Hunger Walk



Chapel Hill/Carrboro CROP Hunger Walk

END HOMELESSNESS BY HOUSING PEOPLE

After being released from the Orange County Jail in 2023, Jeff had no place to live. He'd experienced homelessness before — living on the streets off-and-on in Raleigh, Fayetteville and Lexington. Riding the bus all day or walking around the mall to stay warm. Waiting for the local free meal kitchen to open so he could get something to eat. Living on the streets led to several arrests for trespassing and theft — the crimes of trying to exist as an unhoused person.

Jeff was grateful to be connected to the IFC SECU Community House shelter after coming to IFC Commons for meals. During the day, he often volunteered at the Seymour Senior Center "to stay out of trouble," and began to make friends. By early fall of 2024, however, Jeff had been at the shelter for nearly a year and wasn't having any luck finding housing. He had no place to go and no one to go to for support. He felt hopeless. Then he got a call from the

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program, inviting him to discuss a potential housing voucher. "That was like a godsend!" said Jeff "I was ready to give up — I didn't know what I was going to do."

IFC's PSH program uses federal and county funds to provide rent subsidies, along with intensive case management and support for people in our community who have multiple, complex barriers to acquiring housing. People who are eligible for PSH come to the program through an inter-agency group of Orange County organizations that meet bimonthly to identify services needed for individuals on a case-by-case basis. To qualify for PSH, community members must have experienced chronic homelessness and have a disability of some kind, but still be able to live independently. When a housing voucher is available, the case managers meet with PSH candidates to see if their needs match with what's available.

"When it comes to PSH residents, all of them have experienced chronic homelessness," says Carmen Johnson,

PSH Case Manager. "Case managers liaise with private landlords and neighbors to support the resident's transition to housing, ensure access to needed resources, and encourage integration into community life." That usually means finding furniture and everything a person needs for a home. The program pays the resident's rent and utilities indefinitely.

Jeff has been in his own place since November 2024. He's sleeping well for a change, has a more positive outlook, and is beginning to feel more connected to the Chapel Hill community. "I'm going to think of ways to give back when I get more on my feet," says Jeff.



According to the Prison Policy Initiative, formerly incarcerated people in the United States are almost ten times more likely than the general public to experience homelessness; and up to 15 percent of people currently incarcerated were homeless in the year leading up to their incarceration. It's a vicious cycle.



GRATEFUL FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS WHO MAKE THIS WORK SUSTAINABLE.

You can support IFC's mission in many ways!

Donate online at
www.ifcweb.org



SCAN NOW

Donate through:

- Donor-Advised Funds
- Qualified Charitable Distribution
- Stocks
- Securities
- Planned Gifts
- Bequests

Donate by check made out to IFC and mail to:
IFC • 110 W. Main Street • Carrboro NC 27510

For more information, contact Stephani Kilpatrick:
skilpatrick@ifcmailbox.org • 919-929-6380 x2033

Volunteers are needed in our facilities to assist with painting, maintenance, repairs, and landscaping. Fill out an application today at www.ifcweb.org.



SCAN NOW

THANK YOU!

PROGRAMS @ IFC COMMONS

LOCATED AT

110 W. Main Street, Carrboro NC 27510
919.929.6380
J Bus Line

Community Kitchen

Free hot balanced meals daily, open to all
M-F 11:15a-12:30p and 5:15-6p
Sat, Sun and Holidays 11:15a-Noon

Community Navigation

Drop-in access to computers, phones, and community resource support
Showers available by appointment M-F
Call the number below for locker availability
M-F 10a-6p
919.929.6380 x2025

Community Market

Fresh food, pantry staples, and hygiene items
M-F by appointment
919.929.6380 x2000

Emergency Financial Assistance

Tuesdays leave a message at 9am to schedule an appointment during the week
919.929.6380 x2024

Activate! IFC

Voter Engagement, Advocacy, and Leadership Development
919.929.6380 x2030

SHELTER & HOUSING PROGRAMS

Contact the Housing Helpline to explore housing options, including shelter. M-F 10a-4p at 919.245.2655 or housinghelp@orangecountync.gov.

Community House Shelter for Men

1315 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd, Chapel Hill NC 27514
NS, HS, and T Bus Lines
919.929.6380 x3000

HomeStart Shelter for Women and Families

2505 Homestead Road, Chapel Hill NC 27514
HS Bus Line
919.929.6380 x4000

Permanent Supportive Housing

Housing and case management support in units throughout the community. Access by waiting list only.



COMMUNITY IMPACT July-December 2024

KEEPING PEOPLE HOUSED
by stretching household budgets:

29,144

HOT MEALS

enjoyed by people who were hungry



NAVIGATING THE COMMUNITY
TOGETHER
for resources that build resilience:



200

HOUSEHOLDS PER WEEK
ACCESSED OUR
COMMUNITY NAVIGATION
PROGRAM



1,696

SHOPPING VISITS
made to Community Market by
area households



136

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

found safe shelter at IFC
Community House and
HomeStart



12,192

NIGHTS
spent in our
shelters by adults
and children

BUILDING COMMUNITY POWER
through voting, leadership development,
and community safety:



142

IFC COMMUNITY MEMBERS
engaged via voting, advocacy, and
leadership development
programming



415

CHAPEL HILL- COMMUNITY MEMBERS
engaged via door knocking and
phone banking related to safety

47%

OF PEOPLE
who left our shelters
moved into permanent
housing



13

LOCAL LANDLORDS
partnered with us to
offer lower than market
rate rent for



21 permanent supportive
housing members

FUELING THE WORK EVERY DAY
to create a community of belonging:

150

VOLUNTEERS



37

STAFF MEMBERS

13

BOARD MEMBERS

30+

NON-PROFIT &
GOVERNMENT
PARTNERS



15+

BUSINESSES

25+

CONGREGATIONS



3,000+

HOUSEHOLD DONORS



In Memoriam

IFC has lost several valued members of our community in the past few months. They'll live on in our hearts.

Eddie Caldwell
Daniel Crisplip
Eugenia "Genie" Hirsch

Shannon Richards
Greg Watrous
Whitney Whitney



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

IFC WISHES

That political and financial constraints to IFC's work are eliminated!

That IFC and its partners are so successful that food and shelter programs are no longer needed.

That IFC has an abundance of resources so that our members, residents, and community have everything we need.

WHAT'S YOUR WISH FOR THE IFC COMMUNITY?



vision

A community that meets everyone's basic needs, including dignified and affordable housing, an abundance of healthy food, and meaningful social connection.

mission

To confront the causes and respond to the effects of poverty in our community.

values

Mutual Respect We all have equal value and are worthy of honor, dignity, and security. Respect for one another is both a right and a responsibility.

Social Justice We advocate within political, economic, and social systems to promote justice as to the distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges in society.

Community Power Everyone benefits when those experiencing the problem lead us toward solutions.

Self-Determination People have a right to make choices about how to live their lives and work toward their goals.

Integrity We are authentic, ethical, and transparent.