

connections



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At long last, Community Kitchen opens for in-person dining!



Photo by: Jack Benjamin

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Jennifer Gill, Development and
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ACTIVATE! IFC

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Katina Welch

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Ka'Tiera Truett, Community House

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Scherrie Smith, Algin Wiley

make us feel like we are a person



By Darren Campbell,
IFC Member

I am a veteran and am legally blind. I never thought I would end up homeless. I have suffered with my own afflictions just like everyone else. I have been homeless since last year because I chose to leave a situation that was detrimental to my health and safety. Some may feel that this was not smart, but it was what was best for me, and I don't regret my decision.

People become homeless for a variety of reasons – addictions, relationship problems, financial downfalls, and lack of resources and money. **Most people concentrate too much on the 'hows' and 'whys' part of people being homeless.** How did you end up like this? How long have you been going through this? Why can't you get on your feet or get a job? **The truth is, when you're homeless, the only questions you are asking are 'what' and 'where.'** What do I need to do to survive, or to get housed? Where am I sleeping tonight? Where is my next meal coming from? Where can I go for help?

Words can't describe what it's like to be homeless. You are unstable and erratic. You feel unsafe and hopeless. The hardest part is not knowing what to do

with your time. All you can do is get through the next 24 hours. It is almost like being in a prison, the way people make you feel when they see you -- like you don't belong or that you are a nuisance. It is inhumane how you feel not knowing how to wash your clothes or where you can get a meal, like you are an outcast.

We are looked at as a bother, dirty like we have the plague, or like we're going to attack someone. We are the forgotten people. I can't remember how many times people sped past me or squealed their tires because I took too long to cross the street, or turned their face up at me, or followed me around the store like I was there to steal something. People don't realize a lot of times we are just as scared of them as they are of us. We are all just trying to live and feel safe.

Where I live now, I feel somewhat safe because there is a ditch and swamp to get across to get to my campsite. But I also feel isolated and cut off, which is sometimes good for me because I can sleep knowing people can't just get to my campsite. It can also be lonely.

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Designed By



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Darren (center) with IFC staff Crystell (l) and Quinton (r) is working to get others activated in the local political process.



Darren (far right) joined IFC staff and members at Chapel Hill Town Council to petition for pedestrian safety measures including reflective vests.

On the bright side, my disability benefits have finally kicked in, and I have a lead on somewhere to move. **All I can focus on right now is staying on track and getting my own place. This year is my year! I will have a home -- not just a house.** A place to be safe and protected from the world. A place where I can show my individuality and be surrounded by my own things with everything I need to survive.

A few of the staff and volunteers at IFC have helped me get the things I needed to get on my feet. They have been great in helping me get through this time, with a lot of love and support. They continue to be my eyes and ears! They will dial a number for me, or lend an ear to listen. They are always willing to point me in the right direction of the other organizations, like the VA (Veteran's Administration) and SOHRAD (Street Outreach, Harm Reduction and Deflection team). Mitch is a good friend of mine who always offers me a place to warm up when it is just too

cold outside. Dickie is another good friend of mine, who has paid for my room on a couple of occasions so I didn't have to stay outside on extreme weather nights.

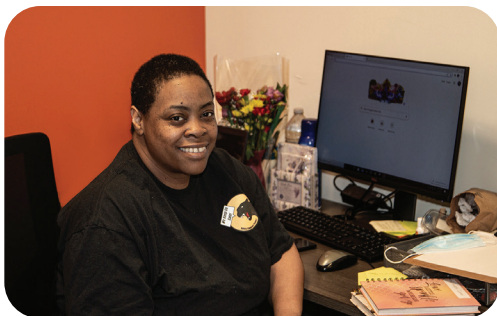
Life threw them a bad hand, and they are doing what they need to survive.

I feel the least the people of the community can do is make us feel like we are a person, like we belong: Say hello, ask how we are, hold a conversation. It's basic human decency. If they care, they can ask: What can I do? Is there anything you need? Can I buy you a cup of coffee?

I would just like for people to be more aware of people they walk past on the street -- to realize that there are people who have less than you, but they deserve the same respect as you. At the end of the day, yes there are people that are high or drunk out here, but they are still people. That person had a mom and a dad. Life threw them a bad hand, and they are doing what they need to survive.

resource connected

Photo by: Jack Benjamin



Katina helps staff the new Community Navigation services that connect folks with local resources, including lockers and showers available at IFC Commons.

Community Navigation services are new to IFC as of last year. Crystell Ferguson and Katina Welch respond to drop-in requests by members to locate the services they need. Crystell calls it getting "resource-connected" and it's where Darren got connected to IFC.

Part of Navigation services includes lockers for safe storage of belongings, as well as showers available three days a week by appointment. These are elements built into the design of IFC Commons to provide services that were otherwise missing or very limited in the community.

how will you show up?



Jackie Jenks
President and CEO

Recently our leadership team did a reflection activity. Each of us was asked to share with the group how we showed up in new ways in 2022 and to name how another person in the room also showed up last year. As we took our turns answering, we held a spool of yarn, then tossed it to the person we had named.

By the end we had created a web of yarn and stories that connected us. The activity pointed out that, like a spider web, our connectivity may be hard to see at times, but it is strong and sticks with us. It underscored the importance of showing up intentionally and bringing folks along.

As you'll see on pages two and three, IFC member Darren Campbell shows up to offer readers powerful insight into what it means to represent at Town Council, and to be present for each other as neighbors. We thank Darren for sharing his wisdom and truth.

This winter, local government entities showed up with IFC to create an expanded inclement weather

shelter in a county-owned space. Together, we now show up for more of our neighbors to offer "white flag" shelter during extreme weather.

As an organization, we're looking carefully at how we'd like to show up during the next three years. With the help of a consultant - and a cross section of our staff, volunteers, members, residents, and board members - we completed a Theory of Action process that outlines strategic direction and goals for the near future. We'll be sharing more information about those details in upcoming communications.

Fulfilling IFC's mission looks like showing up to make sure all of us have what we need. How we show up, and how we encourage others to show up, is the ground we stand on. It's how we put our values into action. We are strongest when we center the voices and experiences of people most impacted and when people experiencing the problems offer solutions. How do you want to show up in new ways this year to confront poverty and build community, and who will you bring along? As IFC celebrates 60 years in the Chapel Hill - Carrboro community, we welcome you to continue this work with us.



life's hardest moments

As soon as someone arrives at one of our shelters, the work to find permanent housing begins. Case Managers Linda Ellison (l), Rebecca Tate (r), and Bernestine Austin (not pictured) work tirelessly and creatively to locate the best housing resources and supportive services to meet everyone's needs. The work is challenging due to skyrocketing rent, changing availability of Housing Choice Vouchers, low stock of



landlords who accept vouchers, and prohibitive income and other qualifications for renters. We are always interested in learning about landlords who will accept vouchers. If you think you have a potential lead on a landlord, please leave a message at 919-929-6380 x2045.

require our strongest support

PROGRAMS @ IFC COMMONS

LOCATED AT

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

Community Kitchen

Free hot nutritious meals daily
M-F 11:15a-12:30p and 5:15-6p
Sat and Sun 11:15a-Noon

Community Navigation

Drop-in access to computers, phones, and community resource support
Showers available by appointment on M/W/F
If you are interested in a locker, please call the number below

M-F 9a-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 x2065

SHELTER & HOUSING PROGRAMS

Contact the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness 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
NS, HS, and T Bus Lines
919.929.6380 x3000

HomeStart Shelter for Women and Families

2505 Homestead Road, Chapel Hill
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.

In Memoriam

Christian Albert Ball

Joseph Bernard Lassiter ("Squeak")

Reginald Leroy Parker ("Reggie")



GIVE TODAY

and help IFC support our community

ONLINE

Use your credit card at ifcweb.org and schedule a recurring gift.



DONOR-ADVISED FUND

Recommend a grant to IFC on a timeline that is comfortable for you.

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION

If you are 70 1/2 years old, designate all or part of your RMD to IFC with the use of a Qualified Charitable Distribution.



STOCKS or SECURITIES

Complete a transfer electronically by contacting Jennifer Gill at jgill@ifcmailbox.org or 919.929.6380 x2031.

PLANNED GIFTS:

Will, Trust, Life Insurance Policy or Retirement Account

Name IFC as beneficiary of a planned gift and ensure a lasting legacy. Contact Jennifer Gill at jgill@ifcmailbox.org or 919.929.6380 x2031 to discuss.



CHECK

Mail a check made out to IFC to the address below.

Donations are tax-deductible. IFC's EIN is 59-1224041.

IFC | 110 W. Main Street, Carrboro, NC 27510
919.929.6380 | ifcweb.org | info@ifcmailbox.org





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I believe in a community that meets everyone's basic needs.

Please complete, detach coupon, and enclose with your check made out to IFC.

Mail to: IFC • 110 W. Main Street • Carrboro NC 27510

You may also make a secure donation at www.ifcweb.org or by calling 919-929-6380 x2031.

Card #: _____ Security Code: _____ Exp. ____/____/____
Name on Card: _____
Billing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____
Signature: _____

Here is my one-time gift.

☐ \$1000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other: \$ _____

This gift is in ☐ honor ☐ memory of: _____

Please send news of this gift to: _____

I want to be a sustaining donor.

Please charge my card ☐ quarterly ☐ monthly
in the amount of: ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25

☐ Other: \$ _____

- ☐ I prefer not to be listed publicly as an IFC donor
☐ My employer will match my gift: contact me

IFC is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

THANK YOU!

SN2023

CROP Hunger Walk Coming June 4, 2023!



Want to walk, volunteer, or give?

Contact Kimberly:

ChapelHillCarrboroCropWalk@gmail.com

100% of t-shirt sales & 25% of walk proceeds support IFC.

conversation starters



IFC recently hosted two dozen elected officials and government employees from Asheville and Buncombe County who reached out with interest in IFC's housing first, low-barrier shelter model.

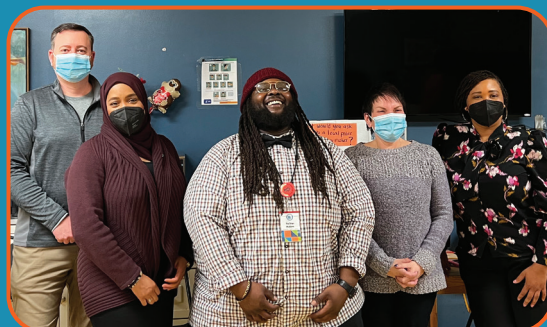


Pictured are Jackie Jenks and Jessica Aldavé of IFC, and Rachel Waltz of the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness (l to r).



Thank you to United Way of the Greater Triangle for their long-standing support and selection of IFC as a partner in this year's Band Together and Mighty Giveback concert on October 7th. Pictured during their visit to IFC Commons earlier this year are (l to r) Jeff Howell and Nicole Coscolluela of United Way, Jennifer Gill, Stephani Kilpatrick, Kristin Lavergne, and Dyana Noriega of IFC.

We thank Nathan Woodside a new volunteer who has already gone the extra mile. Not long after coming on board, he wrote a winning nomination that earned IFC a grant from his employer, Toshiba. Thank you, Nathan and Toshiba!



In January, Community House residents hosted a conversation with local leaders about community safety. The impactful meeting empowered residents to raise their concerns. IFC Team Lead, Tra'von Outlaw (center), facilitated the gathering. Pictured (l to r) Police Captain Tony Frye of Carrboro, Paris Miller-Foushee and Tra'von Outlaw of IFC, Chapel Hill Police Chief Celisa Lehew, and Tiffany Hall of SOHRAD (Street Outreach Harm Reduction and Deflection Team).

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



♥ *Memories are made* ♥

AT COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Come make memories with us.
Become an IFC volunteer.

Contact Mar'lisa:
919-929-6380 x2026
mwooten@ifcmailbox.org



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.