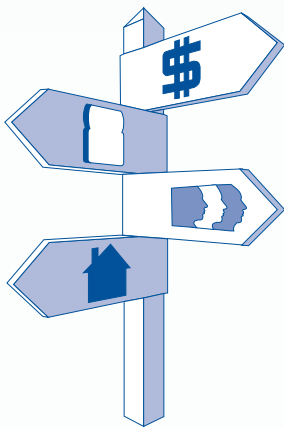




Inter-Faith Council for Social Service

Spring 2014
Volume 35, Number 1



IFC Results for the first six months of Fiscal Year 2013-14 (July 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013)

- Community House provided 8,300 nights of safe shelter for 233 men.
- HomeStart provided 6,512 nights of safe shelter to 118 women and 51 children.
- 41,343 hot, nutritious meals were served at the Community Kitchen and HomeStart.
- 165 residents received free health care and 106 residents received free mental health care.
- 243 prescriptions were dispensed at the free clinic.
- Food Pantry distributed 8,661 bags of groceries.
- Holiday meals were provided to 867 households which included 2,525 people.
- 4,280 local households are eligible to receive monthly grocery allotments (as of December 31, 2013).
- 3,130 client interviews were conducted for assistance with food, rent, utilities, clothing, IDs, and referrals.
- Crisis Unit distributed \$90,056 to 475 households to prevent homelessness.
- In-kind donations valued at \$1,118,626 were contributed, including 21,868 volunteer hours.
- 85% of IFC's budget went towards program expenses, according to our recent audit.

Letter from Executive Director John Dorward

SINCE I TOOK OVER THIS JOB in August of last year, I am constantly finding out



just how humbling this position can be. We have a great many people in this community who give generously of their time, their expertise and their treasure. I have never worked for a non-profit that drew resources from so many different sources. The level of generosity shown to us by our supporters is simply amazing and, I hope, a testament to the worth of the work done by our agency on behalf of our community.

Day in and day out, our staff and volunteers go forth and offer services to as many people as we can. The demand for services remains constant at best, but all too often threatens to overwhelm us. The great recession ended officially well over a year ago, but we are still seeing many people who have not yet recovered. Far too many of the well-paying jobs of the past have been replaced with low-paying jobs that make it almost impossible to make ends meet every month. We are also seeing far more older clients coming through our doors as the recession was especially brutal toward more mature workers.

I particularly want to thank all of you who made a contribution during the fall campaign toward

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Inter-Faith Council for Social Service

110 W. Main Street
Carrboro, NC 27510

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919-929-6380

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Carrboro, NC 27510

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About the IFC

In 1963, a group of seven local women united their volunteer efforts to address the conditions of poverty in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. The Inter-Faith Council was created, “to discover unmet needs and to respond through the coordinated efforts of volunteers.”

IFC Services:

COMMUNITY HOUSE:
Offers 24-hour emergency shelter for men.

COMMUNITY SERVICES:
Delivers services—including information, referrals, food pantry and financial support—to households and individuals.

FOODFIRST:
Community Kitchen: Offers three hot and nutritious meals per day, 365 days a year, free of charge to Community House residents and other community members.
Food Pantry: Supplies groceries to households.

HOMESTART:
Offers housing for homeless women and children.

HEALTH SERVICES:
Robert Nixon Free Clinic for the Homeless provides medical and mental health services to guests at Community House and HomeStart.

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Follow us on Facebook and Twitter or visit ifcweb.org to keep informed about IFC news and events!



CLIENT FOCUS

Michael Wood



Former IFC client and current IFC board member Mike Wood uses the hard-won lessons he has learned to help those living in poverty or experiencing homelessness to transition to a better life.

“I WAS A REALLY GOOD businessman and a really crappy human.”

Michael Wood’s description of himself during his nearly 30 years in the restaurant business might surprise those who know him now. The recipient of the 2013 Volunteer of the Year from the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce, Mike serves on the IFC’s board of directors and gives generous amounts of time to the Community Empowerment Fund, the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness, and the Orange County Literacy Council.

Although he enjoyed great success in the restaurant

industry—director of operations supervising 350 employees, paid consultant to the National Restaurant Association, general manager of Kinston’s 1000-seat King’s BBQ, owner of his own restaurants—Mike says that his substance abuse problems derailed his life. “My restaurants were successful but I was not,” he says.

Despite attending AA meetings for years and doing time in county jails and a 13-month stint in state prison on drug-related offenses, Mike didn’t get clean until moving into IFC’s Community House in January 2010. “At the shelter, everyone I met encouraged and helped me,” he says. “Vocational rehab, Community Empowerment Fund, UNC Hope (Homeless Outreach Poverty Eradication) . . . they all gave me hope, and having hope was a miracle in itself.”

“IFC gave me the time to come out of the drug haze,” says Mike. “In particular, I can’t mention IFC without mentioning the volunteers, including people who arrived at 5 in the morning to feed me and other Community House residents.”

Living at Community House for nine months allowed Mike to save enough money for five months of

rent on a Carrboro home where he has lived since August 2010. “I live a very rich life on a very modest income,” he says. “The IFC gave me the support and skills to make the transition into living a great life.”

Mike is happy to now help others. “I serve on the IFC board so I can offer the perspective of a former resident,” he says. “I serve as the conscience of the board from time to time.” He teaches a life skills course for Community House guests. “I feel uniquely qualified based on all the mistakes I made and have recovered from,” he says. “I try to carry the message to the men in the shelter that since I sobered up, everything has gone better.”

Mike works with the Community Empowerment Fund teaching classes to help those in poverty and experiencing homelessness transition to a more secure life.

“I’m a good example of the success of the IFC’s program,” says Mike. “I have a stable living situation, some money in the bank, earnings and relationships. I don’t receive any food stamps or other federal help. I came to the IFC a mess but I got support and encouragement and changed my life.”



IFC GIFT CARDS make the perfect gift for any occasion. Please consider making a gift to IFC in honor or memory of your friends and relatives. IFC will send a beautiful card notifying them of your thoughtful gift.

Your Name _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Address _____

Name of gift recipient _____

Address of gift recipient _____

☐ in memory of _____

☐ in honor of _____

☐ birthday of _____

☐ anniversary of _____

☐ other _____

Send this coupon and your check to: **Inter-Faith Council, 110 W. Main St., Carrboro, NC 27510**
We’ll be glad to help you pay by credit card! Call Frances at 919-929-6380, ext. 12.



UNSUNG HEROES

Volunteer Spotlight



Family nurse practitioner Liska Lackey volunteers her health care expertise at the clinic for women and children at IFC's HomeStart.

Liska Lackey

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER Liska Lackey has a passion for caring for others. In her professional life, she provides comprehensive wellness care for employees of the Town of Chapel Hill through Wellness@Work, a partnership between the Town and UNC Family Medicine. As a volunteer, she spends two Wednesday evenings each month offering a health care clinic for the women and children at IFC's HomeStart.

"I treat a lot of colds and typical illnesses," says Liska. "Some of the women have chronic health issues and need help getting hooked up with a primary care provider in this area. I enjoy helping them problem solve their health care needs; it's also great fun to see the kids."

Liska enjoys her volunteering so much that she is on her fifth year at IFC. "I gain so much from volunteering. I learn different things about myself as well as get the opportunity to understand and connect with people who I might not otherwise interact with," she says. "Folks who don't have the opportunity to connect with the

homeless don't really have an understanding of what they are going through."

"I have always felt like we have a responsibility to give back to our community," says Liska. "It just was a natural fit to do something in health care as a way to help."

In addition to volunteering at the HomeStart clinic, Liska serves on a Chapel of the Cross cooking team at the Community Kitchen. She was one of the founding members who helped establish the Robert Nixon Free Clinic for the Homeless at IFC. She serves on the Orange County Board of Health and is Vice Chair for Healthy Carolinians of Orange County. She is also an active volunteer at the Carrboro Farmers' Market. She and her husband have lived for 28 years in Carrboro which is where they raised their two children.

"I'm glad to volunteer with the IFC which I think is an incredible agency," says Liska. "I see its impact all the time with the women I work with. For them to have a place where they can be supported so they can start a new life for themselves and their children, to work towards having a goal and some level of independence, is really truly humbling to see."

HELP WANTED!

Caring, responsible individuals wanted to serve as IFC volunteers.

HOURS: As few as three hours a week.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Varied—answer telephones, do data entry and administrative tasks, help residential staff and residents, cook meals, collect food, interview clients; there is something that can suit your talents and interests.

SKILLS: Care, commitment and a desire to learn.

COMPENSATION: Feeling good and knowing that you are making a difference in the lives of others.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR AT
(919) 929-6380 ext. 30
volunteer@ifcmailbox.org
or attend an IFC Volunteer Orientation.

ORIENTATIONS START AT 7 P.M. AND ARE SCHEDULED FOR

May 13, 2014
July 8, 2014
September 9, 2014
November 11, 2014



IFC PANTRY SHOPPING LIST

Help us help others by including these essential food items on your next shopping trip.

- ★ **Canned meats/tuna**
- ★ **Canned vegetables**
- ★ **Pasta and pasta sauce**
- ★ **Soup**
- ★ **Canned or Dried Beans** (pinto and black most requested)
- ★ **Canned fruit**
- ★ **Rice**
- ★ **Peanut Butter**
- ★ **Cereal**
- ★ **Grits**
- ★ **Any personal care items**
- ★ **Paper bags with handles**

These are staple items that we aim to keep in stock at all times, but other donations are welcome.

PLEASE DELIVER
ALL FOOD DONATIONS TO:

IFC's Food Pantry
IFC Community Services
110 W. Main Street, Carrboro
919-929-6380 ext. 41

HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

IFC COMMUNITY HOUSE SHOPPING LIST

- ★ **Men's socks**
- ★ **Men's briefs or boxers**
(new - medium and large sizes)

CALL COMMUNITY HOUSE
TO MAKE DROP OFF
ARRANGEMENTS:

919-967-0643

100 W. Rosemary Street
Chapel Hill

clip





IFC EVENTS

IFC Events Calendar

SAVE THE DATE!

- ★ Groundbreaking for the New Community House
Monday, May 5, 2014
- ★ IFC Annual Meeting and Potluck
Thursday, October 23, 2014
- ★ RSVVP (Dine out and Fight Hunger!)
Tuesday, November 11, 2014
- ★ Post-Turkey Day Jam Benefit Concert
Thanksgiving Weekend, Date TBD



Groundbreaking for the new Community House

Please join us for the official groundbreaking ceremony for the new Community House.

1315 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard in Chapel Hill,
Monday, May 5, 2014 at 8 a.m.

You are invited to stay for a continental breakfast in the Fellowship Hall of United Church following the ceremony. Tours of the site will be available. If you plan to join us for breakfast, please RSVP by April 28th at ifcweb.org/rsvp.

This project has been 28 years in the making, so why not come out and help us celebrate the beginning of a brand new era?



The Post-Turkey Day Jam concert raised nearly \$2,000 for IFC thanks to the generosity and talent of musicians Birds and Arrows, Lynda Dawson, Brett Harris, Pattie Hopkins, Steve Howell, John Howie Jr., and Sally Spring and Ted Lyons, who performed along with singer/songwriter Jon Shain who organized the event.

Post-Turkey Day Jam Benefit Concert

Our thanks to singer/songwriter Jon Shain and a coterie of his musician friends for November's annual Post-Turkey Day Jam Benefit Concert. The event raised more than \$1,000 for IFC programs while offering the Cat's Cradle audience an evening filled with skilled musicianship.

"Like a lot of musicians, I don't have a lot of cash sitting around to donate," says Jon. "This concert is a good example of a small group of people coming together to do what they couldn't do by themselves." Audience members enjoyed songs from individual musicians and bands in addition to jams among the group.

Be sure to bring your out-of-town friends and family to this year's concert which will take place Thanksgiving weekend. Details will be included in the fall IFC newsletter and at jonshain.com.

Join Us at the IFC Annual Meeting and Potluck

Save the date for the IFC Annual Meeting on October 23, 2014 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. As the location has not yet been determined, look for it this summer on ifcweb.org.

The business meeting, which will begin at 6:00 p.m., will be followed by a volunteer appreciation event. Please plan to bring finger food for sharing.

RSVVP 2014 (Dine Out and Fight Hunger!)



Be sure to mark your calendar for Tuesday, November 11, 2014 for the 26th annual RSVVP Day. You can eat out at participating restaurants and they will donate 10% to IFC's FoodFirst programs. Remember that all meals count, all day long, so please eat early and often.



IFC PEOPLE

Meet the Board—in their own words



Ann Henley, Senior Lecturer in the Department of English at NC State

MY ROLE ON THE IFC BOARD—and the unique perspective that I bring to it—is the capacity to be its institutional memory. I began volunteering as a receptionist at Community House in the late 1990s and was asked to join the board in 2001.

IFC volunteers, contributors, and board members were then doing more as the IFC was evolving from an all-volunteer agency to a full-fledged organization with an executive director. The transition was not an easy one, but I was privileged to be a small part of the growth and expansion that IFC experienced in those years.

I was on the board when we lost significant federal funding but decided nonetheless to develop HomeStart into the successful facility for women and children that exists today. Shortly after that crisis, we made the decision to buy the Douglas Building, going way out on a financial limb in an act of faith that has proved, like HomeStart, to have been exactly the right thing to do. I was involved in the seemingly endless process of determining a permanent site for a new Community House and was honored to have been board president when, thanks to the efforts of then-Mayor Kevin Foy and then-UNC Chancellor James Moeser, the parcel of land on MLK, Jr. Blvd. was given to IFC as a site for the new Community House.

It's very exciting to be coming back on the board just as construction on that facility is beginning and attention is necessarily turning to the next big challenge, the combined Kitchen/Food Pantry facility that we hope will occupy our present location in Carrboro. Nine years ago I was inspired by a

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Charles House, Owner of University Florist in downtown Chapel Hill

HAVING BEEN ON THE IFC BOARD for six years, I have come to appreciate that there is still much to do to get Community House built and the FoodFirst building up and running. The IFC is the only organization that offers multifaceted services to help those in need. We help those who are not offered services elsewhere or who need additional assistance.

As a downtown business person who grew up in Chapel Hill, I have watched the changes—the good, bad and ugly—over the years. I bring that perspective to my service on the board.

The only way to try and make changes in our downtown community and to assist those who need our help is to be involved in the process. Chapel Hill, for all its liberal ideals, many times lacks the compassion and the willingness to step up to the responsibilities to all of its citizens regardless of race, social standing and wealth.

One of the cases in point is the resistance of many in the community to provide a community shelter for emergency relief – a major sticking point when we were trying to get the new Community House approved by the Chapel Hill Town Council. I am proud that the IFC stood firm that we would provide some emergency shelter as part of Community House, even though it was only 17 cots worth. No other organization or governmental entity has stepped forward to take on this responsibility and I find that shameful. Hopefully, moving forward some of these issues can be rectified and we can be the community we should be.

Meet the Staff



Teresa Rogers, RN IFC Medical Coordinator

THE IFC IS THRILLED TO have added Teresa Rogers, RN to our staff in October 2013 as the agency's first Medical Coordinator. Responsible for the coordination of the two medical clinics and the mental health clinic that comprise IFC's Robert Nixon Free Clinic for the Homeless, Teresa says that she loves getting to know the clients IFC serves. "It's exciting and challenging to do my part to help clients get their lives back on track," she says.

Teresa and her physician husband, Tom Wroth—volunteer medical director for the IFC clinics—began volunteering at the IFC clinic years ago. "Every time I left after volunteering, I would say, 'I wish there were a way I could make my living doing that,'" she says. "I was so happy to get this job because every day I feel like I have done something useful and helpful. I also love working with the other IFC staff members who demonstrate every day how dedicated they are to IFC's mission."

In addition to ensuring that the clinics are staffed with volunteer health care providers, patients are scheduled and supplies are on hand, Teresa helps connect IFC residents with primary care providers. She feels lucky to have joined the agency just as the new Community House is on the horizon. "I can't wait to move into the new facility and to be part of offering even more to help our men and women," she says.

While her first college degree was in business administration, Teresa returned to school in her mid-30s for a degree in nursing after being inspired by the nurses who cared for her ailing father. She has spent most of her career in community

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Donor Profile - UNC Health Care

AS PART OF ITS ONGOING commitment to the community it serves, UNC Health Care recently gave IFC a capital campaign gift of \$100,000 to support the medical clinics in the new Community House. "IFC is a very important part of our community," says Karen McCall, Chief Communications and Marketing Officer for UNC Health Care and UNC School of Medicine. "Our physicians have been a part of the volunteer effort since IFC and the Hospitals began to work together."

Karen says that she and her colleagues believe that IFC's mission is vital to our community. "This community has always prided itself on being compassionate and trying to support everyone who lives here," she says. "IFC provides critically important and essential services to help people when they are having extreme difficulty."

UNC Health Care and IFC share similar values. "We feel a real partnership with IFC because many times, like IFC, we are taking care of people who have nowhere else to go," says Karen. "This gift reflects that partnership."

The generous donation will enable IFC to offer a more structured clinic operation at the new Community House. "We are committed not only to funneling funds to the project but also to working operationally with IFC to make care for their residents as easy as possible," says Karen.

She says that UNC Health Care is passionate about extending support beyond health

care to its patients. "We help in a number of ways including supporting Ronald McDonald House and SECU Family House," says Karen. "We raise money every year to help our patients with food, shelter and other necessities for times when illness has made it impossible for them to work."

"As a member of this community, UNC Health Care wants to lead in this way by supporting IFC's capital campaign," she says. "We hope that other members of the community will join us in this effort."

Baby, You Can Drive My Car!



DONATING A VEHICLE that you no longer use is a great and easy way to support IFC! CARSTM accepts car, truck, RV, boat, motorcycle, and other vehicle donations for IFC and over 500 other non-profit organizations throughout the country.

CARSTM collects the vehicles from donors, brings them to its car donation center, sells the car and distributes proceeds to IFC. It's a win-win: You don't have to go through the hassle of selling a used car, you may qualify for a substantial car donation tax deduction and IFC benefits financially.

To find out more about donating your vehicle, go to: tinyurl.com/mu4womm or call 855-500-RIDE (855-500-7433).

Thank You!

While we don't have enough space to thank everyone here, we like to recognize some of our incredible supporters in each issue of the newsletter.

We thank everyone who gives to IFC including:

★ The restaurateurs, diners and sponsors who supported RSVVP on November 12th. Despite the snow showers that popped up just as people were getting ready to go out to dinner, RSVVP Day was a rousing success. Thanks to our great volunteers, we received lots of publicity about the event's 25th anniversary. Our media sponsors went above and beyond their agreed upon donation. In the end, it still comes down to people making the effort to go out and eat. Looking at the totals turned in, you did that in great numbers and we are grateful.

★ The great crowd at the United Church of Chapel Hill when the Bradshaw Quartet and Christen Campbell took the stage on New Year's Eve. In addition to the concert itself, there was an offering during intermission to support IFC programs. The concert raised \$4,932 to help support the IFC.

★ Community Church of Chapel Hill UU for hosting a concert by Brother Sun which raised \$3,119 for the new Community House.

★ Everyone who brought us food for the Food Pantry and the Community Kitchen. We depend heavily on donated food to continue meeting the ongoing high demand. A few examples of food drives include Blenheim Woods Neighborhood Trick or Feed Drive, the customers at Caribou Coffee in Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill Tire and VIF International Education.

★ Jan Bolick and her Blanket Orange County team. They provided the IFC with well over 300 blankets for people in need. Thanks also to Marilyn Hartman for the huge number of winter coats she collected in lieu of presents at her birthday celebration this year. We don't want to forget Duke Energy and the extra funds we received from them that allowed us to buy space heaters for those of our neighbors who needed a source of supplemental heat in those bone chilling days.

★ Petra LeBeau and her merry band of elves who helped make sure that everyone at the women and children's HomeStart residential facility had something under the tree on Christmas morning. Lynn and Reed Davis did a super job as Mr. & Mrs. Claus at the Christmas party.

John Dorward

Thank You for Meeting the Challenge!

We are once again grateful to The Stewards Fund for the Fall 2013 \$100,000 challenge grant to support IFC operations. And we are very thankful to all of the new and lapsed donors, as well as existing donors who increased their gift, who helped us meet the challenge.

"IFC donors and volunteers are the lifeblood of our agency," says John Dorward, Executive Director. "When donors allow us to meet the generous challenges offered by The Stewards Fund, it's a win for our clients. Our thanks to everyone involved in this success."



CONGREGATION CORNER

Congregations are the foundation of the IFC. In each issue of the IFC News, we feature one of our member congregations.



The members of Summit Chapel Hill Church are committed to serving the community, particularly through volunteering at IFC.

FOUNDED IN JANUARY 2013, the Chapel Hill campus of Summit Church has quickly made its presence known in the community. About 1,000 people—half of whom are UNC students—attend weekly services in Chapel Hill. Chris Green, lead pastor at the Chapel Hill campus of the church, says that the church's mission is to "love God, love each other, and love our world." The church, started as Homestead Heights Church in Durham in the 1960s, was revitalized 12 years ago, becoming a multisite

church with seven locations in the Triangle.

"My hope is that when people walk in the doors they know that they are welcome and that we love them like family," says Pastor Green. "The way that we serve others is the best reflection of the gospel. We have made an intentional effort to work with the homeless, orphans, unwed mothers, high school dropouts, and prisoners—those who are in need."

Don Tyndall, an elder in the church, describes Summit Church as having an historically

evangelical and orthodox theology, strong preaching and a commitment to "doing what Jesus did: healing the sick and spending time with the poor." He says that one of the ways the church serves is by ministering to the needs of the local community, including the IFC.

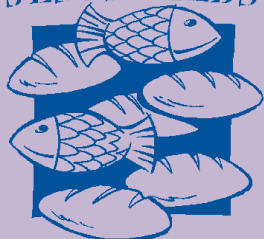
"We adopted HomeStart as a mission," says Dr. Tyndall. "We have done power washing and weatherproofing of the children's playsets, cleared weeds, mulched, painted . . . things that make it a more livable facility and a place where kids can go out and play."

Church members regularly cook meals at IFC's Community Kitchen and will be doing food drives for IFC's Food Pantry. Plans are being made to get involved in Community House. "We have told (IFC Executive Director) John that we're here at his service," says Dr. Tyndall. "We are making IFC an ongoing commitment for the Summit Chapel Hill Church."

The church's community involvement also includes commitment to the local public schools including leading a mentoring/tutoring program, sprucing up East Chapel Hill High School (where the church's weekly services are held) and hosting a luncheon for teachers.

"We don't believe that we have to reinvent the wheel," says Pastor Green. "We seek organizations doing something positive in the community so we can come alongside and partner with them and help those around us. We are glad to support IFC which meets those needs in Chapel Hill, especially with the homeless."

JESUS FEEDS



5,000

Help Feed a Family —Participate in Project 5000

FOR THE PAST 12 YEARS, groups participating in the local Project 5000 have provided tens of thousands of boxes of food for IFC clients. Originally started as a Lenten undertaking with

local congregations, Project 5000 now helps families year-round and includes participants such as businesses and scout groups.

Project 5000 encourages families or individuals to fill a small box with items from a specified list of foods. The filled boxes, which each feed a family of four for two days, are given to the coordinator who then provides them to the IFC for distribution.

"Project 5000 provides a good portion of the food that we receive and distribute, especially during leaner donation times," says Kristin Lavergne, IFC Community Services Director. "This is a great hands-on activity that provides an especially tangible way for children and families to volunteer together."

The project gets its name from

the New Testament story about Jesus taking five loaves and two fish offered by a small boy and multiplying them to provide more than enough food for 5,000 people.

For more information on getting involved with Project 5000, contact Kristin Lavergne at klavergne@ifcmailbox.org or 919-929-6380 ext. 41.

PlayMakers Tickets Available

THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY and community spirit of UNC's PlayMakers Repertory Company, IFC staff, board, volunteers and clients are enjoying free tickets to each of the company's regular season plays. PlayMakers recognizes the value of the service organizations in the community by offering these tickets to a number of local nonprofit organizations.

If you are a volunteer who would like to be added to the ticket distribution email list, send your name, volunteer position and email address to volunteer@ifcmailbox.org.



BUSINESS PROFILE



Dr. Mark Scroggs, a partner in Carolina Ophthalmology Associates, has generously provided free eye exams to hundreds of IFC clients over the past 10 years.

DR. MARK SCROGGS has a vision: to see everyone step up to their responsibility to make the world a better place. He is doing his part. An ophthalmologist who co-founded Carolina Ophthalmology Associates with partner Dr. James Bryan in 1999, Dr. Scroggs has provided free exams to two or three IFC clients each month for the past 10 years.

“When the IFC calls me to say that they have a client who is having trouble seeing, I’m happy to provide a routine exam at no charge,” says Dr. Scroggs. “It bothers me when people can’t get access to medicine and providing eye care is what I can do easily enough.”

Dr. Scroggs has detected problems such as glaucoma and cataracts in some IFC clients and provided others with eyeglasses to correct vision problems. “If people can’t see, it’s hard for them to live their lives with ease,” says Dr. Scroggs. “I’m not a saint by any means, but I grew up in a household where you were expected to do good things for people. That’s something I try to instill in my children.”

“Our practice also does Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives for IFC,” says Dr. Scroggs. “When we call patients to remind them about their upcoming appointments, we let them know that they can donate food.” Thanks to the generous response of the practice’s patients, Carolina Ophthalmology Associates is able to fill a station wagon with food to deliver to the IFC after each food drive.

IFC clients aren’t the only beneficiaries of Dr. Scroggs’ commitment to volunteering. For years Carolina Ophthalmology Associates has been a corporate sponsor of The Public School Foundation’s Walk for Education which benefits the Chapel Hill/Carrboro City Schools. During the month of October—National Breast Cancer Awareness Month—the ophthalmology practice makes a donation to breast cancer research each day one of its employees wears pink.

“Our employees like to be involved in the community and it’s something that we encourage,” says Dr. Scroggs. “My office manager’s sister developed an ocular melanoma and we donated money to research. Each year during the winter holidays, our staff picks a foster child to buy presents for.” Carolina Ophthalmology Associates also offers eye exams to the medically underserved through referrals from Eye Care America, a program of The Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

“Our patients are very appreciative of our involvement in the community,” says Dr. Scroggs. “And the IFC clients who we see are very thankful. It’s rewarding to help people.”

*Meet the Board - Ann Henley
continued from page 5*

visit to a food-share facility in Harlem, and I would like to be involved in a small way in helping to implement that vision in our community.

IFC performs an essential role in our community by providing shelter to those who are homeless and food to those who are at risk of hunger. In these practical ways, IFC compensates for the inherent inequality and injustice in our socioeconomic system, acting as the compassionate heart of our town.

*Meet the Staff - Teresa Rogers
continued from page 5*

health, including stints as a public health nurse and in care management.

When she’s not working, Teresa—who has two grown sons—enjoys yoga, hiking with her husband and dog, reading, running, and attending musical events in Durham at the Carolina Theater and other local venues.

*Letter from the Executive Director
continued from page 1*

our operations. Thanks to you, we made budget and many of you helped us meet our Stewards Fund all or nothing \$100,000 match. Making that match is a very big deal for us; we don’t have a bunch of \$100,000 donors. I was concerned that the capital campaign would siphon off too much of our operating funds, but you listened to my plea in the fall newsletter and made sure that didn’t happen.

So, let’s talk about that capital campaign that has been 28 years in the making. The leadership committee continues to work on The Campaign for the New Community House each and every day. While we have not yet met our \$5,760,000 goal, we are a lot closer than we were when you got your last newsletter. In fact, we are now into the stage of the campaign we are calling Closing the Gap. We have now raised some \$5,119,575 toward our goal, with several large requests still pending. If you still haven’t had an opportunity to donate, now would be a good time to jump in and help us get over the top. As we go to press, we are in the construction bidding process and we expect to start construction in early May of this year.

I want to be very clear that even with all of the extra projects going on around the agency, our staff and volunteers remain focused on the work you are counting on us to perform each and every day, helping our neighbors in need. With your continued support, we will make sure your local safety net agency remains strong and responsive.

IFC FRIENDS IN MEMORIAM

Margaret A. Bailinson
Gloria N. Blythe
Roy Carmichael Bradford
Dr. Alan E. Brandt
Henry C. Boren
James J. Crawford
Luca P. Harrell
Jim Henderson
Jane H. Humm
Thomas B. Lund
Martha Anne McDaniel Perry
Betty B. Sanders
Virginia Shuford