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People of Faith Uniting to Meet Human Needs

FAITHLINES E-NEWS

JULY 2013

► From the Executive Director

Dear John,

Stumbling, Falling, and Getting Up

Not long after I came to work for Inter-Faith Ministries in December 2011, I met Randy, who was staying at the Inter-Faith Inn, our shelter for homeless individuals and families. Randy seemed to be a pleasant man who liked to help at the Winter Shelter. He had been doing a good job of following his case plan by working, assisting at the Inn, and was making real progress. We gave Randy a bicycle that had been donated to us to make it easier to get to the locations where he was doing odd jobs from time to time.

Randy was a man who had stumbled, fallen, and was picking himself back up. I was optimistic that he would qualify to work in a paid position at the Winter Shelter when it opened in November 2012. But by then he stumbled and fell again. Randy had left the Inn under some troubling circumstances. I had always found him to be pleasant, agreeable, and hard-working, so



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You Can Help

I wondered what could have gone wrong.

The day after Mother's Day, May 13, he reappeared. He had been in jail for a few months and wanted to know if he could return to the Inter-Faith Inn. We don't automatically decline individuals who have been incarcerated, but when there are repeated patterns of failure we ask ourselves if we are really making a difference. I met with Randy briefly and then spent some time discussing his case with Sandy Swank, Director of Housing and Homeless Services.

Randy was getting up again after stumbling and falling. During his last few weeks in jail he wrote a list of life goals and his plans to achieve them. He believes there is a purpose for his life and he thanks God for keeping him alive so he can help other people. He says that the Inter-Faith staff are like his family. "Y'all have confidence in me, you know I can do it."

Like all of us, Randy has stumbled and fallen many times in his journey. But I remember a proverb I read a long time ago: Failure is not falling down but refusing to get up. Randy is staying busy with chores at the Inn, attending counseling daily, writing in his journal, and working toward his goal to have a steady income and a place of his own. He is surrounding himself with positive people. I hope this time he stays up for a good, long time.

Sincerely,



Anne Corrison
Executive Director



Randy cleaning up limbs
at IFM after a storm.

▶ Youth Challenge



On May 23 about 75 people attended the Youth Challenge event at Heskett Center on the WSU campus. Hindu, Catholic, Baptist, and Methodist youth groups participated in swim, track, badminton, Mario Cart racing, Interfaith Jeopardy, and a creative building project with straws. Photos can be viewed on the IFM Facebook page. (link below) Youth and parents are already looking forward to next year's event.

A special thank you to all teams who led fund-raising efforts. Teams raised a total of \$1,595 to help hungry kids in the Wichita area. Way to go!! Congratulations to Arti Gupta's team for winning the 2013 Fund-raising Challenge! Each team member raised an average of \$97.

▶ Community Corner

Grishma Ajmera was looking for a volunteer opportunity for her family. Her temple group had volunteered at the Inter-Faith Inn before, and, after learning more about the Shelter Chef position, Grishma's family signed up. For more than a year, they have cooked and served dinner once a month to individuals and families staying at the Inter-Faith Inn.

Donate
Now !

Save the Date



2013 Humanitarian Honorees

*Golden Rule
Star Lumber Company*

*Leadership through Faith
Randy & Suzy Storms
(posthumous)*

*Light of Faith
Timothy Relph*

*Spirit of Faith
Dear Neighbor Ministries*

*Peace by Piece
Paul & Margaret Miller*

Awards presented

August 22, 2013

Beech Activity Center
Reservations, 264-9303

In Remembrance

"It's been very positive," says Grishma. "It feels good every time we come out of there." Initially the experience saddened her children, but, overtime, it has helped them value what they have, as well as instilled compassion toward people from all backgrounds. In addition to cooking and serving for the Inn, her family has cooked and served meals at the Warming Souls Winter Shelter.

The Inter-Faith Inn is open 24 hours a day and provides food, shelter and support to homeless men, women and children.

► Final Friday at IFM

Final Friday at IFM - June 28 6:00 to 9:00 PM

Presented by
Mid Kansas Jewish Federation

No Final Friday May 31



► Events



Holocaust Survivor Ela Weissberger speaks to students at Kapaun Mt. Carmel High School.

Ela was in Wichita on May 2 as part of the annual Community Holocaust Commemoration sponsored by the Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation.

Ela was 11 years old when she entered the camp and was held for four years.

Habitat for Humanity moving into IFM Building

"We will be in business there on July 1." says Habitat executive director Ann Fox. Habitat was looking for a location that would be comfortable and accessible for the families they help. The South end of the IFM building was a good fit.

IFM is looking forward to having this non-profit in our building at Murdock and Market.

Camino de Crestone

A week-long interfaith pilgrimage located in Crestone, CO that begins every week from June 1st through September.

This is an unforgettable educational opportunity and a huge step for peace.

Details at+

[Camino de Crestone](#)

IFM Donor Appreciation Wall
[Jan - Dec 2012](#) [Jan - Mar 2013](#)



Arnita Miller

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Donor Appreciation Wall

2012

[Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2013](#)

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Interfaith Calendar

MAY

29 *Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh*
(Bahá'í)

JUNE

9 *Race Unity Day* (Bahá'í)
24 *Nisf Shabaan* (Islamic)
23 *Pentecost* (Eastern Christian)
24 *Nisf Shabaan* (Islamic)
30 *All Saints' Day* (Eastern Christian)

JULY

9 *Martyrdom of the Báb*
(Bahá'í)

[Explanation/Description of Holidays](#)

▶ Reader Comments

Tell us what's on your mind. IFM is forming a multi-faith prayer group to pray for anyone who is experiencing a particularly difficult time. Do you know someone who is in need?

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[Visit IFM's Website](#)