



Interfaith Ministries, Inc.

The RESPONSE

Vol. XXVII No. 3

October, 2008

Disaster Recovery Update

Over the summer the Disaster Recovery Committee has worked to finish repairs and close cases for homeowners flooded in July of 2007. There are fewer than twenty homes still needing additional materials, labor or professional services such as electric or plumbing work. Those are expected to be finished by mid-November. The committee is also standing by to help as needed as the city prepares to offer buyouts for several homes destroyed by the water. Assistance will be given by replacing those structures with manufactured housing.

On August 19, as Executive Committee members were discussing the final few cases, residents in rural Wichita County began cleanup from the latest flood to hit the area. The Disaster Recovery Committee is standing by to assist where personal and governmental resources are not sufficient to help people recover from this disas-

ter. Since the infrastructure is already in place, the committee's response will be much quicker than in 2007.

Progress has been made in responding to the challenge grant from the Perkins-Prothro Foundation for flood recovery. \$72,575 has been donated to date, which the foundation will match. To help raise additional matching funds, **El Chico Restaurant on Southwest Parkway will participate in a fundraiser on Tuesday, October 28.** From 5:00 p.m. until closing, El Chico will donate 10% of the night's proceeds to disaster recovery efforts, with the condition that at least 100 people participate. So, gather your family, friends, Sunday School Class, golfing buddies, bridge club, and anyone else who likes Mexican food, and help raise funds to assist the 2008 flood victims.

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Pantry Donations Urgently Needed

This is the same heading we used in the June newsletter, because the need is still great. While IMI continues to see an increase in requests for food, donations are still lagging behind the amount we received in 2007. This situation is affecting other nonprofits as well, as you may have noticed recently in the newspaper and on television.

A single mother of two recently asked for food because her utility bills have been higher over the summer months. She is employed, but her income did not stretch to meet all her bills this month. Another single male asked for help because when he

paid his rent, he didn't have enough left to buy groceries. The cost of gasoline and higher utility bills put him in the position of making a difficult choice. Fortunately, Interfaith had food to help both these families, thanks to your donations.

Anything you buy for your own family is needed, such as canned fruits, meats and vegetables, peanut butter and jelly, beans and rice, powdered milk, breakfast food, cleaning supplies and hygiene items. We have freezer and refrigerator space available, so fresh items are especially welcome. Thanks for your response to this great need!

Develop Your Skills — Become a Volunteer!

Interfaith Ministries appreciates your interest and donations. You have done so much for us and we couldn't operate without you! Thanks to you we now assist residents of Iowa Park, but we need your help yet again! There is a pressing need for volunteers. We are asking you to get involved and use your talents as a volunteer at Interfaith Ministries. You can help with donations in the pantry, work in the office, help with the prescription assistance program, or you can be an intake volunteer.

Specifically, we are in need of additional office and intake volunteers. You will be trained, as well as acquire valuable skills that will help you in today's job market. Interfaith has 8 sessions each week when volunteers are present in the building to assist clients which are: each weekday morning from 9:00-11:00 AM as well as Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:00-3:00 PM.

Presently, many people in our community are unable to meet their basic needs and that is where Interfaith Ministries steps in! Interfaith serves a fairly diverse population with many different needs. Make a difference in your community, become a volunteer. Skills needed:

OFFICE VOLUNTEER: Organizational skills; ability to relate in a friendly manner to clients, other volunteers and staff; good telephone skills; legible handwriting; accurate filing ability.

INTAKE VOLUNTEER: Ability to interview clients and determine how Interfaith can best help with the needs presented. Also intake volunteers need good telephone skills, legible handwriting, and the ability to work well with staff and other volunteers.

RX VOLUNTEER: Good telephone skills; friendliness; legible handwriting; organizational skills.

PANTRY VOLUNTEER: Ability to lift sacks of groceries; some organizational skills; ability to work well with other volunteers and staff; compassion for clients in need of assistance; willingness to tackle jobs that need to be done with little supervision.

CITA INTERPRETER/TRANSLATOR: Ability to provide translating and/or interpreting services for CITA program clients according to CITA Program Guidelines. At the same time, CITA volunteers should be courteous and helpful.

For more information on how you can volunteer call (940) 322-1365 or email tlewis@wf.net. You can also view our website for more information <http://interfaithwf.org/>

Leave a Legacy Texoma

During our lives we rely on charitable organizations and they rely on us. We rely on them to cure diseases, feed the hungry, teach our children, present the arts, preserve our history, train our doctors and shelter the homeless.

They rely on us for survival. While many charities receive some support from government agencies, the majority of their funding comes from the public – people like you who give generously through their lives. But did you know that by including a charitable gift in your will or estate plan, you can help to continue your favorite organization's work well into the future? You can continue to make a difference in the lives that follow.

Whether you think of yourself as rich or poor or somewhere in between, your legacy gift to charity can make a difference. Even a small amount can have a big impact over time.

Some people think they must choose between leaving a gift to their family or their favorite charity. You can do both, and some charitable gifts may actually save your family money by decreasing inheritance taxes. It's easy. A simple directive in your will can bring welcome support to an organization that make a difference in many lives.

You can start today.

- Make sure you have an up-to-date will (or living trust) that reflects your charitable objectives. Without these documents, you surrender control of your property and assets to the courts.
- Contact your financial advisor (a financial planner, lawyer or accountant) and ask for help in establishing a charitable gift.
- Think beyond cash – you can leave stocks, real estate, insurance policies and personal property to charitable organizations.
- Make your favorite charity a beneficiary of your life insurance, pension plan or IRA.

Commemorative Giving, May—August, 2008

In Honor of:

John Dryden and Steve Dryden,
from Dr. Charles B. Dryden, Jr.
Margaret Dvorken,
from John and Kay Payne
Margaret Scales, from Jennie Boone
Carol Wagner, from Mr. D. A. Kimbell
David Wolverton, from
Dr. and Mrs. Earl F. Singleton
Dr. and Mrs. John Wurster

In Memory of:

Ruby Priddy, from:
Mr. and Mrs. W.E. "Doc"
Anderson
Cowboy Church of Henrietta
Mr. and Mrs. Earl A. Denney
Dr. Charles B. Dryden, Jr.
Jennifer and Craig Estes
Bonnie and Larry Fieldsend
Dee and Larry King
Ms. Anne Kring
Merthel and Jim Lundy
James Irl and Dorothy Montgomery
Mrs. Kay Broday Patrick
Mrs. Jackie Hall and
Mr. Bob Brady
Ms. Mooneyen Reynolds
Mrs. Lula Cahoon Seydell
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kell Cahoon
Mrs. Carolyn West Thom
Mrs. Jane Tidmore
Jan and Vern Huffines
Mr. and Mrs. E. Wray Williams
Mr. Clint Wood, Jr.
Jean and Mike Payne

Drucie Spain-Scaling, from:
Mrs. A. L. Sauder
Mrs. R. L. Bolin
Jim Taubert, from:
Mrs. R. L. Bolin
Dr. Charles B. Dryden, Jr.
Margaret and Jack Johnson
Mildred White, from:
Ms. Myra Blackerby
Jam and John Poulos
Ms. Evelyn McGee
Donna Wood, from:
Dewey and Amy Conley
Moore, Camp, Phillips &
Patterson
Mrs. Susan Reeves
Jean and Mike Payne
Marvin Brown, from
Ed and Jackie Spragins
Walter Couser, from Mrs. Millie Couser
Ralph Harvey, from Dee and Larry King
Jim Hessing, from
Dr. Charles B. Dryden, Jr.
Bill Marley,
Alta Eastlake,
Howarad Munday,
From Mrs. Samuel C. Waters
Dorothy and T.D. McDonald, from
Mrs. Mary Bennett
Melvin Neely, from Sarah and Bill Butler
A.L. Newton, from Ms. Gail Newton
Jo Terrill West,
Russell Ford,
From Alfred and Carolyn
West Thom
Wayne Winfrey, from
Margaret and Jack Johnson
Opal Wright, from
June and Melvin Anderson

Client Profile

(NOTE: This article highlights personal stories of people who have come to Interfaith Ministries for assistance, and how your contributions enabled IMI to help)

An elderly lady called recently who had never before asked for assistance. Her family is unable to help financially, and she was struggling to pay her electric bill. She had worked her entire career at United Regional Health Care System and was retired. The volunteer who signed her in was a co-worker for over 30 years, and they had a great reunion! Interfaith Ministries was able to pay her entire electric bill, and contacted another organization to obtain a stove. When her medical needs were assessed, she was eligible Interfaith's Prescription Project, and was placed on that program for monthly prescription assistance. The client stated she felt "very blessed to have been here". None of this is possible without your generous and kind support. We are so grateful for all the contributors who provide for those in need in our community.

Byron Francois,
Director of Services

For Your Information

Donations to Interfaith Ministries are acknowledged on a monthly basis. New donors are added to the mailing list and receive this newsletter, The Response, every other month. Memorial and honor gifts are acknowledged promptly with a letter to the honoree or the family of the deceased.

Century Club Recognizes Donors

Throughout the year, many faithful donors contribute monthly to IMI, to ensure that people in Wichita Falls and now Iowa Park as well, have temporary assistance with basic needs. Others make one-time contributions to make sure funds are there when people fall on hard times. The Century Club recognizes donors whose annual gifts

total \$100 or more. If you have not yet made a financial gift to Interfaith Ministries this year, please consider the ongoing needs of our clients as you make your end-of-year contributions. Century Club donors will be listed in the Annual Report in April under the following categories:

- Millennium Century Club
\$2,000 and above

- Platinum Century Club
\$1,000 - \$1,999
- Golden Century Club
\$500 - \$999
- Silver Century Club
\$250 - \$499
- Century Club
\$100 - \$249



INTERFAITH MINISTRIES, INC.
 1101 11th St.
 Wichita Falls, TX 76301-4501

Phone: 940-322-1365
 Fax: 940-322-1397
 Email: jpayne@wf.net

Website: www.interfaithwf.org

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Interfaith Ministries, Inc.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Honor Your Friends Who Are Volunteers

Listed below are Interfaith Ministries volunteers who have birthdays coming up. We want to wish them all a very happy birthday, with many more to come, and would invite you to honor those you know through a gift to Interfaith, or with a birthday greeting. They're all very special people!

October

Irene Lambert	1
Nita Holler	7
Deborah Kegley	8
Lew Findley	12
Johnnie W. Haney	12
David Cullum	15
Pam Guilliams	20
Rachel Villasenor	26
Lu Arndt	27

November

Vern Huffines	2
John Ferguson	5
Edna Shepherd	7
Mary Covington	12
Dorothee Cadambi	20
W.B. Marks	27
Dudley Arrington	30
Bob Hampton	30

December

Stephanie Owens	5
Margaret Crittendon	6
Byron Francois	7
Ted Lauck	10
Mariea Sweeney	12
Jerry Sehon	18
Sue Cedrone	25
Louie Huffman	29

FIND US AT:

Interfaith Ministries, Inc.
 1101 11th St.
 Wichita Falls, TX 76301
 email: jpayne@wf.net

Phone: 940-322-1365
 Fax: 940-322-1397

Visit our NEW website: www.interfaithwf.org