

Copy to Tim

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL

TO: Ruth Harper Stevens
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FROM: Bill Self

FAX NO.: 682-3349

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING TRANSMITTAL SHEET: 4

DATE: January 11, 2000

Enclosed are the information for the IHN disbursement and the updated roster. I thought we had a good meeting. Thanks for your help.

Best regards, Bill

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A Community Response for Homeless Families

*Durham Interfaith Hospitality Network
210 East Trinity Avenue
Durham, North Carolina 27701
Telephone and Fax (919) 682-2846
e-mail dihm@juno.com
Laura J. S. Benson, Executive Director*

September 14, 1999

Dr. Fred Clark
23 Innisfree Drive
Durham, NC 27707

Dear Dr. Clark,

Thank you for your interest in further information about Durham Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) as the congregation at Duke Memorial United Methodist Church makes budget decisions for the coming year. The unwavering commitment of IHN coordinators Buddy Dean and Tim Turkington, the dedication of the church to install a shower that enhances the hospitality to IHN families, and the pastoral and staff support of Ruth Harper Stevens, Lisa Brown Cole, Ann Stallings, Helen King, and a host of others, and the leadership of Cindy Legge on our Board, makes our relationship with Duke Memorial a model of strength and longevity.

Enclosed is a packet of information that details the mission, purpose, and program of IHN as we address the needs of homeless families in our community. A budget, list of participating congregations, and funding sources is included.

The request to receive budgeted financial support from network congregations, over and above the cost Duke Memorial incurs while hosting IHN guest families in your building four or five weeks each year, is motivated by several factors. Network congregations who participate with guest families are aware of the great need for services to homeless people, especially families, in Durham. Host and support congregations are already committed to IHN as an outreach ministry; designating budgeted funds is an opportunity to deepen the church's commitment. A predictable income stream for IHN allows the agency to thrive, not only strengthening our current financial position but giving the Board of Directors guidelines for growth planning and further development. Our primary goal in the coming year is to add a social work staff position for improved case management with families. We believe this will increase our service capacity by helping families to move through the IHN program faster, thus allowing IHN to serve more families without overburdening churches with hosting more than three families at a time.

This direct appeal to congregations is only one part of a larger funding plan which also includes corporate sponsorship, increased grant/foundation support, and an intentional individual donor campaign. We have recently implemented a data base to make all of this possible.

During my two year tenure as director, the network has grown in exciting ways. In 1998, one new host congregation and two new support congregations joined IHN. These were the first additions to the network since our founding in 1994. This year, four new support congregations have joined the network, revitalizing several host congregations that were lagging in resources. No congregation has left the network since our inception.

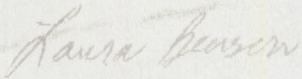
Of the 26 churches and synagogues that participate, 100% offer financial support beyond their hosting/support roles. Gifts from Duke Memorial come through organizations such as United Methodist Women and Vacation Bible School. Six congregations provide regular, budgeted financial support (ranging from \$5,000 - \$400 annually) that is pledged to IHN. Note that eight congregations in the network are United Methodist. In past years IHN has received district and conference level Methodist funds for specific projects. IHN is also a recipient of DCIA and Crop Walk funds on a regular basis.

This information gives you a broader picture of IHN's financial standing. Clearly, budgeted support from Duke Memorial will enhance our capabilities as well as deepen the church's commitment to serving very poor children and parents in Durham. Your support for IHN is in synergy with your support of DCIA, the Crop Walk, and the larger mission of the United Methodist Church.

Do not hesitate to contact me as additional questions arise. You are also welcome to speak with Cindy Legge, Duke Memorial's representative on the IHN Board, or to Mike English (president) or Harold Parker (funding chair). A complete list of Board members and contact information is also enclosed.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of the needs of homeless families.

Sincerely,



The Rev. Laura J.S. Benson
Executive Director

Enc.
cc: Cindy Legge