

## Host Congregations

Allisonville Christian  
Carmel UMC  
Castleton UMC  
Connection Pointe Christian Church of Brownsburg  
Emmanuel Christian Fellowship COGIC  
Epworth UMC  
Faith Presbyterian  
First Congregational UCC  
First Mennonite Church  
First UMC Noblesville  
Fishers UMC  
Haughville Seventh Day Adventist  
Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation  
Meridian Street UMC  
New Life Christian Fellowship  
North UMC  
Northminster Presbyterian  
Nu Corinthians Baptist Church  
Old Bethel UMC  
Orchard Park Presbyterian  
Our Lady of Grace  
Second Presbyterian  
Southport UMC  
St. Andrew Presbyterian  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
St. Louis de Montfort  
St. Mark's UMC  
St. Peter's UCC  
Wesley UMC  
Witherspoon Presbyterian  
Zionsville UMC

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Indianapolis IHN  
P.O. Box 1153  
Carmel, IN 46082

For more information contact:  
Executive Director  
Phone: (317) 261-1562  
Fax: (317) 261-6308  
Email: [executivedirector@indyihn.org](mailto:executivedirector@indyihn.org)



**1850 North Arsenal Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46218**

**Office (317)261-1562**

**Fax: (317)261-6308**

**[WWW.INDYIHN.ORG](http://WWW.INDYIHN.ORG)**



***Interfaith Hospitality Network is a partnership of congregations within a community helping families who are facing homelessness.***

## How It Works

IHN is a partnership of congregations within our community building hope for the homeless.

There are five key components to IHN.

### 1. Hosts

Hosting rotates weekly among the host congregations in a Network. In turn, each host congregation provides lodging, three meals daily, and hospitality.

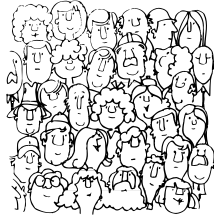
### 2. Day Center

Guests use a local day center from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, where the IHN director, a professional social worker, provides case management services. There, guests pursue employment, tend to pre-school children, shower, and do laundry. The day center provides guests with a mailing address and a base for housing and employment searches. Many guests are employed during the day, and older children attend school.

### 3. Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart of the program. They can share their time and talents in many ways.

- Cooking and serving meals
- Playing with children and helping them with homework
- Staying overnight with guest families
- Showing families compassion and respect, and sharing a sense of community



### 4. Social Service Agencies

Local social service agencies refer families to the Network and also help guests find housing, jobs, etc.

### 5. Transportation

An IHN van transports guests to and from the day center.

## Why is IHN Needed?

- The average age of a homeless person in the United States is 7 years old.
- Families are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, representing about 40% of all homeless people.
- Requests for emergency shelter by families increased by 5% over the last year with 32% of shelter requests by families were unmet.

## A Week at IHN

On Sunday afternoon, the network van arrives at the host congregation with cots and the families' personal belongings to be set up in a designated space, such as classrooms or a fellowship hall with dividers.

Guest families arrive at the host congregation Sunday evening. Families settle in, relax, and meet the coordinators and the evening volunteers. Dinner is served family style. Guests and volunteers share the meal together. Families are responsible for their children and help with cleanup and chores.

After dinner, volunteers and their families fellowship with guests and their families until bedtime. Two volunteers spend the night at the congregation.

On Monday morning, volunteers serve breakfast as they will every weekday. Food for lunch is available and guest parents make sack lunches for their families.

During the day, the families will not be at the congregation. The network van picks the families up at 7:00 AM and takes them to the day center. From there, children go to school, and the parents go to their jobs.

If the parents do not have jobs, they work with the Director at the day center to seek employment, housing, and other resources to help them regain their independence. The day center has bathrooms with showers and other necessities to prepare for the day. The van brings everyone back to the host congregation at around 5:30 PM, and the cycle repeats.

On the next Sunday, the families pack their things and leave the facility before Sunday services. The van driver takes them to the day center for the day until it is time to move on to the next congregation . . . and the next host congregation begins its week.

*Help change the lives of  
children and their families.*

## How to Help

I would like to be a part of caring for homeless families.

Please contact me about:

- Host Congregation
- Volunteering
- Other:

I would like to make a one-time contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I would like to pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_ each month.

Please forward contribution to:

Indianapolis IHN  
P.O. Box 1153  
Carmel, IN 46082

Donate Online at [WWW.INDYIHN.ORG](http://WWW.INDYIHN.ORG)

*Make checks payable to Indianapolis Interfaith Hospitality Network.*

Indianapolis Interfaith Hospitality Network is incorporated in the state of Indiana and is exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Name

Address

City, State Zip Code

Phone Number

Email

- Please add my name to your mailing list.
- Please add my name to your e-newsletter list.