

meals and other support at the Shelter throughout the year.

Dedicated volunteers organized and supported faith community participation in the 36th annual CROP Hunger Walk in May 2016, raising \$34,200 for local and global hunger projects. This placed Thurston County 44th out of 1,000 CROP Hunger Walks nationally.

The annual All Souls service in October remembered those who died in the past year whose remains were never claimed, and three Moments of Blessing were held as faith-based responses to incidents of homicide.

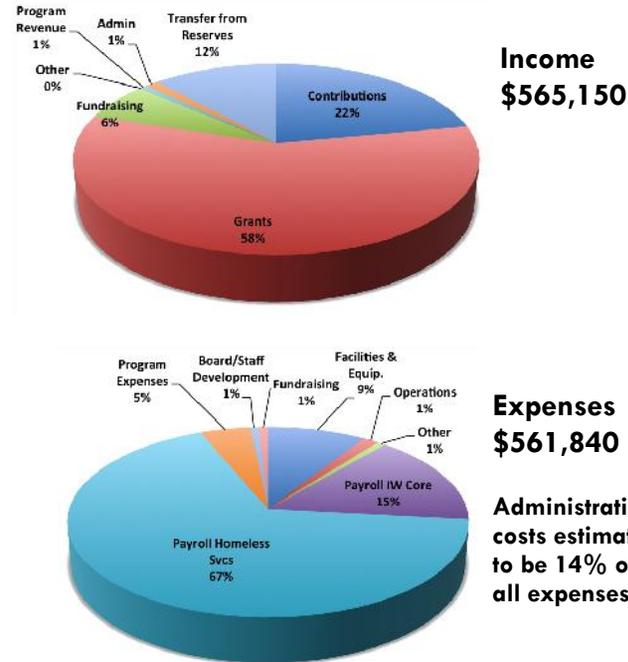
◆ Social Justice

Interfaith Works supports projects that advance social justice in our community. In 2016, IW worked with clergy leaders to draft and then promote the *Olympia Compassion Charter*, which calls on our community to recognize the inherent worth and dignity of all persons. This charter was adopted unanimously by the Olympia City Council. IW also functions as a hub for information on local social justice issues, including advocating for: earth stewardship; the prevention of and response to hate speech, hate crimes, and the marginalization of diverse religious, cultural, and racial groups and individuals in our area; sanctuary for immigrants and support for refugees; the rights of indigenous peoples; and the expansion of government services for the street-dependent population.

Transitions

During the past year, we welcomed two new Board members, Marco Rossi and Emily Gray (Secretary), and thanked the departing George Krusz, Mindy Chambers and Selena Kilmoyer for their service. We accepted Holy Wisdom Inclusive as a new Member Faith Community, and saw the re-activation of the South Sound Buddhist Peace Fellowship as an Affiliate Member Organization.

2017 Budget, All Programs



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Interfaith Works is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation



43rd Annual Report

May 2017



*Social Justice and Peace
 through Interfaith Understanding
 and Cooperation*

Interfaith Works is a non-profit organization of over 30 local faith communities, organizations and many individuals of faith and good conscience. Established 43 years ago as “Associated Ministries,” Interfaith Works has played a unique role mobilizing the energies and resources of faith communities, and helping create or develop some of our most vital community programs, including the Thurston County Food Bank, Dispute Resolution Center, Homes First, SideWalk and the early Thurston County Family Court.

◆ Homeless Services

Interfaith Works continues nearly three decades of sheltering homeless adults in Olympia, with improved program design to better serve the most vulnerable adults living on our streets.

➤ Shelter & Support Services

The IW Emergency Overnight Shelter provides 42 nightly shelter beds (equaling over 14,000 bed-nights in 2016) and advocacy services year-round for “highly vulnerable” adults in Thurston County, those assessed to be most at risk of dying on the street if they are not provided housing and support.



➤ Winter Warming Center

During Winter 2016-17, the Warming Center – located in the former Alpine Experience store – made a strong, visible and positive impact on downtown Olympia and for people living on the streets. Managed by IW shelter support staff, we offered a welcoming, safe and managed environment where people could warm up, socialize, catch some undisturbed sleep, and connect with services. The center operated daily from November 2016 to March 31, 2017. The daily average number of guests was 193, with a total of 23,250 sign-ins, representing several hundred unduplicated individuals.

➤ Community Care Center

We have worked over the past year in partnership with Providence St. Peter Hospital and other agencies to open later in 2017 a year-round Community Care Center in downtown Olympia, accessible to street-dependent people. The program will increase opportunities for people navigating the confusing web of services, connecting them with medical, mental health and housing resources. The Center will also offer basic respite from the elements, hospitality and hygiene services.

◆ Interfaith Understanding

Interfaith Works continued its tradition of programs that bring our diverse community together, celebrating and honoring religious and spiritual diversity in Thurston County. In 2016, our annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration attracted a huge crowd to enjoy

choral performances at the Abbey Church at Saint Martin’s University. We



organized interfaith visits to the Islamic Center of Olympia in the face of a local outbreak of Islamophobia.

In the fall of 2016, IW began convening quarterly Clergy Breakfasts to broaden our networks and coordination across faith communities. Every summer, Interfaith Works sponsors an Interfaith week-long Day Camp, hosted by Temple Beth Hatfiloh. Our Interfaith Program Council, composed of volunteers representing all our Member Faith Communities, meets monthly and works on these and many other projects together.

◆ Sacred Service

Hundreds of volunteers from our Member Faith Communities and beyond worked throughout the year to support our programs, pursue shared concerns, build alliances, and make our community a better place.

They helped raise funds and provided