Some good news despite bad times

Whether we quote the oft-used adage “Never waste a crisis” or modify it to “Never waste a recession,” we find encouragement in the phrase to face the difficult challenges that this economic downturn poses.

Over the past months, our volunteers, donors, staff and Board of Directors have rallied around our mission and become even more creative and resourceful.

The following timeline shows our results:

Fall 2008. Demands for services were rapidly increasing, but donations were lagging behind budget and government grants were being reduced. We were concerned. With the leadership of the Board and management team, we scaled back our expenses, including not filling three part-time staff positions, and upped our efforts to get our message out to the community.

December 2008. The community responded, and ICS was blessed with generous support from individuals and faith communities. For example, the ICS Food Bank set records of nearly 1,100 holiday bags given out to people in need, nearly double from the previous year. Individual donations for the month of December caught us up to our budget.

Winter and Spring 2009. We continued our efforts to hold down expenses. We stayed true to our focus on basic needs – shelter, health, food, transportation, etc. Our volunteer base remained strong, in fact, it has never been stronger! We notched up our activities to raise funds, such as reinstating the annual “We Care” Walk. We were also fortunate to be included in a number of media and public relations activities.

June 2009. As we end the fiscal year, we will soon prepare our annual statistics for the public. Not surprisingly, our services that help people in financial crisis have greatly increased – up 50% for the food bank, and up 25% for financial assistance. As a result of lots of hard work by staff and the Board, we will end the year with a positive net income.

Ready for the new year! In May, our Board approved a balanced budget for FY10. We know that the needs will be greater than ever, and we project another rocky year in respect to our government grants. And yet, in the midst of these challenging times, we have much to be thankful for - our wonderful Board, staff, volunteers, supporters, encouragers, and everyone who has kept ICS in your prayers. We have been blessed.

Thank you for your support.

‘We Care’ Walk
Thank you to all who supported and/or participated in the April 18th "We Care" Walk at the Oro Valley Marketplace. Because "you cared," important funds were raised to carry out the mission of Interfaith Community Services!
News from our Faith Community partners

Welcome to our newest faith partners! Fountain of Life Lutheran Church, Rev. Jeffrey Skopak, Sr. Pastor. Their music minister, Dr. Jeffry Jahn, has been the artistic director of our "Music for the Soul" concerts. Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson, Rev. Diane Dowgiert, Minister. Says Rev. Dowgiert, "ICS is a source of hope, inspiration and compassion in our community. Blessings on your work!"

Congregations in action: The Knights of Columbus at St. Odilia Catholic Church collected a "wall of food" at the church which will help feed hundreds of families through our Food Bank.

Resurrection Lutheran Church, through their Endowment Fund, gave a very generous contribution for our Emergency Financial Assistance program.

Christ Presbyterian Church gave the generous proceeds from their first annual parking lot sale to ICS for our programs with seniors and financially-distressed families.

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church and Rincon Congregational United Church of Christ hosted our last two Council meetings.

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

I am writing this to thank you for helping make sure my daughter did not have to go without her medication. It was so comforting to talk to a person who actually cared about our situation and understood how very serious it was.

Please know that you made a tremendous impact on our lives at a very difficult and stressful time. We will always remember your kindness,… God bless you and your organization.

Memorials and gifts of honor are a special way to remember friends and loved ones, as well as make a tax-deductible donation to ICS. An acknowledgement is sent to both donor and honoree. Thank you.

IN MEMORY OF, GIVEN BY

Our parents, Richard and Ruth Alm
Nadine Barlow, Bradley and Marilyn Browning
Bill Bittmann, Ralph and Mary Carter; June Helderle
Cleo Christopherson, June Head
Amalia Cova, Frank and Lorene White
Julie Dibler, Wayne and Carol Dawson
Betty Gibson, Helen White
Bob Hall, Dale and Betty Crawford
Francis John "Sledge" Hammer, June Head
Ted Hayes, John and Barbara Anderson; Ted and Kathryn Conner; Jeffrey and Jane Hayes; Marjorie Heflin; Jay and Betty Huitsing; Harold and Constance Johnson; James and Carmania Lewis; Harvey and Janet Masimore; Robert and Barbara Miller; Pat Owens; Charlotte Patt; William and Maxine Pearson; Annegret Perlmutter; Lieselotte Praeg; Howard and Dorothy Reeve
Jim Kilgore, Cheryl Kilgore
Ed Klein, Edward and Betty Aptaker; Louis and Artemis Hanusiaik; Pamela Morrow
Dorothea Krietner, Frank and Lorene White
Ruth Kuhlman, John and Sylvia Wiedenbauer
Shirley Larson, Mary Shanks
Carl Lobley, John and Barbara Anderson; Stanmore and Carolyn Bennett; June Head
Walter Marks, Betsy Sandlin
Monica Nicole McBride, Deborah Fudge Ray; Maureen and Sarah McClure; Patricia McClure
John D. McPherson, Sr., Mary Louise McPherson
Roland Meyer, Anonymous

Carl Petersen, Anonymous; Richard and Bonnie Kampa;
Terri Patt-Smith; Jan Rogers
Lucille Reed, David and Muffie Mackey
Benjamin Rich, Betsy Sandlin
Linda St. Laurence, Joe Botsko
Josef Strittmatter, Maria Strittmatter
Faith Trellis Mears, Barry and Diane Kalpin
Elsie M Vogler, Jake Vogler
Pat Walton, Pat Owens
John White, Stephen and Sally Pagnucco

IN HONOR OF, GIVEN BY

Richard and Terry, Cynthia Bean
My Friend Barbara, Sherry Sobel
Evan Reiter Brown’s Bar Mitzvah, Barry and Diane Kalpin
Phil Cashman, Joel and Lidia Allen
Jessie Deyoe, Mel and Charlotte Queen
Caregiving Drivers, Ellen Allaire
Marjorie Funckes, Arnold Funckes
Janet Hopkins, Dorothy Vanek
Jay Huitsing, Sherwin and Karen Koopmans
Pastor Dawn and Joel Keller, John and Barbara Kotlaba
Bob and Donna Langwig, Howard and Dorothy Reeve
Benny Lochsem Bar Mitzvah, Anonymous; Louis and Artemis Hanusiaik
Marion Triem, Melvin and Melissa Franklin
Dorothy Vanek, Janet Hopkins

Please consider making a lasting gift to support ICS. For more information, call Bonnie Kampa (297-2738, ext. 212) or Monnie Applegate (297-2738, ext. 222).
ICS thanks its CORPORATE PARTNERS

PLATINUM LEVEL

UMC

GOLD LEVEL

Commerce Bank of Arizona YOUR NEIGHBOR TOWN BANK

COPPER LEVEL

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Let’s thrive.

Tucson and Green Valley Team

Omni Tucson National Resort

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DONATE YOUR CAR... and support ICS. Call Toll Free 1-877-537-5277 or send an email to donations@charitableautoresources.com. See www.icstucson.org/vehicleonation for more details.

‘Freedom from Hunger’ drive June 21- July 12

A community-wide food drive is scheduled June 21 through July 12 to help fill the shelves of the Interfaith Community Services Food Bank.

“Often times the summer months are when we see our food supplies drop dramatically,” said Bonnie Kampa, Executive Director of ICS. “The demand for food has doubled since September, so we’re really concerned about what we might face this summer.”

Donations of non-perishable food or cash donations will be collected at the ICS office, 2820 W. Ina Road, or M&I Bank, 10655 N. Oracle Road, between now and July 12th. Or bring them to the “Freedom Concert” on Sunday, July 12th at CDO Baptist Church, 9200 N. Oracle Road. Members of Rural Metro Fire Department will be present to help collect the food items and cash donations.

The “Freedom Concert” begins at 4 p.m. and features Dustin Jones, classical guitarist. A special offering will be taken to support the mission of ICS. Immediately following the concert, there will be a free ice cream social. Team members from Best Buy at Oro Valley Marketplace are also volunteering at the event. Our special thanks to Epic Productions, LLC for producing the “Freedom” PSA.

For more information about the “Freedom from Hunger” event or to learn more about ICS, contact Monnie Applegate at 297-2738, ext. 222 or mapplegate@icstucson.org.

Register now for the ‘We Care’ Golf Classic

This year, 288 ICS golfers will converge on the Sonoran and Catalina Courses at Omni Tucson National on Veteran’s Day, Wednesday, November 11. We have over 100 golfers registered …so don’t delay! Go to the ICS website, www.icstucson.org, to register and get more details.

Concert Series Continues

Saturday, August 15 - Musical Celebration of “Feast of St. Mary, The Virgin,” 6 p.m. at St. Michael and All Angels Church, 602 N. Wilmot Road.

Sunday, September 27 - “Dr. Jeffry Jahn and Friends,” Time TBD, Fountain of Life Lutheran Church, 710 S. Kolb Road.

Saturday, October 11 - 7 p.m., Resurrection Lutheran Church Fall Concert to benefit ICS, 11575 N. First Avenue.

Sunday, November 22 - Piano Concert featuring Jose Solorzano, 3 p.m., Oro Valley UCC, 1401 E. El Conquistador Way.

It’s Time for Our Ice Cream Social

We are planning our Annual Ice Cream Social...this year in conjunction with our “Freedom Concert” on Sunday, July 12. Come for the Concert featuring Dustin Jones, classical guitarist, at 4 p.m., and stay for fun, fellowship, and free ice cream! All of this will be happening at Canyon del Oro Baptist Church at 9200 N. Oracle Road.

See you there!!
ICS NOTES

Our “green” newsletter. As of printing time, 266 people have signed up for the electronic version of this newsletter. Thank you for helping us cut back on our printing and mailing costs – savings that can be passed on to clients through ICS programs. You can still switch from this paper version of “Living Our Faith.” Just send an email to scaulley@icstucson.org, write “Go Green” in the subject line, and in the body of your message, give us an email address where we can reach you and the address you want removed from the print newsletter mailing list. We’ll notify you by email when a new newsletter is available and provide a link that will take you there.

GRANT AWARDS

We are grateful to the following organizations for recent grants:

- **Episcopal Community Services**
- **Jewish Community Foundation**
- **Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona**
- **Oro Valley Endowment**
- **William and Mary Ross Foundation**
- **Trico Electric Charitable Trust**

Interfaith Community Services thanks our ongoing supporters!

**Faith Communities:**
- Avra Valley Community Church
- Beautiful Savior Lutheran
- Canyon del Oro Baptist
- Capilla del Sol Christian
- Casas Adobes Congregational UCC
- Catalina United Methodist
- Christ the King Episcopal
- Christ Presbyterian
- Church of the Apostles
- Church of the Painted Hills
- Congregation Chaverim
- Congregation Or Chadash
- Congregation M’kor Hayim
- Cortaro Vista Community
- Dove of Peace Lutheran
- Fountain of Life Lutheran Church
- Grace St. Paul’s Episcopal
- Immanuel Presbyterian
- La Aldea (formerly Community Church of the Foothills)
- Lutheran Church of the Ascension
- Mountain Shadows Presbyterian
- Mountain View Baptist
- New Spirit Lutheran
- Northminster Presbyterian
- Northwest Baptist
- Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene
- Oro Valley United Church of Christ
- Our Saviour’s Lutheran
- Resurrection Lutheran
- Rincon Congregational UCC
- Sanctuary United Methodist
- St. Andrew’s Presbyterian
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic
- St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist
- St. John on the Desert Presbyterian
- St. Mark’s Episcopal
- St. Mark’s Presbyterian
- St. Mark’s United Methodist
- St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal
- St. Odilia Catholic
- St. Philip’s in the Hills Episcopal
- Temple Emanu-El
- Third Church of Christ, Scientist
- Tortolita Presbyterian
- Tucson Community of Christ
- Tucson Young Nak
- U.U. Congregation of NW Tucson
- U.U. Church of Tucson

**ICS Community Partners:**
- American Red Cross, Southern Arizona Chapter; Pima County Community Action Agency; Pima County Community Development and Neighborhood Conservation Department; City of Tucson Human Services Department; Community Food Bank; United Way of Tucson
- and Southern Arizona; Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Pima Council on Aging

**ICS Mobile Meals Partners:**
- Amber Lights
- Campana Del Rio
- Health South Rehabilitation Hospital
- Mountain View Care Center
- Northwest Medical Center
- Oro Valley Hospital
- Santa Catalina Villas

**Supporting Groups:**
- Presbytery de Cristo
- Desert Skies UMC
- Chapel of Country Club of La Cholla
- Lutheran Church of the Foothills
- Lord of Grace Lutheran