



About Interfaith Works

Interfaith Works, founded in 1972, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency and a non-sectarian interfaith coalition of more than 165 affiliated congregations of diverse faiths, working together to meet the needs of the poor and homeless in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Their trained, professional staff members work with individuals and families in crisis to help equip them to lift themselves from poverty and homelessness through prevention, stabilization and empowerment programs.

Every day, hundreds of people in our community turn to Interfaith Works for help. From prevention to emergency shelter to permanent supportive housing, Interfaith Works helps people in crisis lift themselves out of poverty, changing lives for a better today and tomorrow.

Interfaith Works provides services across the housing continuum of care in Montgomery County to touch all aspects of people's lives so they can find safety and security. Each year Interfaith Works impacts more than 17,000 lives.

Interfaith Works offers the following support services:

The **Interfaith Works Clothing Center** provides free clothing and household goods to 13,000 income-qualified residents each year, including nearly 6,000 children, through the distribution of millions of dollars' worth of donated items. It also links families with other available resources through Project INFORM while on-site at the Center.

Interfaith Works Connections links low-income residents of Montgomery County to the resources they need. The Outreach Coordinators, who are bilingual in English and Spanish, meet with Interfaith Works Clothing Center customers to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment, gather information to make referrals to appropriate partner providers, and educate clients about available assistance. Referrals are made to many types of services, including food, vocational services, English/literacy classes, furniture and behavioral health. Interfaith Works Connections also works with neighbors in financial crisis to provide a safety net and prevent evictions and utility cutoffs subject to funding availability.

The **Emergency Assistance Coalition**, a program managed by Interfaith Works, is a network of providers who deliver emergency assistance to needy residents of Montgomery County and includes public agencies, congregations, grassroots local assistance groups and other human service providers.

The **Interfaith Network of Montgomery County (INMC)** is a member-based, public/private partnership created through a collaboration between Interfaith Works and the Montgomery County Faith Community Advisory Council. The INMC will bring hundreds of faith communities together to build a healthy, resilient community where all residents feel respected, valued and supported. INMC will focus on fostering dialogue and providing faith-community solutions to crucial issues, including poverty, health care, xenophobia and bigotry.

The **Interfaith Works Vocational Services Program** prepares low-income Montgomery County residents through job readiness classes, skills assessments, training in computer skills and financial literacy, job preparation and placement, and ongoing support for employment retention success. Clients

work one-on-one with English- and Spanish-speaking vocational counselors to hone their skills, identify educational opportunities, develop resumes and cover letters, practice before interviews, and secure and maintain jobs.

Interfaith Works Housing and Homeless Services

Becky's House houses senior homeless women in an 8-bed home, providing 24-hour oversight and intensive case management to improve the overall health and stability of frail, higher-need individuals.

Interfaith Homes houses 31 chronically homeless, disabled men and women annually in scattered-site, permanent supportive housing. Offers case management and the support of a dedicated nurse. This program began in 2013 with a contract from HUD and has expanded to 31 units through support from the national 100,000 Homes Campaign.

Interfaith Housing Coalition provides permanent housing with supports for 25 families. Each family is engaged in intensive case management and works toward customized family action plan goals aimed at progressing to greater financial independence.

Interfaith Works Empowerment Center engages over 800 individuals experiencing homelessness annually with shelter, meals and services, such as vocational services and case management and provides shelter in extreme weather.

The **Interfaith Works Residences (IWR)** program provides permanent, supportive housing to 21 men and women who previously have experienced chronic homelessness. IWR is designed to help highly vulnerable and chronically homeless individuals maintain their housing by providing private living quarters and 24-hour staff support in the same facility.

The **Interfaith Works Women's Center** provides emergency shelter, meals and case management to more than 300 women annually through a 70-bed facility. The center also acts as an intake and assessment center for all single adult homeless women in the County.

Priscilla's House provides transitional housing for as many as 16 homeless women with mental health diagnoses annually in a group home offering 24-hour support and case management. It also links clients to mental health treatment, Interfaith Works vocational services, and other resources to become more self-sufficient and move to more stable, permanent housing.



About Interfaith Works CEO:



Chief Executive Officer Shane Rock joined Interfaith Works following an extensive career in the nonprofit, social service and advocacy worlds. After graduating from law school, he became executive director of Good Neighbor Mission, a homeless shelter in rural Tennessee helping people living in extreme poverty. In the two decades that have followed, Shane's career has encompassed a range of social justice concerns while remaining focused on helping people who lack economic opportunity. Most recently, Shane was director of operations for senior services for the Jewish Social Services Agency in Rockville. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in government and philosophy from Oberlin College and a J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School.