

CaRdBoArD

BOX ciTY

Registration Form

Registration is due by October 1, 2010

Name: _____

Group: _____

Age (if under 18): _____

Chaperone/responsible adult: _____

One adult chaperone for every 5 youth under the age of 18. A parent should accompany children age 10 and under.

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

A \$25 minimum contribution is requested with a GOAL of \$100 in pledges per person.

I am unable to join you on October 9, but I want to help!
Here is my donation \$ _____

Registration forms due Oct. 1
and pledges due Oct. 9
may be mailed or delivered to:
IHN, 40 10th St. W, Billings 59102

or turned into your youth leader if you are participating as part of a group. Please make checks payable to IHN of Yellowstone County and note CBC in the memo line.

All pledges must be turned in by October 9 at the event.

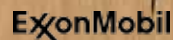
I give permission for Interfaith Hospitality Network to use photos of me and/or my child(ren) to publicize their programs.
Parent /Guardian Signature _____

Print _____

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Interfaith Hospitality Network
Of Yellowstone County
40 Tenth Street West
Billings, MT 59102
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www.billingsihn.info

The mission of Interfaith Hospitality Network of Yellowstone County is to help homeless families achieve and sustain independence.

Interfaith Hospitality Network
of Yellowstone County

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Saturday, October 9, 2010
Rocky Mountain College



Homelessness in Billings

It is estimated that 85,000 families are homeless in the United States each night. The number of homeless families is increasing faster than any other segment of the homeless population. The Mayor's Committee on Homelessness estimates that, on any given night, 80 families in Billings are homeless. Twenty percent of homeless individuals are children five years of age or younger.

Although family homelessness is increasing, it is often invisible. In Billings, families that have no home of their own are doubled up with relatives and friends, living in shelters, motels, in their cars, and there are families that actually sleep unsheltered outside even in very cold weather. For a family living in crisis, struggling to take care of children, surviving any way they can from one day to the next, it is extremely difficult to get ahead and escape the devastating cycle of poverty and homelessness. Moving from place to place when you don't have a home of your own is especially hard on kids. Homeless children usually attend two, three, or more different schools each year. During the 2009-10 school year, there were 458 homeless children in School District #2, an increase of 11% over the previous school year. Not counted by the school district, are these children's younger, not yet school age, siblings, as well as children that are so transient that they don't even go to school.

In today's economy, many in our community are just a paycheck away from homelessness. A serious illness or injury, job loss, family break-up, vehicle breakdown, or loss of childcare, can cause a chain of events that results in a family becoming homeless. With the added strain of the ever growing gap between wages and the cost of housing, the number of homeless families increases every year in Billings.

Interfaith Hospitality Network's 21 congregations and 1700 volunteers are doing something about homelessness in Billings. You too can help homeless families - gather a group of friends or family and register for Cardboard Box City today. Then, collect pledges, and sleep outside in your boxes on October 9th!



Cardboard Box City

- Participants supply and decorate their own dwellings
- Dwellings must be cardboard boxes
- Participants collect pledges
- Prizes for top fundraisers and most creative boxes!



Arrival & Set up

Saturday from 4-6 pm
Rocky Mountain College
(use 17th St. entrance)

BRING: Your own box (large enough to sleep in) You can bring a sleeping bag & pillow, card games, water bottle, book & flashlight

DO NOT BRING: balloons, straw, paint, alcoholic beverages, electronic devices, or pets

SOUPLINE DINNER - served from 5:30-7 pm

ENTERTAINMENT - 7-10 pm

QUIET HOURS - 10 pm-6 am

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST - Sunday 6-7:00 am

Takedown

Sunday from 6-8 am

Participants must clean up their area by 8am Sunday. Recycle bins will be available. Let's keep the Rocky Campus beautiful!!

Interfaith Hospitality Network Facts from 2009

- 341 calls for service, a 35% increase over 2008
- 15 guest families
- 28 children, ranging in age from a newborn to 16
- 3820 person/nights of shelter in IHN congregations
- More than 7,600 meals provided by congregations to guests
- 67% of families headed by single mothers
- Families received help accessing community services, locating jobs, childcare, and housing.
- IHN helped families get medical, dental, prescriptions, and other health care.
- IHN provided enrichment activities and summer programs for children.
- IHN helped families with rental and utility deposits, furniture and household items.
- First family moved into one of IHN's transitional housing apartments
- **77% of families left Network to move into their own homes!!**
- Provided ongoing support to families after they left Network.
- Had 4th annual Christmas party for graduated families.
- Network serves homeless families 24 hours/day, 365 days/year
- 20 congregations, over 1700 volunteers
- Over 20,000 hours of volunteer service in 2009



From an IHN guest who is now living in her own home:
Thank you for everything! Thank you for believing in me. Thank you for giving us hope for the future!