



*INTERFAITH
CARGIVERS TRENTON*

FAITH IN ACTION



2008

ANNUAL REPORT



IT'S ALL ABOUT HELPING.

Interfaith Caregivers Trenton/Faith in Action (ICT) is an agency that emerged out of a desire to help and a need for help. By working with and empowering congregations in their volunteer efforts, ICT assists them in carrying out their mission to serve God and man. Interfaith Caregivers helps recruit, train and match volunteers who provide non-medical support services free of charge to homebound individuals. Whether it is a ride to the doctor, food shopping, running errands, or assistance with some other everyday task, ICT is all about neighbors helping neighbors to live life to its fullest.



MISSION

**Interfaith Caregivers
Trenton/Faith in Action,
Inc., an interfaith
coalition, is dedicated
to promoting the
independence and
dignity of the
homebound elderly and
people with disabilities
by matching them with
caring volunteers who
assist with the tasks of
everyday life.**



FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



Dear Friends of Interfaith Caregivers Trenton:

In 2009, Interfaith Caregivers will celebrate its **Fifteenth Anniversary!** Throughout its fifteen years, the agency's goal has remained the same – to serve the needs of Mercer County's senior and disabled residents to help them remain in their homes and maintain their independence. Since its inception in 1994, Interfaith Caregivers Trenton has provided 71,326 hours of volunteer service to over 1,800 recipients.

I joined the organization five years ago as a volunteer and eventually became a member and then Chairman of the Board of Directors. While I derive much satisfaction from my work on the Board, my most important contribution to Interfaith Caregivers Trenton and the source of my greatest satisfaction is my service as a volunteer. Like most volunteers, I have developed friendships with a number of care receivers. In fact over 95% of our volunteers and care receivers remain together for years and become friends.

During 2008, Interfaith Caregivers Trenton has settled into its new offices and, as reflected throughout this report, has made great strides in carrying out its mission. Another reason for the success and growth of the agency is the dedication and talent of its staff. They are the ones who conduct the day to day operations and who help the rest of us stay involved and enthusiastic.

Finally, on behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I extend our gratitude and appreciation to all of the clergy members and our volunteers. With the aging of the population, and the difficult economic times that lie ahead, the need for your services can only increase. Together, we hope to continue to strengthen this very important ministry to the homebound well into the future.

Sincerely,

John Zimmerman

Board President



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear friends of ICT,

2008 seems to have sped by in a whirlwind of activity here at ICT! We are now settled in our new office space, located in the PEI Kids, Inc. building on 229 Lawrenceville Rd in Lawrenceville. (Right behind the Hair Illusions' beauty pallor- how fortunate for me to get quickie haircuts! ☺)

I hope you drop by to see us in 2009. We always welcome your comments, suggestions and continued support to strengthen our outreach to homebound elderly and people with disabilities.

Change really has been the by-word over this last year as we have said goodbye to Deanna Womack, now Rev. Womack, (you can see her current story by going to our web site at www.ICTrenton.org) and welcomed our new Coordinator of Volunteers, Jane Latini. Jane comes to us with a very strong background in education/administration. She is a life long resident of Trenton and has an incredible knowledge of the community. She also knows first hand, the many challenges of care-giving as do the rest of our staff. Already, she has revised our volunteer training manuals and produced a wonderful power point to go along with it. She has conducted numerous workshops for our group leaders and has been visiting churches to share our story. If you belong to a church that would be interested in starting an interfaith ministry to the homebound, please call us at 609-393-9922. And if you need assistance in Spanish, you can call our Hispanic Outreach Coordinator, Samuel Arroyo to assist you.

Another new initiative has begun in 2008. A new program, Project Connect, was successfully implemented in 2008. This project involves a major collaborative effort among eight area community organizations. These agencies are: Mercer Street Friends, Jewish Family and Children Services, Mount Carmel Guild, ARC Mercer, Enable, Mobile Meals of Trenton, Catholic Charities and Interfaith Caregivers Trenton. Through this collaboration, sponsored by the United Way of Mercer County, seniors have access to multiple services and are followed-up by a social worker on a monthly basis. Because of our collaboration, we were able to connect more seniors who needed transportation to church services/shopping on Sundays. Now there are two new van routes that alternate on Sundays to cover seniors who need transportation. One route is within the City of Trenton, the other covers Lawrenceville and West Trenton. Through this coalition there is also help for care receivers who need mental health counseling. In 2008, over 50 additional elderly care receivers coordinated assistance through our partnership in Project Connect.

Please mark your calendars and **SAVE THE DATE** for November 15, 2009. We are having a very special **15th Anniversary Celebration** of Interfaith Caregivers, called Shining Lights. It will be a lovely affair, featuring Barbara Trent, and will be in honor of our very own Shining Lights. Eileen Doremus, previously of the Alzheimer's Association and currently Executive Director of the Mercer County Office on Aging will be honored as a Community Shining Light, along with Rev. Darrell Armstrong of Shiloh Baptist Church as our Clergy Shining Light. Our special volunteer and care receiver nominees will also be honored at this annual event. Hope you can make it!

Thank you for your faithful support to the elderly throughout all these years. May God bless you and grant us all another 15 years of serving our elderly neighbors in need!

Blessings and peace,

Mary Ann Isaac

Executive Director

SERVICES



Client Services

- Ø Shopping and errands
- Ø Transportation to appointments
- Ø Friendly visits
- Ø Indoor/outdoor chores
- Ø Minor household repairs
- Ø Occasional meal preparation
- Ø Clerical assistance
- Ø Short-term respite care
- Ø Telephone reassurance

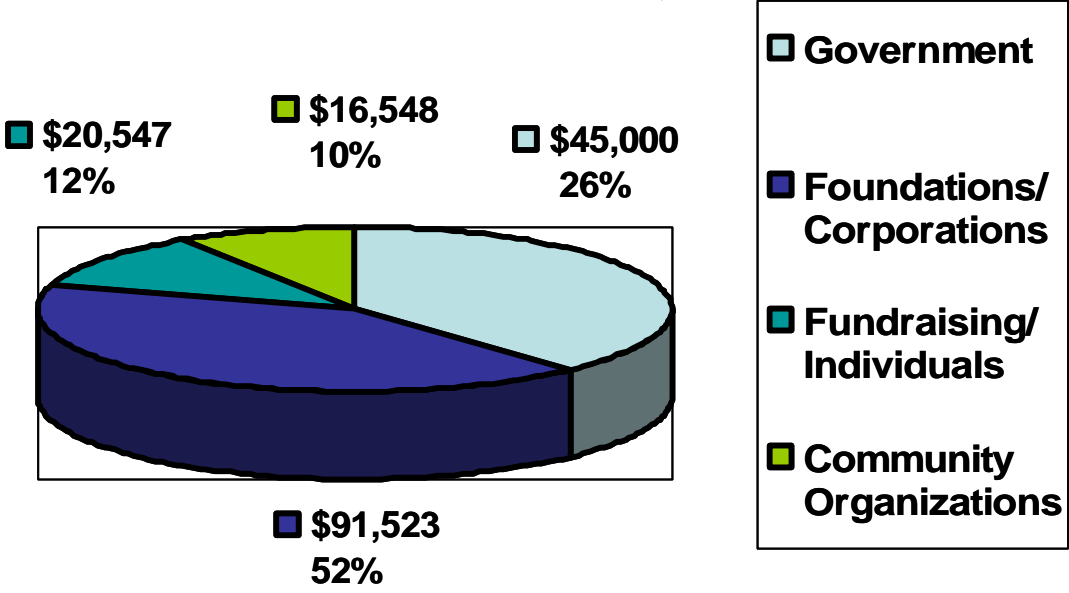
Congregation Supports

- Ø Comprehensive on-going assistance in organizing and sustaining the congregation's outreach ministry to the homebound, in keeping with its own mission and scriptural basis for service
- Ø Insurance coverage for volunteers serving and transporting the elderly and disabled
- Ø Help with locating homebound members who have lost touch with the congregation
- Ø Leadership training for group leaders who oversee this outreach ministry
- Ø Training for volunteers serving the homebound,
- Ø Help with recruiting additional volunteers from both within and outside the congregation
- Ø Linkage to the community network of medical and social services
- Ø Special topic workshops on Alzheimer's disease, depression, sensory loss, family relationships, bereavement, etc.
- Ø Linkage with other congregations throughout Greater Trenton.

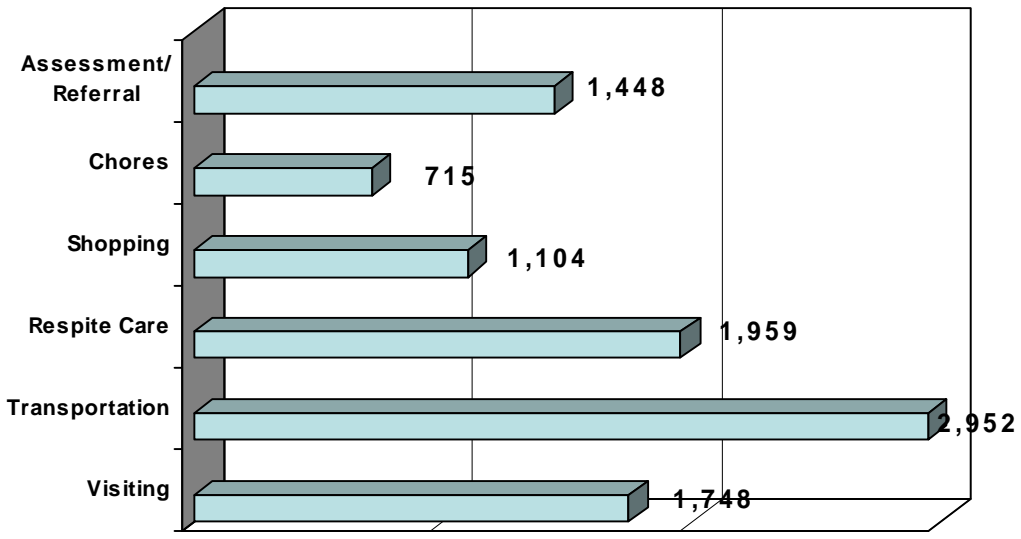


REVENUE SOURCES

Total Revenues \$174,818



VOLUNTEER SERVICES PROVIDED



STAFF

During 2008, Mary Ann Isaac, the Executive Director, welcomed much-needed new staff members to ICT with the hiring of two part-time Coordinators of Volunteers. In April, a part-time Coordinator from St. Gregory the Great Church was hired. A part-time Hispanic Coordinator from the Princeton Theological Seminary was hired in September.



As a result of the Coordinator's efforts, 77 new volunteers were trained in 2008 and 279 care receivers were served. The Coordinators worked together to serve our 25 member congregations and to further implement the new "Seek and Serve" outreach program to Hispanic and minority populations. In 2008, another new initiative, Project Connect, a collaborative effort with eight community organizations was implemented. The Coordinators have been instrumental in the bringing this project into being. Thus far, 61 new clients are receiving additional community services because of the collaborative efforts of Project Connect. Because of our collaboration, we were able to connect more seniors who needed transportation to church services/shopping on Sundays.

ICT's veteran Program Assistant, Beverly Bodine, continued to provide valued support. ICT's was successful in securing funding from twelve new sources in 2008. A part-time non-profit CPA continues to provide support for payroll and grant financial reporting.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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2008 Report of the Board of Trustees

Recruitment and development of ICT Board continues, including a new member with expertise in the area of finance. Two new members have been added to The Finance Committee. Three new fundraising committee members also were recruited in 2008. A Board retreat was conducted in May 2008 and will be repeated again in 2009 by consultant Richard McLaughlin of McLaughlin Community, Inc. As a result of the retreat, our Board completed a three year strategic plan for ICT. Active Board committees are Nominating and Personnel, Finance, Strategic Planning and Fund Raising. Our new Board member with expertise in the field of Human Services is heading the Personnel Committee for 2009. She will be working on formal review checklists for all personnel for 2009. The Nominating Committee is preparing a new slate of officers to be presented at our very special 15th Annual Dinner. The Strategic Planning Committee developed a three year plan and is currently monitoring its progress and implementation. The Special Events Committee met monthly and conducted a successful, major fundraising event: An Afternoon Delight with Barbara Trent and friends. The receipts from this fundraiser were over \$4,000. The Finance Committee has been working with our book keeper, who is a Certified Public Accountant, to further implement internal controls. Oversight by Finance Committee continues bi-monthly.

collaborations

Along with our collaboration of 25 member congregations, we continue to meet with United Way agencies. Project Connect is an ambitious program in which we are working together for better coordination of services among agencies. In 2008, we began the program to coordinate services and track each client's referrals through a social worker specifically assigned for that purpose. It is a constant process of meeting and collaborating with the agencies involved. We are working hard at communicating with each other and tracking all the needs coming through the program.

We continue our membership in the American Society of Directors of Volunteer Services, The Society on Aging, Women in Development, the Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce. In 2008, we engaged a student intern through the Princeton Theological Seminary who produced a 4 minute DVD, giving an overview of our program. We showed it at our Barbara Trent and Friends fundraiser in November and it will be a welcome addition to our trainings and public presentations.

We continue to network with RSVP, Mobile Meals and the NJ Faith in Action programs. We are members of both the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce and the Princeton Chamber of Commerce from which we obtained a new board member and office space. We are also members of the new Mercer Chamber Executive Council of Non Profits. In June, the Trenton Area Ecumenical Ministry honored Executive Director Mary Ann Isaac and an ICT volunteer, Brother George Stevenson, for serving homebound elderly in the community. Also during the summer, Thrivent Lutheran planned and hosted a fundraising ballgame at the Trenton Thunder for ICT. We received \$1,211 from their efforts.



COALITION MEMBERS

The heart and soul of our ministry are the volunteers who so generously live out the divine imperative to love thy neighbor. They come from all walks of life and from the following faith communities:

Adath Israel
Church of the Blessed Sacrament
Church of the Divine Mercy
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Dorothea Dix Unitarian Universal Community
Ewing Presbyterian Church
Har Sinai Temple



Higher Ground Interdenominational Church
Our Lady of Sorrows - St Anthony Church
Our Lady of the Angels Church
Pearson Memorial United Methodist Church
Shiloh Baptist Church
St Ann's Church
St Gregory the Great Church
St James Church
St Mary's Cathedral
St Mary's Church, Bordentown

St Vincent de Paul Church
Trinity Cathedral
Ujima Christian Church
Union Baptist Church
United Presbyterian Church
West Trenton Presbyterian Church



BENEFACTORS

Interfaith Caregivers Trenton/FIA, Inc. gratefully acknowledges contributions from our faithful and faith-filled supporters. Without the support of all the individuals who believe in our mission, we would not be able to provide the needed assistance for the homebound elderly and disabled.

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The Glover Family by Beatrice Barrett
Jean Cario by Shirley Beller
Jean Cario by Elanie Berman
Angelo Vasti by Roseanne Biddulph
Evie Brown by Laura Bole
Ann Berhalter by Elizabeth and Charles Carmalt
Evie Brown by Elizabeth and Charles Carmalt
Gayle Eisenberg by her daughter Lynn Castiglione
Bruce O'Donnell by sister Catherine DiLiberto
Daniel Commini by Jewel Commini
Dennis Cox, Jr. by Dennis Cox
Kathyrine E. Gibson by Pauline Debnarik
Andrew Deecan by Eileen Deecan
Jacob DiClaudio by Margaret DiClaudio
Kathyrine E. Gibson by Margaret DiClaudio
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Ann Berhalter by Julie Feinbush
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Evie Brown by Gretchen Genz
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Ann Berhalter by Helen Holmes
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Ann Berhalter by Michael and Carmen Isaac
Ann Berhalter by St. Gregory's Helping Hands
Ann Berhalter by Susan and Paul Jellinek
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Leon Van Sant by daughter Susanne Kotch
Abandoned Souls in Purgatory by Margaret Krest
Ann Berhalter by Jane and Joseph Latini
Kenneth Maybe by wife Doris
Ann Berhalter by Barbara Maio
Jim and Greg Maio, Billy Thorne and Marie DeMatteo
by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Maio
Florence Vanderslice by sister Ruth Mayer
Ann Berhalter by Grace Mazzatelli
Kathyrine E. Gibson by Grace Mazzatelli
Dorothy McGraw by husband Francis McGraw

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Jean Cairo by Dr. and Mrs. Steven Meshkov
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Kevin and Diane Zimmer by Mary Jane Zimmer
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ICT extends a very special thank you to all our benefactors for the tremendous support received during 2008. You affirm the importance of our mission to ensure the dignity

and independence of elderly persons who wish to remain at home. Together, we are helping to make that happen.

Grantors and Benefactors

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COLLABORATORS

No one agency can hope to meet all of the needs of the frail elderly and disabled in Mercer County. It is said that it takes a village to raise a child. Similarly, it takes a community of caring individuals, agencies, and organizations to ensure dignity and quality of life for the aged and disabled. Our collaborators provide a range of services; making it possible by working together to address the every growing needs for care.

Collaborators

Mobile Meals of Trenton
American Red Cross of Central Jersey
Contact/Retired Senior Volunteer Program
American Association of Retired Persons
The ARC/Mercer
Mercer County Geriatric Center
Children's Futures
College of New Jersey
New Jersey Foundation on Aging
Mercer Street Friends
Visiting Nurse Association of Mercer County
Jewish Children and Family Services
Princeton Senior Resource Center
Princeton Theological Seminary
Mount Carmel Guild
United Way of Greater Mercer County
Enable
Hands on Helpers

In 2009, our goal is to increase the number of volunteers by 10% and to serve at least 20% more elderly care receivers. We successfully recruited and trained 76 new volunteers and served 124 new care receivers in 2008. We had a total of 275 volunteers serving an increased number of care receivers (292). Requests

are increasing and the need to recruit more volunteers is even more urgent for 2009. We continue to develop our volunteer coordination by providing certification for Jane Latini and trainings for new staff. We continue our mission by providing recruitment, training and retention of volunteers for 2009. We are also planning increased collaboration with other agencies through our new Project Connect program. Our outreach to Hispanic and minority populations in Trenton in 2009 continues to be a priority. Six workshops were conducted during the year on topics generated by volunteers and community stakeholders. In 2009 we are also looking to involve students from area campus ministries to serve the homebound elderly.

It is because of the support of the community that Interfaith Caregivers is looking forward to celebrating its 15th Anniversary in 2009. We are most grateful for all the faith communities who provide volunteer support, for all the foundations and businesses who provide necessary funds and to our amazing elderly care receivers, who inspire us daily with their wisdom and strength.

