

Our mission is to alleviate the effects of poverty, hunger, homelessness, and addiction by providing community-based social services to those in need.



Letter from the Director

Some of you may have met Sophie. She is the dog (lab/shepherd mix) I adopted recently who sometimes gets to come to ICS.

Sophie really loves the guys who live in our Recovery Shelter. Every time we try to leave the building, she will pull me into the Hall to see the guys...and she will go to each and every resident to say hello and get some pets in before moving on to the next guy.

And they really love her too. Recovery is very hard work, the hardest work these men have done their whole lives. So sometimes they return in the afternoon exhausted and sometimes not filled with joy or in the best mood. All of that changes, though, the second Sophie comes up to greet them. She'll put her head in their lap, they'll start to pet her and within minutes they are more relaxed & usually smiling. Some get down on the floor to hug her. There may even be some kisses and some voices change (like voices do when people talk to babies and dogs). For sure there is some extreme tail wagging and everyone is a little happier than they were a few minutes ago.

The power of connecting with another and being seen. It is so important. It is so healing. This is what ICS is all about. We are about building relationships & building trust so people feel safe to work on their recovery. To receive food for their family. To ask for help. To feel seen and known...and important.

These relationships are what got us through the recent Seattle Snow-pocalypse. The snow has been unrelenting and frustrating for many, but even more so for our neighbors living unsheltered. For only the second time in ICS history, we closed Food Bank— twice! At the same time, we had so many more people than usual in the Hygiene Center needing help to survive the storm. Feeling called to respond for our friends outside in the freezing temperatures, we expanded Hygiene Center hours. With fewer staff but more work to do, it seemed almost impossible but the entire community came together in a very beautiful way. (Read more on page 3.)

As a rescue-dog, Sophie knows trauma & what it means to be a survivor. She also knows the best way to heal and begin again is through relationships, connection and kindness.

Peace & Gratitude,

Shawna

PS—It's been a busy winter and we are ready for spring! Don't miss the Annual Meeting March 24th, GiveBig May 9th and Putt Putt on June 8th.



Winter 2019

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www.icsseattle.org



1215 Thomas St.
Seattle, WA 98109

Connect with us on
Social Media!



Annual Meeting

*Immanuel Community Services
Annual Meeting will be on Sunday,
March 24th at noon.*

Thank you NBBJ!

nbbj

A huge thank you to the wonderful employees at NBBJ who passed the hat for the holidays and collected \$983 to donate to ICS!

We are so grateful to have such amazing neighbors, who consistently support ICS through volunteering with us and financial donations. Their local support helps care for the most vulnerable members of our community.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: Day of Caring with Microsoft Volunteers



On MLK Day this year, 13 volunteers from Microsoft joined us to cook and serve a delicious warm meal to our Food Bank guests, mingle with our clients and help organize the donations we receive!!! We feel so lucky that we were able to host this amazing group of volunteers and honor the wise words and actions of MLK. We were honored to take part in fulfilling MLK's vision, as their shirts say "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere" - MLK.



Welcome Andy!

Please welcome Andy Rodgers, our new Food Services Coordinator at ICS. We are so excited to have him join our team! Andy comes to us from the Seattle Service Corps where he spent the last year doing outreach, organizing & distributing donations and providing support and companionship to workers who serve at sea through the Mission to Seafarers Seattle. He is looking forward to the opportunity to provide social services & a ministry of presence to our diverse community at ICS.



Volunteer Corner

Here at ICS, we serve over 13,000 visitors each year experiencing homelessness and hunger. We are only able to provide the service we do thanks to the amazing volunteers who donate their time, talent and energy.

Do you have a few hours to give? We are in desperate need of help:

Community Lunch—Cooking, preparing and serving lunch once a month.

Hygiene Center—Cooking lunch for Hygiene guests; sit at welcome desk + help guests sign in.

Food Bank—Saturday/Sunday: collecting & sorting food. Monday: helping out with Food Bank .

Graphic Designer—Help us create new designs for events + publications!

Whether you have a few hours a day, a week, a month or a quarter...we need your help!!

For information about volunteering,

Christmas Surprise!

Special thank you to long-time ICS supporters Alex Sitnik and his family. For the last few years, they have put together wonderful gift bags for our Hygiene Center guests. This year, they went above and beyond and also purchased all the food for our Christmas Eve party!



What a great celebration, thank you!

Needs List

We are looking for specific donated items, including:

- Adobe Software
- Counter/Cupboard for coffee in Hygiene Center
- Full sized bottles of 3-in-1 (body wash/shampoo/conditioner)

Seattle Snowpocalypse 2019



The snow and freezing temperatures that unexpectedly hit Seattle in February were quite surprising for us at ICS! The number of people seeking help dramatically increased overnight—and we worked diligently to keep up with their needs. We extended our Hygiene Center hours during the snow, giving folks more time to stay inside warm + dry. We served hundreds of hot meals with the help of some amazing volunteers—many thanks to Mary Ann, Stephanie E., Curt, Siri and Stephanie J. Thanks to our Recovery Residents who were snowed-in and helped serve our hygiene guests + shovel snow! We also handed out life-saving winter warmth supplies, such as socks, sleeping bags, blankets, coats, thermal wear, soup and hand/feet warmers. While it was challenging and scary, the community really came together during the snowpocalypse!



APPLY TO JOIN OUR BOARD!

Are you passionate about giving the people in your community a sense of dignity and hope? Would you like to help a small, local nonprofit alleviate the effects of poverty, hunger, homelessness and addiction by providing community-based social services to those in need? Do you have the time and skills to dedicate to help a nonprofit serve the most vulnerable in your community?



If you or anyone you know is interested, we hope you'll consider

applying to join the ICS Board of Directors!

Please head to our website at www.icseattle.org to apply!



Employee Giving Funds

Did you know ICS is part of the *King County Employee Giving Fund*? We participate through a food bank cooperative and get a portion of what is given to the group. BUT...anyone working for King County can **designate to ICS directly!!** This is true for ALL workplace campaigns! So, if you have one at your work, think ICS!

Congrats Corey!!



A long time visitor of our Hygiene Center moved into his own apartment recently! He has been living unsheltered since getting out of the military 28 years ago! We are so proud of him for all of the work he put in to get housing. When he paid his first rent check, he exclaimed "That felt GOOD!"

In Memoriam

RANDY JAMES AUSTIN, JR.

Randy was a graduate of the ICS Recovery Program in 2014. Randy grew up in Louisiana as the oldest of eight children. We are saddened to hear about the news of his passing.



Rest in Peace!



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Mark Your Calendars: GiveBIG and 2019 Putt Putt Tournament!!



Please email info@icsseattle.org
or call (206) 622-1930 for information about
either of these upcoming events!



We need YOU!

Interested in being a **sponsor?**

Interested in being a **team captain?**

Interested in **joining a team?**

Have fun in the sun with friends and family!

JOIN US ON SATURDAY, JUNE 8th!