

The Stewards Fund Awards Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network \$25,000 Challenge Grant

By Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network

Dated: Mar 14, 2008

Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network is a private, nonprofit agency that responds to the needs of homeless families in Wake County. Opening its doors in 1994, WIHN has developed into a multi-faceted program addressing homelessness and its causes.

The Stewards Fund of Raleigh, NC has made a \$25,000 challenge grant to to Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network (WIHN). During the four-month period, March 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008, gifts to WIHN by new donors will be matched in an equal amount by The Stewards Fund. The grant of \$25,000 must be matched, dollar-for-dollar, by June 30, 2008.

Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network's mission is to provide shelter, meals, case management and educational services to homeless families in addition to promoting action and awareness in the community regarding homelessness. WIHN assists each family in the transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency by providing up to twelve weeks of services. Key to WIHN's success is involving and educating the community by mobilizing more than 2200 volunteers from more than 50 congregations within the faith community, as well as in many corporations and civic organizations.

"Unfortunately the significant number of families in need of shelter and the lack of available shelter in Wake County has the demand for WIHN services at an all time high. We are stretching to meet the need," says Executive Director of Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network, Lisa Williams. "We are serving a record number of guests, and increased funding will help to return families to independent living. With The Stewards Fund challenge grant, there has never been a better time to make your money work for those who face homelessness in your community."

The Stewards Fund, administered out of Raleigh, provides funding to organizations in the human services field. In addition to this grant, contributions to Wake Interfaith are tax-deductible and companies often have additional matching gift programs.

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About WIHN: The specific purpose of WIHN is to provide temporary stability to homeless families as they work toward permanent independence. WIHN promotes a sense of community and self-worth, and assists families in learning the skills necessary to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency. The teamwork of staff and church volunteers is key to the success of the program. Consequently, 86% of WIHN families complete the program successfully and move into housing.

Category	Services, Non-profit
Tags	wake interfaith, raleigh, stewards fund, homeless, shelter, grant
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