

IAM...Did You Know?

You PROBABLY know that Interfaith Assistance Ministry (IAM) helps those in our community that have a financial crisis by providing assistance with nutritious **Food, Clothing and Blankets**.

You MAY also know that IAM provides financial resources to help with **Electricity, Water, Fuel Oil, Propane Gas, Rent and Prescriptions** to our neighbors that are experiencing a financial crisis.

But DID YOU KNOW that...

- FUMC helped establish IAM 34 years ago with the donation of its first home, financial support and a supply of willing volunteers.
- 27 of the more than 300 current IAM volunteers are FUMC members.
- In 2017, IAM provided more than \$1.8 million in assistance to nearly 9,536 children and adults by providing food for 132,240 meals, clothing for 3,901 individuals, heating and/or utility assistance for 637 families, school supplies in backpacks to 503 students, rent/mortgage assistance for 166 families, and prescription medications for 75 people.
- In addition to providing crisis financial assistance, IAM also provides
 - Written guidance and referrals to more than 90 partner organizations (such as Pisgah Legal, StoreHouse, Salvation Army, Goodwill Career Connections, Safelight, Hendersonville Housing Authority, Housing Assistance Corp., The Free Clinics, Blue Ridge Community Health Services, JobLink and many more)
 - Provides up-to-date lists of available area jobs.
 - Provides free Smoking Cessation and Budgeting classes.
- IAM relies on funding and in-kind support from more than 80 Congregations, more than 150 businesses, civic groups and various grants.
- In 2018
 - IAM expanded its service hours to include Saturdays to help more struggling families
 - IAM opened the Working Women's Clothing Closet (originated at FUMC)
 - IAM now provides a full week's worth of food monthly to those with special crisis needs (as opposed to every 3 months) and offers the only food pantry open 6 days a week
 - IAM provides a minimum of four outfits per person, as available
 - IAM provides free meeting space, as available, to congregations and community partners. El Centro is partnering with IAM to provide GED classes at IAM on Saturdays.

HOW YOU CAN HELP...

- Keep IAM and our neighbors who are in financial crisis in your prayers! IAM is competing with more than 200 local nonprofits for financial donations!
- Volunteer (one shift is only 4 hours/week and Saturday intake volunteers are especially needed!)
- Continue to provide financial support and donations of food, clothing and personal hygiene items!
- Help spread the word that IAM is Henderson County's largest provider of crisis services!

Call Gary Lambert at 575-6302 or Ken Perkins at 890-5338 for more information