



Making a Difference One Family at a Time

Montachusett Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc.



2018 Annual Report



Montachusett Interfaith Hospitality Network

Mission:

To provide shelter, meals, and comprehensive assistance to homeless families with children, and to increase community involvement in direct services and advocacy.

Dear MIHN Friends,

We are pleased to provide you with our Montachusett Interfaith Hospitality Network (MIHN) 2018 Annual Report. We consider the past year to be one of continued success as we focused on our mission of helping families leave unsafe, traumatic and unhealthy living situations. Our staff and volunteer team provided critical services; a secure shelter, meals, clothing, case management, and needed resources. We ensured a caring and compassionate approach as we walked alongside families committed to increasing their independence and strengthening their wellbeing.

Twenty-three families and thirty-three children were served this past year and their accomplishments are truly something to celebrate. The challenges for our families have remained the same and we continued to look for creative ways to support them in their goal of self-sufficiency. The obstacles for our families included:

- Affordable daycare
- Adequate modes of transportation
- Jobs that pay higher than minimum wage
- Truly affordable apartments

During this past year, the MIHN Board of Directors engaged in long-term planning with the identified goal of providing more permanent housing in our continuum of services for families. Researching funding sources and potentials properties are now very much a part of our work. We will continue this effort in the year ahead.

Our ability to provide quality care is in great part due to the network of individuals involved with MIHN. This report highlights many of the people who make a difference in our work: staff, board members, volunteers, donors, community supporters and most importantly, our families. Thank you for your role in making us better, making us stronger and supporting the families who look to us for help.

Best regards,



Dr. Jon Hogue
Executive Director



Adam Weber
Board President

2018 CLIENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**87% Acquired or
Increased Income**

**73% Transitioned into
Stable Housing**

**100% of Children
Attended Literacy
Programming**

**83% Accessed
Childcare to Obtain
Employment**

**100% Attended
Weekly Trainings**

**100% Attended Stress
Management
Programming**

**87% Achieved 3 or
more Primary Goals
on Service Plan**

THE FOUNDATION OF OUR WORK

The work at MIHN is made possible through those who give generously of their time. Volunteers are the foundation of our work. In 2018 we wished well to three Hall of Fame volunteers who gave selflessly in their effort to support our families.

Genifer Anderson and her husband Dr. Neal Anderson retired from the MIHN Board of Directors. Both had given much of themselves over the years and we appreciate the work that they have done for homeless families. Gen was involved on the Board since the early days of the agency, and knows well the measurable growth and development of the organization. Our sincere “thank you” to both Genifer and Neal for all they did and continue to do for MIHN.



We saw the retirement of Sandra DeRienzo, a former Board member, Host Church Coordinator and career real estate agent who helped us find our current 758 Main Street property. Sandra had been involved with Pilgrim Church and MIHN since the beginning stages of MIHN and has given much of her time and resources to our homeless families and shelter. We are indebted to Sandra for her commitment to our cause.

MIHN calls on area faith communities to serve as the backbone of our volunteer needs – primarily ensuring healthy evening meals for parents and children who live at the shelter. Churches of all denominations ensured caring coverage on a weekly basis. We remain incredibly grateful for these churches who know our need and respond faithfully with their support. We are blessed to partner with volunteers who are members of these congregations:

*Pilgrim Congregational Church
Saint Boniface Parish
Saint Cecelia Parish
Saint Leo Parish
United Parish of Lunenburg
Saint Anthony de Padua Church*

*Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church
Leominster United Methodist Church
First Parish Church Fitchburg
Excel Church
Saint Bernard Parish
Leominster Seventh-day Adventist Church*

OUR FOCUS ON CHILDREN

MIHN remains the only shelter in the North Central Massachusetts that keeps families together. We ensure our programs foster the educational, social and emotional wellbeing of children who call the shelter their home. Our commitment to a trauma-informed approach to services remained a focus of our work with children. This past year we ensured important traditions were maintained and new opportunities for creating and exploring were available to our young learners.

THERAPAWS: This past year MIHN partnered with TheraPaws/BePawsitive. On TheraPaws nights, a group of caring individuals bring in therapy animals such as cats, dogs, and even snails to play and cuddle. Our families (kids and parents alike) love having the animals come in as a means of stress reduction, fun, and learning about animals.



PROJECT APPLES: We were excited to have Project Apples from Leominster Public Schools come to the shelter once a month. Project Apples brings fun literacy and craft projects for our children. Every visit, the Project Apples team brings in fun crafts, puzzles, and toys that



relate to a book they bring for the children. After craft and game time, the kids gather around to listen to the book, sing, dance, and play. The activity ends with their very own copy of the book.

FROSTY FLYER: All kids love ice cream but there is something about an “old school” ice cream truck that brings a smile, frozen treat, and complete joy to the youngest members of our shelter. When the Frosty Flyer stopped at the shelter, it made our children feel like the VIPs that they are.



A COMMUNITY THAT CARES



During this past year, MIHN continued to seek the support of the community through individual, corporate, and foundation funding. As careful stewards of every dollar raised through appeals, events, and grants, we saw, firsthand, the

generosity of others. Our 2018 Donor List represents a community that cares. What has become our signature event, the Walk for Homeless Families in May, brought walkers young and old to the Leominster Doyle Field track. Proceeds from the walk totaled \$4,596.



In October we held a “Brewing Hope for Homeless Families,” fundraising event that included a live band, silent auction, beverages and board games. We are fortunate to have a Fundraising Committee who thinks creatively about ways to engage a wider group of individuals in our mission.

Taking care of families requires that we put a roof over their heads – one that is updated and of good quality. The Health Care Foundation of

Central Massachusetts supported our request for funding to do just that – put a new roof where needed over the families who call MIHN home. We remain grateful for the foundations who see the importance of our work and the urgency of our need to help parents with young children.



The shelter benefited from the generosity of giving one's time during the 2018 United Way Day of Caring. Volunteers used this international day of support to give a much-needed, fresh look to our intake office. Community means everything to the staff and families at MIHN and this special day is certainly in the books as one of our favorites.



Advocacy for our critical services is as important as the funds we need to operate the shelter. Visits from elected officials provides an opportunity to speak one-on-one about our funding needs, important resources for families and ways in which we can reach more people in need. This past year we were fortunate to have those conversations with State

Senator Dean A. Tran and State Representative Jennifer E. Benson who both visited the shelter to learn more about our work.



MIHN Success Stories



Christine and her daughter, Abby, moved into MIHN after having experienced a tough situation. Christine had many work skills that she could utilize, but because of childcare and scheduling issues, she was unable to seek full-time employment. She was unable to save for an apartment.

While at MIHN, Christine set goals for increasing her income and finding full time childcare for Abby. She ran into some obstacles in the process, but was

able to get Abby into daycare and find a position that utilized her skills and fit her schedule. She worked towards learning new skills and budgeting and saving money, and after a few unexpected financial setbacks, she was finally able to begin apartment searching. Christine found a place that worked for her family, and found resources that made her transition out of MIHN successful and exciting.

After moving out of MIHN, Christine and Abby are now enjoying having their own apartment and Christine was able to find an even better job that meets her family's needs. She is continuing to move forward, and taking on any obstacles life may give her. Christine says of her time at MIHN, "it was a roller coaster ride for me and my daughter to say the least. Overall, it was a life changing experience for me. I got the reality check I so badly needed. I am beyond thankful to the workers and volunteers at MIHN who made the time I spent there bearable. Even when transitioning out of MIHN they were all extremely helpful making sure I had everything I would need. I thank God for the chance to have been able to go through the program and meet the people I did."





Haley and her son, James, moved into MIHN with Haley being seven months pregnant. Haley said, “before entering the shelter it had been five years since my children and I have all been under one roof we could call our own.” At MIHN, Haley set to work trying to figure out what her options were for her and her family to move towards getting their own apartment. She set goals, and along with MIHN staff, worked towards finding solutions for what sometimes felt like barriers that were impossible to get past.

Following Annie’s birth, Haley was able to get both Annie and James into wonderful daycare programs that allowed her to pursue work. She found a great job that allowed her to increase her income and still be able to care for her children. Over the next few months, she worked diligently at budgeting and saving money. She continued to seek out resources that would help her and her children, and after a lot of hard work and patience, she found an apartment that suited her family’s needs.

Since leaving MIHN, Haley and her family have enjoyed living more independently at her own apartment. She has continued to set goals for herself, and is continuing to move forward in providing for her and her family. Haley stated, “I am so happy to be officially in our own apartment! To MIHN and the staff there (whom I now consider family), thank you for helping me reshape my children’s lives and me. Being there for us and never giving up on us. I am so grateful for gaining these special people in my life and having the great privilege of going through this transitional program. I wouldn't be in this apartment if it wasn't for them.”

MIHN STAFF



Dr. Jon Hogue
Executive Director



Tabitha Cardona
Operations Manager



Madelyn Cecelya
Case Manager



Michael Young
House Manager

Board of Directors as of December 31, 2018

Adam Weber, President

Heather Cline, Treasurer

Patricia Ellis, Secretary

Members

Kenneth Berry

Robert Brown

Kerry Flathers

Jennifer Gendreau

Megan Glidden

Eileen O'Leary

Wayne Pineau

Olivia Plourde

Patricia Read

Ann Walsh-Macleod

MONTACHUSETT INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK, INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2018

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 135,215
Grants Receivable	48,613
Prepaid Expenses	<u>973</u>

Total Current Assets 184,801

BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN ASSETS HELD BY OTHERS 135,660

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET 494,140

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 814,601

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 5,855
Deferred Revenue	<u>14,612</u>

Total Current Liabilities 20,467

NET ASSETS

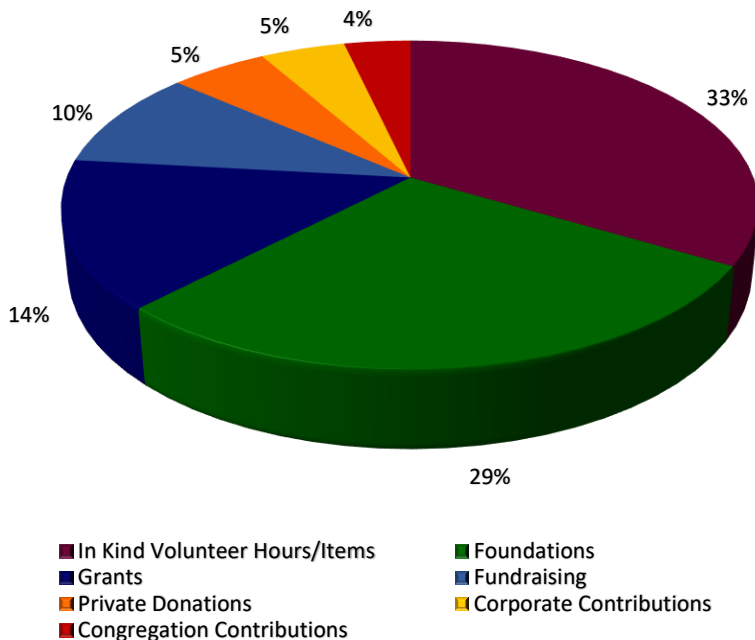
Without Donor Restrictions	
Undesignated	645,887
Designated	<u>135,660</u>
	781,547

With Donor Restrictions 12,587

Total Net Assets 794,134

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$ 814,601

2018 Income



In-Kind donations

(national average of hourly wage used at \$ 24.69 per hr.)

- ✓ Board time donated
- ✓ Volunteer hours (cooking, hosting in shelter, driving, meetings)
- ✓ Overnight staffing seven days per week
- ✓ Items and food donated

Total - \$ 182,926

2018 Donors

A Helping Hand Foundation, Inc.
Adam Weber
Affordable Interior Systems, Inc.
Alexandra Weill
Allan Armington
Amanda Dunbar
Amy Mason
Andrienne Clark
Ann Douglas
Ann M & Antonio L Parisi
Ann Walsh
April Firmin
Ardent Mills
Arlene and Richard Kennian
Arthur Heneault Jr
AstraZaneca Pharmaceuticals
Audrey Learned & Family
Ava Picucci
Avidia Bank Charitable Foundation
Bank Hometown
Barbara Marois
Barbara Parker
Barbara Vachon
Beers for Good
Bemis Associates, Inc.
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Berkshire Bank Foundation, Inc.
Bernadette Roop
Betty Sims
Bill Trainque
Blue Man Group Boston
Bob & Wendy Brown
Bonnie Hathaway
Brenda Wagner
Bridget Buchieri-Global Fitness
Bridget Doherty
Carl Derner
Carla Cepeda
Caroline Sawyer
Carolyn Corliss
Cary Leroy
Cathleen Connors
Cathy and John Beale
Cecelya Family
Central Mass Oral & Maxillofacial
Surgery
Chapdelaine
Charles A Welch Lodge, A.F. & A.M.
Charles Kenerson
Cindy Campbell
Claire Rollo
Claudette Guillmette
Concetta Ayles
Congers Heating & Cooling
Congregation Agudat Achim
Corinthian Lodge AF & AM
Corrine Ferzoco
Cristina's Restaurant
Curious Escape Rooms-Fitchburg
Daniel Soucy
Darri Wenning
David & Janice Bellew
David Bagge
David M. Roth
David Streb
DCU For Kids
Debbie Keogh Moeckel
Dell, Inc.
Diana Moriarty
Diana Rodriguez
Diane Reed
Digital Credit Union
Discovery Museum
Dolores Moon
Donna Donahue
Douglas & Isabelle Crocker
Foundation
Dr. Todd Rowe, Orthodontist, P.C.
EcoTarium
Edwin Giesluk
Eileen O'Leary
Elisha Erb
Elizabeth Anderson

Elizabeth Barry
Elizabeth Kroboth
Elizabeth Romano
Emily Funk
Ethan Adams
Excel Church Inc.
Family Federal Savings
FFBC Missions
Fidelity Bank
Fidelity Charitable Foundation
Fitchburg First Baptist Church
Frances Therrien
Fraternal Order of Eagles
Fred Bernard
Gail Salafia
Geoff and Tina Grammel
George R. Wallace Foundation
Greater Worcester Community
Foundation
Hanna Straight & Family
Hannaford
Henry & Pauline Frye
Holly Kartanos-Garcia
IC Federal Credit Union
Ideal Residences of New
England LLC
IMA North America
Jacqueline Nolin
James & Edith Stephen
James & Nancy Javaras
James and Mary Ellen McKenna
James W. Laveck II
Jane Hall
Jane McFadden
Jane Nowokunski
Janet Zadrozny
Javier Medina
Jay Weiner
Jean Koykka
Jeanine Dimarzio
Jenifer St. Cyr
Jennifer Frommer
Jennifer Gendreau
Jennifer Gifford

Jennifer Monahan
Jennifer Redford
Jennifer Zumwalt
Jerry & Marie Fortuna
John & Kathy Cullinan
John Lattanzi
Johnny Appleseed Elementary
Teachers
Jon and Margaret Hogue
Joseph & Anita Carbone
Joseph Bowen
Julie French
Juniper Networks Foundation Fund
Karen McNall
Katharine L.W. and Winthrop M.
Crane, 3D Charitable Foundation
Katherine Leblanc
Katherine Reardon
Kathleen McKinnon
Kathleen Salafia
Kelsey Johnson
Kenneth Roy
Kerry Flathers
Kevin MacLean
Kim Ortiz
Knights of Columbus #396
Kristen Kieda
Kristin & Robert Clouser
Ladies of St. Anne
Larry Oconnell
Laura Guilmette
Laurene Broden
Lauretta Conlon
Law Office of Timothy W. Murphy
Lawrence Neumann
Leominster Area Interfaith Clergy
Association
Leominster Seventh-day Adventist
Church
Leominster United Methodist Church
Les' Auto Repair
Liberty Mutual Insurance Group
Lillian Mason
Linda Olson

Linda Tackett
Lindsey English
Lisa Saliba
Lisa Schaffter
Loretta Goodchild
Lou Hohos
Louisa Parent
Ludcke Foundation
Luz Gonzalez
M.P. Crowley Company, Inc.
Madigan Family Foundation Inc.
Marcia Tarara
Margaret Mahoney
Margaret Maki
Margaret Williamson
Marie Bedard
Marie Turmaine
Mark & Sheila Boudreau
Marla Hirsch
Martha Sullivan
Martin & Kathleen Connors
Martin Babineau
Martin Walsh
Mary Jo Stegman
Mary Roach
Maryellen and James McKenna
Mass. Association of Realtors, Inc
Massachusetts Bankers Association
Matthew Snyder
Megan Glidden
Melanie Designas
Melvina Hutchins
Mia & Adam Rendon
Michael & Beth Atkinson
Michael Klimowicz
Michele Marino
Michele Roy
Molly Ruble
Moms Club of Leominster
Mrs. Chapdelaine's 2nd Grade Class-
Lunenburg Primary School
Nancy Gray
Nancy McLaughlin
Nancy Murray

Natalie Higgins
New England Aquarium
Nicholas Roy
Nicole Pare
Nikki Peters
Norma Deloge
North End Subaru
Nypro Foundation
Jane O'leary-Family & Friends
One World Community Acupuncture
Our Lady of the Lake
P.J. Keating
Pamala Frye
Patrice & John Crotty
Patricia Ellis
Patricia Read
Paul Richard
Paul Schiavitti
Pauline Perla
Peter Urban
Philadelphia Andrews-Broughton
Pilgrim Congregational Church
Power Construction LLC
Powers Generator Service, LLC
Ralph & Ellen DiGeronimo
Ralph Baker
Ralph Fortin
Rebecca Robinson
Rebecca Sacco
Red Hat
Renee Paul
Rev. John A. Brancich
Richard & Theresa Burchstead
Richard Ballo
Richard Brockelman
Rick Dimarzio
River Styx Brewing LLC
Robert & Deanne Uschold
Robert Gardner
Roland & Carol Vallee
Rollstone Charitable Foundation
Ron Bouchard's
Ronald Ansin
RPW Computer Consulting

Ruth Crowley
Saint Anthony De Padua
Saint Bernard Parish
Saint Boniface Parish
Saint Cecilia Parish
Saint Leo Parish
Saint Vincent DePaul
Salvatore Nicosia, Jr.
Samoset School
Sandra DeRienzo
Sandra Wallach
Sara Cole
Sean Tripp
Seeds of Compassion
Set The Tone
Settlers Crossing Golf Course
Shane Dandy
Sharon Kimball
Shawn Mckenna
Sheila Flathers
Shelly Felix-Rodriguez
Sky View PTO
Southwick's Zoo
Spanish Seventh day Adventist Church
Special Olympics Gymnastics
Speedway-Central Street
St. Andrews Church
Stephanie Yallan

Stephen Hogue
Stephen Tarmey
Susan MacPherson
Susan Thibeault
Suzanne Basque
Suzanne Harju
Sylvia Pepin
Tabitha Cardona
Tatum and Eva Swedberg
Teresa Leger
Thomas & Mary Ann Weisman
Thomas Bahr
Timo Services Stone Work
Tricia Montroy
United Parish of Lunenburg
United Way of North Central MA
Unitil
Virginia Pittman
Walt's Electric
Wayne & Linda Pineau
Wayne Newman
Wendy Braceland
Wendy Dikmak
Westminster Country Club
Wilfrid & Constance Gariepy
Women's Circle of First Baptist Church
Wyman's Liquors Inc.



Montachusett Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc.

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www.mihninc.org