

## OUR HEART & SOUL MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Courtney Hall

Dear Friend:

April is a special month, because it is our chance to recognize one of the essential ingredients in our success: **YOU!** April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. It may sound trite but this is literally true: **I don't know where we would be without you.**

Because of you, our neighbors who are going through difficult times feel loved and cared for. You bring meals. You knit mittens and blankets. You teach Zumba. You sort through piles of donations to ensure families have clothes to wear. You bring special gifts at holiday time, on Valentine's Day, and on Mother's and Father's Days. You celebrate birthdays. You help practice job interviews and polish up resumes. You give so much.

What really touches my heart is...

[Read more here](#)

### HIGHLIGHTS

Hello & Farewell

Budget Testimony

IW Wellness Day

Upcoming Events

Impact By the  
Numbers



# APRIL NEWS

## Hello...



Roslyn Roberts is IW's new Director of Faith and Community Partnerships. Roslyn has spent decades in the nonprofit sector leading programs for families experiencing poverty. Prior to joining IW, she served as Director of Rapid Rehousing and Youth Transitional Housing at Housing Up, a DC-based nonprofit. As an ordained Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Roslyn has been active in interfaith communities for decades. Through this work, she has led fundraising efforts to benefit school children and has carried the message that people of every background have the right to be served and heard. She received a Master of Divinity from Howard University and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Bowie State University. Learn more about Roslyn [HERE](#).



Liz Krueger, LCSW-C, MPH, is IW's new Director of Homeless Services, which provides emergency shelter and supportive housing programs. Liz joined the Interfaith Works family in 2012, and has served in multiple roles, eventually becoming program director of the shelter and supportive housing side of IW Homeless Services programs. Liz will continue to develop and support teams of impassioned advocates for individuals and families navigating systemic barriers to housing. She succeeds Christine Hong (see below). Liz earned a Bachelor of Arts from Colorado College, a Master of Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a Master of Public Health from the Medical College of Virginia. Learn more about Liz [HERE](#).

## ...and Farewell

On April 28, we bid farewell to Christine Hong, a long-time Interfaith Works staff member who for 17 years has devoted her time and energy to helping people experiencing poverty and homelessness.

Christine has had several roles with increasing responsibility during her IW tenure, including her most recent position as IW's Director of Homeless Services which she has held since 2017. Under Christine's leadership, IW's Homeless Services programs have grown and strengthened to meet the evolving needs of our community, including providing safe housing during the global pandemic. Her compassion and dedication to equity and social justice have been foremost in every role in which she has served, and she has built a leadership team who will aptly serve more than 1,900 of our neighbors.



Christine will take her wealth of experience and caring with her into her new role as the Chief of Services to End Poverty and Homelessness with Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services. Christine, we will miss you deeply at IW but are so grateful to you for taking on this important new role in our community. We wish you all the best.



The rising cost of living, including spikes in rent, are leaving many vulnerable families and individuals just one paycheck away from falling behind in rent and utilities or unable to secure a stable living. The Interfaith Works Connections program provides financial assistance for rent and utilities. The program is seeing requests for help increase significantly, so we have launched a campaign to be able to respond to the growing need.

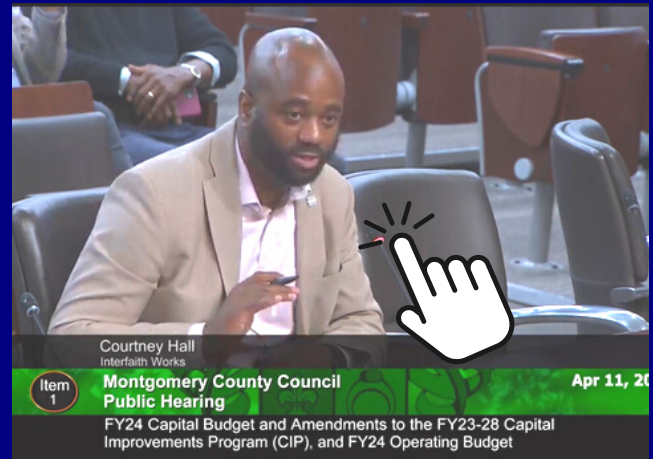
Every dollar received through this campaign will help our neighbors with their rent and utilities. We believe that everyone deserves a stable and secure home. With your help, we can make that a reality for those in our community who are struggling.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## BUDGET TESTIMONY

CEO Courtney Hall testified on the FY24 budget before the Montgomery County Council. He thanked the County Executive and the Council for their support.

He described IW's need for additional funds to be able to continue delivering on core County programs that are addressing homelessness and to retain and adequately compensate staff in demanding jobs.



Click on the image to watch a video of his testimony



IW staff members enjoyed a Wellness Day focused on health and self-care. Click [HERE](#) to see more photos.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

JOIN US FOR A  
COMMUNITY  
CONVERSATION  
ON  
VOLUNTEERING

THURSDAY, APRIL 27  
7 - 8 PM ON ZOOM

REGISTER HERE:  
[bit.ly/IWCommConvoApril2023](https://bit.ly/IWCommConvoApril2023)  
(registration required)

Join us for a  
Faith Community  
Volunteer Resource Fair!

Connect with 30 nonprofits  
to learn about volunteer opportunities

**RSVP**

SATURDAY  
MAY 6  
10 AM - NOON

Islamic Center of Maryland  
in Gaithersburg

## BY THE NUMBERS

*FY22 data*



**1,900+**

people were served by IW's Homeless Services programs last fiscal year. This includes permanent supportive housing programs, such as specialized housing for seniors, rapid re-housing, scattered-site community supportive housing, and emergency shelters. Demand for emergency shelter has been steadily on the rise, a concerning trend that we are monitoring.



Our Main Office is moving!  
After May 22, we will be at  
981 Rollins Ave., 2nd Floor,  
Rockville, MD 20852

## CONTACT US

[www.iworksmc.org](http://www.iworksmc.org)

DONATE  
AND VOLUNTEER

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