OUR MISSION:

SERVING FAMILIES AND PREGNANT WOMEN WHO ARE TEMPORARILY HOMELESS OR AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS BY PROVIDING RESOURCES IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, STABILIZATION, AND PREVENTION.
Introduction

Eau Claire Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc. began serving area homeless families in 1995. Founded by a dedicated group of community members, the organization became a local affiliate of the National Interfaith Hospitality Network now known as Family Promise. The premise was churches hosting homeless families by providing meals and shelter each week. With the vision of providing more stability to families and especially the children, the staff, Board of Trustees, volunteers and concerned citizens established a permanent shelter, Beacon House, in 2001. 2010 saw the expansion of the agency again as a Transitional Housing duplex was opened providing safe, affordable housing for families, giving them extra time to become stable. The Eau Claire Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc. truly is a team effort requiring the combined talents of the staff, volunteers, congregations and Board of Trustees.

2013 saw the demand for services continuing to exceed our capacity as the agency turned away 585 individuals. The average length of stay decreased from 55 days in 2012 to 46 days in 2013. It was discovered that the adults were securing employment, mostly minimum wage service industry work. Many families struggled finding affordable housing as the vacancy rates are very low in Eau Claire, similar to the state and across the country.

ECIHN will continue to maximize its resources to provide quality services in 2013 through the use of volunteers as well as partnering with other agencies.

2013 Board of Trustees
(December 31, 2013)

Daniel Brandt, President
Jerilyn Kinderman, Vice President
Tom Gillett, Treasurer
Penny Graham, Secretary
Beverly Wickstrom
Dana Smetana
Ellen Higley
Jen Conaway
Katie Zook
Paulette Magur

2013 Administrative Staff
(December 31, 2013)

Kelly Christianson, Executive Director
Michelle Russell, Administrative Assistant
2013 Congregations

First Lutheran
Grace Lutheran
Immanuel Lutheran
Lake Street UMC
St. Olaf Catholic
First Congregational UCC
First Presbyterian
Trinity Lutheran
Sacred Heart of Jesus-St. Patrick’s
Faith Lutheran Mission

2013 Partners

LSS Women’s Way
Bolton Refuge House
Catholic Charities
Chippewa Valley Free Clinic
City of E.C. Housing Authority
Community Table
E.C. Area School District
E.C. County Dept. of Human Services
& Job Center
UW Extension
Career Development Center-FSET Program
Western Dairyland, EOC
Family Resource Center
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
LSS-Positive Avenues
Big Brothers Big Sisters

Workforce Resources
E.C. County Housing Authority
City/County Health Department
Feast My People
Goodwill Industries
Stepping Stones Shelter - Menomonie
Salvation Army
Starting Points – Chippewa Falls
University of WI-Eau Claire
Boys & Girls Club
St. Francis Food Pantry
McKinley Charter School
Aging and Disability Resource Center
Hope Gospel Mission Bargain Center
YMCA

2013 Financial Support

United Way of Greater Chippewa Valley
City of Eau Claire
FEMA-Emergency Food and Shelter Program
Contributions
   Individual
   Church
   Corporate
   Groups/Organizations
Eau Claire County
Wisconsin Department of Administration-Bureau of Housing
Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
With the incredible volunteer efforts of over 20 area faith based organizations, emergency shelter, meals, and hospitality are provided to families and single pregnant women for up to 30 days. Extensions beyond 30 days are granted if families are working on their goals and need extra time. Families are accepted from all counties although priority is given to current county residents and those showing a strong intent to remain in the area.

**Funding Sources**

United Way of Greater Chippewa Valley
Emergency Food and Shelter Program
State of Wisconsin Department of Administration-Bureau of Housing
Housing and Urban Development-HUD
Donations

**Staff**

Case Managers (12/31/13)
- Ryan Graham
- Lisa Mercer
- Nancy Vang
- April Unterberger

**During 2013**

- 41 families received shelter
- 57 adults received shelter
- 78 children received shelter
- 5,615 nights of shelter were provided at Beacon House
- 7,872 volunteer hours were provided
- 16,051 meals were served
- 585 individuals turned away

**2013 Targets and Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Description</th>
<th>2013 Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95% of families are accepted into the shelter within 48 hours of application.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90% of eligible families stay at the shelter for up to 30 days until housing is in place.</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transition Program

The Transition Program assists families as they secure housing and employment through case management, rental assistance, and transportation assistance. Families review goals and accomplishments at least twice each week.

Funding Sources

United Way of Greater Chippewa Valley
Eau Claire County Department of Human Services
State of Wisconsin Department of Administration-Bureau of Housing
Housing and Urban Development-HUD
Donations

Staff

Case Managers (12/31/2013)
Ryan Graham
Lisa Mercer
Nancy Vang
April Unterberger

During 2013

Assisted families with 7 bus passes
Assisted families with 58 gas vouchers
137 bags of food were distributed
25 families received rental assistance
8 families received security deposit assistance
22 rental application fees paid
66 vouchers for clothing at Goodwill and Hope Gospel Mission store distributed
19 families received donated furniture after securing housing
12 adults pursued their GED/HSED

2013 Targets and Outcomes

<table>
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<td>70% of families will have stable housing after leaving ECIHN.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70% of families will have stable employment after leaving ECIHN.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Support Program assists families for up to six months after they leave Beacon House. Case management, including home visits, is key to breaking the cycle of homelessness. Assistance in the areas of employment and transportation needs is also available.

**Funding Sources**

United Way of Greater Chippewa Valley  
Eau Claire County Department of Human Services  
State of Wisconsin Department of Administration-Bureau of Housing  
Housing and Urban Development-HUD  
Donations

**Staff**

Case Manager (12/31/2013)  
Amy Giani

**During 2013**

- 48 families were served  
- 158 individuals were served [60 adults and 98 children]  
- 6 families received public housing assistance  
- 274 gas vouchers were issued  
- 36 bus passes were issued  
- 22 families received assistance with employment needs  
- 150 families were sponsored at Christmas  
- 6 adults were assisted in continuing their education  
- 5 families received transitional housing through ECIHN

**2013 Targets and Outcomes**

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<th>2013 Actual</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60% of families remain in stable housing 6 months after leaving the shelter</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60% of employable parents retain their employment 6 months after leaving the shelter</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70% of families in Transitional Housing will obtain permanent housing</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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