

MEET THE STAFF

Stephen Spain, Executive Director
director@wihn.net

Steve has a Master's degree in Public Administration (MPA) from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and over 15 years experience working with social service organizations in the U.S. and internationally. Helping those without homes has been a focus of his career, beginning with his work for refugees with Save the Children and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Afghanistan (1990 to 1995), and most recently with the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans in Boston, Massachusetts (2001 - 2004).

Jan Christine, MSN, RN, Nurse Practitioner - jan@wihn.net

Jan brings over 20 years of health care experience to WIHN. She had worked as a nurse and public health professional in Oklahoma, Illinois, and Michigan before relocating to Wilmington. She is a Registered Nurse (RN) and has a Master of Nursing Science degree from the University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago.

Debra Mitchell, Case Manager
debra@wihn.net

Debra has a BA in Human Development from Antioch University in Yellow Springs, Ohio and over 10 years experience in social services. She is a skilled counselor and case manager whose previous work experience in Wilmington includes work with *Pride in N.C.*

HOW TO HELP:

INVEST IN A WIHNER!

People donate to WIHN for many different reasons. For some it may be an act of compassion for those less fortunate than themselves; for others, an expression of their religious faith; still others may give out of a feeling that ...

"there but for the grace of God go I."

Whatever their reasons, our donors generosity is an excellent social investment. WIHN is an exceptionally cost-effective organization that relies on volunteers and donated goods for more than 70% of our operational needs. We receive over 12,000 volunteer hours a year, equivalent to six full time employees, while employing a paid staff of only three (one full-time and two part-time).

In addition, individuals and congregations provide over 7,000 free meals a year for our families and many thousands of dollars in donated materials and services. As a result, the impact of our donors' financial gifts is multiplied through the strength of the community's in kind donations.

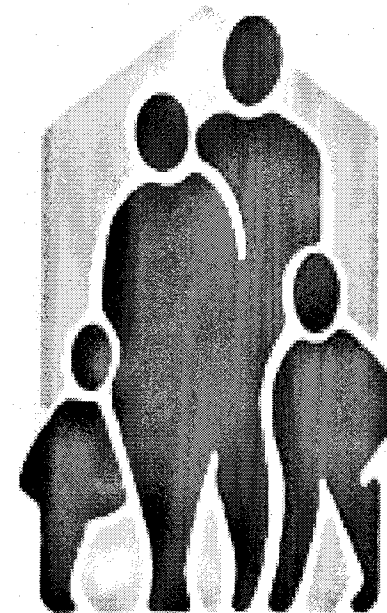
Our supporters generosity with in-kind donations sustains our work and helps our families get off to a bright start when they leave the program for independent living. Following is a list of our current priority needs. With the exception of the mattress covers, blankets, and pillows, all items can be new or used in working condition.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME!

You can also help WIHN by donating your time and energy ... cooking, transportation, moving families or working in our office.

**For additional information,
please go online:
www.wihn.net**

WILMINGTON INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK



*A Community
Response for
Homeless Families
in Wilmington, NC*

OUR MISSION

Provide Cape Fear's homeless families with emergency shelter and programs that assist their transition to independent living.



The Wilmington Interfaith Hospitality Network (WIHN) program unites communities of faith in a collaborative effort to assist families facing economic hardships. On a rotating basis, thirteen "host" congregations provide accommodations and meals for three to five families (up to 14 people) for one week, four times a year. An additional 25 congregations support the host congregations, providing material, human, and financial resources to support the program. Volunteers from the congregations provide meals and support services. A central day center is located at 411 North 4th Street where a Director, a Case Manager, and a Family Nurse Practitioner work intensively with the families as they seek jobs, housing, and other resources necessary for independent living.



The Central Day Center
411 N. 4th Street
Hours: M-F
8:00am - 5:00pm

WHO WE ARE:

WIHN is a network of 40 congregations in the Wilmington area who are united by our commitment to alleviating the effects of homelessness, one family at a time.

We are a non-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization under IRS rules, governed by a Board of Directors, who serve without compensation. We have three staff members, a full-time Executive Director, a Case Manager, and a part-time Registered Nurse. The backbone of WIHN is our network of volunteers who provide us with over 14,000 hours of service each year (the equivalent of 7 full-time employees).

We are financially supported by hundreds of individuals and dozens of organizations throughout the Cape Fear region. These supporters share our commitment to assisting homeless families who seek to regain their independence.

WHO WE WORK WITH:

We work only with families with minor children. There are two other requirements for families entering the program:

1. They must be truly homeless, with no other options for shelter at the time of application; and
2. At least one adult member of the family must be willing and able to work (an exception can be made in the case of disability).

WHY IT WORKS:

Families motivated to regain their independence succeed in our program. Since our founding in 1996, over 80% of the families who were accepted into the program "graduated" to permanent housing and employment.

We treat our families with dignity and respect, and they respond with sincere effort and responsibility. Each week, the families stay with a new congregation and meet new volunteers. Often, mentoring relationships develop that last beyond the families' stay in our program.

The path to homelessness is different for each family, and the route to independent living is unique as well. We help our families address the root issues that led to their homelessness, directly but not judgmentally. Referrals are made for those who require employment, mental health, or substance abuse counseling. We work with each family to create a plan for independence with clear, realistic goals that lead to new, better lives.



WILMINGTON INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

411 North 4th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
Office: (910) 762-0339
Fax: (910) 463-1097

Hours: Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM