Interfaith Outreach Association strives to relieve distress and improve the quality of life for our neighbors in need by providing programs that offer education, guidance, and support. IOA serves as a vehicle for interfaith cooperation in Central Virginia whereby congregations become members of IOA and enter into partnerships with each other, their respective denominations, and community agencies to accomplish its mission. IOA serves the city of Lynchburg and the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell.

Imagine your childhood...

You like to play with the bedbugs on the floor of your grandfather’s home. Kids bully you at school because you cannot bathe and your clothes are dirty because your family’s water has been turned off. You and your family are moving into a homeless shelter after living in your car after being evicted from your home. Without electricity, you do not have cold milk to drink, lights for doing your homework, or air conditioning in the sweltering heat. Your mom has been arrested and you are now sent to live with your grandmother who does not have room for your other siblings. Following in your father’s footsteps, you and your friends in high school are joining a gang because you see that as the easiest way to make a living.

Can you help us help these children and their families? Last year 1,184 children benefited from our emergency assistance and furniture programs. Never underestimate the power of your gift to Interfaith Outreach! Give the gift of education, guidance, and support that can help families stay together in their safe homes with running water, electricity, and bug free furniture. Help us empower ex offenders with life skills classes, job readiness classes, and job opportunities which will allow parents to give their children the support they need. Our children need you and Interfaith Outreach makes a difference!

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Get INVOLVED with Interfaith Outreach!

2018 Statistics

Emergency Assistance
1,879 People served
5,078 Referrals made for additional assistance

Furniture
122 People served
404 Pieces of furniture given

Progressive Release
198 Life skills participants
342 Job class participants
1,034 Aftercare visits
3,753 Letters to incarcerated individuals

Vision Improvement Program
54 Rides given
126 Support group attendees

Interfaith Rebuilds
79 Homes improved through Interfaith Rebuilds

Total Volunteer Hours
6,242 Hours

Can your business help us?

Become a Corporate Sponsor

434 Marketing
Automated Conveyor Systems
Bank of the James
Candler Oil Company
Carrington Family Foundation
Centra Foundation
Columbia Gas
Dodson Pest Control
The Easley Foundation
Emergency Food and Shelter Program
Estates and Consignments
Fleet Laboratories
Framatome
Genworth Foundation
The Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation
Joyner Engineer Trainers
Downtown Holiday Inn Select
Kerr Tire
KVA Foundation
LSC Communications
Lynchburg Ready Mix Company
NB Handy
Old Dominion Box Company Foundation
PIP Printing and Marketing
The Plymale Foundation
Presbytery of the Peaks
Riverside Runners
R. R. Donnelley
Schewel’s Furniture
Thrivent Foundation

UVA/VT Basketball Game Ticket Raffle

It’s back!!!!!!!
But this time- it’s basketball!

Interfaith Outreach will be raffling off tickets to the UVA/VT basketball game. Raffle tickets will be $10 a piece.

Look for more details to follow this fall!

Seeds of Hope Luncheon 2019

Our 11th Annual Seeds of Hope Luncheon event will be will be held Thursday, April 25, 2019 at NOON in the Downtown Lynchburg Holiday Inn Select.

This year’s special honorees will be community advocates Pat Bower and Mary Payne.

Mark your calendar and save the date today!
Listed below are ways you can support the Interfaith Outreach Association. Please let us know if you would like to donate an item on the list, or if you would like to volunteer your time to help with one of our programs. Thank you!

**DONATE ITEMS**

* Good, usable furniture — especially beds frames, mattresses, dressers and kitchen tables

* Household cleaning supplies (i.e. sponges, disinfectant cleaners, buckets, brooms, dustpans, mops etc. — to be given to clients when they receive furniture)

* Individual (local) bus passes for clients released from jail

* Stamps and #10 envelopes to help with monthly mailings

* Toiletries for our client hygiene bags

* Copy paper, post it notes, pens, tape, staples, paper clips, 3 tab file folders, white-out, binder clips, garbage bags, Clorox wipes

If you can help with any of these, call 434-846-6098

**DONATE TIME**

* Assist with the organization, maintenance, and operation of the furniture warehouse or IOA office building.

* Accompany Outreach Director on home visits.

* Volunteer to assist with life skills classes in the jail or assist with writing letters of hope to those who are incarcerated.

* Volunteer to drive individuals who are blind to medical appointments and the grocery store.

* Help prepare mass mailings in our office - 3 or 4 times per year.

* Organize a work crew to build a ramp or do simple home repairs for our Rebuilds program.

* Work IOA information booths at festivals and/or other special occasions.

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**Vision**

This fall our Vision program is expanding our client base and services by offering rides to the grocery store for our friends with visual impairments in need in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Blind and Visually Impaired. Look for more details to follow as we work to expand our service.

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**Emergency Assistance and Rebuilds Working Together**

Betty and her husband experienced had a tough winter. When it rains it pours! They experienced extensive water damage in their basement due to a leak in an underground pipe as well as a high electricity bill that they could not pay. One of our church youth groups volunteered and went in and was able to repair the leak in the pipe and help clean out the basement. Our Emergency Assistance program was able to assist with the high electric bill so that they did not lose their power.

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**Progressive Release**

Larry attended Walter Virgil’s Life Skills classes in the Lynchburg jail and upon release, hit the ground running! He immediately came by our office to work with Walter to sign up for a special welding class. Larry did so well he was fast tracked and now has a wonderful job with Banker Steel! Wishing him the best on his new journey!

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**Furniture**

Ms. R and her children were delighted to move to a new home after losing everything in the tornado. Interfaith Outreach was able to assist with their water deposit and provide a household full of furniture for their new home! Your gifts make such a difference!