

IFC shelter visitors list grows as services provided expand

Editors' note: This article concludes a four-part series on the InterFaith Council and the kitchen/shelter.

By PETER F. WALLSTEN
Staff Writer

When the InterFaith Council shelter for the homeless opened in the Community Church in 1985, fewer than 10 people spent their nights there.

But the new shelter in the municipal building at 110 W. Rosemary St. sleeps around 70 people and almost reaches its capacity every night. In addition, the



kitchen is serving almost twice the number of people it served last year. "As the economy worsens, people are thrown out of their homes," said Peggy Pollitzer, vice president of ad-

ministration for the IFC. "They're living marginal lives. The worsening of the economy and the problems will just push them on the edge."

Chris Moran, IFC community services manager, agreed with Pollitzer that the national and local economic situations are adding to the increasing numbers of people living on the streets.

"As long as there is a shortage of affordable housing, and as long as wages don't go up, there are going to be more homeless," he said. "Just because we have 50 beds, and 50 people sleep here, doesn't mean that there aren't more homeless people out on the streets."

The males used to outnumber the females staying in the shelter, but now that statistic is quickly changing, Pollitzer said.

"This is a national trend," she said. "The increase is in women and children. We're seeing major increases in the numbers of women and children who are in need of shelter assistance."

All of the women's beds were occupied Thursday and the IFC expects the

women's portion of the shelter to remain crowded, Moran said.

The comfort and convenience of the new facilities have also added to the growth in the numbers of people staying at the shelter, Moran said.

"We wanted to make it a nice facility and a comfortable place," he said. "Because it's a nice place to go, we're getting people here who didn't use our facilities before."

The shelter's location is also drawing more people to use its services, Moran said.

"We were concerned it would take a while for folks to find us," he said. "But the first day we opened... we served 35 people for lunch. I think that says the location is good."

In addition, a variety of new services are available at the shelter, which is now open 24 hours a day.

"The daytime program has added a lot," Moran said. "That helps us to work with (shelter inhabitants) in a better way. We can sit down with them and

talk to them and listen to them. We can also refer them to other agencies for help."

The public library is helping the IFC "create an annex of books" for the reading pleasure of the shelter's inhabitants, Moran said. The library will donate reading material about every six weeks.

Daytime programming is becoming increasingly extensive and will eventually include job placement seminars and activities with a social worker, Moran said.

"As we get settled, and as we get more volunteers, we'll be able to do more things," he said, adding that the Project Literacy group from the Campus Y will begin working with some of the shelter's clients soon.

But the same factors contributing to the larger crowds in the shelter are putting strains on the kitchen. Volunteers are serving an average of more than 150 meals a day — a 70 percent increase from last year, Moran said. During the busiest times, meals must be served in

shifts to accommodate the overflowing crowds.

"We're spending more money in food dollars," Moran said. "We need eggs, we need milk and other perishables. We're beginning to feel the pinch."

The food shortages are forcing the IFC to look for more ways to stock the kitchen, Moran said.

"We're going to have to approach the business community more and get perishables that maybe they were going to throw away or that were old," he said. "We also need more volunteers who are willing to pick that up."

Despite the large number of homeless people taking advantage of the shelter and kitchen, the IFC is still only serving a fraction of the people who need help, Moran said.

"There should be no pretenses about it," he said. "There are more homeless in this country and in this community. We should take our blinders off and realize the problems that exist."



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7:15 • 9:15 Nightly 2:15 • 4:15 SATURDAY - SUNDAY MATINEES

Campus Calendar

FRIDAY
Noon: CGLA will hold a Lesbian Lunch in 218 Union.
UNC Texas Pete Distinguished Lectures in Southern History and Culture: "Oral History of an Ex-Slave Community," with Sydney Nathans, in 2 Manning Hall.
The UNC Child Care Education Committee will present "Relating to Others," a video series, in 205 Union until 1 p.m.
12:30 p.m.: The Carolina Martial Arts Club will hold a demonstration in the Pit featuring forms, sparring, board breaking and self defense techniques. All are invited to attend.
1:15 p.m.: IRSS Faculty Seminar: "Research Development in the Social Sciences: Funding Sources, Proposal Development and Grant Administration," with Beverly Wiggins, in 2 Manning Hall until 4 p.m.
2 p.m.: Career Planning and Placement Services will hold Job Hunt 101: Basic information on how to use the UCPPS office for seniors and graduate students, in 210 Hanes.
4 p.m.: The Current Issues Committee of the Carolina Union will meet in 220 Union. All interested students are welcome!
5 p.m.: Carolina Fever members should meet at

Ramshead parking lot to begin setting up for the Pep Rally. Be there!
Student Government Bicentennial Class Officers petitions are due in Suite C of the Union.
6:30 p.m.: FOCUS will host a meeting "Following St. Paul around the Mediterranean." Dr. and Mrs. Brooks will show slides of early church sites. Supper will be provided at no charge. For rides, call 962-1930 or 942-7759. Rides will leave from Craig Residence Hall at 6:15 p.m. Meet in the lobby.
7 p.m.: The Baha'i Club will have an organizational meeting in the Black Cultural Center to discuss lecture topics for this semester. All are welcome.
8 p.m.: Carolina Fever announces that the Pep Rally will kick off with featured band, "Game."
9 p.m.: The Carolina Union Activities Board brings you the Transactors, a comedy improv company, in the Cabaret located in the Union Underground. Come laugh your heart out.
Midnight: Carolina Fever members should be at Ramshead Parking lot to clean up after the rally. Many points!

a white and dark shirt.
12:30 p.m.: Carolina Fever will have a brunch in the woods across from Carmichael/Fetzer. Ticket distribution will be at the same time.
10 p.m.: CUAB invites you to come dance at Carolina's hottest nightclub: DJ Dance in the Cabaret in the Union Underground.
SUNDAY
6:30 p.m.: Hunger Elimination Project of the Campus Y is sponsoring a candlelight vigil in the Pit until sundown for the U.N. Summit for Children. Dr. Joel Schwartz is speaker. All are welcome.
8 p.m.: Tar Heel Recycling Project (TRP) invites anyone interested in planning the publicity event for recycling week to come to our meeting in 213 Union.
ITEMS OF INTEREST
The Black Student Movement is holding their first "Umaja" Series dinner Thursday, Sept. 27 at 6 p.m. in the North Dining Room in Lenoir. To sign up for the "Shades of Gray" discussion/lecture, pay \$3 at the BSM office by Tuesday, Sept. 25. Dinner will be catered.
The 1991 Yackety Yack, UNC's yearbook, is now accepting applications for various positions. Come by

the office, 106 Union, and fill out an application. Applications are due Thursday, Sept. 27.
Campus Elections for Districts 1, 2, 3, 16 and 18 will be Tuesday, Sept. 25 at various poll sites. Union poll site: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
The UNC Marching Tar Heels will be performing a Beatles theme show at the Sept. 22 UNC vs. Kentucky football game.
The Undergraduate Honor Court reminds all freshmen of upcoming training sessions about UNC's Honor System in the residence halls. Freshmen attendance is mandatory.
Carolina Fever reminds everyone that all vehicles parked in Ramshead parking lot must be removed by 5 p.m. today for the Pep Rally.
The Ebony Readers/Dyns Theater, the BSM Literary Performance Group, is holding their auditions on Monday, Sept. 24 at 8 p.m. in Upendo Lounge, second floor of Chase Cafeteria. Prepare a three-minute (or less) piece to perform.
UCPPS announces that the post-internship mandatory seminar for students in SPCL 919.4 will be held Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 3:30 p.m. in 306 Hanes.
The UNC Cycling Team will be at the University of Virginia for a team road race, time trial and criterium Sept. 22-23.
The University Counseling Center is offering a Black Graduate Women's Support Group for African-American female graduate and professional students at UNC. For info or to sign up, call 962-2175.
PlayMakers Repertory Company will open its 15th season with "You Never Can Tell," Sept. 12-Oct. 7 at the Paul Green Theatre. For information call 962-PLAY.
UCPPS announces that the Foreign Service Written Exam will be held on Oct. 27. Deadline for receipt of application is Sept. 21. Applications are available in 211 Hanes.
GPSF has information on the in-state tuition application process. See the bulletin board outside Suite D in the Union.

Lofts

Freshman Amy Heckert said she is very upset about the loft situation because she ordered the loft in August and never received it. Heckert called the company several times to find out what happened and ultimately requested a refund.
"If I spend \$134.56 on something, I expect it to be delivered on or close to the day they say," she said. "I haven't

seen hide nor hair of my loft." The loft company deserves most of the blame, Heckert said. The company has not reimbursed her yet for the loft, she added.
"I guess I am more upset with the company," she said. "Saying it (the loft) is University approved before they were sure is asking for trouble."

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