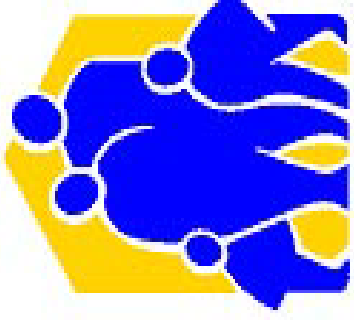


**"Is not this the fast that I choose...
to share your bread with the hungry, and to
welcome the homeless poor into your house?"**

~ Isaiah 58:6-7



***“GAIHN was there for our family
just when we needed them the most.”***



The Mission of the Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network (GAIHN) is

- ...to assist local congregations to share hospitality
(in the form of emergency lodging and meals)
with **homeless families**, and
- ...to help those families achieve
self-sufficiency and self-fulfillment.





Families are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, and one in four homeless persons in our country and county is a child (ages birth through seventeen).

It is estimated that in the Upstate over 5,600 persons (including 1,400 children) will experience homelessness at some point this year.



GAIHN

Fifteen dynamic Greenville-area churches generously use their Sunday school classrooms and other church facilities to offer homeless families safe lodging, nourishing meals, and genuine hospitality—right down to the mint on the pillow!

Ten other congregations provide volunteer services & support resources, including transitional housing in units they own.

Each host church welcomes the guest families about four (4) times a year on a rotating weekly schedule.





Our program is unique because we are the only emergency shelter in Greenville for single mothers with sons who are age 10 or older.

As a rule, most other local shelters separate family members by gender, and only GAIHN will allow homeless single mothers to reside with their youthful sons in the same facility.





**Our program is unique because
we are the only emergency shelter in Greenville
for single mothers with sons
who are age 10 or older.**

Thanks to the concerted efforts of our host congregations, *families are able to stay together* as they confront the daunting challenges of being homeless and living in a temporary emergency shelter. GAIHN fills an important niche by safeguarding a family's integrity during this crisis period.

GAIHN also serves as a *clearinghouse* to *share information and optimize resources* for the Greenville interfaith community to partner effectively in the enterprise of alleviating—and someday eliminating—homelessness in Greenville County.



Each year 25 to 30 homeless families (representing over 100 individuals) find home and hope through the distinctive generosity, innovation, & collaboration of twenty-five local congregations of several faith traditions.

In 2006, we project that at least 25-30 guest families (including 75 children) will call GAIHN “home”.



GAIHN

GAIHN's hospitality strategy is to provide homeless families with emergency shelter and meals at our host congregations for about 10-12 weeks, followed by intermediate periods in either short-term (3-6 months) or longer term (12 months +) transitional housing (with GAIHN staff providing intensive case management, high-quality life skills training, and ongoing counsel).

Our dream is for each guest family to obtain permanent housing that is safe, affordable, and adequate for their family's needs.





Our ultimate goals are to reduce homelessness and promote family integrity among Greenville County resident families.





*Please consider becoming involved
in GAIHN's important ministry.*

The investment of your faith group's resources in these worthwhile endeavors will produce life-changing dividends in the lives of some of our poorest—and our most well to do—neighbors in the Greenville community.

