



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

For these Upcoming Special Events



Community Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (June meeting has been cancelled)
Bethlehem Baptist Church
4818 Portland Ave E, Tacoma WA 98404



Project Homeless Connect

Summer 2020 (TBD) - Check Facebook for updated information.



"Lead the Way Home" Breakfast

Thursday, November 5, 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM
McGavic Conference Center - Clover Park Technical College
4500 Steilacoom Blvd SW, Lakewood WA 98499



Interfaith Celebration of Gratitude

Tuesday, November 24, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Location TBD



Interfaith Women's Conference

Recently rescheduled to February 2022

Questions?

Contact Sandy Windley at
sandyw@associatedministries.org

Complete and detach form below and enclose with your gift in envelope provided.

We Will Not Let COVID-19 Take Us Down!

☐ Yes, I want to support AM, inspired by the generosity of others I've just read about!

My gift of \$_____ to help move someone into a home!



Name: _____

This is a : ☐ single gift ☐ monthly gift

Address: _____

Card Number: _____

City: _____ St: _____ ZIP: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

You may also make your gift online at
www.associatedministries.org



901 S 13th Street
Tacoma, WA 98405
253-383-3056

S20NL



Associated Ministries is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization, tax ID #91-0847534. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. No good or services were provided in exchange for your generous financial donation.

Together

Working together toward lasting solutions to homelessness

am ASSOCIATED MINISTRIES

ASSOCIATEDMINISTRIES.ORG

| 253.383.3056

| SPRING 2020

WHY WE DECIDED TO RENT OUR CONDO TO A FAMILY IN NEED OF HOUSING

Lindsay came to run in a 5K – but it led to providing housing to a family experiencing homelessness.

It was last year, when Lindsay signed up to run in the Hunger Walk & 5K fundraiser, presented by AM and Emergency Food Network. She stopped to read brochures on a table at the end of the race and met Tony, there to represent AM's Landlord Liaison Program.

Once she learned from Tony that potential tenants were prescreened and received a lot of support from other agencies, renting out her condo to a family in need of housing sounded like a great idea and a perfect fit with she and her husband Mark's values and desire to help the community.

Several types of risk mitigation, from damage repair costs to rent coverage during repair time, is available to landlords who rent to tenants referred

through this program. The units rent at fair market rate and are assured of receiving full rental fees every month. Lindsay and Mark evaluated this to be a solid program in which to consider participating.

Along with making sure the landlords are taken care of, the supportive services of other agencies are critical to helping the referred households succeed

in their housing goals. Case managers make regular calls to the renting families to check on them to see how they are doing and if they need any other resources. Building trust through maintaining good relationships is at the core of their success.

Lindsay and Mark eventually completed the application required to join the program as "property partners" and

would now wait to hear from one of the agencies anxious to place an unhoused family.

(continued on Page 2)



Since 1969 Associated Ministries has had an historic leadership position working at a grassroots level in Pierce County, mobilizing people of faith and good will to unite in service to vulnerable populations, including people experiencing homelessness, hunger and poverty, as well as the elderly and disabled. Our vision is for deeply engaged interfaith and other partners to join together to bring about the transformation of our community. Our programs endeavor to effectively walk alongside those who come to us for services as they emerge out of crisis, find paths out of poverty into personal stability, and aspire to build a foundation of skills, social connections and financial assets.

What is Landlord Liaison Program?

AM's newest and most promising solution to housing challenges, the Landlord Liaison Program (LLP), is boosting our community's affordable housing inventory by building strong relationships with property owners and managers and supporting them in opening their units to lower-income and at-risk households by mitigating their risks.

LLP offers resources such as landlord and tenant education as well as eviction prevention services. Landlords who partner with LLP know to come to us long before considering eviction, utilizing LLP's mediation services and connecting their tenants to LLP resources like Renters Readiness Certification to train them to become better renters and improve their housing outcomes, ultimately creating more stability for their families.

These steps don't just avoid immediate crises, they are designed to help individuals and families become better tenants in the long-run, as well as enabling landlords to feel they have options when issues arise.

If you own or manage rental property, contact the Landlord Liaison Program to learn more about this unique service to support you in effectively coming alongside at-risk families: info@landlordliaisonprogram.com or 253-383-3056 x153.

WHY WE DECIDED TO RENT OUR CONDO...

(continued from Page 1)

One of those partner agencies was Helping Hand House, which was working with a young family needing housing. The family had already met the criteria and been prescreened for the program. This meant they met the minimum income requirement, had at least one child under 18 in their care, and were referred by a "coordinated entry" agency. Their case manager was able to access LLP's "housing bank" to see which units, meeting the family's needs, were currently available.

It wasn't long before Lindsay and Mark got the call about this young family who was ready to move in. The new tenants came to preview the space and were so excited to realize this would be their new home. They moved in late last summer, with the assistance of Helping Hand House and Northwest Furniture Bank, and are enjoying the safety and security of their new home.

The family has been learning how to be good tenants and accepting help from their landlords, Helping Hand House, and Landlord Liaison Program as needed. They had a good rental payment history until just recently.

Early in April, after both parents lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 situation, the wife contacted her landlord to let her know she could only afford food and diapers. Not wanting to put any additional stress on the family, Lindsay and Mark told them not to worry about paying the rent that month! In the two and a half years since this

program began, no landlord had ever waived a rent payment before.

"Invest in the community and its people. You reap benefits more important than money. You help people launch themselves into a better life."

Lindsay credits the tenant herself for speaking up and letting her know of the situation they were in. She was the catalyst for solving

her own problem. It takes a great deal of trust between landlord and tenant to resolve a potential issue like this one.

As a nurse, Lindsay fully understands that good health outcomes are tied to stable housing. When asked what being part of the Landlord Liaison Program has meant to her, Lindsay shared it has "given her an opportunity to live out her faith, pay it forward, be a decent human being and be invested in the community."

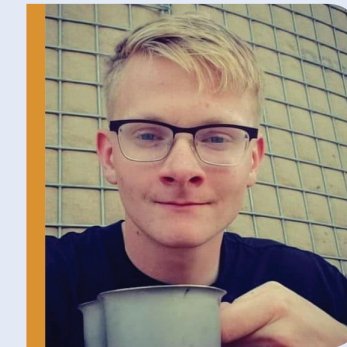
And what would she say to another landlord who was considering becoming part of LLP? "Do it, absolutely! Invest in the community and its people. You reap benefits more important than money. You help people launch themselves into a better life."

Lindsay, we wholeheartedly agree. Thank you for being a life-changer and promoting homefulness in our community!

PAYING IT FORWARD

Inspiration from two of Associated Ministries' generous supporters!

“ This \$100 bill was given to me by my big brother when he was worried that I would not have enough to feed my kids. I have been homeless before – one of the many fully employed who sleep in cars or couch surf and act like it's all okay. I am now stable and **so I hand this off to you.** My stepdaughter is chronically homeless and that is where our resources currently go. Once we stabilize her I will pledge. Thank you for what you do. It matters. – T.R. ”



When the son of an Associated Ministries staff member, who is in the military, received his stimulus check as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, he didn't feel he should keep it for himself, so he donated it all to charity, blessing AM with \$300.

REMAINING ON THE FRONT LINES

By Michael Yoder, Executive Director

Nearly everything about our world seems to have changed overnight. The COVID-19 pandemic and the order to quarantine at home (at least to those for whom that is possible) will undoubtedly be a critical juncture in human history. I hope and pray we will learn from this tragedy, and that we will never return to a society in which the vulnerable are left out of access to many of life's essentials, particularly a safe and secure place to live.



Our work at Associated Ministries has continued with only minimal interruption. We've transitioned the majority of our staff into home-based work spaces, where they continue to tirelessly connect with our clients and provide effective services to as many as possible. Thanks to AM supporters who stepped forward in late March and early April with a generous response to our urgent appeal for funds, we were able to invest in technology that enables

our work to continue. We're also providing hazardous duty pay for the few AM staff members who continue to come into the office regularly to serve clients who have no other means to connect with us.

My attention cannot help but focus on the coming weeks and months, during which I foresee a tidal wave of new needs impacting our community, and consequently AM itself. Never the less, we remain committed to do everything possible to help as many of our unhoused

neighbors as we can. Your support and prayers will be key to our ability to remain on the frontlines of this battle, providing life-changing assistance to many of Pierce County's most vulnerable residents. From the bottom of my heart I thank you for standing with us during this unprecedented season.

Michael Yoder

