

Triannual Newsletter

December 15, 2015

# Interfaith-Good Samaritan

710 East Garfield Street, Rm. 127 (307) 742 - 4240  
Laramie, WY 82070 Fax: (307) 742 - 0184

Email: [interfaith82070@aol.com](mailto:interfaith82070@aol.com)

Website: [www.interfaithgoodsam.com](http://www.interfaithgoodsam.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/interfaithgoodsam](http://www.facebook.com/interfaithgoodsam)



## Much to Be Thankful For at Interfaith

This year Interfaith-Good Samaritan gave out over 200 Thanksgiving baskets to families in need in Albany County. Each basket included a turkey along with several different ingredients for side dishes. This year families were able to pick and choose their own Thanksgiving baskets, so that nothing ended up going to waste. All of this would not have been possible without the support of several local groups and businesses.

In conjunction with the United Way, Spradley-Barr Honda Nissan dealership organized a three-day donation drive where volunteers asked shoppers at Wal-Mart to consider buying even one extra item to help give to a family in need. These items were donated to Interfaith-Good Samaritan, the Soup Kitchen, and Salvation Army.

On the day of our distribution, Ridley's Family Markets generously provided over \$600 dollars worth of turkeys; they then donated over 200 grocery items to fill our pantry shelves.



Last but not least, several classes of 4 year-olds from the Open School donated over 200 items and learned about what a food pantry is and why a family might have to visit us for some extra food. We also received numerous donations from local families and churches in the days leading up to Thanksgiving.

We are so thankful for our friends, neighbors and community partners in Albany County and across the state of Wyoming. We could not do this without your support!



Spradley-Barr Sales Manager Danielle Hensley and I-GS Office Manager Thais Humphreys help to unload turkeys.



Name: **Myra** aka “Mamacita”

Time at I-GS: 1 year

Favorite Job: Restocking the shelves  
as full as they will go

Claim to Fame: Always having a positive  
attitude & having fun

Why She Volunteers: “I love to help people  
and my community.”

## Volunteer Spotlights

Name: **Andrew** aka “Nightwatch”

Time at I-GS: 6 months

Favorite Job: Helping clients with

Claim to Fame: Greeting every client with  
his trademark “Welcome!”

Why He Volunteers: “Because I can. I don’t need  
a reason to do good!”



### HOW CAN I HELP?

Volunteer your time — Volunteer a skill set — Volunteer your professional services  
Donate food, formula, diapers, toiletries, household items, monetary funds, and more!

# Looking Forward to 2016!

If you have visited the Interfaith-Good Samaritan office recently, you may notice some differences! But don't be scared—change is good. In 2015, we:

- Reorganized our office to give our volunteers more space to work, give us more storage space, and meet updated safety codes.
- Updated and redesigned our website and logo (thanks to Whitewater Christian Church). Check it out at [www.interfaithgoodsam.com](http://www.interfaithgoodsam.com)!
- Moved our Commodities Distribution to the South Gym, so there would be more space for clients to wait comfortably.
- Created a Facebook page to keep our clients, volunteers and community partners updated on day-to-day happenings and upcoming events.

If you haven't seen our re-organized office, pay us a visit and let us know what you think. Even though our office may look different, we hope these changes help us to better serve families in crisis in Albany County!

**Changes abound but our mission remains the same.**

## Donor Spotlight



Happy Birthday from the Girl Scouts!

For several years our local Girl Scout troop has donated "Birthday Bags" to families in need at Interfaith. Handpicked by girls in the troop, each bag contains a cake mix, frosting, decorations, and everything necessary to put on a birthday party for a child. For families who are worried about simply getting through the month, these birthday bags are a huge relief and let the family celebrate together without worry.

**Thank you! Your donation makes a difference!**



*Interfaith-Good Samaritan*

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Phone: (307) 742 - 4240

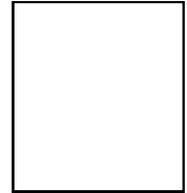
Fax: (307) 742 - 0184

[interfaith82070@aol.com](mailto:interfaith82070@aol.com)



Community Partner

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**To our donors, volunteers, community neighbors and supporters of Interfaith-Good Samaritan**

**Thank you!**

## *Director's Corner*

During calendar year (CY) 2015, we saw about ten percent more clients than we did during CY 2014. We had to reduce two of our programs because of the increase in requests for the medical and emergency lodging programs. Our overall budget is about three percent over budget for the current year.

The residents of Laramie and Albany County have continually assisted with food, winter wear and monetary donations to help us fund these programs. The community definitely makes our jobs easier because of these gracious gifts. If we did not

receive such a generous amount of donations, we would be purchasing more to keep food on the pantry shelves and winter coats, hats and gloves available to persons that need them.

All your donations throughout this past year (both goods and money) are very much appreciated. We could not have helped others in our community without your help. We extend to you all our hopes for a wonderful new year, just as you have extended hope to so many others.

Thanks,  
Tom Martin