

2021

# Annual Report

*"...joining hands to reduce homelessness"*



**ioc**

joining hands benefit shop



# Our Mission:

Joining Hands to help the homeless.

Interfaith Outreach of Carmel (IOC) is an interfaith organization of sponsoring faith communities joined together to address interfaith spiritual and practical needs in Monterey County emphasizing grants to agencies that provide housing resources. By being outreach leaders within our community we aid in creating solutions, stimulating public awareness, and raising funds to provide grants to fulfill our mission.

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# President's Letter

**Barbara Dickason**

**Board President  
Interfaith Outreach of Carmel**



It has truly been a humbling experience to step into the shoes of the founder of Interfaith Outreach of Carmel. When IOC was conceived, it was on the basis that more can be done as a group rather than as individuals. Housing became the major focus. Since then, the population of those living without housing has grown exponentially, so the need is even greater now.

I feel the words that best describe IOC's past two years - blessings and transition. Prayers were answered when MaryAnn Spadoni, a previous volunteer at Joining Hands became our first Executive Director (right before the COVID "shut down and closures"). Through MaryAnn's tenacity, and the help of the volunteers, the shop reopened with more appeal, more donors, and stronger sales than ever. Our volunteers are amazing and extremely dedicated, as is our Board. Our donors have responded with enthusiasm. As a result, we were able to double the amount of grants we gave in 2021.

Our main goals now are to continue working to better our communications with our Interfaith Advisory Council. We continue refreshing and rejuvenating with IOC's rebranding, new website, and signage.

I encourage you to join hands with us by volunteering at or donating to our shop, volunteering with some of our grantees, and meeting the unhoused and hear their stories.

Barbara Dickason  
President of the Board of Directors

# Rooted in Community

Since its inception in May 2007, the faith communities of IOC have joined hearts, minds, and hands to support each others' events and host some of its own. Interfaith Outreach of Carmel became incorporated as a 501(c)(3) organization on May 14th 2010. To further the mission to support the community, in September 2010 IOC opened Joining Hands Benefit Shop in Carmel, California. We thank all of the sponsors that provide spiritual support, volunteers, donations, and customers to further our mission of outreach.

## OUR FAITH COMMUNITIES

All Saints' Episcopal Church  
Carmel Mission Basilica  
Saint Philip's Lutheran Church  
Church of the Good Shepherd  
Church of the Wayfarer  
Center for Spiritual Living Religious  
Society of Friends (Quakers)  
Unitarian Universalist Church of the  
Monterey Peninsula

St. Mary's-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church  
Saint John the Baptist Greek  
Orthodox Church  
Christian Church of Pacific Grove  
Community Church of the  
Monterey Peninsula  
Congregation Beth Israel  
Epiphany Lutheran & Episcopal Church  
First Presbyterian Church of Monterey  
Baha'i Faith Community of Carmel



# Executive Director's Letter



**MaryAnn Spadoni**

**Executive Director**

**Interfaith Outreach of Carmel**

Dear Friends,

This year was a time of change and adjustment for Interfaith Outreach of Carmel as we navigated our way through the pandemic and the strict COVID-19 mandates. The support from the community and the outpouring of donations to our benefit shop were immeasurable.

Everyone seemed to be in the spirit of giving. The abundance afforded Interfaith Outreach of Carmel to greatly exceed our expected grant funding for the year as well as focus on some much needed updating of the internal operations.

In this report you will read of the work of all of the volunteers, and members of the community that joined together to make our mission possible. I want to say THANK YOU to each and every one of you, especially our amazing volunteers. I am so privileged to work with a diligent Board that leads with integrity and a group of benefit shop volunteers that take on the daily duties of opening the store everyday and greeting the community with a smile.

The year 2021 was a year of growth and abundance for IOC and we are looking forward to the continued support and success of our mission as we move into 2022.

Sincerely,  
MaryAnn Spadoni

# IOC/JH Performance

Joining Hands Benefit Shop is what allows IOC to provide housing grants to the community. In 2021 the Executive Director, along with the Board and committees, made some big organizational changes to the benefit shop.

The first change was developing a completely volunteer team to run Joining Hands. The second major change was a rebranding of IOC and Joining Hands to better develop the link between the two and increase awareness.

Although IOC has been serving Monterey County since 2007, many locals hadn't heard of IOC and didn't know of our connection to Joining Hands. In fact, many local benefit store shoppers did not even know about the store.

The result of the rebrand was a combined logo (previously they had separate logos) developed by a local marketing agency. We are all very pleased with the new logo as we believe it better represents who we are today.

In conjunction with our rebrand, we are launching a newly redesigned website in May 2022. The new user-friendly site has a clean and modern design, streamlines our grant application process, and offers some items for sale from the benefit shop. New outdoor signage will be up soon, too.

We had a record breaking year in 2021 with this new approach and we were able to award Interfaith Outreach of Carmel's largest grant distribution ever. All while still maintaining COVID safety protocols the whole year.

2010



2022



# Housing Grants

Profits from the Joining Hands Benefit Shop are used for housing grants to support transitional housing for men, women, families, elder care, and homelessness prevention. The IOC makes monetary distributions to 501(c)(3) organizations that directly address housing issues in Monterey County. Grants are not made to individuals. In 2021 IOC granted \$120,000 to local agencies providing housing solutions to those in need.

Since 2010, IOC has awarded \$565,351 in grants with \$15,351 in Mission Vision Grants. Mission Vision Grants are given to agencies outside the scope of our traditional grants that still support IOC's mission. Agencies receiving the Mission Vision funds don't need to be a 501(c)3 non-profit but must fall under our housing needs guidelines and help the homeless with food or assistance.

## Grantee Highlight "The Nest":



"Through the generosity of Interfaith Outreach of Carmel we have been able to continue to offer low cost housing solutions for women recovering from drug and alcohol addiction. The funds provided were used across three areas essential to the house, what we call the "The Nest": community, recovery, and sustainability."

**-Vicki McMillan, Founder, Monterey Sober Living for Women (The Nest)**

"My life would not be where it is at today without the love, security, strength and support the Nest provides. Thank you for bringing the Nest to life, so that it could save mine."

**-Current Nest Resident**

# Grants & Housing

The Grant and Housing Committee worked diligently to get the word out to the community regarding the grant application process which began in September. This small but mighty team processed the applications and worked closely with the organizations requesting grants to be sure that everyone was served. Some recipients received funds directly and others preferred the funds be granted through the Monterey County Gives Programs. The new website will offer a simplified grant application process which we envision will enhance the amount of applications received.

## 2021 Housing Grantees

Catholic Charities Diocese of Monterey  
The Bridge Restoration Ministry  
The Carmel Foundation  
Housing Resource Center of Monterey County  
Monterey Sober Living for Women (The Nest)  
Community Homeless Solutions  
Outreach Unlimited Inc./I-Help

Interim Inc.  
The Village Project  
Community Human Services  
Pass the Word Ministry  
Sun Street Centers  
Victory Mission  
Rancho Cielo

## Mission Vision Recipients



**Food Bank for  
Monterey County**

**First United Methodist  
Church Salinas**



# Board & Committees

The IOC is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Board meetings are held monthly and are open to all sponsors. The IOC Board of Directors has committees to oversee various aspects of IOC and Joining Hands Benefit Shop. Committee chairs are members of the Board of Directors. With the exception of the Finance Committee (all members of this committee must be standing board members), IOC welcomes and encourages the community at large to participate as committee members.

**Barbara Dickason**  
President  
Chair Marketing Com.



**Alice Gutierrez**  
Board Member



**Diane DeBerry**  
Board Vice President  
Co-Chair Housing Com.



**Diane Norrby**  
Board Member



**Travis Williams**  
Board Secretary  
Chair Board Dev.



**Sally Baho**  
Marketing Com.



**Debbie Feole**  
Treasurer



**Rosa Butts**  
Chair  
Shop Committee



**Vicky Sage**  
Board Member



# Volunteer Profile



## Volunteer Letter from Anne Albano

I have been a volunteer at IOC for approximately 10 years; first as a Board Member, (7 years), where I was also a Shop Committee Chair and later as a shop volunteer. I also coordinated the Celebration of Gratitude as well as working special activities for the IOC/Joining Hands.

While the Church of the Good Shepherd (where I am a member) is not in Carmel, we have been one of the IOC faith communities for a number of years. Our congregation typically turns out for the Celebration of Gratitude event and parishioners happily fill my car on Sundays with their donations for Joining Hands.

After retiring from The Carmel Foundation a few years ago and I found I had more time to offer, I decided to commit to a weekly schedule at Joining Hands as a shop volunteer. My role there as a cashier is always busy and fun, but it has also been gratifying to see how much our shoppers enjoy shopping at JH. During the last two years especially, as many in our community have struggled with isolation due to the pandemic, I have noticed that Joining Hands seems to offer a human connection that people seem to be craving. Shoppers come to find treasures, but also they want to talk.

I find that the mission of the shop – selling peoples’ unwanted items which in turn keeps clothing and household goods out of the landfill while making money for grants – resonates for me. And if during my volunteer shift I might brighten someone’s day...that’s all the more satisfying.

# Our Volunteers

Our dedicated volunteers are the backbone of Interfaith Outreach of Carmel and Joining Hands Benefit Shop. After the lockdown due to COVID-19 in 2020 most of the volunteers were eager to return to their positions in the organization. With uncertainty of the future regulations, under the guidance of the new Executive Director the benefit shop management was restructured to a strictly volunteer team. In 2021 a team of 35 incredible volunteers led by the Shop Committee stepped up and took charge of Joining Hands Benefit Shop with great enthusiasm.

All aspects of the shop operation including scheduling, opening, closing, daily sales reports, merchandising, sorting, receiving, cleaning and maintenance are now in the hands of the most capable and dedicated volunteers who truly believe in our mission and who serve with joy. The Shop has become a place of community and abundance for many, thanks to the volunteers.



**Volunteering at Joining Hands contributes to the community network of helping others. We have donors, grantees, customers, and clients who all benefit from this amazing shop.**



# JH Around Town

## Joining Hands Benefit Shop takes its wares to the West End Celebration!

In August of 2021 Interfaith Outreach of Carmel and Joining Hands Benefit Shop moved our message out into the community by participating in the annual Sand City West End Celebration. Our organization was offered a free space in an area designated for non-profit groups. We set up a booth with a wide banner that was the first with our new logo. Volunteers set up a small Pop-Up shop with merchandise that was collected specifically for this event. This was a two-day event that generated some income for IOC and also gave us the opportunity to share our mission and let the community know about our shop. All who stopped by were given a \$5.00 coupon to use at the shop. We also picked up many new followers on our social media pages due to the exposure. A fun time was had for sure.



# Gratitude Celebration

## Annual Community Celebration of Gratitude in Devendorf Park!

Due to COVID restrictions on indoor gatherings this year the Annual Thanksgiving Celebration was held outdoors. The event was also renamed the Annual Community Celebration of Gratitude. This took place the Sunday before Thanksgiving/Indigenous People's Day at Devendorf Park in Carmel from noon - 2:00 pm. We were fortunate to have absolutely beautiful weather.

The stage was set as members of IOC sponsoring faith communities along with presenters from the greater community shared stories, songs, and poems of gratitude. We heard words of thanksgiving from several speakers that directly received the benefits of the grants that were given by IOC through benefit shop funds.

After the event we shared delicious cookies from Lafayette Bakery in Carmel that were generously donated. This day of people with diversity coming together to share gratitude is at the heart of the mission of Interfaith Outreach of Carmel. It is a joyous event that has become a tradition for IOC. Please be sure to join us in 2022.



# Financials

## 2021 Profit & Loss Statement Through December 31st, 2021

Other Revenue (donation, misc, interest, events)	\$4,778.61
<u>Merchandise Sales</u>	<u>\$348,057.67</u>
Total Revenue	\$352,836.28
JH Agency Employees	\$55,645.61
All Other Expenses*	\$150,303.27
<u>Grants (Mission Vision)</u>	<u>\$107,000.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$312,948.68
Net Operating Revenue	\$39,887.40
Net Revenue	\$39,887.40

\*all expenses over \$10,000 shown above, other expenses over \$5,000 include, bookkeeper, transportation, software, and shop supplies.

**We awarded \$107,000 in grants to nonprofits that support our homeless community, the most ever granted by IOC!**

# Financials Cont.

## 2021 Balance Statement Through December 31st, 2021

Total Current Assets	\$89,923.23
Total Fixed Assets	\$1,177.56
<u>Total Other Assets</u>	<u>\$4,800.00</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$95,900.79</b>
Total Accounts Payable	\$36.98
<u>Total Other Current Liabilities</u>	<u>\$3,873.19</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$3,910.17</b>
Retained Earnings	\$52,103.22
<u>Net Revenue</u>	<u>\$39,887.40</u>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$91,990.62</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$95,500.79</b>

**Our 2021 990 IRS Submission will be available on our redesigned website in the coming months.**

# Annual Art Event

## Annual Anniversary Outdoor Art Event Celebrating 11 years of Joining Hands Benefit Shop

In October of this year IOC once again hosted the outdoor art event on the street outside of Joining Hands Benefit Shop. This year's featured artist was Carmel's own Tracey Adams. Tracey contributed greatly to the event with donations of some incredible pieces from her collection. Along with Tracey's art were original works that were collected throughout the year including acrylic, oil, and watercolor paintings, glass art, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, and much more. We had live music all day featuring Tanner McAdams on Jazz guitar and Ekene Music playing original songs and music. This event yielded extra revenue for the shop as well as expresses our appreciation for our volunteers and donors by gathering to appreciate the arts.





# Founder's Letter



**Nancy Jones**

Founder

Interfaith Outreach of Carmel

**PRIDE** - one of the seven deadly sins, a grouping and classification of vices within Christian teachings.

This definition troubles me, since pride is what I most often feel about the IOC and its Joining Hands Benefit Shop. I founded Interfaith Outreach of Carmel in 2007 when, new to the area and newly retired, I was looking to organize local faith communities into a community force for collective improvement. I had no idea it would still be around 15 years later and that we would have donated over \$500K to local charities. How proud I feel about that history.

Is there another word we can use that will redeem us from individual pride How about expressing collective pride? Individually, we are humbled by the accomplishments of the group. I am humbled by what the current organization, led by its new executive director, MaryAnn Spadoni, has been able to do to revitalize our volunteer staff and the Board and to reintroduce IOC in Monterey County. We are strengthened by benefit shop donors, shoppers, and volunteers and hope that they all understand and support our purpose, to reduce homelessness. We also join together every year at the Thanksgiving season for an interfaith service of gratitude, to celebrate our common goals.

How proud we all can be that collectively we can do so much. Thank you, everyone, congratulations to IOC, and forgive me my pride.

Nancy J. Jones

# What's Next?

## What to Look Forward to in 2022

We certainly look forward to a healthy and successful 2022 for all who support Interfaith Outreach of Carmel and Joining Hands Benefit Shop.

In 2022 we are looking ahead to greater collaboration with the organizations that serve the homeless population and those who struggle with housing. It is our goal to meet with all of our grant recipients and visit the sites that provide shelter to those in need. In this way we can better collaborate on how funds can be utilized to serve the widest population.

IOC also looks forward to increasing our relationships in a greater demographic by reaching further into the needs of the residents throughout Monterey County. We invite all faith communities and service clubs to join our mission to raise funds to serve those in need and to unite for a common goal. Together we can accomplish great deeds.

As we move forward with our mission we are always open to welcoming new faith communities to join us. We always need volunteers for our shop, we need community members to join our efforts with special events and special committees, and community leaders to join our Board of Directors.

Homelessness is a housing problem. Let's unite to create safe, affordable housing for all.







# Joining Hands to Reduce Homelessness

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