

2023

Annual Report



Our Mission:

...Joining Hands to reduce homelessness.

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.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Distributed \$135,000 in grants** to fight homelessness including funds for IOC's founder Nancy Jones Insecurities Insecurities Endowment Fund
- Selected as [The Coalition of Housing Services Providers Providers \(CHSP\)](#) Member Agency
- Participated in [Interim Inc.'s Sun Rose Apartment's](#) Ribbon Cutting ceremony & [Shuman HeartHouse Open House](#)
- Very successful and moving Gratitude Celebration
- Initiated Food for the Soul Interfaith Devotional

831-293-8140

E.I.N. #27-2976234

www.ifaithcarmel.org

www.joininghandsbenefitshop.org

www.facebook.com/joininghandsbenefitshop

@joininghandsbenefitshop

26358 Carmel Rancho Ln, Ste. 1, Carmel, CA 93923



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. IOC became incorporated as a 501(c)(3) organization on May 14, 2010. To finance their mission to support the community, IOC opened Joining Hands Benefit Shop in Carmel, California in September 2010. We thank all of the sponsors who provide spiritual support, advice, volunteers, donations, and customers to further our joint mission of outreach. *Would your faith community like to join hands with us?*

OUR FAITH COMMUNITIES



[All Saints' Episcopal Church](#)

[Bahá'í Faith Community of Monterey County](#)

[Carmel Mission Basilica](#)
[Christian Church of Pacific Grove](#)

[Church of the Good Shepherd](#)

[Church of the Wayfarer](#)

[Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula](#)

[Congregation Beth Israel](#)

[Epiphany Lutheran & Episcopal Church](#)

[First Presbyterian Church of Monterey](#)

[Monterey Center for Spiritual Living](#)

[Religious Society of Friends \(Quakers\)](#)

[Saint John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church](#)

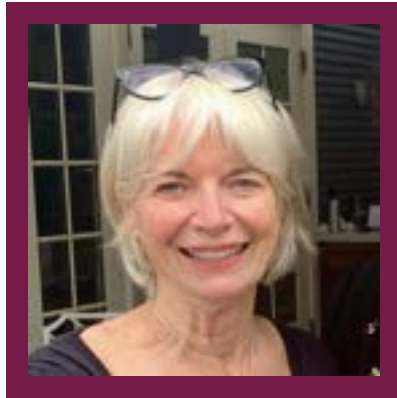
[St. Philip's Lutheran Church](#)

[St. Mary's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church](#)

[Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula](#)



President's Letter



Barbara Dickason

Board President

Interfaith Outreach of Carmel

We cannot thank the community and volunteers enough for supporting our mission through donations, volunteering at Joining Hands Benefit Shop and on Interfaith Outreach of Carmel's Board of Directors and Committees. What a fruitful year!

IOC is now a member agency of the [Coalition of Housing Service Providers \(CHSP\)](#). This allows us to become more knowledgeable about the needs of those experiencing homelessness in Monterey County, which agencies are helping to alleviate those needs, and where IOC can be of most assistance. Membership also allows us to forward pertinent information to our sponsoring faith communities.

Many thanks to those who made the [Nancy J. Jones Housing Insecurities Endowment Fund](#) possible. Our beautiful exterior signs were installed over the front door and the side door for donations. Our volunteers and Shop Committee continue to amaze me! Donna Jett, thank you for leading the Gratitude Celebration Committee, Flo Miller for chairing the dessert hall decor and food, and their teams that were so dedicated!!

What a joy! Two of the housing projects IOC has donated grants to came to fruition this year!

IOC's main goals for 2024 are to better our communications with our faith communities, grow our Board of Directors, work on IOC's branding and social media, as well as continuing to get the word out about who we are and what we do. As we move forward with our mission, we would also love to have more members of the community serving on our committees or chairing special events, volunteering at the shop, and/or joining our Board of Directors.

Barbara Dickason
IOC Board President



Executive Director's Letter



MaryAnn Spadoni

Executive Director

Interfaith Outreach of Carmel

Dear Friends,

What a successful year at Joining Hands Benefit Shop and Interfaith Outreach of Carmel. Once again we have experienced overwhelming support from the community in donations, shoppers, and of course our amazing volunteers.

This year the Grant & Housing Committee made the decision to adjust the window of time for the committee to review and process the grant requests in order to be more thorough, efficient, and to allow time for the funds to be distributed before the year end. With this adjustment the funds for the grants were based on only nine months of profits from the shop instead of the usual 12 month cycle. As our actual sales profits were above the projected amount, IOC was able to give the largest grant distribution in the history of IOC! In 2024 we will grant the full 12 months' profits and look forward to granting even more to those agencies that serve the homeless and housing insecure.

We thank our faith community sponsors, donors, volunteers, and supporters for another successful year. We couldn't do it without you!!

*Sincerely,
MaryAnn Spadoni
Executive Director*



Housing Grants

Profits from Joining Hands Benefit Shop are used for housing grants to support emergency shelter, re-entry, temporary, transitional, and permanent supportive housing for women, families, men, and seniors, supporting homelessness prevention. IOC makes these monetary distributions as grants directly addressing housing issues in Monterey County. Grants are not made to individuals. In 2023 IOC granted **\$135,000** to local agencies providing housing solutions to those in need making the total of grants awarded \$825,555 since IOC's inception in 2010.

Of that total, \$18,351 have been in the form of Mission/Vision Funding. Mission/Vision Funding is given to agencies outside the scope of our traditional grants but that still support IOC's mission, such as a group supplying housing that has not received their nonprofit status yet.

As our money available for grants is determined by September 30 each year, the Board voted to grant the net proceeds from January through September this year rather than through December. In 2024 we will use the net profit from September 30, 2023-September 30, 2024.

2023 Housing Grant Recipients

[The Carmel Foundation](#)

[Interim, Inc.](#)

[Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Monterey County](#)

[Monterey Sober Living for Women](#)

[Community Homeless Solutions](#)

[Nancy J. Jones Housing Insecurity Endowment Fund](#)

[Community Human Services](#)

[Outreach Unlimited/I-HELP](#)

[Franciscan Workers Dorothy's Place](#)

[Sun Street Centers](#)

[The Housing Resource Center of Monterey County](#)

[YWCA of Monterey County Domestic Violence](#)

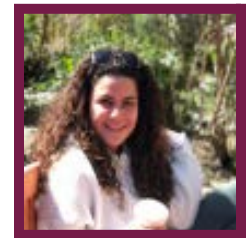
Board & Committees

IOC is managed by a volunteer working Board of Directors. Committees do not need to be chaired by Board members with the exception of the Finance and Administration Committees. IOC encourages the community at large to participate as Board committee members. Board terms are two years, meetings are bi-monthly and are open to all sponsors.

Barbara Dickason
President;
Chair Marketing
Committee



Sally Baho
Vice President;
Marketing Committee



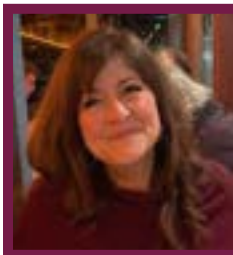
Trav Williams
Secretary;
Chair Board
Development
Committee



Debbie Feole
Treasurer;
Chair Finance &
Administration
Committee



Tina DeMaria
Assistant Treasurer;
Chair Housing Grant
Committee



Rosa Butts
Chair Shop



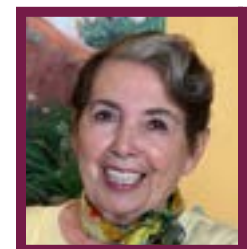
Diane Norrby
Housing Grant
Committee



Gina Bertolino
Committee TBD



June Radicchio
Board Development
Committee



Volunteer Profile



Volunteer Letter

By Flo Miller

Over the years the one question that I am often asked is, “What do you do at Joining Hands Benefit Shop?” I’m sure it’s because folks frequently see me carrying lots of bags and boxes out of the shop to my car. There are times my car is so loaded that I can barely see out the rear window. The brief answer to the question is as follows.

Before I began volunteering at Joining Hands Benefit Shop I was a volunteer with the Bitten False Farmworkers’ Ministry through the Carmel Mission. This ministry purchased and delivered basic non-perishable foods to four labor camps in the Gonzales area. After a few deliveries, it was apparent that we could also help these farmworkers by providing other necessities such as clothing and basic household items. After discussions with the Camp Coordinators it was agreed that I could collect clothing—particularly for children—and household necessities. I also distributed clothing for women experiencing homelessness via the Gathering for Women.

Within a couple of weeks of volunteering at the Shop, I learned that our shop was blessed with a high volume of donations. With permission from the Shop Manager at the time, Francesca, I began sorting, collecting, and distributing clothing and household items for farmworker families.

Because of the great volume and variety of donations to the Shop, I was accumulating much more than was needed for farmworkers and the unhoused women. The logical conclusion was to expand distribution to other nonprofits such as Nancy’s Project (farmworkers), I-HELP (both women & men), St. Vincent de Paul, The Family Resource Center in Seaside, and both of the



Volunteer Profile Cont.

Salvation Army locations. Currently I distribute not only clothing, but many kinds of the shop's in-kind donations to the following organizations:

[Bitten Falge Farmworkers' Ministry](#), Carmel Mission Basilica

[Friends of the Community Bookstore](#), Marina

[Habitat for Humanity ReStore](#), Seaside

[Interim, Inc.](#): Shelter Cove, Marina

[Junsey Oaks Senior Apartments](#), Marina

[Loaves, Fishes, & Computers](#), Salinas

[Pass the Word Ministry](#), Monterey

[St. Vincent de Paul](#) (Catholic Charities), Seaside

[Salvation Army-Sabu Shake Sr. Good Samaritan Center](#)

[Community Human Services](#): Casa Noche Buena, Safe Place, Shuman HeartHouse

[Gathering for Women \(GFW\)](#), Monterey

<https://www.ihelpmontereybay.org/>

(Carmel Mission Basilica, Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula, and/or Church of the Wayfarer)

[Rippling River Center Senior Apartments](#), Carmel Valley

Our Volunteers



Volunteers continue to be the backbone of IOC and Joining Hands Benefit Shop. The 2021 plan by our Executive Director restructuring the benefit shop management to a strictly volunteer team has worked beautifully and allowed for more grants. Our amazing volunteers run all aspects of the shop operation including scheduling, opening, closing, daily sales reports, merchandising, sorting, receiving, cleaning and maintenance. Our volunteers are the most capable and dedicated, who truly believe in our mission and serve with joy. The Shop is a place of joy, of community and abundance for many, thanks to our volunteers!

Nancy J. Jones Housing Insecurities Endowment Fund

Continuing IOC's Mission



The Endowment Fund honoring IOC's founder and assuring the nonprofit's future and mission far into the future went into effect on May 7, 2023, at All Saints' Episcopal Church when a check was presented to the Community Foundation for Monterey County for the [Nancy J. Jones Housing Insecurity Endowment Fund](#). Many thanks to those who contributed and to [Shagbag Radio #1099](#) for the interview. This QR code also takes you to the donation site.



Founder Nancy Jones gave the history of Interfaith Outreach of Carmel.

The Carmel Pine Cone

24A The Carmel Pine Cone May 19, 2023

She helped engineer a brighter future for those who need homes

NANCY JONES had it all figured out. After graduating from high school in Southern Indiana, she thought she'd stay in her home state, major in math at Purdue University and become a math teacher. The math department also offered computer courses, and she enrolled in those because she was intrigued by the technology.

As she progressed through her studies, Jones figured she might need a Ph.D. in math to teach the subject to the degree or level she wanted and to be the kind of applied

been volunteering for the annual event, delivering some 50,000 meals to musicians. But as residents, they wanted to do more in their new community. He took up dog-walking for the SPCA. They became members of All Saints Episcopal Church and joined its lay leadership board, and Jones wondered how she might apply her aerospace experience in program management and organization to help the church and community.

She said, "Believing a community achieves more when working collectively, I called around to members of various local faith communities to see if we could work together to assist people experiencing housing insecurity. Everybody wanted to participate."

In their initial meeting, the people Jones had gathered established Interfaith Outreach of Carmel. They drafted a mission to address interfaith spiritual and practical needs in Monterey County, emphasizing grants to agencies that provide housing resources.

As outreach leaders, their goal was to create solutions, stimulate public awareness and raise funds to provide grants to fulfill their mission. They also created the group's tagline, "Joining hands to make a difference."

"Our organizing principle was to not ask any faith community for money, which meant we had none," recalled Jones. "But, to make a difference in the community, we needed money. So, we decided to open a benefit shop."

Helping with housing

In 2010, after finding a location, securing a business license and 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, convening a board of directors, and developing policies and procedures, the collective opened the Joining Hands Benefit Shop in Carmel Rancho shopping center. Since then, the volunteer-staffed store has been selling high-quality donated goods — jewelry, furniture, clothing and more — to the community. They've generated almost \$700,000 in revenues, which they have granted to local nonprofits to help address housing issues on the Peninsula.

"Nancy Jones started this organization and served as president of the board for 14 years, until she turned it over to me nearly three years ago," said Barbara Dickason, who moved to Carmel in 2015 from Dallas. Like many others who leave the workforce, she expected to sit back and relax into retirement, but that was before she was invited to join the nonprofit's board and before she understood the housing issues across the Peninsula.

"There is such a misconception about people who are experiencing homelessness," said Dickason, "and a lot of misunderstanding about causes and effects. We are grateful to Nancy Jones for starting the outreach, and also to MaryAnn Spadoni, who has been our executive director



PHOTO/COURTESY NANCY JONES

Interfaith Outreach of Carmel founder Nancy Jones was honored by the organization on May 7, when it established an endowment in her name.

almost since the beginning."

On May 7, Interfaith Outreach of Carmel honored Jones by establishing the Nancy J. Jones Housing Insecurities Endowment Fund to advance her mission of abating homelessness in her wider community.

Last year, \$127,000 was granted to 13 nonprofits that help the homeless in Monterey County. Although Jones no longer serves on the board, she continues to volunteer at the benefit shop, to lend her tenor voice to the All Saints choir, and, it must be noted, to absolutely love dogs.

FIX From page 8A

on the upper and lower portions of the deck and reforming and resurfacing the stairs that go into the water. The consultants also recommended temporarily closing the entire pier for public use "if dangerous conditions are forecast."

The report doesn't provide a cost estimate for the short-term repairs, but the consultant said it would provide one

Great Lives

By LISA CRAWFORD WATSON

math teacher she envisioned, but she wasn't prepared to pursue a doctorate. Instead, she earned a master's degree in computer science from USC and a master's in engineering management from UCLA.

"After college, I got a job as a computer programmer. I began working in the FORTRAN programming language and started a program to use microprocessors on spacecraft. I was able to write assembly language, which gave me a better understanding of how computers worked. I became valuable for that reason."

There's a good chance the high school girl from Southern Indiana could never have imagined becoming an engineering and project manager for companies like Magnavox and Raytheon. After a dynamic 35-year career focused on program management and organization for aerospace companies, Jones retired. But, as is true of so many Peninsula residents, she didn't stop working.

Bach Festival

In 2003, Jones and her husband, the late Charlie Grauling, moved into the Carmel home they'd purchased in 1997, five years after they had begun an annual trip to attend the Carmel Bach Festival. And this is where she launched her second career.

For 10 years, nine of which Jones had spent on the Bach Festival board of directors, she and Grauling had



Meet Sunny

Mixed

15th Celebration of Gratitude

“Raising the Roof”

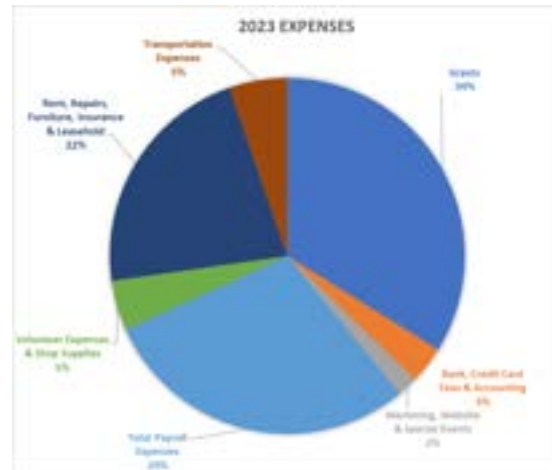
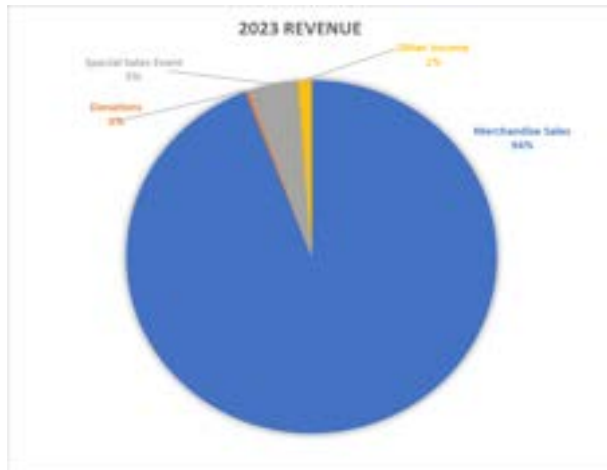
We had standing room only at the Gratitude Celebration at Carmel Mission Basilica. Both choral groups—the Carmel Mission Schola Cantorum and The Monterey Peninsula Gospel Community Choir—were amazing, and of course the Mission Basilica is such a sacred space!

Sticking to our previous format, members of IOC’s sponsoring faith communities along with presenters from the greater community shared stories, songs, and poems of gratitude. Clergy from Carmel Mission and All Saints’ Episcopal Church, as well as representatives from the Bahá’í and the Quaker faith communities spoke. We also had representatives from The Carmel Foundation, Interim, Inc. and Community Human Services.

Again, keeping with tradition, we savored pies afterwards in Crespi Hall. The custom of diverse people coming together to share gratitude is a wonderful tradition for IOC, our volunteers, our sponsoring faith communities, and others from the community. It is at the heart of our mission. **The 2024 Celebration date and venue will be announced soon. Should you like to volunteer to chair the committee or work on it, please contact us.**



Financials



2023 Profit & Loss Statement

December 31, 2023

Other Revenue (donation, misc, interest, events)	\$ 25,295.91
<u>Merchandise Sales</u>	<u>\$410,362.00</u>
Total Revenue	\$435,657.86
JHBS Employee(s)	\$108,510.29
All Other Expenses*	\$171,172.20
Housing Grants	\$135,000.00
Total Expenses	\$414,683.00
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 20,975.37
Net Revenue	\$ 20,975.37

2023 Balance Statement

December 31, 2023

Total Current Assets	\$122,432.84
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 3,012.56
<u>Total Other Assets</u>	<u>\$ 7,350.00</u>
Total Assets	\$132,795.40
Total Accounts Payable	\$ 36.98
<u>Total Other Current</u>	
<u>Liabilities</u>	\$ <u>9,605.54</u>
Total Liabilities	\$ 9,642.52
Retained Earnings	\$ 52,102.32
<u>Net Revenue</u>	\$ <u>20,975.37</u>
Total Equity	\$ 123,152.88

Total Liabilities & Equity \$132,795.40

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

IOC awarded \$135,000 in grants to nonprofits supporting our mission of reducing homelessness in Monterey County. Our 2023 IRS Form 990 will be available on our website @ ifaithcarmel.org

Annual Anniversary Celebration

Celebrating 13 years

We changed our Annual Anniversary Art Sale for Joining Hands Benefit Shop by moving it inside the shop and extending the timing of the celebration to almost four weeks. During each of the last three weeks in September, a different category of items to be sold was featured. Adding a personal touch, refreshments mirroring the theme were available on Saturdays. What a fun event!



13 Year ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Joining Hands Benefit Shop

FEATURING
weekly drawings
Fine Art & Jewelry
Sept. 9-15
All medium and styles

Clothing & Accessories
Sept. 16-22
Beautiful quality

All Things Vintage
Sept. 23-29
Fun items

50% Off Storewide
Sept. 30

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Happy Birthday!



Food for the Soul

Interfaith Devotional

The fourth Saturday of each month was spent with members of the community who wished to relax and connect spiritually by participating in our interfaith devotional, “Food for the Soul.” Each time we met we had a brief time for coffee, a breakfast snack, and catching up. Then we spent 40-45 minutes nourishing our souls, “breathing in” the music, beautiful images, and readings from authors and philosophers of different cultures. A few attendees brought some of their personal favorites and/or musical instruments to share. The main program was prepared by the Baha'i' faith community, and is currently used in Australia. We have met in the smaller room at the American Legion on Dolores, near 8th, in Carmel, but as our attendance is growing we are hopeful that we will have faith leaders who are interested in moving this wonderful devotional to their facilities.

Themes this past year included *A Sense of Time*, *A Time for Renewal*, *Children*, *the Light of the World*, *Footprints in the Sand*, *Infinite Worlds*, *In the Garden*, *No Beginning*, *No End*, *No Man is an Island*, and *Planet Dreams*.



A poster for the "Food for the Soul" interfaith devotional gathering. At the top, there is a row of seven religious symbols: a crescent moon and star, a sun, a Star of David, a cross, the Om symbol, a Dharma wheel, and a Khanda. Below the symbols, the text reads: "Share a prayer, sing a song, or just enjoy!" followed by "You are cordially invited to". The main title "Food for the Soul" is in large, bold, purple letters, with "Interfaith Devotional Gathering" below it in smaller purple letters. The event details are listed: "Fourth Saturday of Each Month | 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.", "American Legion Hall", and "Dolores St. between 8th & 9th Avenues, Carmel-By-The-Sea". At the bottom, it says "Sponsored by Interfaith Outreach of Carmel" and "iFaithCarmel.org" with a logo for "ioc" featuring a hand holding a flame.

Reducing Homelessness

Interfaith Outreach of Carmel was so fortunate to see two of the projects we have given grants to completed and opened in 2023.

RIBBON CUTTING and GRAND OPENING—Interim Inc.’s Sun Rose Apartments

October 26, 2023, we participated in the Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of Interim Inc.’s Sun Rose Apartments in Salinas. This beautiful new facility consists of 17 affordable supportive housing units for adults 18 and older who have a mental health disability and are homeless or at risk for homelessness. Eight of the apartments are shared transitional housing units. There are also nine permanent individual studio units and a manager’s unit. It was especially meaningful that IOC Board alumna Diane DeBerry was on Interim, Inc.’s Board and had placed individual touches on these apartments.



Amazing Grant Results Cont.

GRAND OPENING–Community Human Services’ Shuman HeartHouse

Several IOC Board members and Joining Hands Benefit Shop volunteers attended the November 2, 2023, Open House for Shuman HeartHouse, the first emergency homeless shelter for single women and families with children in Monterey, CA. The emergency shelter will accommodate up to 16 single women and four families for 90 days. While there, supportive services are offered with hopes of obtaining permanent housing for the occupants.



Broadening Our Network

Coalition of Homeless Service Providers

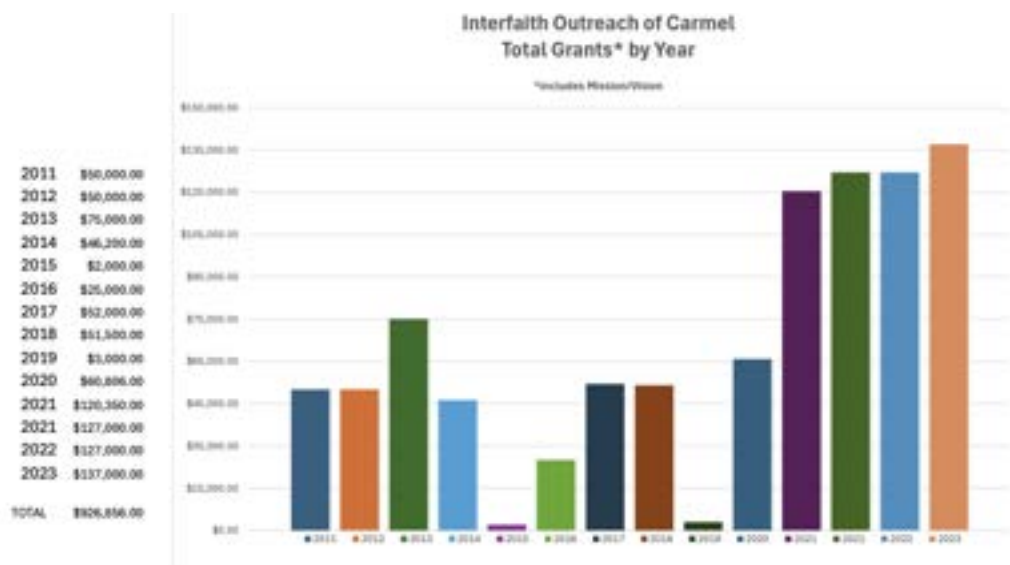
In an effort to learn more about what other nonprofits do to assist those unhoused and how the nonprofit agencies work together, IOC became one of 23 member agencies of [The Coalition of Homeless Service Providers \(CHSP\)](#), collaborating to end homelessness for families, youth, and veterans. Government officials also attend the meetings. We are learning so much and are sharing pertinent information with our sponsoring faith communities.

CHSP's mission is:

“to eliminate homelessness in Monterey and San Benito Counties by promoting regional partnerships and interagency collaboration for a comprehensive system of housing for our diverse population.”

CHSP was instrumental in creating a “Five Year Plan **Lead Me Home Summit on Homelessness**....a one of a kind event where we bring policymakers, stakeholders and people with lived experience of homelessness to discuss strategies to end homelessness in Monterey and San Benito Counties....and how our community can work together to meet the objectives of this Plan.”

What's Next? The Sky's The Limit





.....Joining Hands to Reduce Homelessness



IOC Donation



**NJJ Endowment
Fund Donation**

831-293-8140

E.I.N. #27-2976234

Interfaith Outreach of Carmel (IOC)

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