

West Side Revitalization (from inside)

at the intersection of Springwood Ave. and Atkins Ave., this project is a three-story, 27,500 square foot building that is now home to the City's senior center, the local Chamber of Commerce, offices for the local police department, Interfaith's Business Development Center, a non-profit job training program and eight affordable housing units on the third floor.

In April of 2013, Interfaith opened the Kula Café, located on the ground floor of the new Springwood Center. The mission of Kula Café is two-fold. Kula is a social enterprise—it functions as a community café with a welcoming environment, open to the public, with good food reasonably priced. Perhaps more importantly, the Kula initiative at its heart provides a 16-week hospitality and restaurant training program to prepare local youth, generally between the ages of 18 and 21, for available job opportunities in nearby restaurants in the shore communities as front-of-house workers—servers, bussers and hosts. Kula Café supports both the business community and under-employed youth by providing a job training

program to prepare young people to enter the local workforce in the hospitality trade.

Building on the momentum of these successes, Interfaith Neighbors has additional plans for the Springwood Avenue corridor. Interfaith Neighbors intends to construct a 26-unit, town-home style, residential development project to be located diagonally opposite the Springwood Center. In addition, Interfaith plans to construct a multi-story, arts-centric, architecturally significant, mixed-use project to be known as Asbury JAMS (an acronym for Jobs, Arts, Music, and Science) that would become a destination point for the city's West Side Neighborhood and capitalize on the city's history as a favored place for music and entertainment. While these projects are still in the planning phase, Interfaith Neighbors has recently been selected as one of two developers for the Springwood Avenue corridor, which would give us the ability to move forward with pre-development planning for both projects. Stay tuned for more updates as these two exciting projects take shape!

SCAN's 2nd Annual Mall Walk Celebrating "Seniors Helping Seniors"

Benefiting Interfaith Neighbors' "Adopt a Senior for Breakfast" Program. Donations will help provide breakfast meals for homebound seniors!

Join us:

Saturday, September 28th, 2013

Registration begins at 8:30 AM

There is no fee to participate, but you **must** register!

Walk begins at 9:00 AM

Continental breakfast served at 10 AM

Monmouth Mall, Eatontown, NJ

For more information, please call SCAN at 732-542-1326 or e-mail office@scannj.com

JOIN US!!! 31st Annual Run/Walk Thru Deal 5K

presented by Deal Fire Company #2 and Point Pleasant Distributors to benefit Interfaith Neighbors

Sunday, October 13, 2013

A 5-k (3.1 mile) Road Race—Walkers welcome

Followed by Post-Race Party for all ages!

Registration and Check-In begin at 8:30 AM

1 Mile Fun Run begins at 10:00 AM

5-k Run begins at 11:00 AM

Five Mile Run Awards in several categories!

Special Fun Run Awards!

Register online: www.jerseyrunner.com

For more information, call: 732-531-1994

Make checks payable to:

Deal Fire Co, P.O. Box 233, Deal, NJ 07723

Direct from the Director

The memory of the evening of June 12th, 2013 will live with me forever. From the moment it began I could feel the excitement of those attending. There was a special camaraderie throughout as many became reacquainted.

Our honorees were not only outstanding, they also stood out! They came from the corporate world (New Jersey Natural Gas), private industry (Jersey Mike's) and as philanthropists (Sandy and Bill Mullaney). Each brought congratulations and good wishes. I had the opportunity to thank them for all they have done for Interfaith Neighbors over these many years.

The Pat Roddy band (pro bono) added to a festive night with music and dancing that brought many to their feet!

I couldn't help but be reminded of the early start-up days and all that brought us to this night. So many unexpected wonderful things happened to us along the way. Tears filled my eyes and I felt a lump in my throat.

Our latest video was shown, detailing all our programs. Many were totally amazed at the progress we have made in the five years since our twentieth anniversary celebration.

It was truly a night to remember, and to all of our donors who couldn't make the event, I think you would have been proud.

*Joe Marmora,
Executive Director*

Interfaith Neighbors, Inc.

810 Fourth Avenue
Asbury Park, NJ 07712

732-775-0525

website: www.interfaithneighbors.org
e-mail: info@interfaithneighbors.org



Interfaith Neighbors Celebrates 25 Years!



Interfaith Neighbors, Inc. of Asbury Park celebrated its 25th anniversary at the PNC Arts Center Robert Meyner Reception Center in Holmdel on June 12.

Several awards were given during a special presentation, including the Partnership of Caring Award, presented to New Jersey Natural Gas; the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Award, presented to William and Sandy Mullaney of Ocean Township; and the Humanitarian of the Year Award, presented to Peter Cancro, CEO & Founder of Jersey Mike's Subs. In addition, the non-profit organization honored founder and executive director Joe Marmora with reflections on his service provided by employees, friends, and family members.

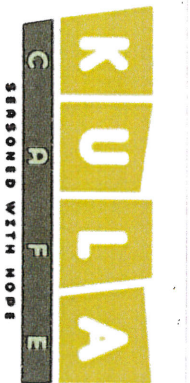
In 25 years, Interfaith Neighbors has grown from a small non-profit providing rental assistance to working poor families, to a multi-service

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Celebrating 25 years! (from front)

organization now developing affordable homes in Asbury Park, Neptune and Long Branch, operating Monmouth County's Meals on Wheels and New Jersey Youth Corps programs, and carrying out a 10-year multimillion dollar revitalization plan to help rebuild Asbury Park's West Side, which includes programs such as Interfaith Neighbors' Business Development Center and the Kula Café which opened in April of this year. Through it all, Interfaith Neighbors has kept at its core the original mission still supported by area religious affiliations to help those in need of temporary rental and mortgage assistance.

The celebration featured many surprises throughout the evening, including food provided by the Kula Café, the presentation of our new agency video, music by the Pat Roddy Band, and a special and unexpected announcement from Jersey Mike's Subs committing \$100,000 to Interfaith Neighbors over the next four years!



New Hours!

Now open for breakfast!

Tues—Sun 7:00 AM—3:00 PM

Present this coupon at Kula Café
for a free dessert with purchase.

Offer valid 9/1/13—12/31/13

1201 Springwood Ave., Asbury Park
NJ 07712

There are many others to thank for helping make this such a special celebration, including Confections of a Rockstar, Craftmaster Printing, Monmouth Stereo, Margaret J. Cotton Photography, and "Sweet Carol Anne's" for providing a gift of gourmet fudge for our guests. We would also like to extend a special thanks to the following members of our 25th Anniversary Committee: Josephine Capozzi, Diane & Dennis Donato, Kathleen Ellis, Tom Hayes, Carol Ann McLaughlin, Lynn Miller, and Sandy Mullaney. We hope to do it all again for our 30th Anniversary in 2018!

**Youth Corps
Crew Leaders Stand Tall**

Kemi Sancho, 18, studied at so many schools on his life path from Lafayette, Indiana, to Newark to Somerville and finally Neptune his senior year, that he dropped out of Neptune Township High School last December because he faced still another year and a half to get the graduation credits he needed.

Instead, this past January, Sancho began the 12-week New Jersey Youth Corps of Monmouth County program at Interfaith Neighbors. In early May, he passed his General Education Development test (GED), gaining his high school equivalency credential.

"I felt like this is going to be the start of a new beginning and I need to go to college now," Sancho said. "I just did what I needed to do to get the education I need."

Sancho's set to go to Brookdale Community College in September where he plans to study the culinary arts. He was chosen to be a paid Youth Corps crew leader after completing his program and is considered a strong role model for new participants.

Youth Corps director Meg Flores estimates that perhaps 450 young people have come through the program since Interfaith took it over as the sponsoring agency from the Asbury Park Board of Education in 2006. The program offers GED instruction, work experience through community service and life skills training.



Kemi Sancho and Freedom Jackson

Freedom Jackson, 22, of Neptune, has been the program's second crew leader this summer while getting tutored to pass his GED test. He finished up the 12-week program June 21 and is continuing to study. He will not give up.

Jackson had to leave Asbury Park High School in November of his senior year in 2007 because he was living at his grandmother's house in Neptune. Neptune Township school officials would not allow him to finish up at Neptune Township High School because he was not listed on his grandmother's rental lease.

The active senior did not have an official home to call his own and became a dropout. He decided he'd try to be successful without finishing high school.

"Every job application I ever filled out asked did you finish high school?" Jackson said. "I have to get my GED. I won't feel complete without it."

The program runs from 8:45 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The next session open to dropouts aged 16 to 25 will begin in early October. Participants have to provide a birth certificate and a social security card. A monetary stipend is provided. Flores said the program is required to follow up on participants for several months, but in Interfaith's case, that commitment is open ended.

"Our doors are always open to our youth," she said. "We will always be here to help."

For more information, call Meg Flores at 732-775-1035, ext. 231.

**Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Golf Outing**

Monday, September 23, 2013

Deal Golf and Country Club
1 Golf Lane, Deal, NJ 07723

To Benefit Interfaith Neighbors

Schedule:

11:30 AM Lunch
12:30 PM Shotgun Start
5:00 PM Reception and Dinner

Golf and Dinner Fee:
Individual Golfers: \$300
Reception/Dinner attendees: \$75
(does not include golf)

Sponsorship opportunities are available!

Checks payable to: Interfaith Neighbors
810 Fourth Ave., Asbury Park, NJ 07712

Please Contact Marsha Falco
for further information:
732-775-0525

**West Side Revitalization
Update**

Since the launch of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program in the West Side of Asbury Park, Interfaith Neighbors has helped enhance affordable housing opportunities, supported much needed recreation projects for city youth, partnered with many local non-profits to improve program offerings, and provided training and mentoring for local entrepreneurs.

In addition, as a part of this extensive revitalization effort, Interfaith Neighbors completed construction on Springwood Center in 2012. Located