

WIN: Westside Interfaith Network

Westside Interfaith Network (WIN) is a group of churches in the West Seattle area who are working together to provide a "network" of help and services for people in need throughout our community. In addition to local churches providing help, they work with local social service agencies to offer a broader range of help for people in need.

There are lots of ways you can help our "neighbors" through WIN and together we can make a difference!

We asked, "**Who are you currently serving?**" and they told us:

- 1/3 of our guests that comes to our Saturday meals are people living outside without shelter (many of them had jobs & housing until the pandemic hit.)
- This year they have many families with zero income, who have never had to ask for help!
- Lately, there are more senior/disabled people coming for food/toilet paper/etc.; Most of them live in a dwelling, but have little money after paying rent/utilities.
- An increasing amount of people are living in vehicles or campers/trailers.

HOW YOU CAN HELP THIS SEASON

WIN offers a free community meal every Saturday at Body of Christ Church in White Center. We serve neighborhood families that are low income or homeless. Each week a meal is provided and other items from our *Welcome Table* are also offered.

These items include used clothing, personal toiletries and food. Many families also use their "pop up food bank" each week to help ends meet.

This year for Christmas WIN would like to provide these individuals and families a bit more, and could use your help!

They are trying to put together **250 adults (non-gender) gift bags--plus gift bags for kids**. There will be two kinds of bags:

75 gift bags for people living without shelter **and**

125 bags for People living in dwellings

These will include new items like:

New hats/gloves, tube socks, full size tubes of toothpaste, shampoo, etc., as well as other household products, blankets, etc.

Bags will be given out Sat. Dec. 19 & Christmas, Dec. 25th but **need to be turned in by Tuesday, Dec. 15.**

If you are interested in helping this holiday season, decide:

1. **HOW MANY GIFT BAGS** you're going to put together.
2. **WHICH GROUP** you want to do them for (unsheltered folks, struggling persons, and/or kids).
3. **CONTACT** Christina Hjort for the rest of the "how to" details at: ChristinaH@wspc.org.

"Thanks so much for helping serve our neighbors in West Seattle!"