



Accept. Inspire. Minister

# HANDS OF FAITH

Anderson Interfaith Ministries Newsletter • Spring 2018

**AIM's Mission:** Connecting people with support, resources, and education so they can empower themselves to become self-sufficient.

## Heart for Helping Breakfast



Anderson Interfaith Ministries (AIM) hosted their second annual *Heart for Helping Breakfast* presented by Blue Water Carpet Care on March 6th at the Anderson Civic Center. Around 230 people were in attendance

at the event which highlighted how the Anderson community helps those who are hurting by showing love and compassion and getting involved to help their fellow neighbor.

**Sullivan's Metropolitan Grill** catered the food for the volunteers and donors who attended the event. **AU Jazz** band played music for the guests. A video was shown to highlight the passion of our volunteers that continue to support AIM with their time and talents.

**Jan Schultz** was recognized as the *Volunteer of the Year* for her dedication to our WACS program. Both Grace Episcopal Church and

Hope Fellowship Church were recognized for their support of AIM. The **Duke Energy** was also honored for their support of AIM since our beginning.

*The event raised over \$35,000!*

In conjunction with the event, during the month of February, area businesses and schools sold hearts. The winning locations were **First Baptist Church Child Development Center** and **Anderson Federal Credit Union**. The 16 participating locations raised a *grand total* of \$5000.



## Upcoming Events



2018 **ALL IN** Dinner  
& Silent Auction  
May 4, 2018  
Bleckley Station  
7:00pm

**PROMOTE**  
your  
**BUSINESS**  
while  
supporting  
AIM.  
Provide an  
auction item  
for **ALL IN**  
Dinner and  
*Silent Auction!*

### NEED HELP DECIDING WHAT TO DONATE?

- artwork
- vacation packages
- hotel vouchers
- tickets to sporting or entertainment events
- tickets to area attractions
- rounds of golf
- gift baskets
- autographed books or photos
- restaurant gift certificates
- salon services
- catered party
- carpet cleaning
- interior design
- ad space
- or any unique item you can think of!



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# WACS



WOMEN AND CHILDREN SUCCEEDING

Spring Into Action!

Spring is on the horizon so is spring cleaning! One way that our Women and Children Succeeding Program serves its participants is by providing goods that cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits such as household cleaning supplies and detergent.

Our supply closet is extremely low and our program participants are in need of supplies to keep their homes and families clean and healthy as they usher in a new season!

Please consider picking up cleaning supplies and laundry detergent to share with a family as you prepare to clean out the old and bring in the new for your own home!



### Workshops

Workshops are hosted at the AIM Training Center on South Murray Avenue. They are designed to offer growth opportunities and are open to everyone. The Training Center calendar is sent monthly to partner agencies to be shared with others who may want to attend.

*The workshops are also posted on our AIM website calendar*

### Workplace Skills

Three workshops are offered each month which provide soft skills training. Workshops are facilitated by volunteers and our staff

**Topics include:**  
*Branding Yourself, Professionalism, and Employee Essentials.*

### Finance

Three workshops are offered each month. Workshops are facilitated by experts in the finance industry: *Anderson Federal Credit Union, Community Works, & The People's Bank.*

*We appreciate their commitment to serving our clients gain financial confidence and sharing opportunities that may be helpful.*



**CONNECT** is offered each month at the AIM Training Center to provide information about employment services offered by AIM and our partner agencies. Representatives from AIM, Tri-County Technical College, SC Works, and Vocational Rehabilitation are on site to talk with attendees and offer services which may lead to employment or an increase in wages.

## Employment Pathways

Employment Pathways is a program that serves people who are unemployed or underemployed looking for full-time employment. The program participant meets with a Career Coach to discover career interests, skills, and barriers to employment. (Barriers may include education/training, childcare, transportation, and more.) Together the Career Coach and program participant prepare an Individualized Employment Plan. This plan is implemented with the support and guidance of our program and may include:

- Required weekly/monthly meetings
- Employment activities and workshops
- Communication with Career Coach
- Occupational Skills Training
- Class attendance log
- Job search activities
- Resume and interview preparation
- Supportive services

## Employment Pathways Success Story



Amanda has always taken care of her two boys the best she could while she faithfully worked but remained under paid. She was working as a waitress when she came to AIM in August 2017 and

enrolled in our Employment Pathways program. Amanda wanted to make a change that would benefit her family's future.

Employment Pathways gave her the tools she needed to make this change. She and her Career Coach worked together to define a career path leading her to drive trucks. Amanda registered for commercial truck driving classes at Tri-County Technical College and began in November.

While enrolled in Employment Pathways and taking classes at TCTC, Amanda had to lessen her hours waitressing. This five-week training kept her in classes all day, five days a week. Amanda's Career Coach wanted to make sure that she and the boys had help during the Christmas holidays so Amanda was referred for another AIM program for Christmas assistance. This was a blessing for her family!

Amanda successfully earned her Commercial Driver's License in late December with the support from the partnership of Employment Pathways and Tri-County Technical College. She was hired at US Express Trucking one week after being certified. Amanda is currently traveling across the country while in her training period and is excited about her future.



# AIM

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