



Serving Hungry and Homeless Long Islanders

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THE INN AWARDED \$225,000 GRANT FROM THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SHELTER ROCK

Hempstead, NY (Dec. 22, 2009) – The INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network) received a \$225,000 grant from the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Shelter Rock (UUCSR) as part of the congregation's campaign to raise \$600,000 in grants to assist not-for-profits who help feed the hungry Long Islanders impacted by the current economy.

The INN will use \$100,000 of the grant at its largest soup kitchen, the Mary Brennan INN, located in Hempstead, which currently serves 450 guests daily, to accommodate the current increase in guests and the expected 100 to 150 increase of those requesting services, in the upcoming months. The rest of the money will be shared among the organization's additional 18 affiliated soup kitchens (\$90,000) and the three emergency shelters (\$35,000).



*Seated from left to right: Randi Shubin Dresner, Executive Director, Island Harvest and Lauren Furst, President, UUCSR.
Standing from left to right: Jean Kelly, Executive Director of The INN; The Reverend Dr. Paul S. Johnson, Senior Minister of UUCSR;
The Reverend Tom Goodhue, Executive Director of the Long Island Council of Churches;
Paule Pachter, Executive Director of Long Island Cares-The Harry Chapin Food Bank.*

"On behalf of the guests in our network of soup kitchens and emergency shelters, we thank the Unitarian Universalist Congregation for this generous gift," said Jean Kelly Executive Director of The INN. "This funding has an immediate impact on our ability to meet the increased demand our staff and volunteers see each day. We are hopeful others will witness this act of compassion and generosity and know that gifts large or small enable The INN to provide warm nutritious meals Island-wide."

The UUCSR's \$600,000 grant was divided among four organizations including The INN. The additional organizations to benefit from this grant include: Island Harvest, \$150,000; Long Island Cares—The Harry Chapin Food Bank, \$125,000; and the Long Island Council of Churches, \$100,000.

"We want to encourage generosity and highlight this acute, unmet need for food assistance on Long Island," said the Rev. Paul Johnson, senior minister at UUCSR. "These grants are in keeping with Unitarian Universalism's liberal, non-traditional religious principles that affirm the inherent worth of every human being and inspire us to do good in the world."

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Shelter Rock

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Shelter Rock (UUCSR) at 48 Shelter Rock Road in Manhasset, is affiliated with more than 1,000 UU congregations across the continent. UUCSR honors the mind and spirit—thinking and feelings—in serving its religious mission of worship, education for all ages, fellowship and social justice.

The INN

The INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network) is a dynamic, not-for-profit, volunteer-based organization working to resolve Long Island's hunger and homelessness issues by providing food, shelter, long-term housing, and supportive services in a dignified and respectful manner to families and individuals seeking assistance. A dedicated staff, committed volunteers, and Broad-based community support helps The INN to deliver its services through 19 soup kitchens, three homeless shelters, and 25 long-term housing apartments. As one of Long Island's largest private social service agencies, The INN is ranked among the most cost-effective charities in the United States. For more information on The INN please visit www.the-inn.org or call (516) 486-8506.

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