

Dayspring Center, Inc.

1537 N Central Ave.

Indianapolis, IN 4622

Dayspringindy.org

We have been supporting Dayspring for many years. This year will be no different we will be collecting items to help them help these families.

PZ Sinclair (pzsinclair@indy.rr.com or 317-345-7130 text or call) will be heading this missions.

Please let her know if you would like to work with her by collecting through your group, going shopping as people and mission committee give monetary donations or helping her delivery the items to the center in late September. There will be boxes set up for donations in Narthex closet.

Wish List:

Twin Blankets

Twin Sheet Sets

Wash Cloths and Towels

Toilet Paper

Khaki Pants (7-14) girls and boys

Polo Shirts girls and boys (red, blue white green)

Pull ups 3T, 4T, 5T

The Facts on Indiana Homelessness

- *Families are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population in Indiana today.*
- *40% of the 15,000 people who become homeless in Indianapolis each year live in families with children.*
- *While the public often perceives homelessness as a problem that involves single men, children and youth make up about 30% of the local homeless population.*
- *The average age of a homeless person in the United States is 7 years old.*
- *One in five homeless adults is a veteran.*
- *Four out of ten homeless adults on any given night have children with them.*

- Many homeless people work, but most have extremely low incomes earning *less than 30% of Marion County median family income*.
- In about 62,000 Indianapolis households, adult heads of households spent *half or more of their incomes on rent* or mortgage payments.
- Among respondents who were homeless, three out of four had been *homeless more than once*.

Here's how Dayspring Center is fighting to change these facts.

Dayspring Center Emergency Shelter

Dayspring Center operates 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week. Families seeking assistance at our emergency shelter are typically at a crisis stage, and require the compassionate care and support of our case management team. While the bare necessities of food, clothing and shelter are of critical importance to Dayspring residents, we realize we have to do more to break the cycle of homelessness. At Dayspring, we provide families devastated by homelessness the tools and resources they need to become an independent family again. With this goal in mind, Dayspring's experienced case managers work with each family to develop a plan to help them address the underlying issues of their homelessness. When families are stabilized and ready to leave the emergency shelter facility, our services continue through the Follow-up Case Management program.

Follow-up Case Management

Follow-up Case Management's (FCM) overall goal is to further stabilize families and help them remain housed after leaving the intensive support system provided in the emergency shelter, as well as transitional housing. Statistics show that 45%-50% of formerly homeless families, who are without some form of supportive services, are likely to be back in a local shelter within 3 months. During the first 6-9 months a family has obtained housing, the Follow-up Case Manager provides critical intervention at the first sign of a setback. Home visits are regularly conducted, offering objective guidance and a link to necessary services. Since its introduction in 2004, the FCM program has shown to significantly increase the number of formerly homeless families able to sustain housing one year after exiting an emergency shelter.

Meeting the Needs of Homeless Children – The Children's Services Program

Homelessness hurts, especially the children. Homeless children are not simply at risk; many are slow to develop the cognitive, social and behavioral skills they need to realize their full potential. We recognize addressing the needs of homeless children today requires more than just warm meals, a safe place to sleep and returning to school. Without the intervention of intensive support services at this young age, homeless children are less likely to acquire the tools they need to reach their full potential and avoid the path of poverty in their future. For this reason, the Children's Services Program (CSP) was established in 2011. The program is an extension of Dayspring's core services, only tailored to children. Children meet regularly with the CSP Director and are thoroughly assessed for their physical and emotional health. Conditions and circumstances impeding their physical, behavioral and/or cognitive development are flagged as "areas of concern" and addressed with individualized attention and/or services for up to six months, if needed. In addition, children's programming includes weekday after-school tutoring, weekly arts and crafts gatherings, birthday celebrations and a 6-week summer camp program, Camp Discovery. The Children's Services Program provides a more intensive approach to help children cope and overcome the adverse effects of their family's homelessness.