

A lifeline  
reminds you  
that you're  
never alone.



Strengthen the lifeline today.  
Your investment in the community  
sustains lives and nourishes hope.



## MID-YEAR COMMUNITY UPDATE, 2025

Dear Friend and Supporter,

Our country is shifting with powerful tides of economic, social, and structural change. **All too often, it's those who are struggling to stay afloat who feel the impact most deeply.** Our mission at Integrated Family Community Services (IFCS) commits us to supporting low-income individuals and families, which gives us a unique perspective on current events: **we are deeply aware of how recent funding shifts and policy changes impact those on the margins of our community.** With growing uncertainty, we face an increase in food insecurity and an urgent need for compassion. **Your generosity and partnership make IFCS a reliable source of hope and vital assistance.** With a few months left in our fiscal year, we'd like to share with you our latest improvements, our current challenges, and how your help makes it possible for us to respond to the greatest needs.

### PROGRESS IS OUR ANCHOR

Through changes, our purpose holds us steady: at IFCS, we are relentless in searching for ways to improve our service to the community.

- ★ Thanks to a Community Development Block Grant from Arapahoe County, we are undergoing major renovations to update our 53-year-old building. This funding is providing an ADA-compliant Market entrance, modernized service areas, improved landscaping, and new pavement.
- ★ In April, IFCS conducted an extensive participant survey. With volunteer support and help from Analysis Group, an economic consulting firm providing pro bono consultation on survey methods and data analysis, 524 surveys were collected in four languages. **We look forward to sharing with you the key learnings and how they will inform future decisions and improve IFCS operations and services.**

### TURBULENT TIMES DON'T DEFINE US

We've weathered storms before at IFCS. Guided by our mission, we hold steady and keep moving, adapting as needed: this time is no different.

Shoppers hesitate to visit the Market at IFCS due to concerns about fair treatment and equal access to resources. **Empathy, discretion, and cultural sensitivity are essential in providing support: IFCS' staff and volunteers are committed to fostering a compassionate and inclusive community, while meeting all legal responsibilities.**

Reductions to programs that support basic needs—like food, housing, and healthcare—are weakening our nation's critical support systems; this disproportionately affects vulnerable communities, especially children, seniors, and people of color. **Cuts and freezes to two key federal programs are directly impacting 15-20% of IFCS' budget: TEFAP (the Emergency Food Assistance Program), which provides free food for distribution, and EFSP (the Emergency Food and Shelter Program), which supports food and rental aid. These cuts make us more reliant on generous donations and local fundraising. We remain committed to our partnership with the community to serve those most in need.**

A neighbor took me  
to the Market @ IFCS  
and since then, the  
*food support*  
allows me to pay for  
*other things* during  
times of crisis.

D.M. - IFCS PARTICIPANT

**IFCS helps low-income  
individuals gain stability  
and self-sufficiency  
through essential services  
and respectful support.**

Thanks for  
the love and  
*support*  
you gave us  
when we had  
*no one else*  
to turn to.

L.K. - IFCS VOLUNTEER AND FORMER  
READY, SET, SCHOOL! PROGRAM PARTICIPANT

Food insecurity remains at the levels we experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic, but relief programs have ended and donations have decreased. With rising food prices and inflation making it harder to meet the community's needs, IFCS is actively seeking new funding sources and relying on community support to continue providing vital services. *The power of private philanthropy has never been more important.*

## IFCS IS A LIFELINE

In times of uncertainty, needs escalate—most especially on the margins of community. The presence of IFCS, the compassionate welcome by our team and generous volunteers, and programs that provide essential support in moments of crisis, together form a lifeline. A lifeline of support that *assures everyone they are not alone*. We may not know what tomorrow holds, but we do know this: we are community, and we help each other through tough times.

## YOUR DONATION SUSTAINS THIS LIFELINE

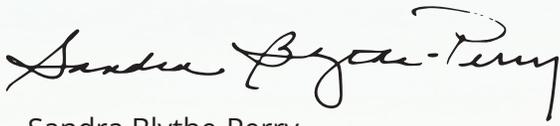
Each month, thousands of lives are nourished, and their value affirmed. Those most in need of help could not stay afloat without your help. At a time when our nation's support systems are limiting our ability to show care, it is private donors that step in to fill the gaps with empathy, creativity, and resilience. **Will you help sustain our lifeline with your gift? Here's how:**

- 1 Make a Donation Today:** Your generosity keeps IFCS programs and services available in the community, *providing life-sustaining support.*
- 2 Become a Compassion Partner:** Donors who commit to recurring donations—of as little as \$5.00 a month—automatically become Compassion Partners, *leading the charge against hunger.*
- 3 More Ways to Give:** From one-time or recurring gifts to no-cost giving options, from legacy gifts to corporate giving, there are many ways to support IFCS: so many, that we had to build a separate webpage to outline them all! Explore the various options and *help us consider creative ways to further IFCS' mission during times of uncertainty.* Our Development Director, Todd McPherson, is eager to hear your thoughts and ideas. Reach him at 303-725-9894 or toddm@ifcs.org.

Will you be the calm in the storm with your gift today, commit to a recurring donation, or find other ways to give? Every contribution is an investment in the partnership of our community, and provides assurance to those most in need *that they are not alone*. Thank you for your consideration, and for all you do to extend the lifeline!

Sincerely,

  
Jeffrey Alm  
Board President

  
Sandra Blythe-Perry  
Executive Director

### Watch for these Upcoming Opportunities to Collaborate with IFCS:

June-August 2025 Sponsor Students for Ready, Set, School!	November 22, 2025 FreshThanks holiday meal distribution	Mid-November, 2025 Sponsor Children for Holiday Gift Program	February 21, 2026 Nibbles & Sips Annual Fundraising Gala
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IFCS' overhead is super low, so just about *every dollar* you contribute is going to *help people.*



BRAD ARNOLD - IFCS VOLUNTEER, DONOR, AND NEW BOARD DIRECTOR

## SCAN A QR CODE TO:

**1 MAKE A SECURE ONLINE DONATION**

OR VISIT [ONECANFEED.ORG](https://onecanfeed.org)



**2 LEARN ABOUT IFCS' COMPASSION PARTNERS**

OR VISIT [IFCS.ORG/COMPASSION-PARTNERS/](https://ifcs.org/compassion-partners/)



**3 EXPLORE MORE WAYS TO GIVE CREATIVELY!**

OR VISIT [IFCS.ORG/MORE-WAYS-TO-GIVE](https://ifcs.org/more-ways-to-give)



Your support is keeping lives afloat. **Thank you!**

