



The health of one's
soul is measured by
how we treat those
who have the least
among us.

Saving Lives on the Streets and in the Arroyos of Santa Fe

IN MAY 2018, a newly elected city official visited us here at Pete's. He sat down with a small group of employees and one of our board members, and, after a few introductions, asked the question, "What would happen if the Shelter no longer existed?"



After a second of stunned silence, one of our employees answered, "People would die."

Dying of hypothermia on the streets of Santa Fe has become a rarity. In the last five years, there have been only two deaths attributed to hypothermia: one in October 2017 in De Vargas Park, and the other the following year. Neither of these men had taken advantage of any services the Interfaith Community Shelter offers.

There was a time in Santa Fe when emergency medical technicians frequently received calls to pick up the frozen bodies of people who were homeless, and died of hypothermia, because there was no shelter for them. It was after the brutal winter of 2007, when 24 people died on our streets, that a

disparate group of faith community leaders came together to create the Interfaith Community Shelter at Pete's Place, offering people experiencing homelessness a warm, safe place to sleep.

It is difficult to quantify something when nothing is happening, to report how many people are still alive because the Shelter has offered them warmth and community. What we do feel confident saying in response to the question, "What would happen if the Shelter no longer existed?" is "**People would die.**"

Please Donate Today

The Interfaith Community Shelter is doing the job it was created to do: serving those in greatest need in our community with compassion and respect.



PO Box 22653, Santa Fe, NM 87502
www.interfaithsheltersf.org/donate