Who is served by this program?

- A 36-year-old middle school teacher who is working long hours while suffering from anxiety, depression, and insomnia.
- An 8-year-old child whose parents recently separated and has begun to experience behavior problems at school and at home.
- A father who became dependent on prescription medication following surgery, but was motivated to seek help. After counseling, he resumed life free of substances.
- A woman in her 50’s who has suffered from debilitating anxiety is beginning to recover emotionally after remembering long-buried childhood abuse.

**Interfaith’s New Directions Counseling Center conducted 2,340 counseling sessions last year with local individuals and families.**

**New Directions Counseling Center**

New Directions is a safety net for the uninsured and underinsured members of our community. Clients come from all over Greater Boston and the South Shore regions. Most forms of insurance are accepted, however, the majority of our clients do not have health insurance or they cannot afford the co-pays or deductibles required by their carriers. Most of our referrals come from emergency rooms, physicians, schools, and other counseling centers in our region.

**Increased Demand**

Over the past three years phone calls from community members seeking counseling have doubled. From 2006 – 2016 our counseling center experienced a 70% increase in the number of clients served. One of the trends that we have seen is a dramatic increase in the number of children with anxiety disorders.

**Decades of Dedication**

This year Interfaith is celebrating our 70th anniversary. Interfaith was founded when the South Shore was facing a crisis. Thousands of people were losing their jobs as the shipyard decreased production after World War II. As jobs decreased, stresses increased and the need for counseling and other services became apparent. Today our community is facing a different kind of crisis. Since 2007, opioid overdose deaths have increased more than 300% in Norfolk County. Addiction has taken too many people; and has harmed too many families. Interfaith Social Services’ New Directions Counseling Center is the safety net for those in the grips of addiction as well as their family members who are also impacted.

**Funding**

The New Directions Counseling Center is partially supported by clients who have health insurance as well as those who can afford co-pays. However, the majority of the program’s funding depends on donations from the community. Interfaith Social Services is a privately funded organization. We need everyone’s help to make sure that services are available when our neighbors in need reach out for assistance.

**Private Donations: 65%**

**Insurance: 35%**