JODI PETERSON-STIGERS

Executive Director, Interfaith Sanctuary
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Jodi Peterson-Stigers has served as the Executive Director of Interfaith Sanctuary in Boise, Idaho, since 2017, after joining the organization in 2007. Under her leadership, the shelter has grown from a place of overnight refuge into a trauma-informed, 24/7 service hub offering recovery and mental health programming, family services, job training, art and storytelling initiatives, and a guest-written newspaper.

Jodi's approach blends strategic vision with deep compassion, ensuring that Interfaith Sanctuary is not only a shelter but a place of second chances and community connection. She has spearheaded the development of a new state-of-the-art shelter designed with separate spaces for families, medically fragile guests, and those in recovery, built on a philosophy of safety, dignity, and stability.

One of the most defining chapters of her leadership has been the long and determined journey to build Interfaith Sanctuary's reimagined shelter on State Street. After the project's initial Conditional Use Permit (CUP) was overturned by the Idaho Supreme Court, Jodi led the team in regrouping, strengthening community engagement, refining operational plans, and resubmitting a more comprehensive application. In 2025, these efforts culminated in a unanimous vote by the Boise Planning and Zoning Commission to approve the new CUP clearing the way for construction of a shelter that reflects the highest standards of trauma-informed care, safety, and community partnership.

Her commitment extends far beyond day-to-day operations. Jodi has been on the frontlines of homelessness advocacy, partnering with city officials, law enforcement, medical providers, and neighborhood groups to build bridges and find solutions. She has led major fundraising efforts, securing transformative gifts and recurring donor programs to ensure sustainability in the face of rising need.

Recognized as a TEDx speaker, a nominee for the Idaho Business Review's Women of the Year awards, and featured in 200 Women: Who Will Change the Way You See the World, Jodi is a trusted voice on issues of housing, equity, and compassionate care. She also serves on the Board of Our Path Home, a public-private partnership working to end homelessness in Ada County.

Driven by a belief that everyone deserves the safety and opportunity to rebuild their lives, Jodi continues to innovate and collaborate, ensuring that Interfaith Sanctuary and the communities it serves are stronger, more inclusive, and more hopeful.