



Peace House Community
1816 Portland Avenue S.
Minneapolis, MN 55404

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
Twin Cities, MN
Permit #1024



PEACE
HOUSE
COMMUNITY

1816 Portland Avenue S.
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-870-7263

contact@peacehousecommunity.org
peacehousecommunity.org

Mission:

The goal of Peace House Community is to offer a non-violent, welcoming and inclusive community for poor and marginalized women and men who are seeking companionship, safety from the streets and personal affirmation. PHC provides a platform for expressing beliefs, hurts, desperation, hopes and fears too long hidden in so many bruised and broken hearts. Community members are affirmed through mutual sharing, respectful listening and appreciation of each person's value and worth.



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Normally I use this space to thank our supporters for their generosity and goodwill. I am as thankful now as I have ever been, so thank-you to all of you who pray for, promote, and give to PHC. But for this newsletter, I want to use this space to make it easier for you to support the community.

PHC has adopted new (for us) technology to make it easier for you to set up automatic monthly donations, either through your credit card or through direct transfer from a credit union account. Automatic donations offer several benefits to you, such as:

- Automation. Once you set up the automatic donations all the work will be done for you.
- Automatic donations make your monthly budget more predictable. Rather than having a large expense once or twice a year when you donate, you will have a regular, smaller expense each month.
- You know that your money will empower a cause that you support. By setting up an automatic donation, you ensure that PHC will have the resources to serve those in need.

PHC benefits from automatic donations because our income becomes much more predictable. We usually receive over 50% of our donations in the last six weeks of our fiscal year. This makes it difficult to make wise spending decisions earlier in the year. We have to balance the urgency of a need against the odds that we will be able to cover our annual costs. Having predictable income each month simplifies our spending decisions.

If you would like more information about the benefits of automatic donations, or how to set the donations up through our website, please contact me at marti@peacehousecommunity.org or 612-870-7263. You can also visit peacehousecommunity.org/donate to see all your options for making a donation.

Once again, thank-you for all the support you provide to the PHC community.

SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



Numbers Tell the Story...

Have you wondered how many community members Peace House Community welcomes each day because of your support? In 2021, we hosted 13,878 member visits! That's over 1,100 each month, or more than 50 community members a day. Together, they ate 11,545 meals and countless cups of coffee. (Seriously, we don't think we can count high enough to track all the coffee you bought.) Not to mention the bowls of cereal, muffins, fresh fruit, yoghurt, and everything else you provide.

PHC's volunteers also provided the following services throughout the year:

- 128 hand massages
- 143 haircuts
- 154 bicycle repairs
- 32 neck and back massages

Thank you for your continued generosity to the community! We couldn't do it without you.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: MEET JOY RINDELS-HAYDEN



Joy has had a tough life, but she continues to move forward, in every sense of the phrase and in every area of her life. From abusive relationships to disabling accidents to poverty to discrimination, Joy has faced enough challenges to last several lifetimes. However, as she says, she follows the dictum that power is not given, it must be taken.

Joy credits the Peace House Community, its volunteers, and its donors for helping her deal with her challenges. "The support for people like me who are working class and minority is very important. There are few other resources in the community to provide this kind of service. This has meant the world to me. People like me need help beyond the technical help. We need personal help because this is a struggle."

The struggle started early for Joy. Her first marriage degenerated into physical and emotional abuse, inflicting many types of injury. "You don't know when it will happen again or what will set it off," she explains. She eventually divorced and got engaged to another man, but he broke off the engagement for another woman. During the 1980s, Joy spent time in several homeless shelters and tried to protect herself as well as she could. She volunteered at the free store that Sister Rose Tillemans, Peace House Community's founder, managed at that time, and she helped with chores at the shelters.

Finally, in 1990, she married Darrell, a man who knew how to treat women. "He was horrified by how I had been treated," she states. "He nursed me." The stability that Darrell brought to her life allowed Joy to escape the streets. She taught English as a second language at a local community center, and she began healing from her trauma. Tragically, in 2013 Darrell died from his exposure to Agent Orange during his Navy service in Viet Nam.

It was then that Joy started visiting PHC. She knew of PHC through Sister Rose, but she didn't join the community until 2013. She found ways to support those around her, from listening to younger women who were suffering their own abuse to knitting hats and scarves to help community members get through the winters. She also met John, another man who knew how to treat women. She saw him helping others in the community and thought he might be able to help her. They married in 2018.

Unfortunately, Joy continues to face significant challenges. In January, 2017, an improperly cleared sidewalk caused her to fall on the way home from physical therapy. She hit her head, suffered a stroke, and spent 17 days in hospital. She should have stayed longer but couldn't afford the bills. Rather than letting the incident defeat her, Joy began advocating for better protections for physical disabled individuals. The bill that she helped author (SF 2910) passed the State Senate in March. Joy sums up her current work by saying, "It's very hard fighting for justice. It's never easy, particularly when you're a minority person, older, with time against you. You need support. It's the only way you can try to keep any level of sanity."



COMMUNITY UPDATES

Update on Michael Whitebull

As reported in the Fall, 2021 newsletter, Michael was hired as the kitchen assistant for PHC. He's doing a great job at it, getting along well with his coworkers and the community members. Michael has also secured housing in the neighborhood. He enjoys having his own room, but he's learning the challenges of communal living. When he's struggling, he looks at his mother's picture and remembers her telling him to control his anger. Michael says he's "holding my own for now."

Kat's Cats came for a Visit!

Kat brought her "babies" for a visit a couple weeks ago! Imagine getting five cats into a pet stroller, but they certainly look like they're enjoying the outing, all snug under their quilts. Kat loves her cats so much, and we love seeing them too. Not sure who is who, but their names are Simba, Sandy, Sunshine, Sam and Nala.

PHC Director Marti Maltby puts on a New Hat!

When PHC closes in the afternoon, Marti stays and oversees the preparation of up to 200 takeout meals. Often there is a volunteer group to cook and/or package the meals, but if not, Marti gets to do the cooking! Having Marti in this position will help us coordinate better between PHC and Loaves & Fishes to improve both agencies service to the community.

Stay Connected with PHC

This quarterly newsletter is just one way for you to stay informed on what's happening at the Peace House Community. Be sure to follow us on social media - Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn - as well as checking out the updates on our website - peacehousecommunity.org