



PEACE HOUSE COMMUNITY

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

contact@peacehousecommunity.org
peacehousecommunity.org

WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER

Mission:

Peace House Community (PHC) nourishes its members' bodies and souls by providing a safe space for economically marginalized women and men. PHC enriches the lives of its members, volunteers and students by offering a place to belong for everyone who comes through its doors.

Kat's Porch Enclosure: From conception to completion!



Hmm, we need a way to enclose the outdoor porch space so it will be warmer and protected from the wind and cold this winter. The plastic sheeting wasn't working. Maybe I could use plexiglass?



Let's see...El and I can do the labor, but how do we pay for the supplies? I know - two garage sales and a change jar! Great idea - we made over \$300 doing this!



Now, where to buy the supplies? The ReStore shop! We found that plexiglass was too expensive but we hit the jackpot - three brand new huge windows already framed for just \$315.



The nursing students from St. Catherine University generously rented a U-Haul truck and hauled the windows back to the Peace House.



It took Kat and El lots of work positioning and fastening these huge heavy windows into place. But they did it! The finished project looks great and will keep the outside folks nice and warm this winter. Thank you so much for your ingenuity and hard work!



With your generous help we are able to continue to provide a safe place for the community to rest, eat a hot meal, talk and be listened to, drink coffee, join with others in companionship. The Peace House Community Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and community members send our blessings and best wishes for a peaceful, healthy and compassionate New Year.

Thanksgiving at PHC

On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, Peace House welcomed 128 community members for a day of companionship, thanksgiving and good food. The day started with one of Vern's famous hot breakfasts, this time including moose sausages. Catherine led a meaningful meditation with people expressing what they are thankful for. There were many mentions of gratitude for the Peace House. The names of our departed friends from the Memory Board were read, followed by a communal prayer of, "All you holy men and women, pray for us." Tom and volunteers prepared and served a traditional meal of turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy, stuffing, cranberries and many kinds of desserts. It was a great day of thanksgiving at Peace House.



Introducing new PHC staff members!



Greg Hurley is our new Security staff. He will be welcoming community members and helping them resolve any problems so that they are able to enjoy our services.



We have also hired Darlene Al-Barghouthy as the Kitchen Helper. She will keep the food and supplies in order, clean the dishes and help Tom with the food preparation.

Peace House Community offers heartfelt thanks to our supporters and partners who have so willingly shared in our ministry this year:

We are sorry if we missed your name. Please know that we are so thankful you are part of our community.

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

So much to say, and so little space.

First, as always I want to thank all of our supporters for keeping Peace House Community open for the community members. You are invaluable.

If you aren't sure whether I mean that, search YouTube for "Peace House Community 2022 Thank-You." You'll get to hear from some of our community members about the difference we (and by "we", I mean you) make in their lives.

Second, I wanted to let you know what 2023 holds for PHC. Our community has grown tremendously this year, to the point that we are struggling to make each member feel noticed and valued. We are also facing a huge increase in costs. For every 100 community members we were serving before the pandemic, we are now serving 170 members. PHC's Board of Directors began addressing these issues this year by approving additional spending and adding staff to meet our community's needs. We project our expenses will rise from \$200,000 this year to \$380,000 next year. In my role as Executive Director, I will spend more time away from the building establishing new partnerships, finding more resources, and attracting new supporters. We are determined to continue providing a place to belong to each individual person in our community. If you know of any speaking opportunities, resources, or friends who may want to join PHC, please let me know so that we can continue to meet the community's needs.

Third, on behalf of PHC, I want to wish you a very safe, warm, and happy holiday season, and a calm 2023. We've had a rough few years, and although things are getting better, we still have a long way to go before everyone can breathe calmly again. It is our wish that all of our supporters experience the same peace that our community members look for when they visit us.

Thank-you again for all of your support.