



1816 Portland Avenue S.
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-870-7263
contact@peacehousecommunity.org
peacehousecommunity.org

SUMMER 2025 NEWSLETTER

AN EVENING OF STORIES:

Celebrating 40 Years
October 9th, 2025



Thursday, October 9, 2025 at The Southern Theater

Hosted by the incomparable Kevin Kling, the evening will feature heartfelt storytelling from our community and volunteers, a live and silent auction, and a look back at four decades of shared purpose and connection.

VIP tickets include a meet-and-greet with Kevin Kling, a drink ticket, light refreshments, and a copy of *Not So Far from Home: Owning Homelessness in My Own Backyard*—a beautiful collection of stories from our own volunteer, Charlie Quimby. General admission tickets are available.

Learn more and reserve your spot today at southerntheater.org.

Will Shave Head for \$\$\$\$



Peggy Before



Peggy (& Peanut) After

In late June, Peggy Chalich shaved her head with the goal of raising \$1,000 for PHC. Her cousin Mitch spent many days at the original PHC on Franklin Avenue, and she wanted to honor his memory and the home he found at PHC. If you send a donation to support her fundraiser, include a note so we can let her know how much she raised.

217 Donors. \$125K.

We're Just Getting Started.

At the start of the 2025, PHC set a goal of raising \$420,000 from 405 of our individual and business donors (separate from government and foundation funding). We wanted to give you an update on how we're doing. So far 217 supporters have donated or pledged \$125,202 dollars. We're so thankful for the generosity we've seen so far, and we're confident that we can reach our goals together. Between folks like Peggy doing something novel to raise funds, and Marti punishing himself with a ridiculous bike ride, and our 40th anniversary celebration, we are encouraged that all of us coming together as a community can provide the resources that our members need.

Riding for Hope *Marti Sets 200 Mile, \$20,000 Fundraising Goal*

After raising \$11,000 by riding 158 miles last year, PHC's Executive Director Marti Maltby has an even loftier goal this year. On September 12, Marti will ride 200 miles from Saint Joseph to Fergus Falls and back in one day to raise \$20,000. Interested in riding part or all of the way with him? Please contact Marti at marti@peacehousecommunity.org.

You can support Marti's ride at peacehousecommunity.org/donate or by sending a check. Please include a note that the donation is in support of the bike ride.



A Day of Generosity: Free Haircuts for Our Community



In May, a dozen generous stylists from Shifty's Premium Cuts in Mounds View volunteered their time at PHC, providing nearly 50 free haircuts to our community members. They transformed the back parking lot into a pop-up salon, bringing all their professional tools and talents with them. This act of kindness was done in memory of Shifty's owner, Nathan Sheferaw, who tragically passed away at just 25 years old. His brother Germany shared that the team wanted to honor Nathan's legacy by "paying it forward" on the anniversary of his passing. We're deeply grateful to these compassionate barbers. Nathan would be proud of the love and service you shared that day.

Juneteenth BBQ

We had a great time celebrating Juneteenth! Our master griller Milton and the kitchen crew cooked up a feast of burgers, hot dogs and chicken, and our dedicated volunteers brought plenty of side dishes and desserts for over 150 people who came out to join us. It was a day full of good food, laughter, and community—everything Peace House is all about.



Community in Action: Thank You Deloitte Volunteers

In June nine amazing volunteers from Deloitte spent the day sprucing up Peace House Community—and we're so grateful! They tackled yard work, refreshed our porch with a new coat of paint, and spread fresh wood chips out front, creating a warm and welcoming space for all. Huge thanks to Ryan Souza, PHC Board of Directors Treasurer and Deloitte employee, for organizing the effort—and to Deloitte for donating \$1,000 to cover project supplies. Partnerships like this show what's possible when community and generosity come together.



Staying True to Our Mission while Planning for the Future

In June, the PHC Board of Directors held three in-person sessions with strategic planning professional Mirja Hanson to review and update the PHC Strategic Plan. The goal was to ensure the plan stays grounded in PHC's mission: to nourish the bodies and souls of our members and enrich the lives of everyone who walks through our doors—members, volunteers, and students alike—by offering a true place to belong.



Left to right: Fred Souza; Jenifer Turner; Ashley Turner; Marti Maltby; Catherine Murphy; Deborah Dapkus; Monica Nilsson; Patrick Messmer; Ryan Souza



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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

In the 1980s, I enjoyed watching WKRP in Cincinnati. The writers did a great job of mixing silly humor with serious topics. In one episode, Mr. and Mrs. Carlson discovered that they were going to have a baby. Being an older couple, they debated whether they were up to the challenges of raising another child. At one point, Mr. Carlson commented, "These are troubled times." Mrs. Carlson replied, "People have been saying that for thousands of years."

When you walk through the neighborhood around Peace House Community, it's easy to say, "These are troubled times." Our neighborhood is one of (if not the) lowest income and highest crime neighborhoods in Minneapolis. Open drug use and homelessness are rampant. As Chair of the Ventura Village Neighborhood, I hear about the problems throughout the neighborhood, including sex trafficking and gun violence. The police department's Crime Prevention Specialist for this part of the City summed things up well when she said, "Minneapolis was just ranked the nation's happiest city. I can't understand that. I don't hear any happy stories when I talk to people who live here."

As depressing as all this is, it highlights why Peace House Community is so important. Like the rest of the neighborhood, we struggle with graffiti on our building, broken windows, trespassers, and a host of other problems. But that is exactly why we are here. So many people in this neighborhood need somewhere that reminds them what "normal" is. They need to know they are not alone facing their everyday challenges. They want to turn off the stress, at least for a little while. They need a light in the darkness.

This is what your support provides. You give folks who are overwhelmed a place to get their bearings. You connect them to resources. You give them caring conversations that they desperately need.

Thank-you for anything and everything you do to support PHC and to care for our community.

Marti Whitley