



EST. 1985

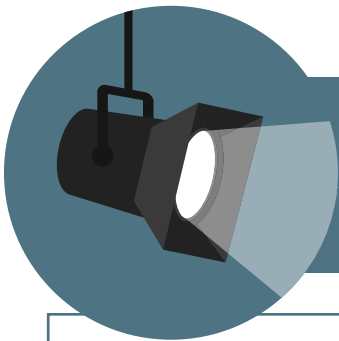
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peacehousecommunity.org

WINTER 2026 NEWSLETTER



Mission:

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



Community Member Spotlight: *The Power of Friendship*

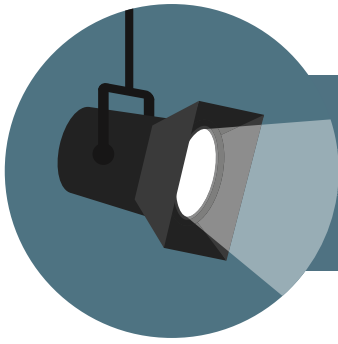
“It feels good to walk through that Peace House door, seeing everybody happy to see me. I have been gone for nine months, and it feels great to walk back through the door again. People are happy to see me and I’m happy to see them. It’s a good environment ‘cause I have friends that misses me so much.”

So says Regina, one of Peace House Community’s long-time community members. She’s been part of PHC since about 2013, when she moved from Chicago to be closer to her kids. Over the years, she dealt with debilitating hip problems and drug use, but she’s come through it all to make a new life for herself. Her friends at PHC were a big part of her journey.



Regina is all smiles these days

...Regina’s Story Continued on page 2



Community Member Spotlight: *The Power of Friendship*



Regina with Jamaih and Tiffany

A friend introduced Regina to PHC shortly after her move to Minneapolis, and she became a daily visitor. She tried to take care of herself, including going to a residential treatment program in Rochester a few years ago. Her friends from PHC called her to encourage her while she was away.

“It felt good hearing from my friends and everybody up here. It really did. I loved it. I was happy to

hear from them,” she remembers. “It felt so good because I was, like, a lonely person out there. I felt great and they cheered me up ‘cause I was like a prison person without my friends here.”

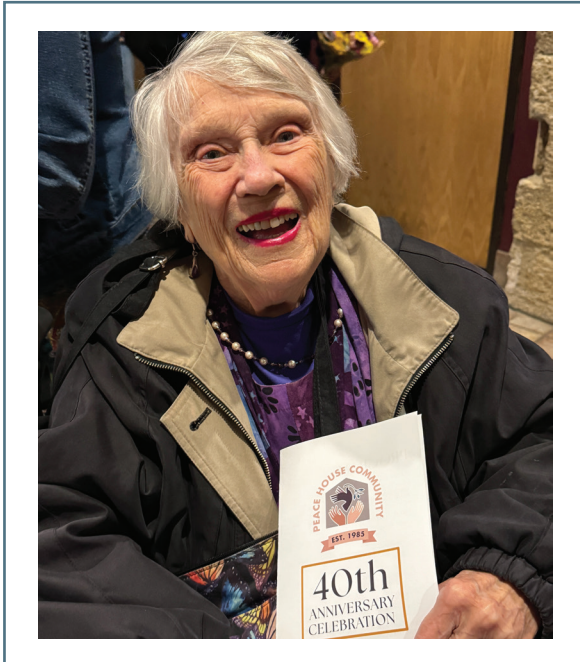
Regina’s insurance would only cover one month of treatment, so she soon found herself back in Minneapolis with the same challenges, but she didn’t give up. She eventually put all the pieces together, overcoming health and drug problems at the same time.

“I had a hip surgery ‘cause I couldn’t hardly walk. So I moved away, got hip surgery, got my health together again. I’ve been clean going on nine months now, and I’m doing so good. I can do the things I couldn’t do, but I can do it now. Buy things I couldn’t buy - everything I need now. So, I’m great!”

As much as she likes the community members at PHC, Regina recognizes that the neighborhood may not be the best for her. “I get tired of that environment and I had to get away. And I got away, got myself together, and I don’t want to come back to it. But I will come and visit.”

Despite her own reservations, Regina is glad PHC is still here for others. “It’s a nice environment to help you out a lot. They give you what you need. It’s a good place to be. Just stay out of trouble. Stay to yourself or talk to people that you know. But other than that, it’s a nice place to be. It’s really good.”

In Memorium



Peace House Community was saddened to learn of Catherine Mamer's death on Dec. 28. Catherine's health had been declining for several years, but it was still difficult to imagine PHC without her. Catherine started volunteering in 1986 at the invitation of PHC founder Rose Tillemans herself. Catherine brought energy and compassion to everything she did and set the tone at PHC for years. When she missed time from PHC because of a broken hip a few years ago, one of the community members commented, "I think that hip fracture picked on the wrong person. It's not going to win that fight!" Sure enough, Catherine was back at PHC within two months. We will miss her.

They Come and Go In the Blink of an Eye!

The cold and snowy winter we just experienced meant our community members needed lots of help staying warm and dry. Fortunately, your generosity provided so many hats, gloves, socks, and other items, along with 200 gift bags in December, that we were able to meet almost everyone's needs. As soon as the donations came in, they went right back out to some very grateful community members. Thanks for taking care of our folks!



Getting ready to give out the gift bags



We operate like a well-oiled machine!



Generosity looks like this

It's Pickleball Time!

Join Peace House Community's second annual pickleball event in April. Whatever your skill level, come out for food, exercise, and great fellowship.



When: Saturday, April 11 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Where: Smash Park Roseville
(1721 County Rd C West, Roseville, MN 55113)

Scan this QR code to register.
See you there!

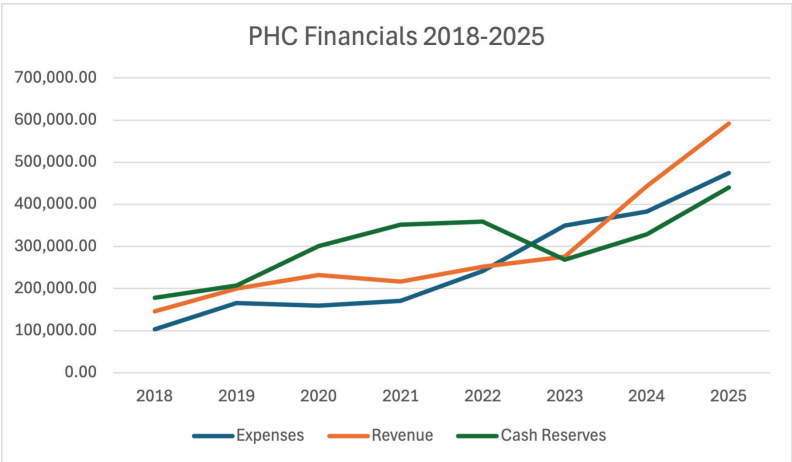
Interested in sponsoring this event?
Email marti@peacehousecommunity.org for information.

- Diamond sponsor** - \$2000
- Gold sponsor** - \$1000
- Silver sponsor** - \$500
- Bronze sponsor** - \$250

Financial Update - You Made This Possible

We are so thankful to our supporters for making last year so special. We not only celebrated our 40th anniversary, but we also solidified our finances for the future.

In the two years from 2023 to 2025, PHC went from a \$100,000 deficit (and discussions about whether the organization could survive) to a \$150,000 surplus. We've replenished our bank account, and we're using the generous gifts we've received to make PHC even better. We are restarting the Program Manager position to provide better service to the community, and we're going to address the more serious maintenance issues around the building.



We know that many of our supporters are facing difficult financial decisions of their own and aren't able to support PHC as much as they would like. We want to thank EVERYONE for their generosity, and for making sure that our community members have a place to belong.

With Heartfelt Gratitude to Our 2025 Donors

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Some of you have probably noticed that Peace House Community has not made an official statement about the immigration enforcement activities going on in the Twin Cities at the moment. We debated making a statement, in the end we didn't for a few reasons.

First, we did not want to draw attention to ourselves early on in the enforcement. Our community members already face enough daily challenges without having armed, masked individuals intimidating them.

Second, making a statement wouldn't have changed how we operate or our mission. We did not want to make a statement that seemed like a token gesture.

The third reason flows from the second. Everything about Peace House Community should already demonstrate loudly and clearly how we view the current situation. Our first name is Peace. Actions that promote fear and confusion contradict who we are. Our last name is Community, indicating that all who want to be part of PHC are welcome. We will talk with those who disrupt the community, looking for ways to keep them in. However, if someone's behavior truly destroys our ability to commune with each other in the way that the immigration enforcement has, we cannot view them as part of our community.

And so, when people rely on fear and violence and anonymity to subdue and bully others, PHC automatically opposes them. We do this by continuing to welcome everyone, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, or anything else that could be used against them. We focus on our mission of nourishing bodies and souls by providing a safe space. We pursue our vision of wounded individuals being healed through caring relationships in a supportive community. We continue to value listening, respect, grace, serenity, and compassion.

Thank-you for providing a place like PHC to our community members.

A handwritten signature in yellow ink that reads "Marti Mattley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.