



The Refuge Quarterly Review

Returning to Our First Love

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE
HIS ONLY
BEGOTTEN
SON
THAT WHOSOEVER
BELIEVETH IN HIM
SHOULD NOT PERISH
BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE

John 3:16

“Valentine,” an unexpected acronym formed by stacking the lines of John 3:16 upon itself like acts of kindness,

becomes the symbolic heartbeat of our ministry. Each letter echoing our commitment to serving the homeless community, offering hope, and guiding those facing adversity back to their “first love.” For these individuals, often lost in the harsh realities of life, rediscovering a sense of purpose and divine love becomes a transformative journey. Our donors, church partners, and volunteers become vessels of God’s love, providing not just material

support, but a spiritual compass that points towards enduring hope. In the midst of hardship, our guests find a community where they are seen, valued, and reminded of their intrinsic worth.

As these stories unfold within the Refuge’s embrace, a sense of renewal sweeps through its walls. The very essence of Valentine’s Day, traditionally celebrated with flowers and chocolates, now takes on a profound meaning - a celebration of love that

transcends the aesthetic, embracing and encompassing God’s love for humanity.

At the Refuge, “Returning to Our First Love” encapsulates a journey of rediscovery not just for our guests but also for the volunteers who witness the transformative power of love in action.

God is our refuge and our strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. Psalm 46:1

Join us in Welcoming Connie Soberalski to the Refuge Family



We are delighted to introduce Connie Soberalski, as the new Church/Volunteer Coordinator for The Refuge Restoration Center of Lapeer County.

“I am thrilled to embark on this new journey with The Refuge in Lapeer! I currently live in Imlay City with my husband, Bob, and have been a resident of Lapeer County my entire life. My husband and I feel deeply connected to this community. My professional background, which includes supporting individuals with special needs at Lapeer Team Work and serving as an assistant at McLaren, has equipped me with invaluable skills when working with others. Beyond my work, Bob and I find joy in spending quality time with our family and exploring scenic landscapes of Michigan on our bikes. I am excited about the opportunity to collaborate with Andrea, our Church Partners and Volunteers. I am eager to be a part of the positive transformations in people’s lives.”

We are confident that Connie’s compassionate spirit will resonate profoundly with our volunteers and church partners. Join us in extending a warm welcome to Connie as she becomes an integral part of The Refuge family, contributing her skills and enthusiasm to foster positive change in the lives of those we serve.

Email: Connie@refugelapeer.org

Staying Connected: A New Phone System for The Refuge



Exciting news! You will notice something different the next time you give us a call. The Refuge Restoration Center has upgraded its phone system to enhance communication and streamline processes.

When you call, you'll be directed to the appropriate extension based on the reason for your call. This user-friendly menu ensures quicker, more accurate responses. You can also leave us a message; our team will promptly return your call when they become available. The upgrade is a strategic move to manage high call volumes more efficiently, making interactions smoother for you. These changes aim to improve your experience, providing swift and precise assistance, whether you're inquiring about business hours, donations, or shelter services. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to serve you better.

Love in Action: Urgent Call for Hearts and Hands



We are in desperate need of volunteers to get us through to the end of our season. We have added dates and times to our sign-up sheet. Please visit our website at www.refugelapeer.org or scan the QR Code below



Want to Donate Clothing? The Refuge Partners with New To You Consignment and Valerie's Gallery

Due to lack of storage space we are not currently taking clothing donations; however, we have partnered with **New To You Consignment** and **Valerie's Gallery** to receive donations of clothing and other items on our behalf. If our guests have need of clothing, coats, shoes, boots, etc., they can receive a special voucher from The Refuge to get clothing at no cost to the guest. Also, when any other donations on behalf of The Refuge are sold, a portion of the proceeds go to The Refuge and will be used to help our guests.

- **New To You Consignment** 286 W. Nepessing St. Lapeer, Michigan 48446 (810) 664-2710
- **Valerie's Gallery** 3591 Davison Rd. Lapeer, MI. 48446 (810) 459-0258

Please tell them you are donating on behalf of the Refuge

Love in Giving: Planting Seeds of Hope for the Future



Thanks to the generosity of anonymous donors, The Refuge Restoration Center of Lapeer County was gifted a permanently endowed fund through the Lapeer County Community Foundation.

For more information about donating to our fund please visit lapeercountycf.org



Our '25 to Thrive' Campaign and Amazon Wish List



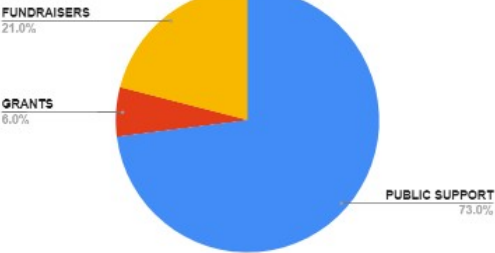
Supporting The Refuge's vital mission, our campaign '25 to Thrive' is a call to action for compassionate individuals like you. Whether you are donating your time or money. Your donations play a crucial role in not only sustaining the shelter but also in meeting the basic needs of our guests. Join us in the journey of empowerment and transformation

THE REFUGE RESTORATION CENTER

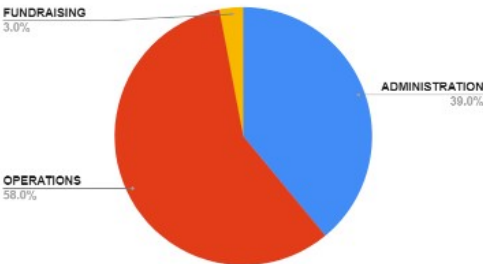


Stewardship of your Generosity 2022-2023 FY

WHERE FUNDS COME FROM



HOW FUNDS WERE USED



The Refuge Restoration Center
of Lapeer County

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We're on the web!

www.refugelapeer.org



Planting Seeds
BENEFIT DINNER

April 26, 2024



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT

The Refuge

DINNER - DESSERTS - LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
SILENT AUCTIONS - RAFFLES - DOOR PRIZES

SCAN QR CODE TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION



TICKETS
\$50/EA



The Lapeer County Club
3786 Hunt Road
Lapeer, MI 48446