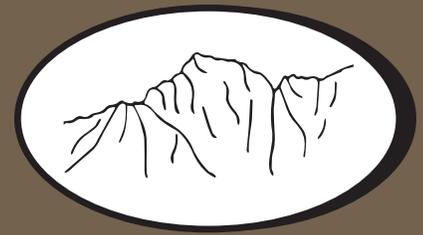


GRANITE HOUSE

DONOR NEWSLETTER

Spring 2019



For our donors, volunteers, and partners on our journey

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

June 2014 – Dec 2018
STARTUP EXPENSES

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$194,800

MARKETING/AWARENESS
\$14,500

Printing, mailings, email & website

FUNDRAISING
\$10,500

Grants, events

ADMINISTRATION
\$27,000

Insurance, office supplies, processing fees, training

PROFESSIONAL FEES
\$44,500

Legal, accounting, architect

CONSTRUCTION
\$67,500

Survey, permit, plans, materials, specific for needs of residents

STARTUP COSTS
\$21,900

Staff recruit/hire/train, household items

PROGRAM COSTS
\$8,900

Music Therapy, Gardens



MOVING IN, FALL 2018

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO MAKE
— OUR DREAM COME TRUE —**



Aaron and his dad coming in through the upper level entry on a wintry December day. A photographer and reporter from the Minneapolis Star-Tribune captured the moment and featured a story about our opening.

Photo courtesy Richard Tsong-Taatarii, Star Tribune.

GRANITE HOUSE has built a 24-hour sustainable community residence in Stillwater, Minnesota, for the long-term care of younger adults with severe brain injury who would otherwise be in a nursing home.



Our residents began moving in on Tuesday, November 27, and were all settled in by mid-December. Cicely and her family arrived very early through the heated garage and were greeted by the staff. Immediately the staff were making breakfast for her and awaiting the arrival of Tammie later that morning. Anna and Amber were engaged with hours of hands-on training with our new caregivers.

Granite House is a Minnesota nonprofit corporation with a mission:

To provide support and hope to individuals and families living with severe and permanent brain injury.



DONORS TO STARTUP FUND August - December 2018

SUMMIT DONORS

Anonymous
Nancy Baker & family*
Kirk & Carla Dahl*
Katherine Dunn*
Lou & Kathy Cristan Trust*
Wayne & Ruth May
Dale & Linda Otteson*
Mary Jo Peterson*

PEAK DONORS

Larry & Marcia Cutler*
Tom & Betty Linker*
Kathleen Peleski*
Frank & Gladys Ritter*
Patricia Routson*
Lawrence Stirtz*

PLATEAU DONORS

Cathy & Rick Arnfelt*
Dena Belisle*
Kristal Belisle
Carolyn Briol*
Carla & Steven Jeschke
Giving Fund*
Dan Gahler*
Lynn & Pete Grogan*
Medtronic*
Grace Petri
Sylvia & Greg Zinn*

MEADOWS DONORS

Rita Allman
Joni Ballou*
Bruce Beutel*
Kathryn Buckley
Rebecca Everson
Diane Fisher & John Hovde*
Mary & Dennis Fruetel*
Lowell & Lety Gillette*
Carmen & Keith Goettsch*
Patricia Hagberg
Robbin Kadera
Greg & Diane Karp*
Daniel Kylo*
Mary Mathisen Trust*
Sue Moriarity*
Jacqueline Nash



Lloyd Petri
Judith Resler*
Dorothy Rogers*
Cherry Rose*
Joann Roth*
Catherine & C. Jay Sleiter
Carol Ann Smith*
Janet Sterk Trust*
Manfred Tatzmann*
Maureen Tumulty*
Jeff Virant*
Gary & Barb Wemeier*

FOOTHILLS DONORS

Amazon Smile
LeAnn Bjelle
Laura Boegli*
Greg Boettner*
Dean Cody*
Diana Lee Dunbar
Ute Erickson*
Rafael Getsug*
Clark & Shirley Choi Grogan
Laura Higgs*
Allan & Sharyn Holcomb*
Hope House of
St. Croix Valley
Roger & Judy Knutson*
Mary Oswald*
Tom & Ardys Pertz*
Marjorie Strate*
Bill & Sharon Totten*
Ronald & Marilyn Varchetto
Steven & Ann Wolff*



TRIBUTE GIFTS

Gift by | In memory of
Cathy & Rick Arnfelt
Phillip Doornink
Cathy & Rick Arnfelt
Mary Elizabeth Rantila
Cathy & Rick Arnfelt
Max Swanson
Cathy & Rick Arnfelt
Roger Orval Weiss
Diana Lee Dunbar
Donal Steuben Dunbar, Sr.
Patricia Hagberg
Richard Insley

Dorothy & Tom Rogers
Cindy Coston
Dorothy & Tom Rogers
Donal Dunbar
Dorothy & Tom Rogers
Marvin Kauffman
Dorothy & Tom Rogers
Ron Lolley
Marjorie Strate
Mr. Warren Rode

Gift by | In honor of

LeAnn Bjelle
Jenn Evers
Mary Oswald
Larry Loyer
Mary Jo Peterson
The Insley Family
Lloyd Petri
Mike Petri
Ronald & Marilyn Varchetto
Frank & Gladys Ritter

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Carmen Goettsch
Mina L. Good
Margaret Hickel
James Johnson
Bonnie Kennett
Gary Naglak
Marilyn Naglak
Cherry Rose
Stacey Stoffregen
William Stoffregen
Loretta Tobin



IN-KIND DONATIONS

ABC Cabinetry
ABC Millwork
Ability Solutions
Aggregate Industries
A.Y. McDonald Mfg. Co.
Terry Bath
Blackwood Nursery
Cemstone
Columbia Pipe & Supply Co.
Diamond Vogel Paint
Dennis Fruetel Drywall
Headwater Wholesale
IDC Automatic

Larson Plumbing*
Lyman Lumber*
Mantyla Well Drilling
Meals from the Heart
Miller Excavating*
Muska Lighting
Northern Home Seal
Warners' Stelian

*Repeat Donor

VOLUNTEER HOURS

We wish to thank our
MANY VOLUNTEERS,
who contributed
over 1600 hours
during the startup
period, August
through December.

thank you!

OVER
1600
HOURS



INCOME SOURCES

June 2014 – Dec 2018

TOTAL INCOME

\$238,400

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$184,200

Cash or check, gifts of stock,
online donations

GRANTS

\$23,000

Matching grants, foundations

FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

\$31,200

Churches, organizations

DONOR-SUPPORTED PROGRAMS

Now that we are operational, we are all so excited to be able to begin our special programs for the residents. These programs are available only through the support of you, our loyal donors, many of whom have already designated their gifts for such a purpose. Our new donor envelopes make it easy to designate a gift to support a specific program, listed here, or you can place your gifts into our general fund for ongoing improvements such as spring landscaping, the deck, and an additional sidewalk.

Did you know that you can sign up at our secure PayPal site to make a monthly automatic donation? We have several donors who choose to send us \$10 - \$15 - or \$20 a month. It's easy for you, and it helps us to plan for our special services. Watch for news about our visiting Pet Therapy and our summer sensory program, and when we'll get started on the gardens.

MUSIC THERAPY: A gift of \$90 will support one of our twice-monthly group sessions. See back page for more information about this fun and valuable activity.

SENSORY GARDEN: Once we get our big landscaping projects done, the garden is next. We already have a berm with donor-funded evergreens, and 21 potted trees ready to plant. This will be a fun, ongoing project.

SCREENED PORCH: Residents are already enjoying the porch but once the bugs come we'll get the screens in. With donor support it will get done sooner and we'll be able to get some nice plants along the house.

MASSAGE THERAPY: Twice a month we have an in-house therapist who offers this service as a direct cost to each resident's family. With donor support we can offer this at a reduced rate so families can provide this wonderful service to their loved one more often.

PET THERAPY: We have a local group who can come out and bring miniature horses, a goat, rabbits, and other animals. Your support can bring them more often!

A PLACE FOR FAMILIES TO HEAL

Dedication & Housewarming

SPONSORED BY THRIVENT COMMUNITY-LANDMARK | TUES., OCT. 16 • 4:30 - 7:30 PM

What a wonderful evening we had, with over 120 guests and supporters coming to see Granite House and meet the families. Our friends at Thrivent Community-Landmark hosted a hearty buffet supper and arranged for a shuttle bus to bring our guests to and from our off-site parking at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.



TOUR: Our guests walked around the house viewing the various rooms—therapy areas, bedrooms, elevator, staff areas – which all had signs to point out their purpose and special features. Our board members and staff were there to answer questions and assist with finding the lists of our donors and partners, photos of construction, and where to sign the guest book. A slide show was running with photos of the construction and our video was playing in one of the bedrooms.

PROGRAM: The short program, held in the great room by the fireplace, featured opening comments by Todd Gillingham, our Thrivent Community-Landmark patron, followed by the introduction of the resident families. They all told their stories and made touching tributes to their family members who would make Granite House their home. Pastor Arden Haug delivered a very special dedication and prayer for the house and Lou Cristan presented a plaque with the Golden Rule in the words of many cultures, a tradition for dedications at Habitat for Humanity homes. Glasses of champagne were poured in our beautiful kitchen and then our guests began to leave on the shuttle.



GIFT REGISTRY: In the weeks leading up to the dedication, our gift registries at Target, Menards and Amazon were being viewed and we had such fun every time the UPS truck came with another gift. Items from Target included folding tables and chairs, cookware, office supplies and towels; from Menards we received tool sets and utility carts; and our Amazon registry included everything from Clorox wipes and pill crushers to musical instruments for our music therapy program. We wish to thank everyone who made these gift-in-kind donations for the house, which allowed us to open up with a well-equipped kitchen and many needed patient supplies. Gift cards were helpful to fill in those extra items to get us ready to open.

GIFT REGISTRY DONATIONS

- Nancy Baker & family
- Gary & Kathy Baribeau
- Collins Electrical
- Larry & Marcia Cutler
- Richard & Sharon Deiber
- Jenn & Devin Evers
- Brad & Sharon Fong
- Lynn & Pete Grogan
- Janna & Arden Haug
- Tom & Carol Insley
- Natalie Lanzatella
- Mike & Sue Marinkov
- Jennifer Novy
- Pam & Dave Pearson
- Ron Petri & Carolyn Healy
- Mary Jo Peterson
- Bonnie Reyers
- River Bluff Accounting
- Amber & Nick Rolewicz
- Jill Roth
- Karen Sedgemann
- Carol Ann Smith
- Bill & Paula Snyder
- Amy Stocker & Ron Satkiewicz



OUR FIRST WINTER AT GRANITE HOUSE

Everyone is very glad to see spring, after the cold and snowy first winter at Granite House! We are so fortunate to have such a dedicated, dependable staff who will fill in extra hours and arrive on time no matter the weather. Thanks to our snowplow driver Terry and the constant work by Tom on the driveway, the deep snow was managed and the staff was able to get in safely. We were pleased to get a street lamp on our utility pole at the end of the driveway to help our staff find the way in the dark. Aside from the weather, the staff kept the residents warm and cozy by the fireplace. We had a very tall Christmas tree donated by Blackwood Nursery in West Lakeland Township. All of the families came by to spend time with their loved one over the holidays.



MUSIC THERAPY



Our residents are responding well to music therapy, which is always such fun to see. Julie from Singing Heart comes every other week with her guitar and beautiful voice, and with our own Q-chord, ocean drum and Reverie Harp, she engages, challenges and delights them. Seeing small changes and improvements in focusing attention, relaxing, and moving with the music are all exciting and heartening to watch. What a wonderful program this is, all supported by our donors. Please consider being a music therapy donor this year. For just \$90 you can provide one of these group sessions for our residents. We appreciate your support for this valuable program.



NOTE FROM THE STAFF



Since Granite House opened on November 27th, Amber and I, along with the staff, have had the opportunity to get to know the people we serve along with their families. It has been fun getting to know what makes them smile, what their quirks are, and what makes them happy and comfortable. We started music and massage therapy and boy, does everyone love it! Since we have a full staff, we are now working on getting additional sensory stimulation activities in place. Caregivers at Granite House have had a lot of fun with our stimulation therapy. We continue to improve our program and it is happening because of donors like you! One generous family donated a 55-gallon fish tank with all the needed accessories, and we would love for

someone to sponsor the fish (cost of fish, food, or the maintenance of the tank). Colorful fish, the coral decor and colorful gravel would provide visual stimulation, which promotes tracking as the residents move their heads along with the actions of the fish. We've seen it happen at places we visit. Staff will promote sense of smell by including people we serve while cooking and baking. The smell of brownies baking may trigger happy memories and home cooked meals promote sense of family. We also use an oil diffuser to emit earthy smells, which are soothing, pleasant and not offensive. As the weather gets warmer, we have been going outside to enjoy the fresh air/breeze, nature sounds and watch the copper wind spinner. Many times, our caregivers will read a book aloud on the porch. **Thanks so much for your support!** *Anna*



CAROL'S NOTE: There are so many people to recognize as we enjoy the results of many hearts and hands coming together. You made our dream come true: a real home for those who have high needs, loving families, and few choices. The house is just beautiful, and we are pleased that so many of you came to celebrate the dedication with us. Since then, the finishing details have been done—floors finished, windows and doors trimmed and stained, and staff areas equipped. Anna and Amber have made us proud by hiring and training a wonderful staff, setting up individual care plans for the residents, and making Granite House feel like home with rugs and wall art. Therapy equipment has finally arrived and so have the beautiful spring days. Thank you all for believing in our mission and keeping us in your thoughts. *Carol*

CONTACT US

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Carol Insley, Founder, carol@granitehousemn.org | Granite House, 2114 Stagecoach Trail N, Stillwater MN 55082

