



UPDATE FROM
THE PHOENIX RESIDENCE, INC.



SUMMER 2022

Close the Gap Spotlight: Barb Knafla & Mike Kelly

When Barb Knafla began working here, little did she know, she would end up making a career out of it! Barb joined Phoenix in 1988 as a direct support professional at Suburban House. She had just moved back from Texas and heard about us through a friend. She applied here, fully expecting to continue looking for a job in her field....but 34 years later, she's still here!

When Mike Kelly moved into Suburban House about a year later, the two became good friends. Mike is most proud of the 31 years he has been at his day program. He still enjoys going every day and has no intentions of slowing down or retiring. He also gets excited about winning at Bingo and enjoys the prizes he receives.

Together, Barb and Mike love to go out to eat and look forward to the Minnesota State Fair every year, where he always gets a footlong hot dog with grilled onions. They also enjoy going to the Como Pavilion and listening to music or strolling around the block on a nice day.



The two love joking around! Mike does not like the cold weather and it's been a running joke between them about moving to Florida. "Mike is a fun-loving happy guy who has the best smile around!" concluded Barb. **Thank you Barb for all that you do!**

Help Us Build a Future as a Sustainable Donor



Our *Close the Gap* campaign would not be successful without you—our donors! Not only are you helping us stay afloat during the pandemic, but you are helping us build a future for years to come!

Want to continue supporting us all year long? Make a monthly or annual donation! We'll take the donation out directly for you, so you don't need to worry about the hassle of submitting it every month. To become a sustaining donor, visit our website at www.phoenixresidence.org, click on Give, and under Donor Frequency, choose either monthly or annually.

Questions? Or to contribute by phone, please call Public Relations & Development Coordinator Jackie Larson at 651-294-7964. Thank you for your support!!

UPDATE FROM THE PHOENIX RESIDENCE, INC.

If the pandemic has taught us one thing, it's been to cherish the relationships we have made and the staff we do have! As we returned to some normalcy this quarter with our annual fundraisers, these relationships proved to be crucial to the success of our events—thanks to our volunteers and supporters!

Starting with this edition, we want to honor some of our long-term staff members and the relationships they have made in our *Close the Gap* Spotlight section. Each quarter, we'll highlight a different long-term staff member and the impact they are making here at Phoenix. First up: Barb Knafka and Mike Kelly from Suburban House.

Thank you for your continued support and allowing us to be in your lives!

Jackie Larson | Public Relations & Development Coordinator
The Phoenix Residence, Inc.

Close the Gap Update

Together, we have raised:

THIS QUARTER: \$4,033

TOTAL: \$700,358

Thank you for your support!!

Bringing Back Our Annual Golf Tournament



Family member Sharon Rask

We are so grateful we could host our annual Russ Douglas Phoenix Golf Classic this summer! After two years on hiatus because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we brought it back—and everyone loved it! The past two years, we continued our fundraising efforts for the annual event without an in-person tournament. Thank you for your continued support, even though the in-person tournament was cancelled!

But the real MVPs this year were our volunteers! We could not have done this without you, so thank you! We want to **thank our staff, 3M volunteers, and several family members and board members who helped us out that day.** **SHOUT OUT** to family members John Bredesen Jr. and Sandra Bredesen Burrowes who volunteered as event photographers, and Board Member Kirsten Gregerson who helped with on-the-course games.

A special thank you also goes out to family member Sharon Rask and former family member Sherry Gray who so graciously shared their stories with us on this eventful day! Sharon addressed the golfers prior to golfing and through the family letter that golfers received in February, and Sherry Gray managed our Last Chance Donation Station, educating golfers more about Phoenix

and our *Close the Gap* campaign. **Thank you both for sharing your family's story!**

All funds raised from the golf tournament went back to our *Close the Gap* campaign.



Staff members at volunteer table | Family member John Bredesen Jr. | Board Member Kirsten Gregerson with staff out on course

To learn more about our campaign or make a donation, please visit www.phoenixresidence.org/give.html