

ANNUAL REPORT



2024



About Phoenix

Inside This Report

Mission & Key Staff	2
2025 Board of Directors	3
Message from the President	4
Stories of Special Relationships	5-6
Fundraisers & Events	7-9
Sustain Our Services Update	9
Phoenix Service Corporation Update	10-11
Success Story	11
PSC Agency Spotlight	12
Financials	13-16
2024 Donations	17-21
Thank You	22

Mission

Phoenix provides support to adults with disabilities living in residential and nonresidential settings, helping them remain independent and active in their own community.

Key Staff

President & CEO – Darlene Scott

Vice President of Operations – Mary Thirsten

Vice President of Community Services – Alan Berner

Financial Controller – Corrie Kopischke

Director of Nursing – Brandi Sterry

Director of Human Resources – Nicole Bechel

Director of Community Services – Megan Avakian

Community Support Service Coordinator – Elizabeth Larson

Program Director – Kim Phillips

Director of Quality Assurance – Shielika Thompson

Board of Directors

The Phoenix Residence

Sandra Burrowes

Darlene Scott
President/CEO

Chairwoman

Jennifer Buchanan Past Chairwoman Garret Colao Director

Jamie Grupe Vice Chairman Julie Nagorski Director

Jeff Points Secretary

Elizabeth Johnson Director

Kirsten Gregerson Treasurer

Linda Hood Director

Phoenix Service Corporation

Irene Wright Chairwoman

Jennifer Buchanan Vice Chairwoman

Deborah Gillis Secretary/Treasurer

> Darlene Scott President/CEO

Kim Human Director

Linda Hood Director

Thank you to all our board members for your guidance and support!

President's Message



At The Phoenix Residence Inc. and Phoenix Service Corporation, our mission is deeply rooted in compassion and unwavering commitment to the people we support and those who partner with us in this meaningful work. This year's theme, *Empowering Through Compassion and Commitment*, is a reflection of our core belief that people—PEOPLE—are at the heart of everything we do. And that love always wins!

In this edition of our annual report, we will share a few love stories and special connections that have brought so much joy to us and the couples we are highlighting. Helping people live their best life and develop meaningful relationships is at the core of living a life with purpose and passion.

As we navigate an era marked by shifting norms and uncertain funding, our unwavering commitment to empowering individuals through resolute and compassionate care remains constant. At Phoenix, we deeply value each person, recognizing the dignity and worth of all members of our community, especially those who are most vulnerable.

I hope the stories we share in this annual report make you smile, as it makes our heart smile realizing that we make a difference in the work we do and that people's lives are enhanced through our efforts.

We strive to uphold respect and provide the highest quality of service for every individual we serve. We are committed to remaining steadfast in the services we provide of quality and standards.

PEOPLE - Our value is to care for and to prioritize each individual we serve.

We mean it when we say PEOPLE is our Value Statement:

- Person-centered support
- Environments that foster dignity and belonging
- Outcomes shaped by respect and empathy
- Partnerships built on trust and collaboration
- · Leadership by example
- · Empowerment through dignity and humility

Every person matters. Every decision and action must reflect the value and humanity of the individuals we serve and those who serve alongside us.

The environments where people live, work, and engage must uplift them. The interactions we have, whether big or small, must honor their worth. And above all, we must partner in this work, empowering one another to lead with integrity, respect, and compassion.

Together, let us lead with heart, serve with purpose, and build a community where everyone is empowered and valued.

Darlene Scott

President & CEO

Warlene M. Scott

A Trip to the Ball Park

"Take me out to the ballgame!" has been a popular song around here! We loved cheering on our Minnesota Twins at several games this year! We always plan a company-wide trip to a Minnesota Twins game, and this year we had nearly half of our homes attend. Go Twins!







"Mikey loves the Twins! He likes to eat all the yummy food and just takes it all in. We go at least 3-4 times a year."

- Assistant Program Director Jen Gottschling about Mikey from Drexel Court

Love is in the Air

They say you find love when you least expect it, and that certainly was true to for Angela from Chaparral House! All it took was being in the right place at the right time, and the rest they say is history!

For years, Angela and Matthew attended the same dance class, but didn't pay much attention to one another. That all changed when both of their mothers signed them up for a speed dating event held by Find Love Safely, a personalized matchmaking service for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

As soon as Matthew sat down at Angela's table, the sparks flew! "I felt nervous a little but happy," said Angela about the event. "He's handsome and charming," as she described him. "He's a handful."

After the event, the two were inseparable! They have gone on date nights, bowling, hiking, mini golfing, out to eat, and to local county events, like Prague Days in Farmington, just to name a few.





The two were even featured in a story on Find Love Safely's website. Visit www.findlovesafely.com/success-story/matthewandangela to learn more!

Bill and Diane's Love Story



Bill and Diane's love story has been years in the making, but they finally made it official by recently getting married! With family and friends by their side, the two were overjoyed when they said, "I do."

Bill and Diane first met in 2019, when Bill moved into Ludden House, where Diane lived. Diane's first impression of Bill was that he was a good person and Bill appreciated that she loved sports – a pastime that would play a pivotal role in their future relationship.

"I love how we are able to talk to each other, laugh, and watch sports," said Diane. Bill simply sums her up as "Diane is who she is, and I love that." They both agree that communication is key to a successful relationship.

Over the years, some of their favorite memories have been attending Twins games together. One day, Bill hopes he can bring Diane to visit his sister in Arizona.

"When you get that feeling that they are the one, don't let the opportunity pass by," concluded Bill.



Bill and Diane with longtime Assistant Program Director Shawna Zechmeister



Fundraising & Events

A Look Back at Our 2024 Events

From rain-soaked walks to sunny tee times and blooming gardens, our 2024 events were filled with energy, generosity, and community spirit.

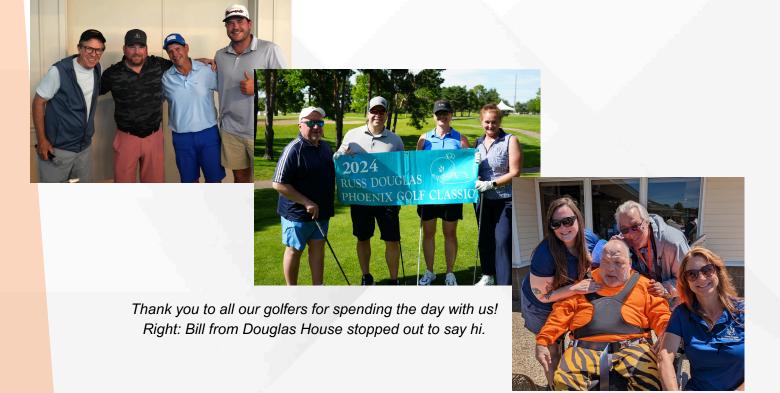
FUNDRAISING TOTALS

\$46,848.37 from Russ Douglas Phoenix Golf Classic \$14,636.55 from Made in the Shade 5K Walk, Run & Roll \$4,820.55 from Gertens Plant Sale \$115,869 from *Close the Gap* Campaign

Russ Douglas Phoenix Golf Classic

This year's Russ Douglas Phoenix Golf Classic was one for the books! With 126 golfers and eight new sponsors—the highest number of new sponsors in nearly a decade—we enjoyed a picture-perfect day on the course. The return of our Social Hour and the reintroduction of the virtual Silent Auction stirred excitement amongst our golfers, while our Live Auction added some friendly competition. We hadn't offered this many auction items in quite a while! All proceeds from this event supported our *Close the Gap Campaign*.

A big thank-you to all our donors, volunteers, and the Kurten family for making it a successful and memorable day! Tears were shed when they shared their family's story.



Fundraising & Events

Made in the Shade 5K Walk, Run & Roll

A little rain didn't stop us from celebrating the 33rd annual Made in the Shade 5K Walk, Run & Roll! Nearly 100 Phoenix participants gathered at Lake Bde Maka Ska, joining six other disability providers for a day of walking, music, food, and connection.

As Helen Keller said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." And that was certainly evident at this event! The crowd of magenta shirts around the lake was certainly unforgettable!





Above Left: Drexel & Carver Homes, Above Right: Wendy from Eric's House with family, Upper Right: Jackie from Carver House with parents from her home

Major Sponsors 2024

Russ Douglas Phoenix Golf Classic

American Pride Construction **CBS** Construction Commercial Steam Team **Darlene Scott** David and Lynn Myhr **Garret Colao Geritom Medical** Jane Hess and Mike Kroll Jerry Leopold John Kuhrmeyer & The Canopy Group John's ProCare K&L Building & Remodeling LB Carlson Liz McCambridge

Lotus Pharmacy

Lunds & Byerlys Mark and Judy McClellan Mary Thirsten Minnesota Coaches Myslajek, Kemp & Spencer Ltd **Next Day Access** NFP & Medica Old National Bank Sandra Burrowes South Robert Street **Business Association** Success Computer Consulting TSE, Inc. Vallis Advisors, Inc. Wendy Severson



Made in the Shade 5K

Daniel and Karen Landgren Darlene Scott David and Lynn Myhr Deb Kilgore and Carl Fritsch Geoff and Kaylene Roering Greg and Liz Severson Howard and Carol Kurten Jennette Wasmund John's ProCare LB Carlson Lynn Bradshaw Mark and Kim Calhoun Mary Peltier Mary Thirsten Mike and Judy Semsch Nisie Pitzl **Old National Bank** Patricia Casey Patricia Mader Paul Bunyan Resort Paul Severson Peg Olin Randy and Paulene Roering **Shelley Peltier** Steve and Cheryl Moore Steve and Gail Severson Susan Amundsen Butler Tom Severson Tom Strutz

Vadnais Heights Lions Club

William and Mary Frances Stoneburg

White Bear Lake Lions Club

Fundraising & Events

Gertens Plant Sale

Our annual Gertens Plant Sale once again blossomed with community support! With hanging baskets, vegetables, herbs, perennials, and more—including several new items this year—there was something for every green thumb. Gift cards made great Mother's Day surprises, and every purchase directly benefited the individuals we support. Even better? Buyers could choose which home to support, making it a truly personal way to give back.

Thank you to everyone who showed up, gave back, and helped make these events such a success!





Dan from Centerville House enjoying the flowers

A New Vision for Close the Gap Campaign

At the end of 2024, we made a major announcement. We announced the relaunch of our *Close the Gap* Campaign — changing the name and logo to *Sustain our Services*! Although the pandemic is gone, we continued to struggle with the workforce crisis. It was time to plan for our future and the future of disability services through this initiative. However, our goal of this campaign has not changed. We continue to provide our staff with the wages and benefits they deserve. What will change is the longevity of it. Sustaining this campaign for the long term will help us thrive and grow well into the future. We appreciate your continued support!



To learn more about this campaign, please visit our website at: www.phoenixresidence.org/give/sustain-our-services-campaign.html

Update from Phoenix Service Corporation

At Phoenix Service Corporation, we specialize in helping vulnerable populations find the support and services they need to lead happy and fulfilling lives and sustain independence living in their own home. We do this through four programs: Case Management, Housing Support, Housing Stabilization Services, and Transitional Services. Here's what we've been up to in the last year!

2024 was a year of modest, steady growth at Phoenix Service Corporation. We intentionally focused on maintaining quality services with the individuals we support, while continuing to expand our service team, the number of people we support, and building more partnerships.

Becoming a Credible Provider

The need is there. We consistently have the counties asking us if we can support more people in Case Management and housing referrals from Coordinated Entry (the system that connects unhoused individuals with Housing Support Service providers). We have strengthened our relationships with property managers and owners, and have and have embraced opportunities with additional property development agencies.

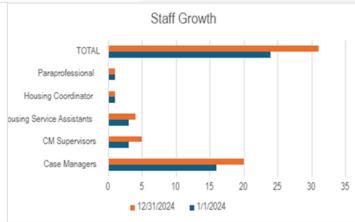
We were also approached by several counties about exploring non-typical service opportunities they are trying as pilot programs. We are excited to serve as an agency that can collaborate on creative interventions for community needs, especially given the ever-changing state of the programs we work with.

We are also excited to announce that we began our contract for Case Management services in Washington County in 2024. We built relationships with them, learned their processes and systems, and began providing support in that county.

In our Transitional Services Program, we continued providing support at a steady rate and welcomed a new coordinator upon the retirement of our former one. In 2024, we supported 143 individuals in this program, which is up significantly from the 104 individuals in 2023.

And we seem to be hitting our stride! Through satisfaction surveys sent to our Case Management and Housing Support clients, satisfaction ratings were 90% and 91% respectively.





Housing Support Program Snapshot

- Supported approximately 70 individuals across Dakota, Hennepin, Washington, and Ramsey counties, with further expansion of Housing Stabilization Services.
- Supported an additional 20 individuals in the Supportive Housing Program for families in Ramsey County.
- Expanded our partnership with Velair Management Company with a new building in Washington County in late 2024. These four units specifically support individuals experiencing homelessness.

As always, our overarching goal of this program is to help individuals overcome housing barriers, achieve stability, and work toward personal goals that were previously unattainable due to housing insecurity.

A Success Story

Leann Anders was born in Minneapolis, but grew up going to school in Edina while living with her grandmother. She didn't finish school, but she did pursue a CNA certificate. Later, she moved to Wisconsin and had her children at the age of 24.

Leann said her life went downhill when she entered into a bad relationship and lost her home. Things picked back up when she got a job as an assistant manager. Unfortunately, she lost it after writing down the license plate of an individual who stole from the store.

Phoenix helped Leann secure a one-bedroom apartment and began providing support to her in 2024. Ever since she began working with us, she feels her worries have decreased. Leann half-heartedly joked, "If you guys didn't help out as much as you did, I'd be an even bigger mess."

She feels Phoenix has done great work and is happy to be a part of our program.

The best part of having her own place? Secure entry! Leann also loves to be carefree and not on edge since it's her own place. There's no one controlling her. In her free time, Leann works in the backyard, taking care of her plants and barbecuing with her neighbors. She finds these activities relaxing and keeps her mind focused.

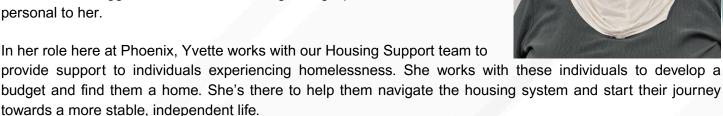
Leann expressed that she is nervous about what will happen after she moves our of county subsidized housing. She wants to be successful, but is afraid of failure. However, that is not stopping her from pursuing new opportunities! Leann plans to go back to school and return to work. She says she loves working with people and wants to give back to the community. It's important to her to make others smile. In fact, she's interested in doing work similar to what we do at Phoenix Service Corporation.



A PSC Agency Spotlight

Meet Yvette Huff, a Housing Specialist at Phoenix Service Corporation. Although she just started with us in 2024, she is already bridging the gap between us and the partners we have.

Born and raised in Wisconsin, Yvette moved her family to Minnesota in 1993 to pursue new opportunities. After working in the schooling system, she decided she wanted to embark on a new career, which led her to us! Her mother struggled with mental health growing up, so our mission was personal to her.



Providing Much Needed Support

"People we work with have been through trauma," said Yvette. "I help educate landlords, so there is no judgment about clients and their situations. We all deserve second chances."

Once housing is found, she helps the individual sign the lease and sets them up for success afterwards. She connects them to healthy resources in the community, whether that be medical providers, treatment facilities, faith-based organizations, and transportation to these resources.

"Everyone has a story to tell," said Yvette. "I'm here to listen and offer support in the process. What I love most about being a Housing Specialist is working with individuals who have faced tremendous hardships, yet still want a chance to succeed and have a safe place to call home."

Yvette's exceptional work hasn't gone unnoticed. She received our 2024 Employee of the Year Award, was highlighted in a feature story with one of our vendors, Bridging, and has received several compliments from county social workers.

The transition from homelessness to housing can be a difficult one. But having the right support and tools can make that transition easier. And Yvette is proving to be the right person for the role!

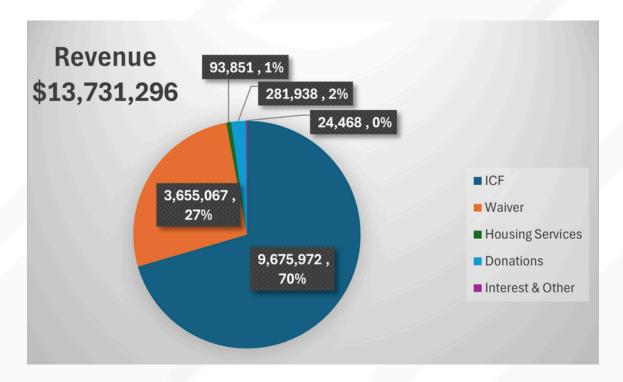
Thank you Yvette for all you do for us and the people you support!

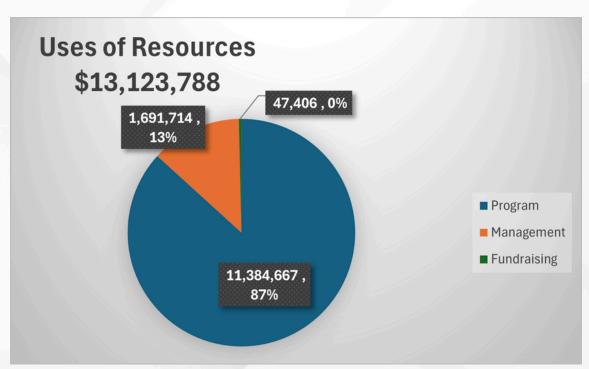
"Yvette has transcended her role, gone above and beyond, and lived out the values of your organization ... She has always responded promptly and has been collaborative ... It has been an honor to work with her."

- Hennepin County Outreach Worker

Phoenix Residence Financials

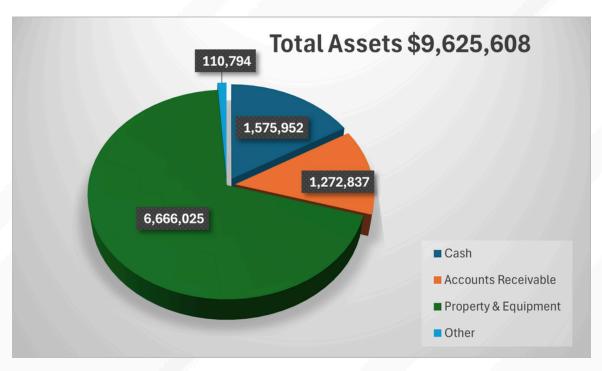
Statement of Activities

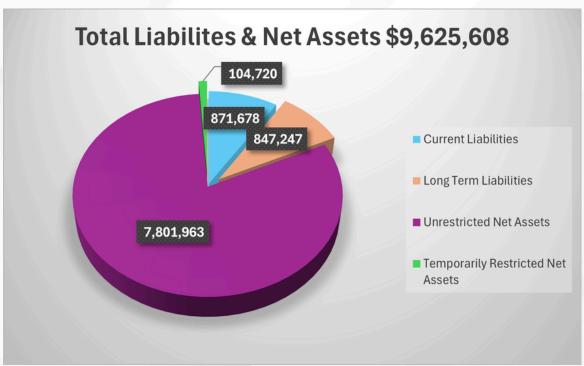




Phoenix Residence Financials

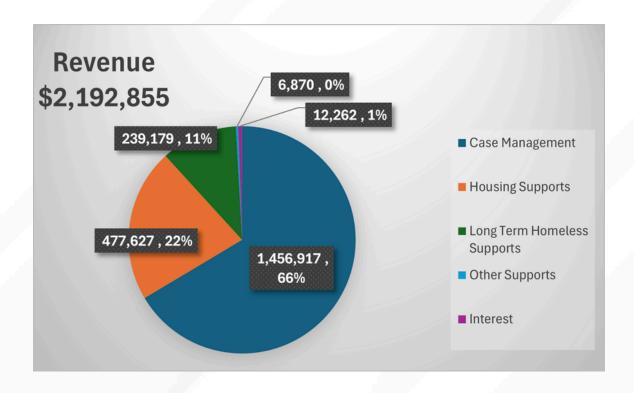
Statement of Financial Position

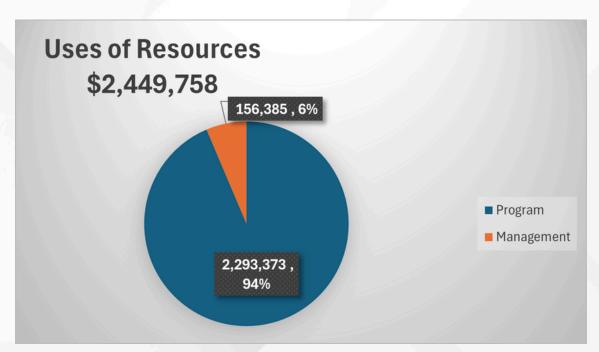




Phoenix Service Corporation Financials

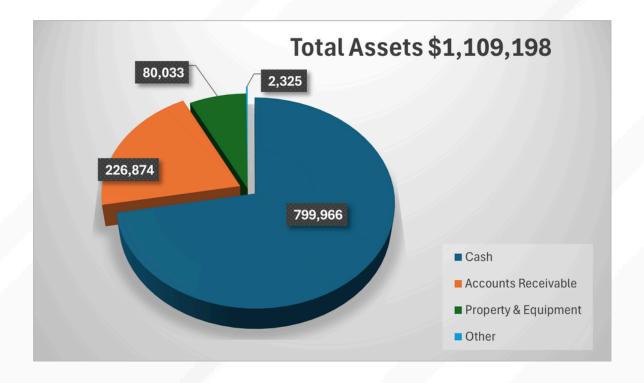
Statement of Activities





Phoenix Service Corporation Financials

Statement of Financial Position





\$50,000

Pat Burns

\$5,000 - \$10,000

David and Lynn Myhr

Deb Kilgore and Carl Fritsch

Geritom Medical

Jane Hess and Mike Kroll

Kurt and Gina Kastel

Old National Bank

South Robert Street Business Association

Steve and Cheryl Moore

Tom Cherry and Darlene Hafner

\$1,001 - \$4,000

Bonnie Featherstone Christine Koppen CHS Darlene Scott Garret Colao

Gene and Dona Maki

Greg and Liz Severson

James Patrick

Jamie Grupe

Janess Davis

Jerry Leopold

John Bredesen Sr.

John Kuhrmeyer

John's ProCare

Joseph Podolan

K&L Building and Remodeling

LB Carlson

Linda Steinworth

Liz McCambridge

Lotus Pharmacy

Lunds & Byerlys

Mark and Judy McClellan

Mary Thirsten

Mel and Chris Felling

Next Day Access



Gwen from Caswell House decorating cookies at our annual Halloween Party.

\$1,001 - \$4,000

Nicholson Family Foundation
Patricia Casey
Paul Severson
Randy and Paulene Roering
Sandra and Stephen Burrowes
Steve and Gail Severson
Tom Severson
William and Mary Frances Stoneburg

\$1,000

American Pride Construction
Barb Magnuson
CBS Construction
Commercial Steam Team
Janice Schneider
Jeff and Debbie Schmitt
Ken and Crystal Alme
Lucy Tanner
Minnesota Coaches, Inc.
Myslajek, Kemp & Spencer LTD
Ned and Jean Therrien
Neil and Pat Smith
Netrio
TSE, Inc.
Vadnais Heights Lions Club

\$101 - \$750

Alexandra Lape

Betsy Sagnes

Bonnie Sykora

Bruce Singer

Carol and Norm Linnell

Dan and Jackie Larson

Dave Douglas

David and Karen Olson

David and Kathleen Rondeau

Dr. David Rossmiller

Frank and Judith Pince

Gail Hassler

Geoff and Kaylene Roering

Helen Koland

Howard and Carol Kurten

Jeff Crawford

Jeff Points

Jen Weschcke

Jody Curl

John Witzmann

Joseph and Lauren Deeney

Karen Steiner

Ken Ward

Kirsten and Eric Gregerson

Laurie Tomaszewski

Leslie Matton-Flynn

Lynn Bradshaw

Mark and Laurie Sicora

Mark and Linda Goddard

Mark Jaszewski

Mary and John Zazverskey

Mary Peltier

Medica

Michael and Laurie Udenberg

Michael Krois

Mike and Diane Chehoski

Mike and Judy Semsch

Mike and Michele Stapf

Mike Boo

Nancy Ressler

NFP

\$101 - \$750

Nisie Pitzl

Pat Callinan

Patricia Mader

Paul and Mary Bacigalupi

Paul Coons

Paula Ness

Robert Bristol, Jr.

Seward Community Co-op, Inc

Shelley Peltier

Steve and Lou Pfeiffer

Tom and Erin Linnell

Tom Strutz

Trestle Inn

Below: Paul from Douglas House and Joell from Furness House celebrating their birthdays!





Up to \$100

Al Nedohon Alvin King Angela Goodrick Anne Dooley

Carnesa King
Dan and Deanna Roering

Daniel and Karen Landgren

Donald Weiss

Elizabeth Danielson

Evone Tinsley

Fran and Linda Pierce

Jean and Hugh Huelster

Jean Purdy

Jennette Wasmund

Jesse Lipson

John Mader

Julianne Kroening

Keith and Kathleen Rainford

Ken Bence

Laurie Case

Mark and Kim Calhoun

Mary Vilmur

Maureen O'Brien

Pam Kranz

Paul Bunyan Resort

Paul Gogerty

Peg Olin

Ray and Caroline Linder

Rick and Diane Schmitt

Russ and Kathy Trout

Sandy and Jim Mishler

Sherry Gray and David Blaney

Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels

& Cremation Services

WCMC

Western National Insurance Group
White Bear Lake Lions Club
White Bear Lake VFW Post 1782
Wilson Tool International







A fun time had by all at our Phoenix gatherings. Top: Jonathan from Ludden House, Middle: Julie from Eric's House, Bottom: Michael from Chaparral House

Memorials

In Memory of Grandpa Russ Douglas, Geoffrey, Callie, Jack and Steve Mike and Diane Chehoski

In Memory of Mary Claire Schmitt

Jeff and Debbie Schmitt

In Memory of Nathan Joarnt

Jean Purdy

Paula Ness

Rick and Diane Schmitt

In Memory of Margaret, Robert and John Ludden
Maureen O'Brien

In Memory of Larry Quist Fran and Linda Pierce

In Memory of Sharon Severson
Frank and Judith Pince

In Memory of Matthew Joseph McGuire
Nisie Pitzl

In Memory of Betty Stapf
Mike and Michele Stapf

In Memory of Marlene Weiss

Donald Weiss

In Memory of Stephen Lape
Alex Lape

In Memory of Georgia Patrick
Mary Thirsten

In Memory of Nancy Bezdichek
Carol and Norm Linnell

In Memory of Rosemary Eberhard
Paul Severson

In memory of Patrick Langevin

Jen Weschcke

In Memory of Mark Pfaff
Mary Thirsten



Above: Joe from Foss House celebrating St. Patrick's Day! Below: Mary Kay from English House

Honorariums

In Honor of Paul Dwyer
Ken and Crystal Alme

In Honor of Laura Quist-Knox Sherry Gray

In Honor of Jill Jaszewski
Jane Hess and Mike Kroll

In Honor of Laurel Bredesen
John Bredesen Sr.



In-Kind Donations

Aaron Bjorge Alan Berner Alexis Bailly Vineyard **Ames Center** Andiamo Italian Ristorante **Artistry Theater BarkBox** Bell Museum Benihana Bent Paddle Brewery Betty's Pies Black Woods Grill & Bar Blue Door Pub Broders' Cucina Italiana Cafe Latte Can Can Wonderland Carleton McCambridge Castle Danger Brewing Company Celeste of St. Paul Hotel + Bar Chanhassen Dinner Theater Charlie's on Prior Cheesecake Factory Children's Theatre Chipotle

Crooked Pint Ale House
Dan and Jackie Larson
Darlene Scott
Dootlittle's Woodfire Grill
Dual Citizen Brewery
East Lake Liquor Store
Fair Anita
Fresh Thyme
Gasthaus Bavarian
Great Lakes Aquarium

Green Mill

Circus Juventas

Coastal Seafoods

Commanding Edge

Costco

Hi-Lo Diner
History Theatre
Hope Breakfast Bar
Island Lake Golf Course
Jester Concepts Restaurants
Joseph McKenzie
Kate Pops
Keys Café
Kim Guderjan
Kirsten Gregerson
Lake Avenue Restaurant & Bar
Lake Superior Railroad Museum
Lakeview National Golf Course
Laura Linnemeyer
LB Carlson

Lost Spur Golf Course
Lumberjack Inn
Mary Thirsten
MatchStick Restaurant & Spirits
Merlin's Rest
Minneapolis Institute of Art

Minnesota Gophers
Minnesota Historical Society
Minnesota Twins
Minnesota Wilds

Mister Car Wash

Moon Palace Books New Scenic Café

Northern Rail Traincar Inn

Northrup Auditorium Nova Restaurant Group

Oak Marsh Golf Course

Odyssey Guided Experience Program

Original Pancake House Owamni Restaurant

Pier B Resort Hotel

Plaza TV & Appliances Portillo's Hot Dogs



The individuals at Clinton House loved dressing up for our annual Halloween Party!

Pryes Brewing Company Raising Cane's Red Cow River Oaks Golf Course Rush Creek Golf Club Rustic Inn Café Saint Paul Saints Sarah Boone Sarah Hansen Soderberg's Floral & Gift St. Paul Hotel Stillwater Trolley Superior National Golf Course Target Tavern23 The Escape Game The Hilltop The O'Shaughnessy Theater Theatre Latté Da

Tito's Handmade Vodka
Total Wine & More
Trader Joe's
Treasure Island Resort & Casino
Twin City Grill
Uptown Woodworks
Tam Valleyfair

Wuollet Bakery
Your Enchanted Florist
Yumi Japenese Restaurant & Bar
Ziggy's on Main
Zipps Liquors

Thank You!

Thanks to your commitment and generosity, we provided the individuals we support with the person-centered care they deserve. We could not have done this without you, so thank you for supporting us!

From All of Us Here at The Phoenix Residence, Inc. and Phoenix Service Corporation





Left: Wendy from Eric's House loved taking an overnight trip with Nurse Consultant Dede Muimba to Mystic Lake Casino Hotel.

Above: The homes in our South East group joined together for a barbecue at Carver House.

Contact Us

222 Plato Blvd. E Saint Paul, MN 55107 651-227-7655

www.phoenixresidence.org | www.phoenixservicecorp.org

Follow us on Facebook, X, LinkedIn, and Instagram!



