



July 2017



Kathy's House

newsletter



Dr. Hari, Chief of Medical Oncology at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin, has sent patients and families from Oshkosh to Latvia to stay at Kathy's House! He spoke at the Gala.



Volunteer Margaret Herzfeld interviews emcee Jessica Tighe, morning anchor on TV 58, for our Facebook Live Gala event.



Medical College of Wisconsin physicians J. Douglas Rizzo and Ann Maguire enjoying the program.



Bernadine Waters and Kim Slotterback volunteered at the Gala. More than 40 volunteers helped with the event.



Nichole Henderson & Denise Patton of the Nonprofit Management Fund at the Gala.

2017 Gala a Great Success

Thank you to the 300 guests who attended our Gala and to more than 1,700 Facebook live participants! The Gala topped recent years, grossing more than \$130,000. We appreciate the generosity of our sponsors, individuals who donated items for the auction, and the guests who bid on more than 120 items! A huge success was the anonymous \$15,000 challenge grant that raised more than \$45,000! The Gala is our largest annual fund raising event.

Each year we honor a Kathy's House guest who has displayed extraordinary grace and courage during their medical treatment with the Inspiration of Hope Award. This year, the award went to Ramani Narayanasami and his family from Virginia.

Early in 2016 Ramani was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a type of bone marrow cancer. Ramani researched hospitals including Johns Hopkins, MD Anderson and Sloan Kettering, ultimately selecting Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin – and Dr. Parameswaran Hari, Chief of Medical Oncology. He was impressed by his outcomes.

Members of the family stayed at Kathy's House for 104 nights. Ramani underwent two bone marrow transplants and chemotherapy. One of the bone marrow transplants was from a brother who also stayed at Kathy's House.

We got to know Ramani well – often seeing him in our small family room with his laptop. He and his wife Kits worked throughout their stay. Ramani was always upbeat and became friends with many other guests, appreciating the mutual support.

He and his wife brought their daughters Kashvi (11) and Oju (6) to the House for most of the summer. They asked for help to make the experience for the girls as close to normal as possible. Kathy's House staff and volunteers helped arrange piano and guitar lessons, directed them to the many museums and parks, and helped them make jewelry. One guest taught the girls to weave.

Kashvi accepted the award on behalf of her family. "Last summer, my family and I stayed at Kathy's House during my Dad's treatment and recovery. As soon as we got there, everyone was so nice, so it felt like home. My sister and I even had a birthday party for her doll and invited all the patients and families staying at the House."

"The people in the office were so nice and they always answered all our questions, no matter how busy."

"It made me feel so sad to see all the patients and families struggling so much. My sister and I made jewelry for them, which put a smile on their face. I hope me and my sister helped to brighten their day even a little bit. "

They did!



The Narayanasami Family accepts the Inspiration of Hope Award at the 2017 Gala from Executive Director Patty Metropulos.





Calling for Golfers and Sponsors for 2017 Classic Golf Outing September 21

Please join us for this year's Golf Outing to be held at Ironwood Golf Course. The course is located on natural rolling terrain in Sussex, Wisconsin. Kathy's House will be golfing on the Meath and the Birr courses.



To register, go to www.kathys-house.org/events.



Tickets are \$200 each. Please consider putting together a 4-some for this fun event.

Sponsorship opportunities range from \$250 to \$1500.

The Gold Sponsorship at \$1500 is the most popular. It includes one complimentary foursome, hole sponsorship with sign, display table at hole, recognition on the Sponsor Banner and more.

Details can be found on our website.

For information about sponsorship, contact Marie Grevsmuehl at 414-453-8290.

New Kathy's House Takes Shape

Both last year and again in 2017 Kathy's House has been unable to help many, many families who are in need of lodging due to a medical crisis. In fact, in 2016 we turned away more 120 families or placed them on a waiting list because we simply did not have any available rooms.

The good news is we continue to move closer to building a larger facility so we don't have to turn families away. In January of this year, Froedtert Hospital announced they will be the lead investor in the new Kathy's House by providing a \$6 million gift. We are forever grateful for this transformative gift which will help us to serve more families and achieve our vision of being the national model.

With this gift, we've begun working with an architectural team from HGA to design the new House and with Froedtert leadership and Medical College of Wisconsin staff who are helping us to think about what new services we could offer in the House to better support patient care and how to design the building accordingly.

To give you an idea of the scope of the new House, we will go from our current facility, which is a 15,000 square foot facility with 18 guest rooms to a 25,000 square foot facility with 24 guest rooms. There will be two separate wings of guest rooms – one exclusively for bone marrow transplant patients and other cancer patients whose immune systems are particularly compromised by their treatment. We are hoping to break ground in Spring of 2018 and open the new House in spring of 2019.

Essentially, we will grow in capacity by a third when we move into the new Kathy's House. With a larger facility, we know there will be increased operating costs for things such as utilities, laundry services, insurance, security and staffing, among other things. To make sure that we are successful from day one we have been working the past couple of years to strategically grow our operational capacity.

The total project cost for the new Kathy's House will be \$9 million. With Froedtert's investment of \$6 million that leaves \$3 million to be raised in our capital campaign. Plans are now underway to launch a capital campaign.

Passages

10/27/16 - 6/28/17

Donors of **Kathy's House** have recently honored the memories of:

Jennifer Axley
Don Banker
Marty Bartelme
Eric Bauer
Catherine Bernards
Kathy Berres
James Bilotti
Jean Blahnik
Myril Brix
Joan Day
Earl Delzell
Kathleen Donovan Smith
Ron Ebert

Margaret Erwin
Pat & Harold Fallos
Tyler Frea
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Daniel Scott
Russell Skorik
Steven Sluga
Kathryn Suess
Nancy Thielmann
Susan Tucker
Janet Van Fossen
Jedd R Van Kampen
Richard Vogel
Simi Weinhouse
Arizona M Wheelock
Michael Wittlinger
Cece Wydle



The Magnificent Seven

Each year Kathy's House presents the Founder's Award to an individual or community partner who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to the success of Kathy's House. This year the award was granted to 7 individuals- our founding board members. They were very involved with the opening of Kathy's House and are largely responsible for helping to sustain the agency for the past 16 years.



Dick Vogel and these seven devoted people are the founders of Kathy's House and received the Founder's Award at the 2017 Gala. (L to R) Michael Bennett, Herb Ayres, Elaine Hoth, Judy Vogel, Marty Kraninger and Glen Van Fossen. Pictured below: Dan Chaudior

Herb Ayres knew the Vogel Family from the 1980s when both families attended the same church. Through his friendship with the family, Herb supported Kathy's House with the same dedication as Dick – he served on the Board from the beginning and remains on the Board today. Herb worked as the Director of Operations for Kathy's House from 2001 to 2012 when he retired. He and his wife Ginger and their circle of friends are wonderful supporters of the House.

Mike Bennett was Dick's personal attorney and saw first hand the effect of his daughter's passing. He was inspired by Dick's resolve to fulfill his daughter's wish to help others. Mike helped to negotiate the original lease for Kathy's House and has served on the Board since 2001. His counsel over the years has been greatly appreciated. Mike and his family have been generous and gracious supporters of the House.

Dan Chaudior learned about Kathy's House from a member of his wife's family. He was very intrigued by the concept of a hospital guest house and asked to take a tour. Soon after Dan became a Board Member and served as Vice Chair from 2001 until he stepped down in 2014 and was appointed to the Emeritus Board. Dan has been an incredible asset to the House – both in his personal generosity and his willingness to look for ways for Kathy's House to gain support.



Dan Chaudior

Elaine Hoth is Judy Vogel's sister and aunt to Kathy Vogel Kuettner. She served on the Board until 2014 when she became an Emeritus Board Member. She and her husband Ran have been major supporters of the House. They know firsthand the importance of the services of Kathy's House. Last year, their granddaughter was hospitalized in Denver with a life-threatening medical condition. When they flew out to see her they had to stay at a hotel because there was not a hospital guest house nearby.

Marty Kraninger and his wife Inge are longtime friends of the Vogel's going back to the 1960s when both families moved to Mequon. Marty joined the Board in 2003 and still serves on our Board today. Since he came on the board in 2003 and not 2001, technically he was not a founding board member but his impact and contributions have been so significant we consider him a founder. As a business owner, Marty brings a wealth of experience to the Board. He and his family have been wonderful supporters of the House.

Glen Van Fossen has served on the Board since Kathy's House opened, became Chair in 2003 and remains our Chair today. Since Glen loves baseball, we consider him the Cal Ripkin of nonprofit boards. He always shows up and he always produces without a lot of drama. We are grateful to Glen and his family for their unwavering support.

Judy Vogel could be considered the mother of Kathy's House. Judy's dedication is as fresh and vital as the day we opened our doors in 2001 and she helped to cut the ribbon. One of the things Judy enjoys most is getting to know the guests and hearing their stories. Judy is the keeper of her daughter's legacy.

Wish List

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES

\$500 = 10 nights of lodging
\$400 = 8 nights of lodging
\$300 = 6 nights of lodging
\$200 = 4 nights of lodging
\$100 = 2 nights of lodging
\$50 = 1 night of lodging

GIFT CARDS

Speedway/Citgo/Shell
Amazon
Menards
Walmart
Pick N' Save

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Decaf Coffee
Creamer for Coffee
Fresh Fruits & Vegetables
Non-Perishable Foods
Disinfectant Sprays & Wipes
All purpose cleaners
Kleenex
Paper towel
Fragrance free dryer sheets
Laundry detergent
(HE-Free & Clear)
Hand soap (liquid-fragrance free)
New standard size bed pillows

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE



Go to smile.amazon.com and choose Kathy's House as your charity. For each purchase, Amazon will donate .5% to Kathy's House



If you are a member of Thrivent Financial you can direct your Thrivent "Choice Dollars" to Kathy's House. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice

Kathy's House, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.



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Founder of Kathy's House

Laura Vogel Woods
Sister of Kathy Vogel Kuettner

OUR MISSION

Kathy's House is a hospital guest house committed to providing affordable lodging and caring support in a "home away from home" environment for families who need to travel to Milwaukee for medical care.



Meet Our New Board Members



Jack Anick is the founder of Anick & Associates, an accounting firm specializing in accounting and management services for non-profit organizations. Anick & Associates currently serves 90 non-profits across the United States and internationally. Anick brings to Kathy's House his first-hand knowledge of nonprofit management. He attends many Board Meetings, Finance Committee Meetings and Investment/Endowment Committee Meetings throughout the country. He is instrumental in initial development of about 30 non-profits a year.



Mark Filla has been a financial advisor for the past 15 years in the Greater Milwaukee Area and is currently working at Ameriprise Financial. He specializes in financial planning, asset management, investment allocation and cash flow analysis. He has earned the Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA) Designation and the Applied Behavior Finance Certificate.



Ran Hoth is the recently retired president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau (BBB) Serving Wisconsin. He has held leadership and board positions on a local Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Managers of the YMCA, the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, The Milwaukee Art Museum and others. At the BBB, Ran served the state of Wisconsin businesses and consumers for 19 years by promoting ethics in the workplace. Hoth is the uncle of Kathy Vogel Kuettner and has been involved in Kathy's House since its inception in 2001.



Mona Theobald is the General Manager of Customer Experience and Advocacy for GE Healthcare's U.S. and Canada region. Previously, she was the VP & General Manager for the Western U.S. and Canada. She's also held roles in Magnetic Resonance and Mammography Business and led the creation of the first Women's Imaging Sales and Marketing Organization. Currently she is an active member and leader of the GE Women's Network and is on the leadership team for GE Healthcare's Women's Network. She currently works in the Greater Milwaukee area.

"We are pleased to have the outstanding talents of these four individuals as we develop a premier hospital guest house serving families facing critical health care challenges"
-Glen Van Fossen, Chair of the Board of Directors.

"They will make a positive impact as we prepare to build a new house."