



Vera Wilson and Dr. J. Frank Wilson (Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin)

2018 Gala - A Great Success

Thank you to more than 300 guests and over 1500 Facebook Live viewers for supporting this year's Gala, our largest fund-raising event of the year. With the help of generous sponsors, individuals who donated more than 100 auction items, and our gala attendees, we raised over \$150,000 – a new record!



Henry Kollross and Mary Gronnert-Kollross with their medical team, Dr. Nirav Shah (Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin) and Areyl Goff.



Mark Filla (Board Member) & Jon Pagel

Inspiration of Hope Award

This year's *Inspiration of Hope* award went to Mary Gronnert-Kollross and Henry Kollross, from Green Bay. Mary stayed at Kathy's House for three months last year while her husband Hank received a bone marrow transplant at Froedtert Hospital. His physician, Dr. Shah, advised Hank stay near the hospital upon his release, so he joined Mary at the House.



Catherine, Michael (Emeritus Board Member) & Mary Bennett

In accepting the award Mary announced, "Kathy's House was our beacon in the storm. Dr. Shah and the staff at Froedtert were taking care of our physical needs, but Kathy's House took care of our emotional needs. It was our resting place; our social place and we took advantage of every bit of information we could gather from the guests before us and with us. We shared their fears and anxieties, their ups and their downs, all with respect and admiration for each other."

Founder's Award



Amy Atallah & Dr. Ehab Atallah (Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin)



Daughter Julie Wrysch, Patty Metropulos, President & CEO Kathy's House, Mike and Ginny McBride and daughter Brenda Renk.

Virginia "Ginny" and Michael McBride received the Founder's Award, recognizing over 17 years of dedication to Kathy's House. Introducing the McBrides, President & CEO Patty Metropulos said, "Mike and Ginny have been volunteers at the House since it first opened and have remained steadfast supporters. We know that when we need help, they graciously provide it. Mike and Ginny set the standard for making a difference in the lives of others. Kathy's House staff, volunteers and guests are grateful for their incredible support and are pleased to honor them with the Founder's Award."



Donald & Melinda Lanham (Board Member)

Kathy's House has answers and solutions to the problems and challenges people face when they come to Milwaukee for medical treatments.

-Mike McBride

In accepting the award, Mike articulated, "Kathy's House mission fits perfectly with our philanthropy philosophy – supporting organizations that make a difference in people's lives. When we support Kathy's House each year, we are supporting the people who stay at Kathy's House who have significant needs."





Dr. Malika Siker Joins Board of Directors

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Malika Siker to the Board of Directors. Dr. Siker is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center with privileges at Froedtert Hospital, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Community Memorial Hospital Menomonee Falls, St. Joseph's Hospital-West Bend, Kenosha Medical Center and Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Milwaukee.



“Dr. Siker brings depth of knowledge and a strong compassion and understanding for the journey faced by Kathy’s House guests.”

- Board President, Marilyn Thiet

Born in Janesville Wisconsin, Dr. Siker received her M.D. from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health and completed her residency in Radiation Oncology at MCW, joining faculty in 2011.

Welcome Katie Sparks-Director of Philanthropy



Through your support, Kathy’s House has reached a new milestone. We have added a Director of Philanthropy to our staff. This new position means more patients and families will be served because of you and our philanthropic donors.

Katie worked on the Froedtert Hospital campus from 2012-2015 and started her fundraising career with the Medical College of Wisconsin in 2005. She brings 13 years of business development experience.

“I look forward to meeting so many of you within the amazing network of Kathy’s House supporters. Our events, volunteers, alumni families and current families, and surrounding community here and throughout the state all showcase the impact Kathy’s House has had on people. It all started with the Vogel family 17 years ago in honoring their daughter. All these years later we are honoring every patient who needs us, and their families who surround them. Thank you for allowing Kathy’s House to be a part of your lives.”

The Lions Clubs of Wisconsin and Kathy’s House: A Terrific Partnership

Since Kathy’s House opened in 2001, the Lions Clubs of Wisconsin have generously donated over \$72,000 to fulfill our mission!

Our longest standing partnership is with the New Berlin Lions Club. Each year, a group of volunteers from Kathy’s House helps to serve corn at the New Berlin Lions Club Corn Booth at the Wisconsin State Fair. In turn, the Club makes a generous donation to the House based on proceeds.

Other Clubs from throughout the state have made generous financial donations, donated paper goods and made meals for guests. Individual Lions Club members have made donations and help with advertising, landscaping and much more.

Most recently we were pleased to have 2018 27 A-1 District Governor Sharon Eberhardt join us at this year’s Gala.



Founder Judy Vogel (mother of Kathy Vogel Kuettner), Cassandra Hathaway, Sharon Eberhardt



Wisconsin Athletic Club

WAC Donates Memberships for Kathy’s House Guests

Recently, the Wisconsin Athletic Club, the WAC, donated a membership for guests to use during their stay at Kathy’s House. Our guests appreciate having access to the nearby Wauwatosa WAC.

Passages 10/19/17 – 6/26/18

Donors of **Kathy’s House** have recently honored the lives and memories of:

Leona Anick
Frank Arnold
Timothy Bednarz
Gary Blohm
Judy Cherveney
Dewey Close
Kathleen Donovan Smith
Margaret Erwin
Melinda Gough
Linda Hoffman
LeRoy Holzem
Deborah Huet
David Jensen
Dorothy Johnson

Frank Kleiman
LoRayne Kostecke
Zhaoming & Kitty Li
Lindsay Wenzel Lopez
Kevin McDermott
Jim & Phyllis Metropulos
Brett Miller
Eddah Okuthe Nelson
Gloria Peterson
Jim Severson
Jim Sileno
Mary Silhol
Russell Skorik
Howard & Arlene Smith

Carol Staffeldt
Nancy Strother
Susan Tucker
Dick Vogel
Kathy Vogel-Kuettner
Roy Wagner
Simi Weinhouse
Cece Wylde



Kids Enjoy Kathy's House

Dylan and Michelle say "It's Like Coming to Grandma's House!"



Dylan and his mother, Michelle Rottscheit
From Marshfield, Wisconsin

Dylan, now 20, and Michelle Rottscheit have been making the drive from Marshfield to Milwaukee every couple of weeks since 2009. Dylan has a brain tumor and must regularly receive chemotherapy. In January he had three brain surgeries to remove fluid around the tumors as "he was getting so weak he couldn't pick up a soda can," Michelle reported. Today he is much stronger, can ride a bike and go out with friends."

Michelle brought both of her children to Kathy's House when The Ronald McDonald House was full. The first time they arrived, Michelle said, they had no food as they hadn't expected to remain in Milwaukee overnight as their car unexpectedly broke down. Michelle said Kathy's House welcomed them with open arms, fed them and were willing to help in every way.

"It's like going to my Mom's house or your Grandmother's house," said Michelle. **"Whatever we needed, the staff and volunteers helped. We particularly love all the volunteer groups who come and cook meals for guests.** They bring all the food and invite you to join. It is always delicious."

Nicholas Says Kathy's House Feels Like Home

Julie Theis was at Kathy's House for three nights in June with her daughter Megan (21) and son Nicholas (9). Just a year ago they moved from Chicago to Minocqua, WI. Megan has survived brain cancer but still needs care for side effects caused by radiation and chemotherapy. Froedtert is the closest hospital with medical services they need.

Julie said they have tried to stay in the past but were on a waitlist. "I'm glad that we were able to stay this time. We could not afford the meals and lodging, so our alternative would have been to drive 500 miles back and forth each day."

Nicholas is delighted to be at Kathy's House and told Julie that he would like to live here. "I like the game room. Last night we played Lord of the Rings (Monopoly) until 11pm. It's like home."

"It's like home," Julie expressed. **"Nick begs to help clean-up, and does his own cooking here. The House has everything we could possibly want, and all the guests are great.** They have been so wonderful to kids." Julie mentioned that a special treat was the meals cooked by volunteers including staff from 2NT at Froedtert Hospital and the excellent spaghetti, dessert and grab bags made by the kids from Camp Caring, a program through the Wauwatosa Recreation Department.

"I feel blessed that Megan and I could stay here with Nick. Otherwise we would have had to drive to Chicago so Nick could stay with relatives and he loves being here."

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What Does Your Donation Mean?

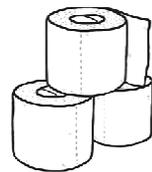
\$100 One meal for all the guests



\$85 One night stay at Kathy's House



\$50 Toilet paper for the house 1 month



\$30 Gas for the van 1 month



\$20



Cleaning supplies for 1 guest room 1 month

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





Kathy's House

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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.



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Kathy's House Provides Strength For Buljeskaj Family



*Shaban Buljeskaj with his wife Hava and their son Bentian
From Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin*

Many miracles brought Hava Buljeskaj and her family to Kathy's House this June. Hava has been battling cancer for more than 14 years. Many times she has been told that she wasn't expected to live – her cancer was too difficult to treat. But her husband Shaban, never gave up. Her son Bentian, now 8 years old, is a miracle child.

Two years ago, Shaban and Bentian spent 6 weeks at Kathy's House, when Hava was referred by Dr. Hari at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin. Hava underwent a bone marrow transplant. Her sister from Switzerland was a perfect match and she stayed at Kathy's House for a couple of weeks too. "Every time we came for a check-up (from Wisconsin Rapids), Bentian wanted to say hello," said Shaban. "We cannot describe how important Kathy's House is to our family. For us, staying here was like staying with close family only better. Everyone staying at the House is facing a big problem and the guests really support each other. It gave us inner strength and we feel, even today, that we are at home."

Join Us at the 5th Annual Kathy's House Golf Outing



Scenes from the 2017 Golf Outing

Kathy's House is excited to announce that it will be hosting its 5th annual golf outing on Thursday, September 20, 2018 at Ironwood Golf Course in Sussex, WI. Ironwood Golf Course is located on natural rolling terrain and offers terrific views and challenging play for golfers at every skill level.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities for the "Kathy's House Classic" Golf Outing please contact Katie Sparks at 414-453-8290 or email at katies@kathys-house.org.

Visit: www.kathys-house.org/events to register and for more details.