



Rainbows

Kathy's House is a hospital hospitality house dedicated to providing lodging and a supportive environment in "a home away from home" for patients and their caregivers traveling to Milwaukee area hospitals for medical treatment.

LobsterFest 2007

For the fifth straight year, Kathy's Club of Port Washington is organizing Lobsterfest that will again be hosted by the Wilson House restaurant. This is truly a special event that you won't want to miss. Irv and Sandy Carlson, owners of the Wilson House, have again offered their beautiful waterfront restaurant with stunning water views for this occasion. This is, unquestionably, a must attend event.

The stars of this show will be the largest lobsters that you may have ever seen. These delicacies average more than two pounds each and are hand selected in Maine just two days prior



Guests enjoying lobster dinners last year!

to the event. The meal is rounded out by sides, salads, and desserts specially prepared by the Wilson House chef.

Mark the date, Sunday, October 21st on your calendar. There will be no Packer game on this date. Expect to see valuable prizes such as airline tickets and vacations. Just want to help out? Our wait staff is an all-volunteer effort. Call Dan Chaudoir at 414-687-2033 and he'll get you the job you'll love.

Most importantly, reserve early. Seating will be limited to 200 guests. Reservations are already coming in from as far away as Asheville, NC!

Round up your friends and make your reservations today! At \$65 per person this may be the fall's best bargain, and all for a terrific cause. Call Kathy's House at 414-453-8290 to save your spot today!

Reflections

from our guests and friends

Dear Dick,

You have my permission to share my comments about Kathy's House and how wonderful it is. Although it was a terrible time for my husband and I, Kathy's House was a wonderful solace for me. Julie was especially great. It was so nice to be able to go home to Kathy's House after a long day at the VA. Cindy and I didn't have to worry about going out for a meal after hospital hours.

Pam M.
Oconto, WI

Wonderful accommodations for me so close to the hospital.

Robert S.
Green Bay, WI

I was very happy with everything.

Nancy A.
Newton, WI

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Rainbow Kitchen Reprise

Thanks to many generous donors at our June Rainbow Kitchen fundraiser, the kitchen project is proceeding. There are many to thank including Taj Jordan our MC and Auctioneer and his "Music on the Move" DJ, the many hard working volunteers who assembled auction items. Special thanks to Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital who was our primary event sponsor along with many other companies and groups who supported the 2007 Rainbow Kitchen event.

Thanks to board of directors and event member, Jean Storer, we have selected a date for the 2008 event. The event will be on Saturday, May 3, 2008 at the Ozaukee Country Club in Mequon, WI. Their mouth watering prime filet mignon will be featured for dinner followed by crème brulee for dessert.

Your help is requested as we seek auction items, table sponsors and attendees. You might even consider becoming an event team planner and help make this fundraiser another rousing success, as a table captain.

If you would like to attend the next planning session, please call Kathy's House at 414-453-8290. Please consider joining us to help continue the mission of Kathy's House.

**Save the Date
May 3, 2008**

Annual NAHHH Conference

The National Association of Hospital Hospitality Houses, Inc. is a non-profit corporation serving facilities that provide lodging and other supportive services to patients and their families when confronted with medical emergencies. Each facility assures that a homelike environment is provided to persons who must travel to be with a patient or to receive necessary outpatient care. Kathy's House has been a member of the NAHHH since 2001.

Kathy's House board members, Dick and Judy Vogel, attended this year's conference in North Carolina to gain insights of the over 200 hundred members in the organization. We are one of the general category independent homes (not hospital controlled) that provides service to all ages and for all medical treatment. Other homes specialize in young patients, cancer transplants, or the military. Others serve only their sponsoring hospital's patients.

Support to enable houses to fulfill their mission comes from many sources including hospitals, foundations, corporations, churches, civic groups and most importantly our friends and guests. Size of homes ranges from several rooms to over one hundred.

We are dedicated to helping new houses emerge to fulfill their market needs. Many hours, a lot of effort and large quantities of money are required to open a hospitality house and to sustain the operations.

While visiting the Brooke Army Medical Center, Denzel Washington, the actor, was so impressed that he made a sizeable donation on the spot to the Fisher House Foundation. Fisher House Foundation supports the hospitality houses at military bases.

Editor's note: Would someone invite Denzel to Kathy's House?

Eagle's Trail

Eagle Scout candidate, Jake Cleary, is no newcomer to Kathy's House. His scout troop has collected items and donated supplies and food to support the mission at Kathy's House for several years.

When Jake needed a community service project to complete the Eagle Scout requirements, he contacted Kathy's House. He chose to expand and enhance the wooded area which has been named Kathy's House Eagle Trail. Jake planned, organized and implemented the project. Jake solicited donations of plants and supplies for the nature trail. He supervised planting of shade loving plants and spreading the wood mulch on the foot paths in the area.



A quiet spot in the midst of turmoil.

Kathy's House is proud to participate in this worthy project and we congratulate Jake Cleary on a job well done.

Many hands were involved in this project. Kristin Ziegelbauer, an Alverno College intern at Kathy's House, laid out the original project this summer. She contacted landscape nurseries in the area, collected plants from Johnson Nursery and planted the first phase.

The Dawn Petersen Foundation has also provided assistance and will continue to look after the mini-nature preserve right out the back door of Kathy's House. Our plan is that this natural setting will provide a temporary respite for our guests - a chance to escape and enjoy some quiet solitude in the midst of turmoil.

Thanks

Words are never enough to thank everyone who makes the mission of Kathy's House viable and continuous. Our thanks to:

- StillWaters UMC for their continuing support.
- Wisconsin Service League for a generous donation.
- St. Boniface Episcopal Church and the Radley and Sweet families for room decorating.
- Holy Trinity Lutheran church for the 4th of July picnic.
- Irene and Bonnie and friends who provide dinner once a month.
- The summer leadership youth group from the northwestside "Y".
- The Ditscheit family for the summer cookout.
- Mike Czarnecki, Panera, and two Pick 'n Save stores for bread and pastries.
- All the volunteers who helped with the garage sale.
- The Dawn E. Petersen Foundation for phone cards and on going guest support.

Passages

Donors to Kathy's House have recently honored the memory of:

Naomi Hartleben
Ranny Meyers
Ruth Vanderspool
Vernon Burnidge
Mary Ann Winn
Mary Jo Reimer
Elaine Fleming
Dick Lorenzen
Peter Gingrasso
Leo Anderson
Evelyn Ellis
John Freund
Todd Jonet
Cheryl Rubesan
Dawn Petersen
Russell Skorik
Louise Dankert
Marilyn Walters
Robert Watson

Reflections

from our guests and friends

A home away from home – very nice!! All the staff has been very helpful.

Fran. G.
Sheboygan, WI

This was a great restful place for me to stay during my wife's surgery. Thanks.

Ken D.
Little Canada, MN

We were blessed by the care we received here.

Jill U.
Avon, MN

I love you guys and can't say enough good about you! Especially Julie. You were so wonderful to me in my time of need. Please use this donation for whatever you need it for.

Pam M.
Oconto, WI

It's a wonderful and caring place to be in such difficult times. Thank you and bless you all!!

Judi J.
Campbellsport, WI

It was like my "home away from home." I will miss everyone.

Pat W.
Picayune, MS

Special Friends

The success of Kathy's House has always been dependent on many good friends and hard working volunteers. The following is a list of some of these special friends who have recently made significant contributions to our mission.

Marijane and Arlene, kitchen volunteers, who clear cupboards, check refrigerators and freezers for dated food to assure our guests with fresh, safe food at all times.

The R.E.A.C.H. crew who magically appear each week to bake brownies, cookies and other delights for guests and volunteers to enjoy.

Scott McLean and his Royalty Cleaners team who cleaned our carpets as a gift to Kathy's House.

Michael Cornish and the EZ Window crew who washed all of the windows at Kathy's House in, out and in between for half price. They sparkle once again.

Greg Heitz and the Heitz Family Foundation who joined the Rainbow Kitchen Project with a generous Scarecrow's hat donation of \$10,000.

Leo B. who sorts all of the empty ink cartridges, used cell phones and aluminum tabs. He also checks and changes light bulbs on a regular basis.

We especially thank the event planning volunteers who are diligently working on the annual event for 2008 to be held at the Ozaukee Country Club on May 3rd. Thank you - thank you very much!

Last but certainly not least is Kathy's Club of Port Washington. They have launched the boats to start the annual catch to supply this year's LobsterFest on October 21st at the Wilson House in Port Washington. See article on front page.

We thank you all, our many friends and volunteers who support the mission of Kathy's House.

Information Help for KH Guests

ZivaGuide is a unique subscription-based service designed to provide you with access to healthcare information that is unbiased, personalized, customized and localized. There is no charge for guests of Kathy's House. ZivaGuide provides clear and concise guidance and information about research, products and services to help you navigate the complicated healthcare landscape and make informed decisions.

ZivaGuide provides more than just information about diseases and resources. Their unique services will help you find and research local healthcare facilities and providers, deal with payment issues and learn about options, understand legal and financial concerns regarding healthcare planning and research and purchase products that suit your exact needs.

Best of all, ZivaGuide is not a general encyclopedia that provides the same information to every user. ZivaGuide is personalized, customized and localized. No two people will have the same ZivaGuide.

As a member of the ZivaGuide community, you are never alone. There is a "ZivaGuide Help Center", a free telephone service designed to give you the help you need, whether that means using ZivaGuide in a more efficient manner or finding the information and resources you need.

ZivaGuide is committed to helping you get the critical help you need when you need it, where you need it and in the most straightforward way possible.

Guests of Kathy's House should contact a staff member for assistance.

Marian College Consulting Project

Five Masters of Science business students, Joan Maro, Sue Nuelk, Nannette Ray, Monica Skarban, and Greg Thompson, recently completed a two-year program in Organizational Leadership and Quality. As a major part of their studies, they completed a project with Kathy's House. The goal of their project has three objectives: to complete an assessment of Kathy's House in the marketplace, to evaluate and make recommendations about customer access for services and to create a strategic plan to increase awareness of Kathy's House in the community.

Recommendations made by the group covered four areas:

1. Internal customers who include guests and patients
2. External customers who make referrals to Kathy's House
3. Website considerations
4. Volunteers

Some specific recommendation from the group include:

- A. Guest check-in:
 - * Simplify the process
 - * Create an orientation binder
 - * Suggestion box (presented to Kathy's House by the team)
- B. Referrals
 - * Schedule open house visits for hospital staff
 - * Suggest that hospitals add a link to their website
 - * Continue to survey patients and guests for suggestions
- C. Website
 - * Suggest links be added to Kathy's House website of relevant sites
 - * Keep up to date - suggest a review at least quarterly
- D. Volunteers
 - * Focus on what volunteers can do for Kathy's House

SUMMARY

Intake
Community Awareness
Volunteer Workforce
Website



New Suggestion Box

Reflections

from our guests and friends

Wonderful, empathic people. I would recommend Kathy's House to my friends in a heart beat. I really mean it.

Flo B.
Manitowoc, WI

I would stay here again and suggest it to all my friends.

Joseph K.
Manitowoc, WI

Kathy's House is very convenient, comfortable and fully equipped. I felt like it was my home and the staff as my family – they are so generous and so kind. Thank you very much for Kathy's House and all the volunteers and staff. I am very grateful for you.

Habib D.
Allepo, Syria

I had a very good experience at staying at Kathy's House. I felt I was at my home.

Rahul G.
Bowling Green, KY

The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do.

- Steve Jobs, CEO of Apple

Some of the Best Reasons to Volunteer

Some of the best reasons to give are the ones you may not have considered — the ones that make it worth your while to go that extra step. People who have spent time volunteering for a cause report that they get back in satisfaction and joy more than they ever expend in inconvenience or effort — what you get back is immeasurable. You'll also receive these benefits:

- Volunteering makes you feel needed.
- Volunteering can lead to learning new skills.
- Volunteering can help you deal with some of your personal problems.
- Volunteering helps you meet new people and breaks down barriers of misunderstanding, mistrust and fear.
- Volunteering can create new contacts which may help your business or career.

Have you been thinking about volunteering? Call Kathy's House to discuss all of the opportunities to help. 414-453-8290

Tradition of Volunteering

Some interesting facts about volunteerism:

- Approximately 109 million American adults volunteer annually - that's 56% of all adults.
- Volunteers contribute an average of 3.5 hours per week — totaling 20 billion hours with an estimated dollar value of \$225 billion.
- 59% of teenagers volunteer an average of 3.5 hours per week — that's 13.3 million volunteers totaling 2.4 billion hours at a total value of \$7.7 billion.

The nonprofit sector cannot take the place of government programs, nor can it single-handedly cure the ills and disparities of society. But each of us can make a difference in a small way, in our own sphere, and can find ways to help that will make our efforts worthwhile.

You might be thinking, “The little bit that I can do will never help much!” or “What in the world can I do?” If you've ever spent ten minutes reading a book to a lonely child, you know that even that small amount of compassion and attention can make a world of difference. No one person can solve the world's problems, but what little you do can make your little corner of the world — or one far away from yours – a happier, healthier, safer place to live for those who need your help. Each of us can right a wrong, fill a plate, visit a shut — in or clean up a park — and that does make a difference for us all!

CaringBridge - The Family and Friends Connection

CaringBridge® is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit web service that connects family and friends during a critical illness, treatment or recovery. A CaringBridge site is personal, private and available 24/7. It helps ease the burden of keeping family and friends informed. Patients and caregivers draw strength from loved ones' messages of support.

In conjunction with NAHHH, CaringBridge provides free websites to anyone going through a health crisis. Over 70,000 families have created free, personalized websites and have had more than 400 million visits by loved ones. CaringBridge is used in 40+ countries around the world.

A CaringBridge website helps family and friends give patient and caregiver support through guest book messages. Every free, personalized CaringBridge website includes:

- Patient care journal to update family and friends
- Guest book for messages of love
- Photo gallery
- Free online support for using the service

More than 15 million people each year turn to CaringBridge for comfort and support during difficult times. You can create a website for yourself. Or do it for someone you love. It's a meaningful way to help friends and family during a life-changing event. Find out how CaringBridge can make a difference.

<http://www.caringbridge.org/takeatour> or call Kathy's House, 414-453-8290, for more information.



United Way - Days of Caring

Days of Caring is two weeks of volunteer projects that take place throughout Greater Milwaukee. Local nonprofit organizations request help, and United Way mobilizes teams of volunteers from our partner companies to pitch in.



United Way of Greater Milwaukee, working in partnership with the Volunteer Centers of Greater Milwaukee and Ozaukee County, gathers hundreds of volunteers to produce two weeks of volunteering - bringing our community together while producing visible community impact.

Some volunteers paint, repair, fix and hammer, while others read to children or



care for individuals with disabilities on an outing to the zoo. Many more collect school supplies, non-perishable food items and other necessities that are often taken for granted.

In 2006, Days of Caring set a record for the number of workers from companies throughout Greater Milwaukee who helped with projects for nonprofit agencies and individuals in need.

Some volunteers paint, repair, fix and hammer, while others read to children or



2006 Highlights

- 70 area businesses participated
- 8,590 volunteer hours were contributed
- \$150,000 worth of work completed
- 2,100 individual volunteers worked on the projects at 103 nonprofit agencies



This year, Kathy's House hosted ten companies with a total of 65 volunteers. The hard working volunteers painted, cleaned and baked. The companies involved were: WE Energies, Assurant Health, Columbia St. Mary's, Northwestern Mutual, Manpower, Jefferson Wells, Bucks, Engberg Anderson, US Bank and Harley Davidson. Many thanks to all the participants.

There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer. With it beats the spirit of service, generosity and compassion...and the health and well-being of our community, our country and our world. - Kobi Yamada

Wish List

Consumable supplies:

Coffee, regular or decaf
Coffee creamer
Equal/Splenda

Paper towels
Facial tissue
Toilet paper
Paper plates
Napkins

Bed pillows
Pillow protectors
Hand held showerheads

Cleaning supplies
Laundry detergent
Bleach
Fabric softener
Bathroom cleanser

Trash bags, 13 or 50 gal.

Gift Cards:

Target
Menard's
Pick 'n Save
Phone cards
Office Max
Home Depot
Gasoline
Lowe's

Kathy's House, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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Member, National Association of Hospital Hospitality Houses
www.nahhh.org

Upcoming Events

LobsterFest 2007

October 21, 2007
Wilson House, Port Washington

Annual Event

May 3, 2008
Ozaukee Country Club, Mequon

Different Ways to Help Kathy's House

Food Shopping Helps Kathy's House

Kathy's House participates in the Pick 'n Save WE CARE program, designed to donate a portion of your grocery bill to non-profit organizations like Kathy's House. To join, you must be enrolled in the Advantage Plus Saver's Club with the six-digit identification number for Kathy's House (**410010**). You can sign up at any Pick 'n Save store. Do it the next time you shop. Thanks.

Think Green

- Recycling Helps Kathy's House

We recycle aluminum soda can tabs, empty ink cartridges, used cell phones and nearly new hardcover books. Bring these recyclables to Kathy's House and we will turn them into cash for operating Kathy's House.

Red Banks for Kathy's House

Is your Red Bank full? Do you need another? Bring the full banks to Kathy's House or call 414-453-8290 for instructions or to learn more about the Red Banks and how to get one.