



Kathy's House

A HOSPITAL GUEST HOUSE

Media Advisory - Two Long-Time Volunteers Make Thanksgiving Dinner for Guests at Kathy's House and Local Gardener

What: Three amazing volunteers, Chef Steve, Lorraine Kofler and Lee Roy Wagner are spending Thanksgiving dinner with the guests at Kathy's House. Chef Steve Paradowski, Lorraine Kofler and her family will be making the dinner for the guests. Volunteer Lee Roy Wagner will be joining them for Thanksgiving Dinner. An avid gardener, Lee Roy donated all of the produce of his large garden plot this year to Kathy's House.

Why: Guests at Kathy's House usually cook their own food in the large, well-supplied kitchen available at the house. Being away from family and friends during a holiday like Thanksgiving can be very difficult, but Steve and Lorraine understand that food is a universal language that can make everyone feel better.

When: Thursday, November 24, 2016 between 930am - 5 pm. Chef Steve arrives at 10 a.m. to start dinner and Lorraine Kofler and her family will be there at 11 am to help. Executive Director Patty Metropulos will be at the House from 9 – 1pm. The actual dinner will be served at 4 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

Where: Kathy's House, 600 N. 103rd Street, Milwaukee, WI, 53226. The Kathy's House telephone number is 414-453-8290. Any further information can be found on our website, www.kathys-house.org. Parking is available in front of the building.

One-On-One Interview Opportunities:

Chef Steve has prepared Thanksgiving Dinner for our guests for the past 4 year. He does all of the grocery shopping for the event by bus, often making multiple trips to Kathy's House to prepare for the feast. He was a chef in a variety of Milwaukee restaurants before experiencing a stroke five years ago. Now he buys and makes meals for Kathy's House guests a couple of times a month for the 30 -35 guests here on any given day. In 2014, he was honored by the Green Bay Packers with a Community Quarterback Award for his volunteerism at Kathy's House. He will be available for interviews from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Lorraine Kofler, our volunteer extraordinaire has involved her entire family, fellow residents at San Camillo and her alumni group at St. Michaels Parish School to be a part of the Kathy's House community. She often comes and helps Chef Steve cook and will do so again, this time with her family, on Thanksgiving Day. On December 6th, she will receive the BizTimes Healthcare Heroes award as a volunteer for all that she does at Kathy's House. She will be available for interviews from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Lee Roy Wagner brought all of the produce from his large garden to Kathy's House for the past two years. This past summer as he brought in fresh tomatoes, zucchini, kale, squash and other items from his garden. He will be available for an interview at 4 p.m.

Patty Metropulos, Executive Director will be available to interview between 9am – 1230pm. Patty can speak to the organization's mission, our role in assisting patients and families from Wisconsin, the Midwest, the US and beyond as they access the world class medical care available in Milwaukee. This year, Kathy's House will provide affordable lodging and caring support to more than 1500 families from out of the area – 40% from Northeastern Wisconsin.

A Kathy's House Guest may be available for an interview but this would need to be determined on that day. Kathy Wagner could assist with this between the hours of 10-1pm.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Patty Metropulos will be at Kathy's House from 9am -1230pm, 414-453-8290 - 360-232-3739 mobile

Carolyn Bellin, Communication Consultant - 414-581-5378, mobile, home 414-351-5915

ABOUT KATHY'S HOUSE

Kathy's House is a non-profit hospital guest house that provides lodging to guests experiencing one of life's most stressful situations – personal illness or the illness of a loved one. Kathy's House has provided lodging, a supportive environment and amenities as a "home away from home" for more than 7500 guests or 15,000 individuals who are receiving treatment for an illness at a Milwaukee area hospital. All are from out of the area. On any given night about 30 people are staying at the House. 55% are caregivers; 45% are patients themselves. Over 80% of guests who stay at Kathy's House are from Wisconsin and 80% of families referred to Kathy's House are receiving treatments for complex cancers.



Exterior of Kathy's House



Chef Steve



Volunteer Lorraine Kofler working in the kitchen – on the left