



## 2019 KATHY'S HOUSE GALA



Sue (Board Member) & Harry Derus

Thank you to everyone who donated to and attended this year's Gala held at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center on Saturday, May 11th.

We raised a record-breaking \$158,000! Thanks to the generosity of donors there were over 100 auction and raffle items! Brewers tickets, liquor baskets, jewelry, concert tickets and even a condo stay in Naples! Be sure to mark your calendars for next year's Gala on Saturday, May 16th, 2020.



Joanne (Volunteer Chef) & Geoff Blaesing

### Inspiration of Hope Award

Karla and Mike Josephs were the Inspiration of Hope award winners. From Appleton, the Josephs have been coming to stay at Kathy's House since 2017. Mike has been battling leukemia and is under the care of Dr. Laura Michaelis and Physician Assistant Amber Essenmacher. While presenting the award to them, Dr. Michaelis referenced their unfaltering spirit and love for one another as a core component of Mike's medical journey. On the days when she would have to deliver bad news to them, Mike and Karla would look at each other, nod positively and say "okay, here we go."



Inspiration of Hope Award winner Mike & Karla Josephs with Mike's doctor, Dr. Laura Michealis (left), Medical Oncology/Hematology: Medical College of Wisconsin.



Dr. Malika Siker (Board Member and Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin) and Olivier Reiher

In their acceptance video, Karla and Mike talked about what Kathy's House means to them. Mike enjoys interacting with other guests instead of being isolated in a hotel. He stated, "guests can support one another, and it is all part of the healing process." Karla said that "even being a caregiver you need a little time, somebody to talk to, so I think this is the best place to be with everything that goes on in your life when you are trying to heal and fighting cancer." Their friendliness, optimism and engagement make them treasured Kathy's House guests.

### Founder's Award

This year's recipient of the Founder's award is Lorraine Kofler. Lorraine began volunteering at Kathy's House in July of 2011. She comes to the House at least two days a week and checks guests in and out, answers phones, listens and comforts guests when they need it and celebrates their joys with them. She is an integral part of our exceptional culture of compassion. At age 88, she is also one of the most passionate ambassadors for Kathy's House, helping to recruit volunteers and fundraise for our new facility. In her acceptance speech Lorraine said, "I love working at Kathy's House, especially helping people going through a tough time. They are all heroes."



Josef and Charlotte Pronnet, supporters



Founder's Award winner Lorraine Kofler (middle) with Susan Vogel Foley (left), Kathy Vogel Kuettner's sister and Patty Metropulos, President and CEO of Kathy's House.



Drew & Marilyn Thiet (Board Member) and Donna & Jeff Skwierawski





## WELCOME NEWLY ELECTED BOARD DIRECTORS



**John A. Balzer** serves as the VP of Facility Planning and Development for Froedtert Health and has been recognized by his peers as a national leader in advancing the design of healthcare facilities. He and his team at Froedtert Health will provide construction management for the new Kathy's House.



**Tina Curtis** has served as the Executive Director, Clinical Cancer Services, for Froedtert Hospital since 2017. She is responsible for the overall operations of the Clinical Cancer Center and guides a team of oncology leaders responsible for more than 250 full-time-equivalent staff. Her intimate knowledge of the needs of cancer patients is of particular value to the Board as more than 85% of guests at Kathy's House are impacted by cancer.



**Patrick McGarry** has served as the Chief Financial Officer at Wixon Inc in St. Francis since 2017, where he oversees all financial and legal matters. He also serves as the General Manager of Gott Pet Products in St. Francis. Patrick has previous experience at Ernst & Young, Google Inc and KPMG in Milwaukee. Patrick will add to the financial expertise of the Board as we undertake the building of a new House.

## KIRBYS FIND KATHY'S HOUSE PHENOMENAL



Phillip Kirby has pancreatic cancer. He and his wife Patricia went to Sloan Kettering for chemotherapy but a physician from Indianapolis highly recommended they come to Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin and Dr. Doug Evans' team for further treatment. They stayed at Kathy's House in May while Phil received radiation therapy as part of a clinical trial and they will return in summer for surgery.

Pat says, "Everyone at Kathy's House is kind and attentive. We did feel like we were at home! We loved all of the home cooked meals various volunteers made and the shuttle service was so wonderful. We didn't have to remember which parking structure, what floor, we just called and the staff were glad to take us to the hospital and pick us up."

## PASSAGES

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

David Arps	Barbara Hartjes	Kevin McDermott	Bernice Schwalbe
Patricia Asman	Sarah Herbe	Steve Mecca	Jim Selas
Dennis Baer	Geri Herling	Eileen Mueller	Wayne Shaffer
Ted Barber	Bob Holmes	Debra Muleski	Mary Silhol
Timothy Bednarz	Robert Howard	Eileen Nicolosi	Russell Skorik
Kathy Berres	Deborah Huet	Mary Niven	Charles W Spalding
Robert Biechler	Bill Isbister	Eddah Okuthe-Nelson	Carol Staffeldt
Sheldon Bledsoe	Jace	Carina Peterson	Nancy Strother
Tina Cherney	Kathy Jackson	Robert Post	Nancy Thielmann
Janice Church	Stan Janusiewicz	Chris & Lesa Potos	Loretta Thyssen
Linda Coe	Peggy Kent	Lorenz Pronnet	Jan Van Fossen
William Harold Davis	Marie Klein	Linda Lea Rasmussen	Richard Vogel
Lee De Decker	Marilyn Irene Klos	Sandy Ritchie	Brandon Waldon
Dennis Dietzen	Marvin Knuth	Bernie Rosauer	Randy Weiss
Bill Dones	Russell Kriese	Jay Sauter	Donna Wierenga
Margaret Erwin	Kathy Vogel Kuettner	Irene Schelman	Cece Wylde
Tyler Frea	Katherine Lensing	Helen & Elmer Schulte	Janet Zganjar
James Guse	Lindsay Wenzel Lopez	Gordon Schutt	



## NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR BUSINESSES GREAT AND SMALL



If you can provide items for **to go meals**, please contact Marie, Volunteer Coordinator, at 414-453-8290 or email at [marieg@kathys-house.org](mailto:marieg@kathys-house.org)

Kathy's House is offering new opportunities for people who work and enjoy community service. Our guests are usually not here during the day, but they do appreciate a "lunch to go" or a "breakfast to go" to take to the hospital or appointments.

You and your group can come to Kathy's House first thing in the morning, each person brings an item for the meal and, as a group,

puts them together – taking less than a half hour! Another option is to prepare lunch or breakfast to go at your business and drop them off at Kathy's House. You can also drop off supplies for "to go" meals and the staff will put them together and set them out for guests.

We will display a sign thanking your company so guests know of your generosity. Call Marie at 414-453-8290 for more information.

### COMMUNITY GROUP EVENTS

If you're a member of a community group that seeks guest speakers, volunteer opportunities including a paper product drive, or are looking for charitable recipients of an upcoming fundraiser or event, Kathy's House would enjoy hearing from you. For speakers or charitable donations, please contact Katie Sparks, Director of Philanthropy, [katies@kathys-house.org](mailto:katies@kathys-house.org). For volunteering or a paper drive, please contact Marie Grevsmuehl, Volunteer Coordinator, [marieg@kathys-house.org](mailto:marieg@kathys-house.org).

### GROUPS WE'VE PRESENTED TO OR RECEIVED CHARITABLE PROCEEDS

- Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church—Ladies Philoptochos Society
- Wisconsin Masonic Foundation
- Holy Apostles Catholic Church
- St. Therese Congregation
- Ice Fishing Wisconsin
- Various Lions Clubs and Lioness Clubs
- Various Rotary Clubs
- Various Kiwanis Clubs
- Union of Telephone Professionals
- Winneconne Thrift & Gift
- Elevate MKE/Race for Your Reason (June 29)
- Waukesha Rotary Club (Aug. 12)
- Giving Circle (Sept.)
- Unitarian Universalist Church-West (Sept. 8)
- Elmbrook Rotary Club (Sept. 13)

### THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR GALA SPONSORS



Thank you to the additional 120+ businesses and individuals who purchased tables and donated auction items to make the Gala a success. To see the full list, please go to the events page of our website at [www.kathys-house.org/events](http://www.kathys-house.org/events)

### WISH LIST

Kathy's House is grateful for the generosity of all of our donors. We have created a wish list on AmazonSmile.com of our most urgent needs.



Once on Amazon Smile, select Kathy's House as your charity and Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase to Kathy's House!

**Hand Soap**  
free and clear of chemicals



**True Air replacement carbon filters (3 pack)**  
replacements on monthly basis, all rooms

**Swiffer Sweeper Wet**  
use 10 per week in kitchen



**Queen-sized Mattress Pads**  
18 quantity



## Kathy's House

600 North 103rd Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53226  
414/453-8290  
mail@kathys-house.org  
www.kathys-house.org

## BOARD MEMBERS

### Jack Anick

Anick & Associates

### Anthony Anzelmo

Husch Blackwell.

### John Balzer

Froedtert Health

### Carolyn Bellin

Public Relations Consultant

### Abby Brzezinski

Red Sky Partners

### Tina Curtis

Froedtert Hospital

### Sue Derus

Froedtert Hospital, retired

### Mark Filla

Ameriprise Financial Services

### Liz Forman

Endwell Coaching  
and Consulting

### Ran Hoth

Wisconsin BBB, retired

### Melinda Lanham

Versiti Wisconsin

### Renaë MacCudden

Willow Springs Learning Center

### Patrick McGarry

Wixon Inc/Gott Pet Products

### Bill Severson

Rockwell, retired

### Kathy Sieja

Froedtert Health, retired

### Malika Siker, MD

MCW Cancer Center

### Mona Theobald

GE Healthcare, retired

### Marilyn Thiet

EDGE Performance Acceleration

### Glen Van Fossen

Pfizer, retired

### Laura Vogel Woods

sister of Kathy Vogel Kuettner

## Emeritus Board Members

Herb Ayres

Mike Bennett

Daniel Chaudoir

Elaine Hoth

Marty Kraninger

Judy Vogel

## President & CEO

Patty Metropulos

## 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.

## COMMUNITY GROUPS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

### Mother's Day Milers

Bike ride began May 12, 2019 (Mother's Day) through October 9, 2019 (Peggy's Birthday)

It is with sad news that last year on Mother's Day, two brothers lost their Mom, Peggy Kent, after a battle with urothelial cancer (sometimes known as bladder cancer). This past Mother's Day, May 12, 2019, the first anniversary of their Mom's passing, Peggy's sons set out to ride 4,000 miles collectively over the next six months through October 9, their Mom's birthday. They will ride, mile for dollar, up to \$4,000, to support rural families facing cancer and Kathy's House.

To view news stories from FOX6 and WTMJ4 about this amazing ride, please visit the "In the Media" page of Kathy's House website. Find out about the progress of their ride on the Virtual Ride Hub page: [www.mothersdaymilers.org/virtual-ride-hub](http://www.mothersdaymilers.org/virtual-ride-hub).

Thank you for honoring your Mom, helping Kathy's House patients, and supporting rural families!



Christopher Kent, son of Peggy Kent, who is organizing the Mother's Day Milers ride!

### 100 Women Who Care – MKE Metro West

Guest speaker at Winter Meeting



Members of 100 Women Who Care - MKE Metro West presented Kathy's House with a BIG check for \$10,000! Pictured (l to r): Blair Holloway, Mary Kanavas, Patty Metropulos, Kathy Olsen and Jane Condon.

Kathy's House is grateful that "100 Women Who Care - MKE Metro West" selected to support patients and families who stay at Kathy's House! Patty Metropulos was invited by one of their members to speak during their winter meeting. Members were compelled to give and we were the local charity chosen.

For one hour every four months, this amazing organization brings together at least 100 women who each contribute \$100 to a local charity chosen by members.

This local gift to Kathy's House was matched 50% by the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation resulting in a total gift of \$10,000. This gift will provide 200 nights of lodging to 25 families.

Thank you so much to 100 Women Who Care - MKE Metro West for their incredible generosity!