



**Kathy's
House**

newsletter

FUN FACTS

Celebrating 6 months
in our new home!

280 families
served so far.



Our cleaning crew
and guests have
used **700 rolls**
of paper towels
since we opened.



The average
length of stay
in our new
Home has
increased by
60%
from 8 to
13 days.

3,640 nights
of lodging
provided in our
first five months.



**36 guest
rooms**



WE RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

Our first six months in our New Home for Healing have seen some significant successes.

With 36 guest rooms, we are serving more families and serving them better. Twelve suites accommodate long-term stays and allow our sickest patient guests to comfortably self-isolate, while 24 rooms provide for short-term stays. The upshot: we have provided nearly 4,000 nights of affordable lodging so far.

These achievements, however, are accompanied by big challenges. Surging demand has necessitated a sooner-than-expected buildout of two additional guest rooms, to be ready by 2022. Our ongoing commitment to health and safety requires continued investment in cleaning equipment, supplies, and staff. And doubling occupancy also means doubling operating expenses.

Once again, we are rising to the occasion. We invite you to rise with us. Your year-end gift to Kathy's House ensures that we can continue to offer a "home away from home" to every family who travels to Milwaukee for medical care. **Giving online is easy at kathys-house.org, or mail a check to: Kathy's House, 9101 W. Doyne Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53226.**



Chan and Ka Yang, Ripon, Wis.



Jamie Nicklas, DeKalb, Ill. and Sandra Bonneville, Fremont, Wis.

SAVE THE DATE

Join us (in person - finally!) as we celebrate the uniqueness of Kathy's House, where guests support one another in pursuit of a shared goal of healing.

HOUSE OF HARMONY • MAY 19, 2022 • WESTIN

- Silent/Live Auction • Raffles • Wine Pull
- Captivating program • Presentation of our Founders & Inspiration of Hope awards
- Dinner & hors d'oeuvres

THURSDAY
MAY
19
2022



THE HEART OF OUR HOME



NEWLYWEDS BLESS OUR HOME

Newlyweds Norman and Sandra Hill had a busy summer. They were married in a traditional Iroquois ceremony just five days after Norman's discharge from Froedtert Hospital.

Their six-week stay at Kathy's House commenced soon after the wedding. On their last day in the House, Norman gathered our staff for a blessing. "I'd like to express gratitude from my heart in my language because of what you guys have done for us," he said. He then offered Cayuga words of blessing, which he translated, in part, as: "You have a very deep compassion. I can say the best thing from the bottom of my heart - from our hearts - Thank you. Yes, thank you."

// No one [at Kathy's House] is ever alone. It's a place of exceptionally high spiritual and moral boosting. //

—Norman & Sandy Hill, DePere, Wis.



CANINE CREW BRINGS CARE TO NEBRASKA FAMILY

A rare chiari (brain tissue) malformation brought Omaha's Cami and Julia Berglund to Froedtert Hospital and Kathy's House this fall. "We're from Nebraska, and nobody locally there has any experience with that," Mom Cami explained. Although they were not sure what to expect from a hospital guest House, they were pleasantly surprised. "It's like everything you would want but way more," Julia, age 17, exclaimed. They marveled at the gathering spaces, the kitchens, and even the elevator. Stairs are tough for Julia right now. Most important, however, was the shared community and focus on healing.

"Everybody is here for medical reasons," said Cami. When you're in a hotel, people are on vacation. Everyone here is here to rest and recuperate."

// We're just very grateful we were able to stay here. This is so much better than a hotel. And the dogs - that's a really good part. It made me feel more at home. //

—Julia Berglund



Scan the QR code to see a video of the Greens "in their own words."



HEALING POWER OF MUSIC BRINGS HARMONY TO OUR HOME

Ed and Janice Greene were impressed with the accommodations at our original Home when they first stayed this past winter. When they visited our new Home, it simply blew them away. They found healing in the relationships they formed and the many spaces to accommodate family visitors. Ed, a musician, touts the therapeutic benefits of music and treated other guests to multiple performances on his saxophone and the piano during their stay. "Having cancer obviously isn't fun, and the journey has been a roller coaster ride, but you need some place you can come and relax. Kathy's House has been that for us," Ed said.

// I feel like the staff at Kathy's House take this job seriously. They not only make it a home away from home; they make it a family away from home. //

—Janice Greene



PAST GUESTS PLAY IT FORWARD ON THE GOLF COURSE



We welcomed 114 golfers to our 8th Annual Kathy's House Classic on a sunny fall day. Among the many familiar faces were past and current guests. Andy Johnson, Steve Peters, and Gary Sherman each brought a foursome, then chipped in to draw raffle winners, and share a few words about what Kathy's House means to them. The event raised more than \$60,000 for our Critical Operations Campaign, keeping families together – even during a pandemic.



// Kathy's House holds a special place in my heart. It was there for my family when we needed it, and they are there for countless other families in need. It is a first-class organization that has built a wonderful new first-class Home to even better support families facing a medical crisis. //

—Steve Peters, Former Guest

SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR'S OUTING



THANK YOU SPONSORS:



BOARD AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS



Carolyn Bellin was recently elected to our Emeritus Board after completing her third and final term on the board of directors. "It is not an overstatement to say that the new Kathy's House would not have been built without the relationships, creativity, and strategic communications expertise that Carolyn brought to the organization," said Kathy's House President & CEO Patty Metropulos. "We will miss her leadership on the board, but we are grateful for her continued involvement." In addition to the Emeritus Board, Carolyn continues to volunteer at our welcome desk and to serve on the Marketing Committee.



Emeritus Board Member **Dan Chadoir** passed away unexpectedly October 17. With his wife Jodi, Dan was instrumental in helping the Vogel family to found Kathy's House. He served 14 years on the Board of Directors, many of them as Vice Chair, and remained a major supporter of the Kathy's House mission. Kathy's House President & CEO Patty Metropulos said, "Dan's initiative and longtime dedication to our mission are a testament to his passion for our community. He will be missed."



STAFF GIVES BACK WITH "TAKE A BREAK DAY"

On Tuesday, September 21, Kathy's House invited the Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin organ transplant, cancer, and heart & vascular teams to enjoy a workday break in appreciation for their work to meet surging caseloads and the ongoing extraordinary demands of the pandemic. Clinical staff enjoyed visits with our Canine Crew, yard games, music, snacks, beverages, and complimentary chair massages by Academy of Health staff, who donated their time.





Kathy's House

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BOARD MEMBERS

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Judy Vogel

President & CEO

Patty Metropulos

HEARING OUR GUESTS

Hosting families in our new Home has been an honor. It is a privilege to walk with people who are facing some of the most challenging times in their lives. With that privilege comes a responsibility to provide the best possible level of care to our guests. As we've settled in and helped families with months-long stays truly find a "home away from home," we've continued to upgrade our amenities to meet their needs.

Changes include:

- Blackout shades to ensure adequate and restful sleep
- Electric recliners in suites for patient ease of use, comfort, and rest
- Additional storage and furnishings in our suites to allow for tidiness during a lengthy stay
 - Luggage racks
 - A shower caddy
 - Rolling cart
 - Small table
- Desk lamps to support occupational health, as many guests work remotely from their rooms

As we've sought to keep pace with the suggestions and maintain our commitment to cleanliness for our guests, we've updated our wishlist with some of our most-needed items. Please consider a donation for our most urgently needed items.



Tools, parts, and volunteers took over our conference room. Their mission? Assemble organizers for our suites.



OUR WISHLIST

Your support helps us maintain a clean and safe environment for our guests. Check out our most urgent needs on our Wish List. <https://bit.ly/kh-wishlist>

