



More than help -
hope

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Faces OF RUTH'S HOUSE



Faribault Middle School students collected donations.



*A team of students
refinished our
wheelchair ramp.*



Dear friends,

"The best and most beautiful things in this world cannot be seen or even heard, but must be felt with the heart."
– Helen Keller

This quote signifies the beauty which engulfs the extraordinary happenings of Ruth's House.

Everyday hearts of the women and children we serve are moved and transformed as they travel the difficult road of healing from traumatic situations. These residents become empowered through divine moments as they journey through life-changing decisions with the crucial support of Ruth's House staff, volunteers and contributors. Their spirits become alive in ways they never thought possible. We have seen incredible transformations, renewals and transitions in our neighbors' lives because you care.

Your contributions have made it possible for a woman to first seek refuge in Ruth's House Transitional Shelter. Not only shelter ... **safety**.

Your contributions have empowered women to make life-changing decisions and to move forward in traumatic situations. Not only help ... **hope**.

Your contributions help make change in our community through life-giving support from dedicated staff. Not only change ... **growth**.

And your contributions provide safe shelter in a healing environment to women and children who are homeless. Not only a house ... a **home**.

Thank you for your generous gifts which empower lives! Thank you for all your support which offers hope, ensuring we live together in community where everyone has a safe place to call home.

With gratitude and faith,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruth Hickey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ruth Hickey
Executive Director

WHAT IS *Ruth's House?*

MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering lives, offering hope through transitional housing and support.

TRANSITIONAL SHELTER

Located in a 3-story home, we can accommodate 27 individuals at a time.

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

For families struggling with chronic or repeated homelessness due to a disability in the family, 10 off-site units of long-term, supportive housing are available. The units are located throughout Northfield and Faribault and are entirely HUD-funded.



SAFE SHELTER

on campus or income-based rent with Ruth's House as the leaseholder



FOOD AND BASIC NEEDS

such as clothing, household items, diapers and personal care



CASE MANAGEMENT

setting goals, addressing barriers, celebrating successes and providing crisis intervention



WEEKLY PROGRAMS

life skills education, such as parenting, stress management, self-care and healthy communication (offered at the shelter with childcare provided)



RESOURCES AND REFERRALS

connection to community resources such as HOPE Center, the Workforce Center, Social Services or HealthFinders, and access to other resources, including advocacy, transitional shelter resources and 24-hour staff support

RUTH'S HOUSE HISTORY

In 2004, Ruth's House opened in response to an unmet need for safe shelter for homeless women and children in Rice County. A group of women called "The Founding Mothers" gathered together with a vision, and less than a year later Ruth's House – named after the Biblical Ruth – opened its doors in Faribault. Since opening, over 1,200 women and their children have been served.

2015–2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charlie Sheridan, Chairperson
Heather Robins, Secretary
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Pat Johnson
Pastor Sarah Nietz
Kathy Tonolli
Susan Smalling, PhD
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RUTH'S HOUSE STAFF

Ruth Hickey, Executive Director
Sherri Snow, Lead SHP Case Manager
Amy Day, Senior Case Manager
Jennifer Sorg, Program Coordinator/Case Manager
Suzanne Fox, Operations Manager
Mayra Rocha, Family Advocate
Angie Hennes, Family Advocate
Wendy Swanson, Family Advocate
Melissa Wencil, Family Advocate
Desiree Caballero, Development Assistant



2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ruth's House **Emergency and Transitional Shelter** provided over

7,000

nights of safe, comfortable shelter to

Ruth's House off-campus **Supportive Housing Program** provided shelter and support for an additional

33

individuals.

110

homeless women and children representing a diversity of cultural backgrounds, including Caucasian, African American, Latino, American Indian and Sudanese.



Ruth's House opened its

LEARNING CENTER

at the Transitional Shelter, a dedicated space for the children and mothers at Ruth's House to learn and grow together.

The new Learning Center promotes healthy development and life skills for children and their parents with various games and activities, while also encouraging family bonding. Children participating in these programs will have a greater chance of educational success and future stability. The Learning Center has also provided a wonderful space for therapists to meet with children on-site.



Volunteers donated over

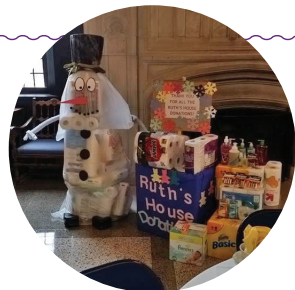
4,000 HOURS

of their time, helping with fundraising events, administrative duties, transportation and childcare for residents, IT assistance, house repairs, and marketing/program development and implementation.

We received over

\$40,000

of in-kind donations from hundreds of individuals and several local groups and organizations.



IN HER *Own Words*

A Supportive Housing resident recently shared her story. At the age of 20 she became addicted to drugs. Three years later, she literally lost everything. Her children were removed from her home by Child Protective Services and everything went downhill from there. She tried numerous treatments but had lost the will to fight. She writes:

“It’s been almost three years since I first walked through Ruth’s House doors feeling just hopeless and helpless. Today because of the assistance that this program has provided me, I have stable and affordable housing. I have reached so many goals that I thought were impossible to obtain. I have both my oldest and youngest son back, I’m still sober, I got my driver’s license back, I am still gainfully employed at the same job and I am going to school to be a chemical dependency counselor!”

—CN



THANK YOU!

Dedicated volunteers like Sally Kramer enable us to direct more of our dollars to programming and services.

IN *Memory*



In loving memory of Pastor Sarah Nietz, a dear friend and Ruth's House Board Member, who passed on August 24, 2016. Pastor Sarah will always be remembered for her graciousness and dedication to the mission and families of Ruth's House.

FINANCIALS

12 Months Ended December 31, 2015

INCOME	
Donations	\$78,014
Fundraising	\$71,153
Grants	\$126,700
Other	\$21,524
HUD Program	\$179,990
Total Income	\$477,381
EXPENSE	
Administration	\$12,153
Payroll	\$250,252
Programming/Operations	\$160,152
Other	\$7,562
Total Expense	\$430,119
NET INCOME	\$47,261

CONTACT US

STAY IN TOUCH

Ruth's House
219 Fourth Avenue NW
Faribault, MN 55021

MAIN PHONE

507-332-2236

OUTREACH OFFICE

507-334-5043

FAX

507-334-2487

ONLINE

ruthshouseofhope@yahoo.com
ruthshousemn.org



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

facebook.com/ruthshouseofhope

Donors

A heartfelt thank you to all the individuals and organizations who have contributed to our work and supported our mission. We couldn't do it without you!

ANGELS \$2,500+

The Carlanders Department of Human Services Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Mariann and Ron Goettsch Vicki and Howard Groff	Mardag Foundation Northfield Area United Way Open Your Heart Foundation Otto Bremer Foundation Our Savior's Lutheran Church Doug and Catherine Ruegsegger	Suzu's Smile Shines Golf Tournament United Way of Faribault The Woman's Club of Minneapolis Xcel Energy
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GUARDIANS \$1,000-\$2,499

ABC Business Companies Barbara Ackerman Julia Bongers Harry and Lanaya Brown Ruth Blann Cartledge Catholic Community Foundation Illinois Tool Works Foundation Douglas and Kathleen Knutson	Little Prairie United Methodist Church Evelyn J. Matejcek Northfield Hospital Lynn and Mike Pohlman Charles and Gail Sheridan Southeastern Minnesota Synod Women of the ELCA	Janet and Rueben Tangren Thrivent Financial - North Rice County Chapter United Way of America - Emergency Food & Shelter Prog. Vance and Barbara Vinar Women in Northfield Giving Support
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HEALERS \$500-\$999

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Christ

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Truist
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Faribault Zone
LWML - Trinity Lutheran -
Northfield
LWML/W.I.M. - Trinity Luth.
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Main Street Moravian Church
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Lori and Todd Markman
Steve and Mary Marquard
Edith and John Mattson
Joan McCutcheon
Mercury Minnesota
Julie and John Mitchell
Linda Mitchell
Michael and Judy Molloy
Mary Moody
Ray and Ginger Myers
Marilyn Naseth
Mary Niermann
Northfield United Methodist
Church
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Sherman and Kathleen Ogle
Amy Olson
Janice Paschke
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Christian Pipers
Lyle and Valera Pooock
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Jacob Quant
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RUTH'S HOUSE
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Because of your support and contributions,
last year we were able to provide over

7,000 NIGHTS

of safe shelter to homeless women and children.

