



2024



ANNUAL REPORT

**FOUND
HOUSE**
INTERFAITH
HOUSING
NETWORK



990 Nassau Street
Cincinnati, OH 45206
513-471-1100

info@foundhouse.org
www.Foundhouse.org

 Found House IHN
 @foundhousepetprogram

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO:



Dozens and dozens of volunteers walked dogs and scooped litter boxes daily. What a powerful message to a family in crisis when we look after their furry loved ones until they can be housed together again - what a vital affirmation that their family, however comprised, deserves as much as any other to stay together.

2024 brings a huge smile, but I write this message to you in 2025.

Housing affordability and access for all is not something government can solve alone, but neither is it achievable solely through private philanthropy, market forces, or the grit of individual families.

Solving the housing crisis requires everyone to do their part, including financial commitment across sectors, and policy shifts at local and national levels.

As I write to you, changes happening at the federal level not only threaten funding for some of Found House IHN's families and programs, but worse, may threaten to set us all back in our efforts to see families safely housed. This creates a certain level of stress and uncertainty for families, staff, and volunteers alike.

What it does not do is change our mission or commitment. Instead, our resolve to work with our interfaith and community partners so all families have access to affordable housing has deepened. Only through this can we achieve the kind of community where everyone thrives.

Thanks so much for sticking with the mission and choosing hope.

Stacey Burge
President and CEO

Friends,

When I look back at 2024 I cannot help but smile. So many good things happened - more than 2,054 parents, children, pets, and loved ones received services that kept them sheltered, housed, supported, and empowered to work toward the futures they want and deserve.

Found House IHN's hard work and dedication was recognized in the Commitment to Housing Award from the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority.

Our innovative Pet Support Program received the Julie Martin Service Provider of the Year Award from the Greater Cincinnati Homeless Coalition for its service to families in need.

Found House IHN's volunteers continued to shelter and feed parents and children and provide space so they could just be families together. Adath Israel provided Thanksgiving meal kits at Melrose Place so that no matter the financial circumstances, families could gather around the table and stuff themselves. Katie and Diane from Christ the King delivered groceries so families could make meals together.

FOUND HOUSE IHN'S MISSION IS STEWARDED THROUGH OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM AND BOARD:

Board of Directors

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Brian Henning, Vice President
Robert Taylor, Secretary
Scott Deters, Treasurer
Jamie Barron, Assoc. AIA
Terana Boyd

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Chuck Schneider
Greg Robinson, II
Susan E. Thomas

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Jessica Mount, VP of Operations	Garrett Parsons, Services Director
Kristie Roberson, VP of Programs	Jamie Green, Development Director
Kelly Myers, Services Director	Tabetha Brown, Services Director

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS:



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Dear Friends,

While you'll read about the victories of 2024 in the pages ahead, I need to be honest: the situation we're facing right now is more serious than anything we've ever seen.

We have dealt with crisis before. The COVID-19 pandemic seemed to land from the sky without warning. Overnight, we figured out how to completely re-work emergency shelter. We assisted families who were losing jobs and needed internet access for their school-aged children in quarantine. We came together to support families, staff, and volunteers directly impacted by illness and loss of loved ones.

We faced that crisis head on. With everyone's support, we came through to the other side. Your flexibility, commitment, and constant giving has guided us. It has allowed us to remain true to our core mission, while finding innovative ways to respond to needs. You have helped us move to a hybrid shelter model—congregation and site-based—while we work toward a single, permanent site. You've supported Melrose Place as our first long-term housing site. Together, we continue to help families, however they define themselves, be permanently housed.

We met those challenges, but this one is bigger. National priorities are shifting. Not only is housing at risk, but the safety net that allows families to stabilize after homelessness—childcare, educational, medical, mental health, food, and others—are threatened.

My message to all of you is a call to action—we know what to do. The basic principles guiding Found House for 34 years—hospitality, giving in genuine ways, building relationships, and working toward safe, secure, stable homes for every single family—will not fail us now. Your support—whatever form it takes—will help us meet this crisis head-on and keep families on the path to stable housing and bright futures.

Thank you for all that you have done and will do to keep all families home.

Chara Fisher Jackson, MS, JD, CEEL, Board President

FOUND HOUSE IHN MISSION STATEMENT:

Our mission is to provide shelter, housing, and support to families experiencing housing insecurity - to strengthen those services through interfaith and community partnerships - in pursuit of a community where all families have access to affordable housing.

OUR AGENCY'S FOUR PILLARS OF SERVICE:

FHIHN's services and programs have evolved into Found House IHN's four pillars of service - Shelter, Housing, Specialized Supports, and Prevention. They are designed to meet basic needs, keep families together, help families find and retain stable housing.



PREVENTION

- Innovation Program
- Aftercare Program
- Impact Program



SHELTER

- Emergency Shelter



SPECIALIZED SUPPORTS

- Child Enrichment
- Pet Support



HOUSING

- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Rapid Rehousing
- KEYS

BY THE NUMBERS 2024:

2,054



In 2024, we supported a total of **2,054** individuals and pets—**1,011** people and **1,043** animals—across all programs.

1,011



615



Of the **291** households served, **89%** included dependent children, amounting to **615** children assisted throughout the year.

291



Found House IHN is accredited with the Better Business Bureau

PREVENTION SERVICES:

**MANY THANKS TO COMMUNITIES WHO HAVE
DONATED, HOSTED, VOLUNTEERED, AND
SUPPORTED OUR PROGRAMS:**

The Impact Program:

The Impact program uses data analytics to identify households at risk of homelessness. In partnership with Strategies to End Homelessness, Lighthouse Youth & Family Services, the Family Housing Partnership, the Legal Aid Society, the City of Cincinnati, and University of Cincinnati, families receive early case management and limited financial help—addressing problems before they become crises. Early intervention is shown to be cheaper than acute intervention and prevents unnecessary trauma for parents and children.

NEW: The Innovation Program:

This year saw the introduction of our Innovation Program. Also referred to as Housing Retention, this program is for at-risk families that have more chronic and severe barriers to housing stability.

Case Managers provide intensive and long-term support that prevents housing loss, including addressing budgets, daily living skills, medical and mental health concerns, financial emergencies, and working with landlords and community partners to advocate for family needs.

Aftercare Program:

The Aftercare program is designed to provide a safety net for families who have been involved in shelter or homeless services in the past and are now facing temporary setbacks that put them at risk of losing their housing.

Aftercare provides timely support for short-term or one-time expenses (not covered by other sources), as well as general support and assistance with problem-solving.



Many families spend 50-80% of their income on housing and utilities, leaving little margin of error for unexpected expenses, putting them at risk of losing their housing.

PREVENTION NUMBERS IN 2024:

189



In 2024, the Aftercare program prevented up to **189** individuals - including **122** children - from becoming homeless, and the Innovation program helped **44** individuals - including **26** children - maintain stable housing.

44



95.65% of households exited the Aftercare program with permanent housing.

Adath Israel Congregation
All Saints Catholic
Armstrong Chapel UMC
Bread of Heaven Outreach Ministries
Calvary Episcopal Church
Christ Church Cathedral
Christ Church Glendale
Christ the King Catholic Church
Church of the Advent
Church of the Brethren
Church of the Brethren Sr. High Youth
Church of the Nativity of Our Lord
Church of the Savior
Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship
Cincinnati Southern Baptist
College Hill Presbyterian
Consolation Baptist
Epiphany UMC
First Baptist Church West College Hill
First Unitarian Church
First United Church of Christ
Friendship UMC Wyoming
Good News Church of God in Christ
Good Shepherd Community Catholic
Good Shepherd Lutheran
Greater Fellowship Baptist Church
Heritage Universalist Unitarian
Hyde Park Community UMC
Indian Hill Church
Isaac M. Wise Temple
John Wesley UMC
Knox Presbyterian Church
Loveland United Methodist

Messiah Lutheran
Monitor Church of the Brethren
New Mission Missionary Baptist
Northstar Community
Our Lady of the Rosary
Pilgrim UCC
Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian
Prince of Peace Lutheran
Southern Baptist Church
St. Andrews Episcopal
St. Clare Catholic
St. Columban Church
St. Columban Knights of Columbus
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St. Francis Seraph
St. Gertrude
St. John's Unitarian Universalist
St. Luke's Church
St. Paul Community UMC
St. Paul United Church of Christ
Temple Shalom
The Valley Temple of Reform Judaism
Truth & Destiny Covenant Ministries
United Church of Christ
Walnut Hills Christian Church
Westwood First Presbyterian
Westwood United Methodist
White Oak Christian



EMERGENCY SHELTER

For families with nowhere to go, their first step to regaining housing is to find a safe place to stay that keeps them off the streets, out of sleeping in cars, or couching surfing with strangers. Emergency shelter provides that space and a chance to begin working toward stability.

Found House IHN provides warm beds, meals, and amenities while families work with their case manager to create a plan back to housing.

The need for shelter: The number of families experiencing homelessness in Hamilton County is rising, with a 7.5% increase in the homeless population over the last two years.



According to a recent report, only **4 out of 10** families seeking shelter find space due to capacity limits in local family shelters.



A 2025 NLIHC report estimates the Cincinnati metro area **is short 50,000 affordable rental units** for extremely low-income households.

In July 2024, we restored capacity to pre-pandemic level with the success of our site-based pilot program.

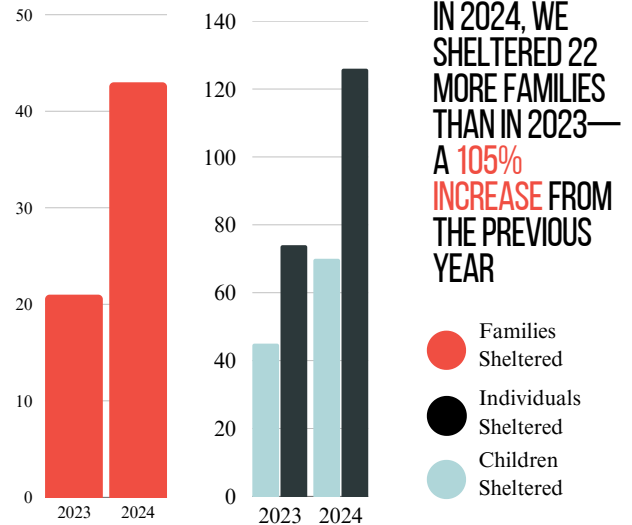
Recently, Found House IHN has been focusing on transitioning our congregation host model (partnerships with community members to shelter our families) to a more sustainable site-based model.

We leased 2 townhomes to restore capacity to meet the community's needs while continuing to work with host partners. The number of families we were able to serve went up by 105 % - and restored pre-pandemic capacity.

The impact of Shelter: Brittany's Story

Brittany, a 25-year-old single mom, entered shelter after losing her job. Her son's recent ADHD diagnosis and behavioral needs had made steady work difficult.

With support of a Found House IHN case manager, she enrolled in job training and was matched with a housing program that fit her needs. After a short time in shelter, she found work as a school bus monitor and has stable housing, while her son receives supportive services for his ADHD.



SHELTER NUMBERS IN 2024:

126

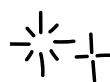


In 2024, the emergency shelter served **126** individuals from **43** households, including **70** children.

70



In 2024, 95% of families exited shelter to stable housing (up from 93%), and 88% remained housed a full year later.



HOUSING PROGRAMS

KEYS Program:

The KEYS program provides intensive supports like those offered by the Innovation program and rental assistance similar to Rapid Rehousing, but it focuses on the unique needs of pregnant and parenting youth ages 18–24. In partnership with Lighthouse Youth & Family Services, the Family Housing Partnership, and Strategies to End Homelessness, KEYS supports a particularly vulnerable subpopulation of families experiencing housing loss and insecurity in greater Cincinnati.

KEYS in action: Avery's Story

Avery and her son were forced to leave her mom's house when she was 19. With nowhere to go, she spent a month squeezed into her older sister's small, cramped apartment—already crowded with four kids. Despite working full time, she did not have the means or financial runway to house and feed her son. Upon entering the program, she quickly enrolled in SNAP and Medicaid benefits, and received a voucher to relocate to a new stable home. She is now completely independent and housing secure.

HOUSING PROGRAM NUMBERS IN 2024:

394



In 2024, **394** individuals were served through Rapid Rehousing and **230** were served through PSH.

230



28



28 young adults were assisted through the KEYS Program.

397 of the individuals served were minors or dependent children.



The Rapid Rehousing Program:

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) provides time-limited rental support and supportive services to assist families recovering from homelessness. After housing families from shelter or the street, services focus on removing barriers to their ability to maintain housing independently. Rental support declines over time, allowing households to take on more of their own payments and make progress toward education, training, benefits, employment, or wage growth.



Employees and residents from Melrose Place gather at La Soupe to learn cooking skills.

Permanent Supportive Housing:

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) combines affordable housing with supportive services to help people who face chronic homelessness and are living with qualifying disabilities. It is designed for those with significant barriers to reentering and maintaining housing.

Upon entering PSH, families are housed at Melrose Place or at a location in the community, and are connected to a case manager and medical, mental health, financial, and educational resources, as well as our specialized support services such as the Child Enrichment Program and the Pet Support Program.

PSH is highly effective in helping families maintain stable housing, with 92 % exiting into stable housing, and 96 % have maintained stable housing for at least 2 years.

Permanent Supportive Housing in Action: Julia's Story

In January 2023, Julia lost both her job and the custody of her daughter, Kayla. Within one month of entering shelter, she found a part time job, while receiving treatment at a local hospital. By May, she had not only gained back custody, but had purchased a car, and moved into Melrose Place. She now has a full-time manager position at her job. She moved into her own place on July 31st, 2024. Being able to live at Melrose Place gave her the time and support to be able to build back the stability she craved.



Artist Samantha Ticknor created a mural for our recreational dog area behind the shelter

PET SUPPORT PROGRAM NUMBERS IN 2024:

1,043



Pets served, including shelter, vaccines, pantry and other pet retention services

546



Households served

87.6 %



Returned to owner

178



Sheltered, including 94 dogs, 77 cats, and 7 assorted creatures.

NUMBERS FROM THE PAST 10 YEARS:

2,123



Animals sheltered/provided with other pet retention services

1,267



Households served

79%



Return to owner rate

Reuniting Rocky and Oscar:

Rocky and Oscar's owner experienced difficulties on and off for several years - which put the dogs' housing and health in jeopardy. Fortunately, both dogs were able to enter our shelter and see their dad for regular visits while he looked for pet friendly housing. Both dogs received medical treatment for arthritis (funded in part by Grey Muzzle Organization) and are now happily reunited with their owner and thriving through their golden years!



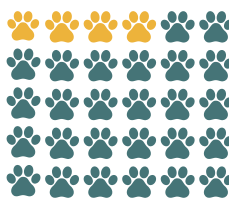
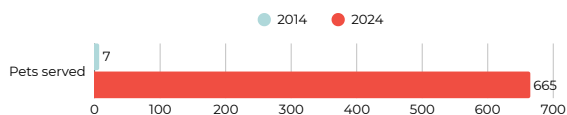
SPECIALIZED SUPPORTS: PET SUPPORT PROGRAM

Celebrating 10 Years of Sheltering Pets

Several years ago, when a client smuggled their turtle into shelter, Found House IHN realized the extent to which families needed options for their beloved pets.

In 2014, Found House IHN became the first emergency shelter in the Cincinnati region to provide pet owners with services. Today, we proudly serve families across all emergency shelters and domestic violence shelters in the region, ensuring that no one has to choose between safety and staying with their pet.

This year, we celebrated our tenth anniversary and reflected on our growth from the past ten years of service:



In 2024, we sheltered 178 pets out of 1,439 animals for which shelter was requested in the region.

Sadly, due to lack of capacity, 1,261 animals were turned away, showing a greater need for pet services for families in need in our communities.

The demand for shelter for pets of families experiencing housing instability has skyrocketed — jumping from 618 animals in need of shelter in 2023 to 1,261 animals in 2024 — underscoring the essential role pets play for families without stable housing.

Our Pet Support Director speaking at the program's tenth anniversary celebration



SPECIALIZED SUPPORTS: CHILD ENRICHMENT

Time in shelter and in housing instability puts children's mental health and academic performance at risk. The Child Enrichment Program focuses on minimizing the factors that puts their futures at risk by offering educational support and structured enrichment activities.

Children experiencing housing instability are:

- Sick and hungry **twice** as often
- Change schools **seven to eight** times per year
- **Twice** as likely to repeat a grade
- Diagnosed with **twice** the average rate of learning disabilities
- By 8 years old, **one in three** have a major mental health disorder.

CHILD ENRICHMENT NUMBERS IN 2024:

615



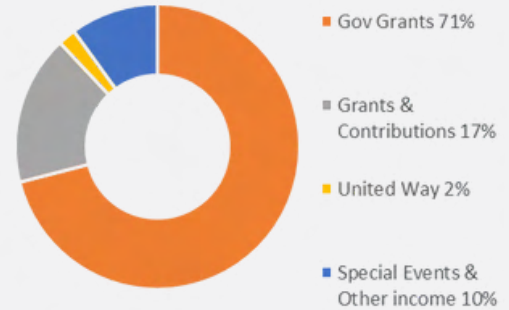
In 2024, **615** children passed through Found House IHN's Programs.

Children comprise the largest percentage of individuals that FHIHN's programs serve (**61%**).

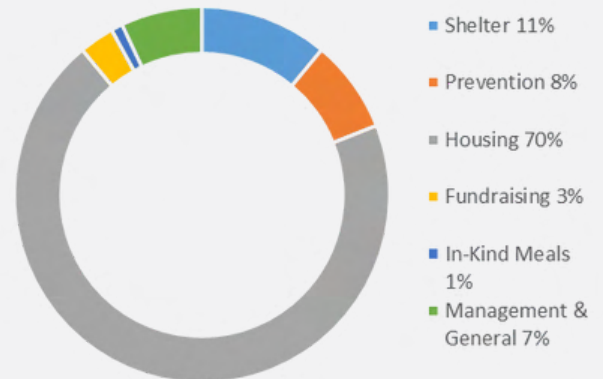


FOUND HOUSE IHN 2024 FINANCIALS:

Revenue Summary: 4.6M



Expense Summary: 4.8M



*Found House IHN undergoes a third-party audit annually. The figures above are preliminary and are subject to change.

JOIN US FOR OUR VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT!

THURS, OCTOBER 16TH, 6 PM

Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church

1345 Grace Ave. Cincinnati, Oh 45208

JOIN US FOR LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AND CELEBRATION

For more information, follow on us social media, join our email list, or contact jgreen@foundhouse.org



AWARDS AND CELEBRATIONS

Commitment to Housing Award

Found House IHN received the 2024 Commitment to Housing Award from the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) at its annual Appreciation Banquet. This award honors partners dedicated to expanding affordable housing through the Housing Choice Voucher program.



Julie Martin Service Provider of the Year Award

The Pet Support Program received the Julie Martin Service Provider of the Year Award from the Greater Cincinnati Homeless Coalition at its 40 Years of Service Celebration. This award recognizes exemplary service to those experiencing homelessness.



Pet Program Ten Year Celebration

In 2024, our Pet Support Program reached a major milestone—10 years of keeping families and their pets together during times of housing crisis. To mark the occasion, we collaborated with My Dog Is My Home, also celebrating their 10 year anniversary, and invited the community to a celebration on August 10th at Union Hall in Over-the-Rhine.



Faith in Action Breakfast

On February 15th, we hosted our annual Faith in Action Breakfast at the Ventura Norwood Building. Centered on the theme “Faith in the Role of Building the American Dream,” the event featured powerful reflections from Susan E. Thomas, Susan Ingmire, and Cincinnati City Council member Meeka D Owens. The event was emceed by Daisy Kershaw.

The Donna Corrington Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Judy Caldwell from Church of the Advent for her dedication to the community.

Volunteer Appreciation Event

In 2024, we gathered with volunteers and faith partners for our annual Volunteer Appreciation Event, hosted by Wise Temple. With food and refreshments provided by Southern Baptist Church, the evening was a joyful celebration of service. We honored outstanding contributors, including:

- Host Congregation of the Year: St. John’s Unitarian Universalist Church
- Support Congregation of the Year: St. Clare Parish
- Pet Support Tail Wagger Award: Geof Wyght
- Pet Support Volunteers of the Year: Kim and John Buchheid

We are deeply grateful to all who give their time and care to support our mission!



DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS:

Gifts of \$ 50,000 +

Hyde Park Community UMC
United Way of Greater Cincinnati
Anonymous Donor

Gifts of \$ 10,000 - \$ 49,999

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The Daniel & Susan Pfau
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Gifts of \$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999

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Cincinnati Woman's Club
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College Hill Presbyterian Church
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United Women in Faith
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Judy and Esly Caldwell
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Presbyterian Women of Pleasant
Ridge Presbyterian Church
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St. Paul Community UMC
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Westwood UMC
Wayne Herriford
Winifred Goodridge
Wood-Byer Foundation
WW & AB Lovejoy Charitable Fund
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Gifts of \$ 500 - \$ 999

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Daniel and Kathy Aerni
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Ronda Deel
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Scott Knox
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Toby Hazen
Tom and Sharon Ney
United Church Of Christ Mission
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Gifts of \$ 250 - \$ 499

Abbot and Josie Thayer
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Bachhuber
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Christ Church Glendale
Church of the Nativity of Our Lord
Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship
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Ted and Carol Striker
The Blackburn Giving Fund by its
Agent YourCause
The Wendy Weil Fund
William and Patricia Culp

Gifts of \$ 100 - \$ 249

Allison and James Zimmerman
Andrea Lukin and Joseph
Dagenbach
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IN HONOR OF:

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Ben Bear
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Carolyn Tuttle
Clarise Starr
College Hill Presbyterian
Church

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Family of Andy & Amy Hutzel
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Sid and Janet Lieberman
St. Columban Church
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
Stacey and Kevin Burge
Stuart Jackson
Susan M Ingmire
Thomas and Paula Zalla

Tom and Jane Krammer Habig
Valta R Hartstern
Victoria Bartoszewicz
Victoria Overbeck
Women's Fellowship of St. Paul
United Church of Christ

Gifts of \$ 1 - \$ 99

Abby Compton-Troesch
Adath Israel Sisterhood
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In Memory of Helene Ohren:

A bench was dedicated at
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commitment to our mission
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Donate by scanning the QR code
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SAVE THE DATE

FEB 11th, 2026

Join us for Breakfast and raise awareness about
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WISH LIST ITEMS NEEDED:



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Cleaning Supplies



New Towels + wash cloths



Laundry Detergent Pods



Air mattresses



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Contact jgreen@foundhouse.org for information about
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DOG YARD**

990 Nassau Street, Walnut Hills

**SATURDAY,
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12-3 PM**

Join us for storytelling, facility
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Partnerships with local breweries allow us to raise money to
increase our capacity to help more pets. Stop by, buy a drink,
and visit with Found House IHN staff.

- Little Miami Brewing Company – August 6, 2025
- Rhinegeist – November 5th, 2025

