

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



## A PLACE FOR YOU

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS IN EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA  
220 3RD AVE SE PINE CITY, MN 55063

March, 2016

### 2015 Board Members

#### CO-CHAIRS:

Pam Greden  
Nancy Mach

#### SECRETARY:

Carol VanderHorck

#### TREASURER:

Deb Eck

#### DIRECTORS:

Kim Brubaken  
Wayne Eller  
Frank Grundmeier  
Steve Hallan  
Katie Hartl  
Teresa Hasbrook  
Robert Musgrove  
Vicki VanderVegt

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#### Executive Director:

Linda Cassman

#### Case Management Aide:

Cindi Nybeck

#### Staff:

Ann Carlson  
Cathy Gilmore  
Cindy Gust  
Nina Niedenfuer  
Stephanie Vandervelden  
Melissa Wylie

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

“Let your love be the kindness to make a homeless person believe that a soul needs something more than just four walls and a ceiling.” Munia Khan

In the past three years since we first opened our door, the board focused efforts on growing our financial resources and expanding our staffing levels.

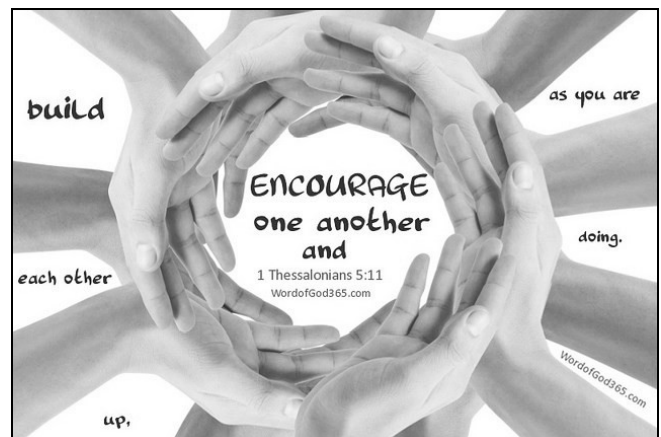
In 2015 a case management aide was hired to assist the executive director and residents to provide resources to end their homelessness. Also added was the position of support staff/receptionist previously served by occasional volunteers. Our overnight staff also became a paid position. Providing the financial resources for these has been a challenge!

The shelter received a 56% increase in HUD funding for 2016 and those funds are budgeted for operating costs. Two special partnerships with the Initiative Foundation and East Central Energy provided funding for needed capital

improvements. Our executive director has been applying for grants that would increase consistent sources of income and funding. In January we were notified that we received funding from the Initiative Foundation and Knife River (MDU) Resources to implement an outreach and marketing plan. Outreach emphasis will focus with churches, county boards and human service departments. To date, the majority of our sustainable funding has come from Pine County and yet our residents have been referred from the other 5 counties as well. It is our goal this year

that funding will be better balanced from all the areas and agencies we serve.

It was a busy, challenging, and yet a very rewarding 2015. Together with our dedicated staff and volunteers, we continue to meet our missions of empowering the homeless to transition into a more stable future, and maybe for the first time, know they are respected. William Arthur Ward said, “One of the most important things you can do on this earth is to let people know they are not alone.” At A Place For You, it's what we do best.



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#### MISSION:

A Place For You Transitional Shelter serves as a safe place for people in distress. We provide for basic needs and offer resources that give life-changing alternatives to residents while respecting the inherent goodness and dignity of each individual.

#### VISION:

A community where everyone has the resources necessary to maintain safe and stable housing.

#### PURPOSE:

To supply the basic human need of shelter to those finding themselves homeless and to assist them with finding affordable, permanent housing. To provide a safe environment for clients to evaluate their current situation and plan for self-sufficiency.

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

*“Thank you for all the sharing as we’re graciously fed, for the community’s caring and I am sooooo grateful for the warmth of a bed. My heart has a place for you! “*  
*Sincerely Yours,*  
*Ralph*  
*Shelter Resident*

*“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”*  
*John Kennedy*

As a new year begins, I cannot help thinking about our greatest successes in 2015. We have been able to provide some much needed training opportunities to staff. The training helps provide the tools we need to meet the unique needs of our residents. We have worked with people with many different types of barriers. Many are dealing with issues of domestic violence, chemical dependency, mental health, physical health, family dysfunction, and financial crisis.

Often residents come to us with little hope left. We have been successful at providing a glimmer of hope to those who have had little support and encouragement. One resident was surprised when she needed to go to the emergency room one evening and I actually stayed until she was treated and released. She said that everyone just dumps her off and nobody stays. Although it did not happen

immediately when she left, she is now living in permanent housing. We provided her the foundation of hope and the resources to give her the strength to endure.

| Since Inception Residents by County |            |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Pine                                | 65         |
| Isanti                              | 39         |
| Kanabec                             | 9          |
| Chisago                             | 40         |
| Mille Lacs                          | 7          |
| Carlton                             | 1          |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>161</b> |
| Gender                              |            |
| Male                                | 84         |
| Female                              | 76         |
| Transgender                         | 1          |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>161</b> |

We served 61 new residents in 2015. Of these 26 were female, 34 were male, and 1 was transgender. Almost 67% were homeless for the first

time. The residents ranged in ages from 18 to 66, with the largest percentage of residents ranging from 41 to 50 years old. Total requests for service in 2015 were 275. Many people were not admitted to the shelter due to no beds being available, lack of follow through, failed background checks, or had minor children.

Churches, several small grants, a federal HUD grant, and 164 individual donors provided the necessary financial support in 2015 to honor our mission. Financial resiliency is the main goal for 2016, and a grant-funded outreach program will begin in March to engage additional support for that resiliency. Together we will continue to make a difference, in support and respect, providing a glimmer of hope, for the homeless in our area.

Food, friends, family—most people agree these are the most important things in life. Four churches in Sandstone took those words literally and held a **Progressive Dinner** last fall. United Church of Christ, Evangelical Free Church, St Luke’s Catholic, and Grace Lutheran Church shared a community dinner with all proceeds going to A Place For You. The food was excellent, friends reconnected, and the shelter gained a new family. Creating that same family connection to the shelter, three churches in Pine City will be hosting a dinner in early summer. Churches in Mora and Rush City will be asked to also join in the fellowship that connects their food and friendships to the family that is A Place For You.

## Financials 2015

### Expenses:

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Shelter Expenses        | \$117,409 |
| Administrative Expenses | 42,862    |

**Total Expenses** \$160,271

### Revenue:

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| Donations    | \$ 52,444 |
| Grants       | 70,594    |
| In-Kind      | 15,692    |
| Event Income | 27,401    |

**Total Revenue** \$166,131

## SPONSORS AND DONORS

### THANK YOU GALA TABLE SPONSORS

Our very successful **2nd Annual Giving Gala** was held on October 9th at the Grand Casino in Hinckley. Thank you to all the table sponsors, businesses, groups and individuals who gave donations and to the 160 guests that attended the gala. Together we raised \$26,000 to benefit residents of A Place For You. We are grateful for your dedication to our mission.

Thank You to the  
**John and Bonnie Schlagel  
Endowment, a Turn Key Fund  
of the Initiative Foundation**  
for help with the Gala

#### FULL TABLE:

Atscott Manufacturing Co.  
Biever—Smith Family  
Fedder Motors—Duane and  
Barbara Butt  
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Kanabec-Pine County Chapter  
of Thrivent Financial for Lu-  
therans  
Cloverleaf Chapter No. 4 Dis-  
abled American Veterans  
Wayne Eller  
Educators Financial Services,  
Kent Schutte

#### HALF TABLE:

Byron and Nancy Mach  
Cavallin Ford  
Coldwell Banker Burnet  
First Citizens National Bank  
Pam Greden  
Pine Eye Associates  
Signatures Closing and Title  
Inc.

Thank You to Auctioneer  
**Les Stromberg**  
Who donated his auctioneer-  
ing services for the Gala

*“Remember this. Hold  
on to this. This is the  
only perfection there is -  
the perfection of helping  
others. This is the only  
thing we can do that has  
any lasting meaning.  
This is why we’re here.  
To make each other  
feel safe.”*

*Andre Agassi*

### THANK YOU DONORS

#### PARTNERS:

Central MN Jobs and Training  
Carlton County  
Chisago County  
CoBank  
East Central Energy Trust  
FEMA  
Initiative Foundation  
Isanti County  
John and Bonnie Schlagel  
Endowment, a Turn Key Fund  
of the Initiative Foundation  
Kanabec County  
Lakes and Pines Community  
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Mille Lacs County  
New Horizon Thrift Store  
Pine County  
State of MN Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Thrivent Financial for Luther-  
ans

#### \$3000 and ABOVE

Jim and Mary Kay Sloan  
Carol VanderHorck

#### \$1000—\$2999

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Pizza Pub Pine City, Rick  
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Chris and Cheryl McHugh  
MN Production Ag LLC  
National Financial Services  
Pine City Evangelical Free  
Church  
City of Pine City  
Pokegama Lake Association  
St. Mary’s Church Mora

*“When it feels like your  
corner of the world is  
crumbling, it takes  
faith, family and  
caring strangers to help  
you rebuild.  
That is what I found at  
A Place For You. “  
Deb  
Shelter Resident*

# DONORS

## 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

A Place For You  
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E-mail: [info@apfy.org](mailto:info@apfy.org)



**A PLACE FOR YOU**

*Addressing Homelessness in East Central  
Minnesota*

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[www.apfy.org](http://www.apfy.org)**



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### \$500-\$999

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Miles Smith  
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WELCA of St. Anthony Park  
Mary Zajicek  
Zion Lutheran Cloverdale

### \$250-\$499

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