2 0 1 4  a n n u a l  R e p o r t

We make a living by what we get. We make a life by

WHAT WE GIVE.

– WINSTON CHURCHILL –
What an incredible spiritual place
to rest, heal and be at PEACE ~
We are so grateful and so lucky!
The vision and mission of Gift of Life Transplant House is to provide Mayo Clinic transplant patients with high quality affordable accommodations in a supportive home-like environment.

We have had a successful year in 2014 in terms of providing a large number of patients and caregivers with an affordable “home that helps and heals” as they face the challenges of navigating through the transplant process. We are grateful to our donors and benefactors for their generous contributions to our efforts, which help us to sustain the mission of Gift of Life Transplant House and keep our daily fees low.

The year 2014 marked the 30th anniversary of Gift of Life Transplant House. We kicked off the year by asking our founder, Ed Pompeian, to describe the history of the house. You can find his thoughts in the 2013-14 Winter issue of the Gift of Life Transplant House newsletter, a copy of which can be found on our website at www.gift-of-life.org. We planned a variety of events to celebrate this important milestone in the history of Gift of Life Transplant house including dessert receptions at each of the two houses on the first Sunday in January, the Iron Chef Challenge in March, our 30th Annual Golf Tournament in June, an Ice Cream Social on the front lawn of the 705 house in August, the culmination of the year with a Benefactor Dinner at the Mayo Foundation House on November 7, 2014 and the conclusion to the year with a Holiday Tea in mid-December, 2014.

In 2014 we spent much of the year preparing for the implementation of phlebotomy services at Gift of Life Transplant House, so that our guests could have their blood drawn by Mayo Clinic nurses at both houses and delivered to Mayo for testing. This was planned to enhance the stays of our guests and save them an extra trip to Mayo Clinic each day prior to their appointments with their medical providers. The process required the re-model of a room at each of the Gift of Life Houses, implementation of the information technology needs to do this and clearance of a number of regulatory hurdles. All these efforts came to fruition and we established daily phlebotomy services at each house in early 2015. We think this effort is a first for hospitality houses in Rochester and possibly nationally.

Thank you again for your dedication and support of Gift of Life Transplant House.

with sincere thanks,

MARK LITZOW
President, Board of Directors, 2014

GINGER HOLMES
Executive Director
It has been during these frequent visits I have asked myself what makes this house so special. Is it the board, the staff, the volunteers or the guests? Or is it something within the very house itself? The board members change; we have seen new faces at the front desk and new guests that are checking in and out. So does our hope, our healing come from within these walls? These very walls that make up the house that we now call our “home away from home”. Or is it a combination? My guess is a combination of all those things makes for a healing home.

Through the efforts of the Board of Directors, Gift of Life Transplant House is able to keep our room rates low. For this Kevin and I will be forever grateful as we were not sure how we would be able to afford our frequent visits. The staff and many volunteers provide us with much more than well run houses, more than clean rooms that are ready for our return, more than a meal served after a long day and more than the plentiful treats that await us in the kitchen. They give us their friendship, support and encouragement. A warm smile greets us on our return and a gentle hug gives us a boost of strength just when we need it most.

There is us… the guest, both patients and caregivers. We are constantly revolving

Our journey at Gift of Life Transplant House began May 25, 2012, when Kevin had his double lung transplant. Like all transplants our hope was to eventually make infrequent follow up visits to Mayo Clinic, but for us that was not to be.

BY DIANA DOTSON, wife and caregiver for Kevin Dotson
checking in and checking out. Our stories are all different yet very much the same. Life has delivered us an unexpected, unplanned and unwanted blow. Our journeys have brought all of us to the Mayo Clinic. Some will need transplants, others will be caregivers but we will all need a place to call home. Our journey takes us to a world that is completely foreign to us. A world where we are educated on medications we can barely pronounce. We learn of things like rejection, creatinine levels, graft vs host and we learn how much we dislike Prednisone. After long days at Mayo Clinic we come home and it is here where we share, we support and encourage each other. We laugh, cry and pray with one another. Lifelong friendships are made here. When we leave this home we take with us new friends who understand the blessings, the joys and also the fears and uncertainty that transplant brings to our lives. It is a bond that can’t be broken and few understand.

Then there is the house itself... I know how I feel each time I walk through those front doors. Sometimes I am all alone because Kevin was admitted to St. Mary’s. If I listen closely I imagine the voices of those who are no longer here and I smile. As I stand there I feel the comfort, the peace, the hope of the house almost as if the very walls themselves have greeted me and welcomed me home.

“The staff and many volunteers provide us with much more than well run houses, more than clean rooms that are ready for our return, more than a meal served after a long day and more than the plentiful treats that await us in the kitchen. They give us their friendship, support and encouragement. A warm smile greets us on our return and a gentle hug gives us a boost of strength just when we need it most.”
This was the PERFECT place for our family to Celebrate Life!
2014 BENEFACTORS TO GIFT OF LIFE TRANSPLANT HOUSE

Gift of Life Transplant House is grateful to all of the benefactors that share our mission. Due to space limitations, the list below includes benefactors who have given cash gifts of $250 or more during 2014. If there is an omission or mistake, please contact Ginger Holmes, Executive Director. Thank you.

AMBASSADORS: $20,000 +
- Robert and Debra Rodell
- Trails 4 Transplants
- Mardigian Foundation
- Mayo Foundation for Medical Education & Research
- Charles and Michelle Mullens
- Hanan Albahar

FRIENDS: $1,000 - $2,499
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- National Association of Realtors
- Central Minnesota Community Foundation
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- Dave Westendorf
- Public Service Foundation Wisconsin

As always, thank you for your support!
GIFT OF LIFE TRANSPLANT HOUSE
2014 BY THE NUMBERS

4,500
GUESTS & CAREGIVERS
served at Gift of Life
Transplant House campus.

275 VOLUNTEERS
working directly at Gift of
Life Transplant House campus.

8,800
VOLUNTEER HOURS GIVEN
graciously at Gift of Life
Transplant House campus.

600 VOLUNTEERS
assist in making and serving
dinners for guests and caregivers.

AND AN ENDLESS NUMBER
of community members who donate
baked goods, Thanksgiving and Christmas
dinners, and a variety of holiday treats.

13
PANCREAS

13
LUNG

32
HEART

104
LIVER

180
KIDNEY

519
BONE MARROW/STEM CELL

TRANSPLANTS PERFORMED by Mayo Clinic Rochester in 2014.
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

**assets**

Current Assets 945,029
Property, Equipment, Other 9,003,727
**TOTAL ASSETS** 9,948,756

**liabilities**

Current Liabilities 213,945
Mortgages, Notes Payable, Other 3,347,003
**TOTAL LIABILITIES** 3,560,948

**net assets**

Unrestricted 6,021,993
Temporarily Restricted 331,670
Permanently Restricted 34,145
**Total Net Assets** 6,387,808
**TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS** 9,948,756

**Revenues**

- Fundraising 36%
- Donations 7%
- Program 57%

**Expenses**

- Fundraising 74%
- Management/General 15%
- Program 11%
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