



2020  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

LIFE HOUSE  
*Duluth*

# 2020 REFLECTIONS

For years to come, people will be speaking about and reflecting on ‘the year of 2020.’ At Life House, Executive Director Jordon Johnson joined our team in January and without hesitation, walked through a global pandemic and uprising for racial justice with our amazing staff and community partners. We launched the Northern Lights program, which includes 8 additional units in our Housing Program for survivors of sexual exploitation and/or human trafficking.

Since mid-March and all the unknowns related to the pandemic, Life House’s doors have consistently been open and our comprehensive supportive services have been available for our youth. As an organization, we pivoted immediately to implement safety protocols and procedures as well as cultivated relationships with local and state public health experts. Through it all, our staff never wavered in showing up to support our youth and young families.



Life House staff embodied creatively connecting with our youth. We implemented Wellness Walks into our Mental Health and Wellness Program. We housed individuals and young families along with provided emergency shelter for youth. Our Youth Center staff provided continuous access to meals and basic needs. Our Futures Program stepped up to support young people with distance learning and pursuing their GED’s along with addressing any employment concerns.

The year 2020 expanded our community capacity of what it means to live in a ever shifting public health landscape, being in constant flux, and reminded us to slow down to appreciate our connections with one another even if it meant standing/being with someone from a distance.

A few additional highlights include: expanding our main campus to include Life House’s Imaginarium, located at 16 North 1st Avenue, across from our main building; we are part of the Brewery Creek Project with other local partners, which includes 32 additional units for our Housing Program in the coming years.

The year 2020 elevated a vital message for our youth and all of us about believing in possibilities even in fearful moments. A message about living in, caring for, and showing up for one another during difficult times. A message about imagining what life has to offer and continue pursuing one’s dreams – no matter what emerges in our day to day lives.

# 2020 STATISTICS

797 youth reached through all programs  
7,583 meals served in the Youth Center  
510 visits to the free store  
162 Youth Center groups, classes & activities  
40 youth resided in Life House Housing program  
88 placed in Affordable Housing in the community  
11 youth stayed at Sol House - human trafficking survivors, for 894 bed nights  
31 youth stayed at The Loft Emergency Shelter for 1691 bed nights  
142 youth provided Mental Health Counseling  
54 youth received Substance Abuse Counseling  
21 active in "Sober Life" Recovery support group  
65 youth provided Academic support, 7 completed a degree  
94 youth received Employment support  
16 youth completed an average of 84 hours of paid job training  
in the Legitimate Hustle Program

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2020

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### EXPENSE

Futures	\$317,091	12%
Housing	\$1,339,145	51%
Youth Center	\$259,332	10%
Wellness	\$377,297	14%
Management/General	\$305,585	12%
Fundraising	\$25,500	1%
Total	<u>\$2,623,950</u>	

### REVENUE

Contributions	\$248,515	7%
Foundation Grants	\$487,827	14%
Government Grants	\$2,109,493	62%
Fundraising Events	\$93,341	3%
Program Revenue	\$216,256	6%
Other	\$255,337	7%
Total	<u>\$3,410,769</u>	

## FUNDING PARTNERS

- Anonymous
- Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund
- Bernick's Family Foundation
- BNSF Railway
- Cathedral Cares
- Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota
- Charities Aid Foundation of America
- Charles and Carolyn Russell Foundation
- City of Duluth
- Community Foundation of the Fox Valley Region
- 11.10.02 Foundation
- Essentia Health
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- Head of the Lakes United Way
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- Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless
- Northland Foundation
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- Rotary 25, Duluth
- St. Louis County
- St. Paul and Minnesota Foundation
- State of Minnesota Department of Human Services
- State of Minnesota Office of Justice
- State of Minnesota Department of Health

\*Don't see your name listed? We apologize. Please let us know.

## FUNDING PARTNERS, CONTINUED :

- The Victory Fund
- Union Pacific Foundation
- US Bank
- Women's Foundation of Minnesota



## NONPERISHABLE MEALS IN A BAG

(Above) Community partners and organizations stepped up to provide nonperishable meals in a bag.



## SAFE MEALS TO GO

(Above) During the stay at home order, staff shopped, packed a bag of groceries and delivered them to our young people prior to masks being commonplace.



## LIFE HOUSE YOUTH GIVE BACK

(Above) Mary Allen was the first youth to move into our housing program in 2010. A decade later, she helped donate a meal for our youth through her place of employment at Texas Roadhouse as a way to give back to her community.

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## MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY 2020

(Above) Staff and youth honored the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Staff member Renita Syas was nominated for the Drum Major for Peace award.



## CAMP WIDJIWAGAN,

(Left) Staff are pictured roasting marshmallows at Camp Widjiwagan near Ely, MN. Youth had the opportunity to cross country ski, snow shoe, learn how to build a fire, experience a night hike, and simply enjoy the peace that nature has to offer. *Photo taken in February.*

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- Adeline, Inc.
- Altrusa International
- A Touch of Plasch
- Abbeycare, Inc.
- Alpha Nu Omega Fraternity
- Alpha Omega Campus Ministry
- Asbury United Methodist Church
- Bell Bank
- Bethlehem Lutheran Church
- Bonnie Jacobson Farmer's Insurance
- Bremer Bank
- Centricity Credit Union
- Charities Aid Foundation of America
- Coach for Success, Inc.
- Cord Dada
- DBA Theresa OHJ For Council
- Dead on Arms Shooting Range
- Department of Corrections, Moose Lake
- DLH Clothing
- Donald Holm Construction
- Dovetail Cafe
- Duluth Congregational Church
- Duluth Ice Dam Company LLC
- Duluth Superior Friends Meeting
- Earth Rider Brewing
- Economy Garages
- eLogger
- Emmanuel Lutheran Church
- Esko Public Schools
- First Lutheran Church
- First United Methodist Church
- Fitger's On-The-Lake, LLC
- Forbes United Methodist Church
- Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick P.A.
- Genesis Recovery Services
- Give MN
- Glen Avon Presbyterian Church
- Hailey Sault
- Hanft Fride
- Harbortown Rotary
- Hope Lutheran Church, Floodwood
- Hope Lutheran Church, Moose Lake
- Hope United Methodist Church
- IGO Legacy Hotel Group
- Kitchee Gammi Design Co.
- Knights of Columbus St. Joseph's Council
- Kwik Trip
- Lake County Sex Trafficking Task Force
- Lakeside Presbyterian Church
- Lake Superior Community Health Center
- Lake Superior Interfaith Community Church
- Lizzards Gallery
- Look Good Don't Die
- Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
- Maurices, Inc
- Members Cooperative Credit Union
- Meyer I Borgman I Johnson
- Miner's Inc. (Super One)
- Minnesota Association of Professional Employees
- Minnesota Association of Court Management
- Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light
- Minnesota Power
- Minnesota Power Employees Credit Union
- Mule Resophonic Guitars
- National Bank Of Commerce
- National Financial Services LLC
- Network for Good
- North Shore Bank of Commerce
- Northwest Building Service, LLC
- Peace Church
- Realtors as Neighbors Foundation

# 2020 DONORS

## BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

- Regional Realty
- Restorative Justice Council
- Rotary 25
- Pilgrim Congregational Church
- RSM
- Ruby's Pantry
- Salem Covenant Church
- Salem Lutheran Church
- Seeds of Abraham
- Sir Benedict's Tavern on the Lake
- Stack Bros.
- St. Lawrence & Holy Family Catholic Churches
- St. Louis County Commissioners
- St. Luke's Hospital and Clinics
- St. Michael's Catholic Church
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- Swim Creative
- Third Street Bakery
- Titanium Partners
- Trinity Lutheran Church, ELCA
- Truist Comprehensive Distribution
- UMD Medical School
- Unitarian Universalist Congregation
- United Baptist Christian Church
- United HealthCare
- US Bank
- Victory Fund
- Vikre Distillery
- Whole Foods Co-op
- Wipfli
- W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- Zenith Bookstore
- Zion Lutheran Church



## VIRTUAL CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS 2020

Our first virtual event celebrated spirit and determination of our youth and the 5-year anniversary of Sol House. Our evening involved laying the groundwork for even more youth to spread their wings and fly in the coming years.



## LIFE HOUSE'S IMAGINARIUM

Pictured above is our Community Gathering Space, which was used by the St. Louis County Public Health Department to provide Covid-19 testing to community members.

# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

## WRAPPING UP ANNEX RENOVATIONS

(Below) In July we put the final touches on the Legitimate Hustle Program storefront and Annex exterior.



## HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

(Above) With the help of community partners Life House brought a bit of holiday cheer to a record number of youth. We provided a meal and gifts for our young people and young families.

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LIFE HOUSE PROVIDES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY TO ALL QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY, RELIGIOUS BELIEF, SEX, AGE, PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY, VETERAN STATUS OR OTHER PROTECTED CLASSIFICATION. LIFE HOUSE ENCOURAGES INDIVIDUALS WITH DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS AND MEMBERS OF THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY TO APPLY.

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