

LIFE HOUSE Duluth

THE INTRICACIES OF CHANGE

JORDON EUNISON-CHISTI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What did 2022 offer our youth and young families given the emergence of coming back together in person? Over the last year, it became clear that there is no 'going back' to a way it 'used-to-be' in our work and world. When I began in January of 2020, I had a few months to get a sense of how our organization operated before all aspects of our society, culture and community shifted with the global pandemic and uprising for racial justice. As we continue to move forward, I have been thinking a great deal about how we ground ourselves into the daily nuances of change and uncertainty that have emerged in our work with youth and young families.

What I am learning is the importance of deepening our healing practices with young people. With this in mind, Life House focused on renovating our Imaginarium Building, which is a space to go into the depths of healing necessary with our youth. We are deeply grateful for all the community support to assist with its evolution. We are in the process of building out a recording studio in the basement of the building with the generous support of Arrowhead Health Alliance, Leadership Duluth, and additional community partners. We were honored to be the recipient of the Let's Talk MN Mental Health Action Concert which highlighted Cloud Cult. The concert was an amazingly powerful testimony in our community's support for lifting up our young peoples' voices and stories through music and the arts.

We had the honor to work with Duluth Street Art Initiative and Downtown Duluth, who raised funds to bring in two artist, Mana and Ann Lewis, to design and paint a mural on the alley way of the Imaginarium. If you have not seen this unbelievably beautiful piece of art, please swing by the alley behind our building and take a moment to see if you can identify the message in the spiral maze.







We consistently lift up our LGBTQ+ youth and ensure they are aware we are by their side. It was a blast to work closely with the Duluth Pride committee to host a Zenith City Horror – Drag Time Story event as well as the Youth Pride Dance in our Community Gathering space in the Imaginarium. Last year, our annual statistics indicated that 38% of our youth self-identify as LGBTQ+. One of our core values is creating an environment that is based in equity, inclusion, and belonging, so our young people know that we are by their side in their healing journey.

Throughout the year, we implemented vital processes and changes to strengthen our organizational practices of equity, inclusion and belonging. We have a Cultural Humility Statement, which can be found on our website. We created and incorporated Organizational Agreements in which we ask all employees to be open to learning, embrace adaptability, prioritize teamwork and take accountability for personal actions related to equity, inclusion, and belonging. These agreements include aspects such as listen with the ear of your heart or give yourself or other people grace. We are all in a constant learning process and working to honor all our employees' assets, cultural backgrounds, and lived experiences. Life House also shifted our company holiday schedule where we honor Juneteenth and Indigenous Peoples' Day as company holidays.

The intricacies of change are not always visible to the eye nor immediately felt or noticed. Change and healing are a process, which Life House is committed to moving through the processes necessary to benefit our youth and young families for all the generations yet to come.

STATISTICS

- ★ 868 youth reached through all programs
- ★ 7,145 meals served in the Youth Center
- ★ 985 visits to the free store
- ★ 282 Youth Center groups, classes & activities
- ★ 53 youth resided in Life House Housing program
- * 42 placed in affordable housing in the community
- ★ 13 youth human trafficking survivors stayed at Sol House, for 850 bed nights
- ★ 14 youth stayed at The Loft Emergency Shelter for 1,341 bed nights
- ★ 230 youth engaged with Wellness Case Management Services
- ★ 103 youth received Substance Abuse Counseling
- ★ 6 active in "Sober Life" Recovery support group
- ★ 131 youth received academic support, 15 earned an education credential
- * 82 youth received employment support

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FINANCIAL REPORT

EXPENSE		
Futures	\$229,262	8%
Housing	\$1,455,319	48%
Youth Center	\$515,747	17%
Wellness	\$428,213	14%
Management/General	\$350,452	12%
Fundraising	\$56,334	2%
Total	\$3,035,327	100%

REVENUE			
Contributions	\$291,242	9%	
Foundation Grants	\$644,411	20%	
Government Grants	\$1,921,150	60%	
Fundraising Events	\$46.905	1%	
Program Revenue	\$257,835	8%	
Other	\$25,523	1%	
Total	\$3,187,066	100%	

FUNDING PARTNERS

- Arrowhead Health Alliance
- City of Duluth
- Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation
- Essentia Health
- Family Services Collaborative
- Head of the Lakes United Way
- Heading Home Minnesota Funder's Collaborative
- Hearth Connection
- Junior League of Duluth
- Lahti Foundation
- Lake Country Power
- Lloyd K Johnson Foundation
- Mardag Foundation
- Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless

- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota Department of Human Services
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- Northland Foundation
- Ordean Foundation
- Otto Bremer Trust
- Pulkrabek Foundation
- Remax Results Foundation
- Rotary 25
- St Louis County
- The Corporation for Supportive Housing
- U.S. Bank
- Women's Foundation of Minnesota

CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS

It was a joy to be back in person with everyone this past year to celebrate **30** of our young people and their accomplishments over the year.



We are grateful for our partnership with the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center and all their work in supporting our annual event. Special thank you to all our sponsors for their generous support of this event.

We had live music with Superior Siren, sharing their amazing music while our guests had time to connect and view all the raffle items available. Superior Siren is based in Duluth and their music is inspired by Lake Superior and Siren mythology.

We are grateful for Matthew Sanford for being our Keynote Speaker, who shared his personal story and his insights about life with our youth. He is the author of the critically acclaimed book *Waking: A Memoir of Trauma and Transcendence*. He is also the founder of Mind Body Solutions, an organization dedicated to transforming trauma, loss and disability into hope and potential by awakening the connection between mind and body.

DONOR APPRECIATION EVENT

We wanted to simply say Thank You to you all – our donors, funders, and supporters – for being by our side over the last 30 plus years. Given our Executive Director started shortly before the onset of the global pandemic, we wanted to provide you all an opportunity to meet him as well as for us to express our gratitude for all your generosity and care for our youth and young families over the past few years.

We were delighted to have Ellis Delaney, who is from the Twin Cities area, join us to share their songs and music with us all.



Life House staff get festive for our holiday celebrations with youth

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2022 HIGHLIGHTS

LIFE HOUSE ENGAGES WITH THE COMMUNITY



Life House staff support transgender youth on Trans Day of Remembrance and Resilience.



Life House staff participate in round table conversations about housing with Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, Commissioner Jennifer Ho, Mayor Emily Larson, & community leaders. The meeting was held at the American Indian Community Housing Organization in Duluth.



Each year we celebrate the Holiday season with our youth.

Around 100 youth join us in receiving gifts for themselves & their children, enjoying a meal together, and taking photos with the Clause's.



Rotary Club of Duluth #25 members prepare & serve up the Fall Harvest Feast for youth.



Life House was the recipient of a fundraiser concert and worked in collaboration with Let's Talk MN & Leadership Duluth. The event took place at Duluth's Historic NorShore Theatre and raised more than \$20,000 for our future recording studio.

BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

- A & L Property Management, LLC
- Abbeycare, Inc
- AMSOIL INC
- Anchor Bar
- Anytime Fitness
- Arrowhead Health Alliance
- Asbury United Methodist Church
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- Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
- Compass Minerals
- Crumbl Cookies
- Culligan Water
- Deboer Automotive Services, Inc.
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- Donald Holm Construction
- Dual Citizen Brewing Company
- Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce
- Duluth Cider
- Duluth Congregational Church
- Duluth Gear Exchange
- Duluth Preschool of the Fine Arts
- Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation
- Duluth Superior Friends Meeting
- Duluth Women of Today
- Edgewater Hotel & Waterpark
- Emmanuel Lutheran Church
- Esko Public Schools
- Essentia Health
- Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC

- Fidelity Charitable
- First Lutheran Church
- First United Methodist Church
- Fitger's On-The-Lake, LLC
- Forbes United Methodist Church
- French River Lutheran Church
- Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick P.A.
- Girls Scouts Troop 4202
- Give MN
- Grace Lutheran Church
- Hanft Fride
- Harbortown Rotary
- Hermantown High School
- Hope Lutheran Church
- IGO Legacy Hotel Group
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- Live Limitless
- Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
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- Minnesota Power
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- Mrs. Mac's Towing
- MSA Professional Services, Inc
- My Tribute Gift Foundation, Inc.
- National Bank Of Commerce
- National Financial Services LLC
- Network for Good
- North Shore Bank
- North Shore Investments & Trust
- North Star Foundation
- Northeast Regional Corrections Center
- Northwood Children's Services
- Our Saviors Lutheran Church
- Peace Church
- Period Kits MN
- Petsmart

BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS, CONTINUED

- Piedmont Dental
- Pilgrim Congregational Church
- Premier Wash Systems, LLC
- Radices Fund
- Ragstock
- Raymond James Charitable
- RBC Wealth Management
- Rotary 25
- RSM Foundation
- Ruby's Pantry / First United Methodist
- Salem Lutheran Church
- Sammy's Pizza
- SCS Aircraft Interiors
- Shooting for the Cause
- St. Andrews By The Lake
- St. Joseph's Church
- St. Lawrence and Holy Family Catholic Churches
- St. Luke's Hospital and Clinics
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- St. Peter's Esther Circle
- Starbucks Foundation: Neighborhood Grants Fund

- Superior High School
- Superior Tavern
- T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving
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- Zion Lutheran Church

Each year, countless
businesses and
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with us to provide caring
support for homeless
and
under-resourced youth
that we serve.
THANK YOU!



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Visit: lifehouseduluth.org/contact/careers

