



Our Community
Our Home
40 Years Together

APRIL - JUNE
2019

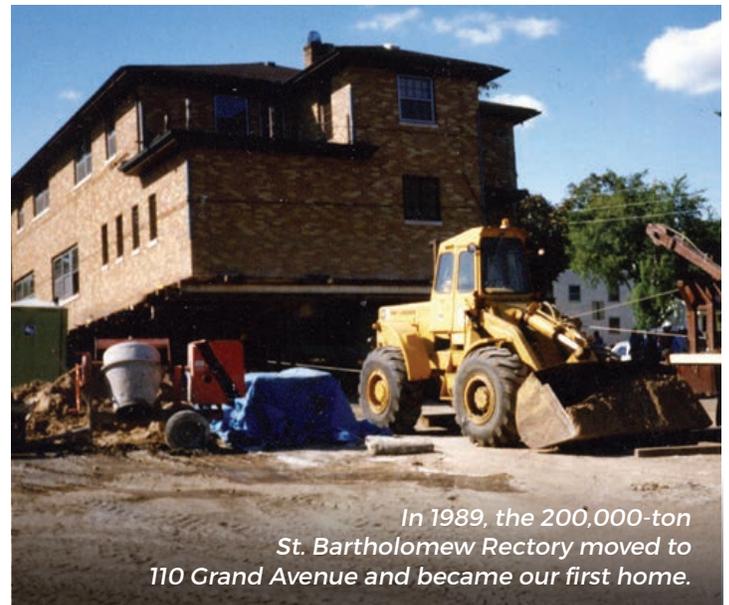
40 years – a community becoming the best version of itself

In October of 1979, a small band of believers came together to launch an outreach project called Interfaith Outreach. To their delight and amazement, it didn't take long for their modest start-up to capture the heart and imagination of a whole community. People began to show up. Lots of them. Caring, smart, generous people looking for ways to help struggling families and kids build new and hopeful futures.

Thus began a 40-year journey of a community on mission. A huge milestone along the way was a near-miraculous Sept. 12, 1989, move of the former 200,000-ton St. Bartholomew Rectory to 110 Grand Avenue in Wayzata, which became the first home of a newly energized Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners. A feat you had to see to believe!

Twenty-two years later, the next big move began with the repurposing of our Wayzata site into Maggie Manor, a lovely 6-unit affordable family townhome. Undaunted by a sobering recession, this amazing community rallied to raise \$5.5M to acquire and develop the former Erickson's New Market at 1605 County Road 101 in Plymouth into the new Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners Family Service and Learning Center. An opportunity to bring the care of our community to a whole new level.

There really is no power greater than a community that has discovered what it cares about. As we celebrate the miracle of the past 40 years, we can only imagine what the next 40 will bring!



In 1989, the 200,000-ton St. Bartholomew Rectory moved to 110 Grand Avenue and became our first home.



In 2011, Fred Hegele and LaDonna Hoy cut the ceremonial ribbon at the Plymouth location grand opening.

MISSION - To engage the heart and will of the community to respond to emergency needs and create opportunities for all to thrive.

VISION - To build a vibrant community where everyone counts and all sectors and systems work together for the good of all.

Our Community. Our Home.

Thank you for 40 years – strengthening for the future

People often ask, “Did that small band of believers who stepped out in faith to launch Interfaith Outreach 40 years ago ever imagine what this community would look like 40 years later?” The honest and unsurprising answer is usually, “No. Not hardly!”

But, if asked did they ever hope for what this amazing community has become, and is becoming, their also honest answer is always an amazed and deeply grateful YES! The story of this community is a story of just-in-time miracles and just-in-time people.

Rooted in that hope was a belief that there is enough heart and wisdom

and will and resources for us to show up and care for one another in all the ways that matter – in the good times and the hard times. A way for us to build a community where truly everyone counts. A community where love and justice are our guiding principles and where people from all sectors and systems work together for the good of all.

What we celebrate 40 years later is hope made flesh, hope in action, hope rekindled on a daily basis for struggling families and kids and people of all ages and stages and races and ethnicities who have found among us their home, their community, and new and hopeful



*LaDonna Hoy,
Executive Director, Interfaith
Outreach & Community Partners*

futures. Thanks to all of you. Thanks to those no longer with us ... and those who are yet to come. Celebrate with us, friends. Let's keep that fire of hope alive and well for the next 40.

Many generations of magic power up the work



Dottie and Laura Merriam at Interfaith have fostered a culture of philanthropy in their family.

“Home’ and ‘community’ are one and the same,” said Dottie Merriam, a dedicated volunteer and supporter. Dottie and her daughter-in-law Laura, along with her grandchildren, represent three generations of kindness through volunteering at Interfaith Outreach.

Dottie has dedicated decades of her life to volunteering here. “By volunteering, you learn how good it feels to give of yourself.” Daughter-in-law Laura Merriam adds, “We are all one community at Interfaith Outreach, whether employees, volunteers or clients, we have a common goal of wanting all to thrive. As a volunteer within the community, I know that every hour given helps somebody else who is enduring a hardship or setback toward a better life.”

These amazing women have raised the next generation to feel the same. Laura’s children have been key volunteers too. Some of the grandkids earned the President’s Volunteer Service Award for volunteering hundreds of hours at Interfaith and other organizations. Thank you, Dottie and Laura, for fostering the love of volunteering in your family and for choosing Interfaith Outreach as the place to sprinkle your multi-generational magic.

40 Years Together.

Volunteers build a thriving community

Volunteer Tom Finke offers a great analogy, "I've always felt that the act of volunteering was similar to the BOGO [buy one get one free] deals. When you buy into volunteering, you help your own character in addition to helping the person your volunteering effort is focused on."

Tom started his Interfaith Outreach journey in 2009. "I started out as a Rides Program driver. Then, I mentioned to Liz Erstad-Hicks that if they needed more help at the rides dispatch desk I could come in and do that, as well."

Tom's willingness to say "yes" to new challenges tapped into his greatest strengths. "I have an engineering

background so I am a little technical. I was kind of looking at how we were running things. I created an Access database to manage our requests coming in and track which volunteer driver is taking the ride."

"It was a technical project. Those are the things I get into." Today, Tom volunteers as a Rides Program driver and program coordinator and is an adult tutor with Wayzata Adult Basic Education. Tom is one of thousands of people responsible for the strength of the organization.

"Over the last 40 years the organization has grown a lot. I guess I feel a real need, or more so a responsibility, to reach out and help others so they



Tom Finke has had a variety of roles over his years of dedicated service.

may pursue and create opportunity for themselves. The issues and problems we may think only exist in the inner city environment are issues that are relevant in the suburbs – and really all over. I think volunteering is essential to building a strong and thriving community."

APRIL IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH

Thank you to the 1,967 volunteers who welcome families, plan events, mentor young people, stock the food shelf, operate the Resale store, help folks find jobs, run special programs and so much more. You are the power behind the work!

Meet our Community Engagement staff



Have you been looking for a meaningful volunteer experience? Reach out to Liz Erstad-Hicks and Najmo Yusuf for great ideas to fit your passions and skills.

There are hundreds of amazing causes and great places to volunteer in our community. No matter where you choose to serve, we thank you! Interfaith Outreach was started 40 years ago by volunteers who are – to this day – the heart and soul of our work! Do you want to join the Interfaith Outreach family? We have one-time and year-round volunteer opportunities for individuals, high school students, families, civic groups, corporations, faith communities and friends to make a lasting impact together.

Find your irreplaceable role at Interfaith Outreach by visiting iocp.org/volunteer or getting in touch with our Community Engagement team:

Liz Erstad-Hicks, Community Engagement Director,
lerstad-hicks@iocp.org

Najmo Yusuf, Community Engagement Coordinator,
nyusuf@iocp.org

Or call 763-489-7500 to connect with them by phone.

Thank you, volunteers, for an amazing 40 years!



Food shelf teams are just one group of amazing volunteers.

**VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION
THIS PAST YEAR**

Total Volunteers
1,967

Total Volunteer Hours
67,235

MEMORIALS December 2018 - February 2019

Kathleen Anderson / Len Anderson / Marilyn Anderson / Amor & Anita Banda / Bernie Burstein / Gail Burton
 Mary Bury Jordal / Virginia Christensen / Donald Condon / Barney & Dorothy Corens / Jim Durkin / Charles Geisen
 Arthur & Constance Goodman / Lucy Hartwell / Judy Hodges / Bonnie Huntley / Charles Jerabek / Eugene Kemp
 Helen Rohe Koepf / John Kueppers / Alec Lawrenz / Andrea Main / John McCann, Jr. / Patrick McKee
 Kathleen Michaelson / William "Bill" Munsell / Dorothy Mura / Robert Nenovich / Dr. Scott Nicholas / Barbara O'Leary
 Jane & Terry Olson / Martin Overby / Judi Ann Parks / Carol Paulson / Cheryl "Cherie" Peterson / Fay Reuter
 Antwon Rose / James Schumacher, Sr. / Jacqueline Straub / Errol Hugo "Swanny" Swanson / Wayne Vagts
 Fr. Arnold Weber / Virginia Whitehead / Tanya Williams / Alice Wisted Olson / Jean Wrobel

GRANTS December 2018 - February 2019

Aqualia International
Foundation,
Sleep Out

B&H Way Foundation,
Caring for Kids

B&H Way Foundation,
Great Expectations

City of Plymouth,
**Case Management and
Emergency Financial
Assistance**

City of Plymouth,
Neighborhood Program

Kopp Family Foundation,
General Operations

Lake Community Bank,
Sleep Out

Medica Foundation,
General Operations

Mosaic Company
Foundation,
Prevent Hunger

TJX Foundation,
Project Success

Polaris,
**General Operations
(gala sponsorship)**

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Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners
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SERVING THE CITIES OF HAMEL, LONG LAKE, MEDICINE LAKE, MEDINA, MINNETONKA BEACH, ORONO, PLYMOUTH & WAYZATA

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