



2495
Aurora House
Comfort Care Home

“

Peace, dignity, family, love and even laughter- that's what the Aurora House provided my mother; ALL the things she deserved and our family cherished. My mom was always there for us (her kids and grandkids) and the Aurora House gave us that space in return for five days before she gained her angel wings. My brothers and I are forever grateful and only hope many other families could experience the gift of the Aurora House in their time of need.

Shannon Parmela

”

Annual Report 2024

aurorahousewmc.com



Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

I want to share a story with you.

I was recently speaking with a friend I have not seen in many years. When I mentioned that I am involved with Aurora House Comfort Care Home, he looked at me in confusion and asked what that was. I have been asked that question countless times and my answer is always the same, "Imagine a comfortable, cozy, and welcoming home, with about 75 family members who love you and are willing to care for your every need; that is Aurora House. We care for you when you cannot care for yourself, and we take the responsibility from your loved ones' shoulders. Our mission is to ease a person's transition into death by offering dignified, loving, and compassionate care."

Once my friend overcame his surprise, he asked how much this service costs. He was amazed to hear that our residents are never charged a fee for the services we offer them. Nor do we receive government support or insurance reimbursement; we survive on the generosity of our community. Fundraisers, private donations, and grants make up our yearly budget. His amazement became admiration for such an organization.

Aurora House has been in existence since 2007. Our community proudly offered gifts and support to help make this dream of a Comfort Care Home a reality. We have welcomed residents since 2010, and while we are a very small nonprofit, we are

proud of the contribution we have made to our neighbors in need. Over and over again, we have helped residents at the most difficult time of life – the end of life. We offer families and friends a safe, calm, and protected space to deal with the loss they are facing.

The end of life is a hard topic to consider when we are just living our lives, day to day; it is uncomfortable to focus on what Aurora House staff and volunteers deal with so skillfully on a daily basis. This can make it challenging to get the message out about Aurora House, but we need your support.

Please take just a brief moment to realize how essential you are to the Aurora House mission. Your generosity enables us to continue providing our crucial services to those who need it most. We are deeply grateful for any support you can offer and look forward to an ongoing partnership with you.

Warmly,

Marj Smith
President, Aurora House



Scan here to donate!

Family Feature

The Carey family was able to appreciate their mother's last moments in the comforting spaces at Aurora House. They were able to gather and enjoy time at the end of Joann Carey's journey.

"As we prepared meals, and put together puzzles, and solved world problems over endless cups of coffee, Kasey and her staff took care of Mom's needs. The staff of Aurora house kept Mom ready for her final journey so we could chart a new course with Mom in our hearts instead of at our sides. We filled that house with laughter and love so that Mom could go home."

Son Michael Carey



Aurora House allows families to relax and enjoy each other's company.



Aurora House is a safe and comforting place for all who enter!

"My mother suffered a short but very difficult battle with lymphoma. Everyday was a new emotional hurdle for our family to overcome. After 4 months of struggle, it was determined that she needed to be moved to Aurora House. As difficult as this experience was, Aurora House may have been the only institution that made us feel that everything might be okay. Every staff member was supportive, kind and thoughtful. They coached us through the next steps of our mother's journey. The living room and kitchen felt like home as our family and friends came to visit. More laughter than tears filled the air in our mother's final days. Mom always loved a party, and we think this is exactly how she would have wanted it. Aurora House and the people that work there will always hold a special place in our hearts for the kindness and peace they provided."

Son Tim Carey

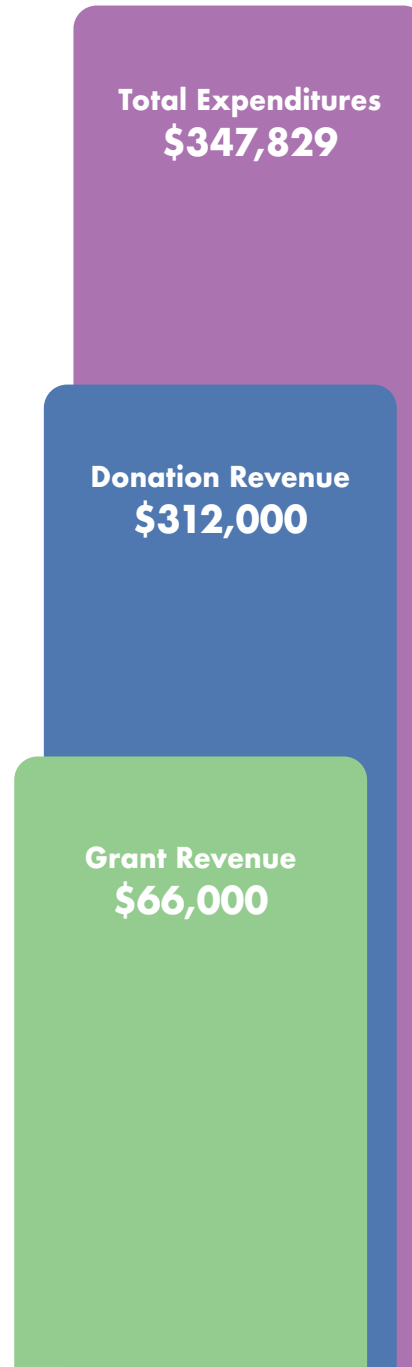
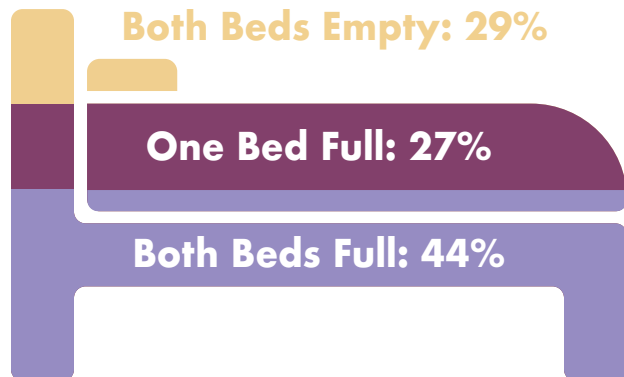
Financial Transparency

Between September 2023 and August 2024 expenditures were **\$347,829** and donated revenue totaled **\$312,000**, resulting in a budget deficit of **\$35,829**. **\$66,000** in Grant dollars was awarded to fund specific projects and partial operating expenses. Payroll accounted for **\$186,988**, and resident care cost averaged **\$700** per resident per day.

Forty-eight residents and families were served between Sept. 2023 and Aug. 2024. This brings the total community members served to 323 since our doors opened in 2010.

The daily cost to care for a resident is

\$700



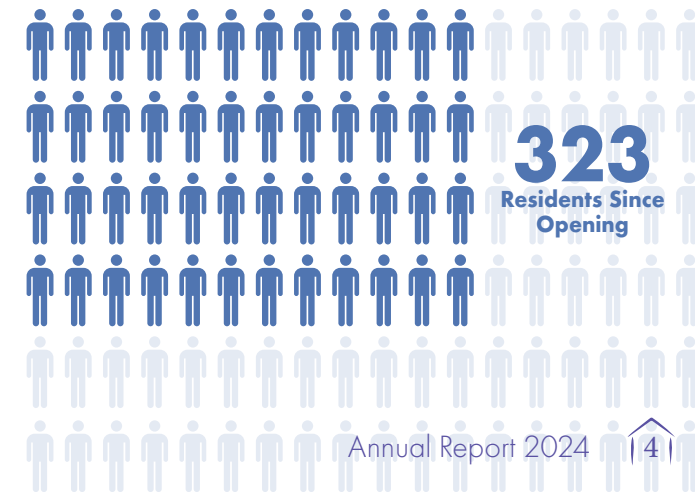
Grant Spotlight

- Donald F. & Maxine B. Davison Foundation
\$30,000
- Killian J. & Caroline F. Schmitt Foundation
\$30,000
- Charles J. & Burton S. August Family Foundation
\$3,000
- Frank & Jean Iacovangelo Family Foundation Inc.
\$2,000
- Masonic Service Bureau of Greater Rochester, NY Inc.
\$1,000

TOTAL GRANTS - \$66,000

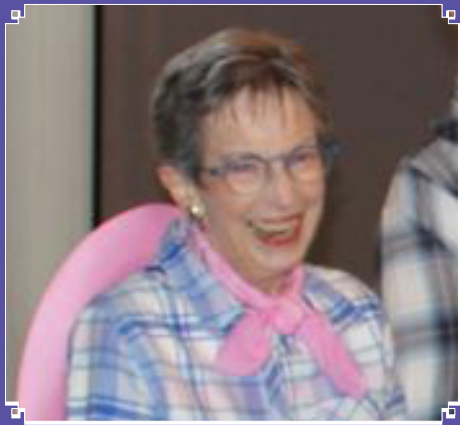
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Residents This Year



Volunteer Spotlight in Memoriam.

The Board of Directors is thrilled to announce **Sue Habbersett** as the inaugural member of the Aurora Legacy Society. Sue dedicated her time and talent to Aurora House through the years and left a legacy gift to the House in her estate after her death. Sue was a treasured volunteer and friend of Aurora House.

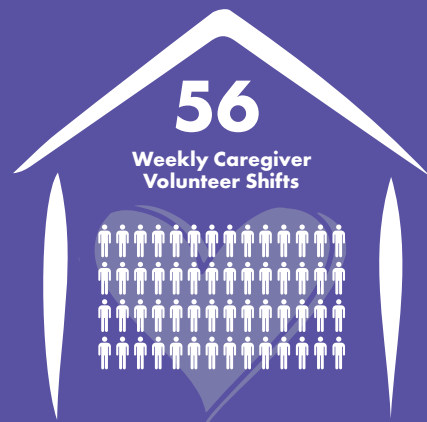


“ Sue joined the Aurora House early on as a volunteer to work on our benefit programs. In the beginning we all worked on anything that we could dream up just to make money. The Starry Night & Baskets & Brunch were her most treasured events.

She had an adventurous spirit and many talents, always doing a perfect job, and holding all of us accountable too. This past year I missed her so much while working on the baskets, we always did so well together. If they give out stars in heaven for every time someone thinks of you, she must have thousands.

She had many other volunteer activities and even moved from Spencerport, but still made the drive to work with us. I hope she knows how much we appreciated her devotion.

Needless to say she will be missed for a very long time by all her friends at Aurora House.”



The family of Aurora House volunteers fulfills many roles. The one thing all have in common is their love of and dedication to the Aurora Mission.



Carol Kirkpatrick

Longtime Volunteer Caregiver & Baskets and Brunch basket coordinator

15th Anniversary Year of Celebration



15th Anniversary Masquerade Ball

May 3, 2025

6-10 p.m.

ARTISANworks

565 Blossom Rd
Rochester, NY 14610

Join us in celebrating Aurora House's 15th Anniversary at our spring Masquerade Ball! In addition to an amazing venue and fabulous eats, will be dancing the night away to live music by The Dawgs, with a special appearance by comedian Dan Viola. Reserve your tickets in advance--and don't forget



Navigating Grief and Loss

Every other Thursday beginning
October 10th, 2024
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

At the Aurora House

Support group for those who have experienced the death of a loved one on how to navigate grief.



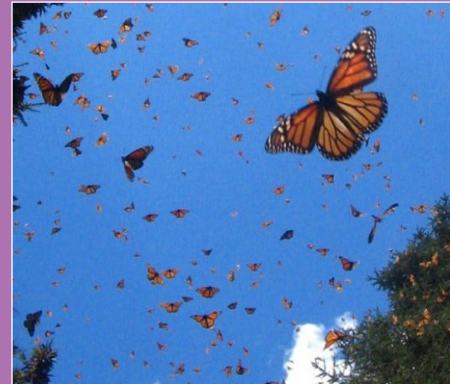
Luminaries

February 2025

Time TBD

At the Aurora House

Lighting candles is a sign of hope and comfort, and acts as a reminder of the light our loved ones brought into our lives. The Aurora House Lights of Remembrance is a beautiful way to honor and remember loved ones who are no longer with us.



Butterfly Release and Picnic for Aurora House Families

August 2025

Time TBD

At the Aurora House

Aurora House families will be invited to a butterfly release and picnic in honor of their loved ones who have died.



Fall 2025 Major Fundraising Event

Date and Time TBD

Location TBD

2024 Donors*

Fundraisers, private donations, and grants are the only source of revenue that keep our doors open. Community support is vital to our effort to realize our mission of providing others with a peaceful, dignified final journey. Our donors are an inestimably valuable part of our Aurora House family, and we earnestly appreciate each and every single one of you. Thank you!

\$100–\$499

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Thank you!

*Donors are from September 2023-August 2024 to date of publication.

Our Mission

Aurora House offers the highest quality end of life care with a personal touch in a home-like setting for our residents and their loved ones, without financial obligation. We serve as a vital resource of support and education to those facing grief and loss in our community.

Thank you for reading.

