

THE CARING HEART

A CARE AND SHARE OF CROOKSTON, INC. PUBLICATION



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WE WILL OPEN THE BOOK.
ITS PAGES ARE BLANK.
WE ARE GOING TO PUT WORDS
ON THEM OURSELVES.
THE BOOK IS CALLED OPPORTUNITY
AND ITS FIRST CHAPTER
IS NEW YEAR'S DAY.
- EDITH LOVEJOY PIERCE



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTES



SUBJECT: REFLECTING ON THE PAST YEAR AND EMBRACING THE GROWTH AHEAD

AS WE STEP INTO 2025, WE ARE NOT JUST TURNING THE PAGE ON A NEW YEAR BUT EMBRACING THE GROWTH AND RESPONSIBILITY THAT COMES WITH IT. THE YEAR AHEAD HOLDS IMMENSE POTENTIAL—AN EXCITING CHAPTER THAT WILL PROPEL OUR ORGANIZATION TO NEW LEVELS OF IMPACT AND TRANSFORMATION. OUR TEAM HAS ALREADY BEGUN TRAINING ON A NEW PHILOSOPHY THAT IS RESHAPING HOW WE INTERACT WITH OUR GUESTS AND HOW WE STRENGTHEN THE BONDS BETWEEN ONE ANOTHER AS COLLEAGUES. THIS PHILOSOPHY IS ROOTED IN TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE, DE-ESCALATION METHODS, AND HARM REDUCTION TECHNIQUES, AND IT AIMS TO EQUIP EACH OF US WITH THE SKILLS TO NOT ONLY EXCEL IN OUR ROLES BUT TO DO SO WITH HEART, EMPATHY, AND INTENTION.

AT ITS CORE, OUR GOAL IS TO EMPOWER OUR STAFF WITH THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO THRIVE. IN DOING SO, WE ARE CREATING A CULTURE GROUNDED IN BOUNDARIES, SAFETY, MINDFULNESS, AND AUTHENTICITY. THIS IS NOT JUST ABOUT IMPROVING OUR APPROACH WITH GUESTS ABOUT FOSTERING AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE EVERYONE FEELS VALUED, SUPPORTED, AND HEARD. IT'S ABOUT BRINGING OUR BEST SELVES INTO OUR WORK, FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE INDIVIDUALS WE SERVE AND FOR EACH OTHER.

AS WE REFLECT ON THE PAST YEAR, THERE'S SO MUCH TO BE GRATEFUL FOR. IT'S BEEN A YEAR FULL OF CHALLENGES, BUT IT'S ALSO BEEN A YEAR OF PROFOUND GROWTH—BOTH AS AN ORGANIZATION AND AS A COMMUNITY. WE'VE WEATHERED STORMS TOGETHER, AND THROUGH IT ALL, WE'VE WITNESSED THE RESILIENCE OF OUR TEAM AND THE UNWAVERING SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AROUND US. THE GENEROSITY AND COMPASSION SHOWN BY SO MANY WHO BELIEVE IN OUR MISSION HAS BEEN A CONSTANT REMINDER OF WHY OUR WORK MATTERS. YOUR KINDNESS AND SUPPORT, WHETHER THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM, DONATIONS, OR SIMPLY SHOWING UP WHEN NEEDED, HAVE MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. WITHOUT YOU, NONE OF WHAT WE DO WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

AS WE CONTINUE TO SERVE THE UNHOUSED, IT'S IMPORTANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE STRUGGLES THEY FACE EVERY SINGLE DAY. THE PROGRAMS WE OFFER ARE MORE THAN JUST RESOURCES; THEY ARE A LIFELINE, A MOMENT FOR THOSE WE SERVE TO BREATHE, TO PAUSE, AND TO FOCUS ON THEMSELVES. FOR MANY, IT'S A RARE OPPORTUNITY TO PUT THEMSELVES FIRST, IF ONLY FOR A FLEETING MOMENT AND TO BEGIN TO HEAL. WE ARE PROVIDING THEM WITH A SEED OF HOPE, ALLOWING THEM TO IMAGINE WHAT IT MIGHT LOOK LIKE TO PRIORITIZE THEIR MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING.

THE WORK WE DO IS INCREDIBLY CHALLENGING, BUT IT IS ALSO DEEPLY MEANINGFUL. EVERY DAY, WE HAVE THE HONOR OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE, AND THAT IS SOMETHING WE MUST NEVER TAKE FOR GRANTED. AS WE MOVE INTO 2025, WE CARRY WITH US THE LESSONS OF THE PAST, THE STRENGTH OF OUR TEAM, AND THE UNWAVERING BELIEF THAT TOGETHER, WE CAN CONTINUE TO CREATE A SPACE WHERE HEALING, GROWTH, AND TRANSFORMATION ARE NOT ONLY POSSIBLE BUT CELEBRATED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED DEDICATION TO THIS WORK, FOR YOUR HEART, YOUR KINDNESS, AND FOR BEING A VITAL PART OF OUR COMMUNITY. WE ARE EXCITED TO SEE WHAT THIS NEW YEAR WILL BRING, AND WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO HAVE EACH OF YOU BY OUR SIDE AS WE MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER.

WITH GRATITUDE AND ANTICIPATION,

RECOGNIZING DONORS & VOLUNTEERS



RECOGNIZING DONORS & VOLUNTEERS



Entering the new year filled with positivity

2025

Happy New Year

& excitement for all that it has to offer

The Care and Share of Crookston, Inc. 220 E 3rd St. Crookston, MN 56716

LIVED EXPERIENCE



HELLO, MY NAME IS JON P. I RELOCATED TO CROOKSTON IN SEPTEMBER 2022. MY WIFE AND I MADE THIS MOVE WHEN SHE WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON.

I WANT PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE CARE AND SHARE/HOPE CENTER PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN OUR LIVES DURING A CHALLENGING TIME BY PROVIDING US WITH A PLACE TO STAY.

THE CASE WORKERS AND JANE FREEMAN (WHO WAS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT THE TIME) WERE INCREDIBLY HELPFUL IN CONNECTING US WITH RESOURCES TO SECURE OUR OWN HOUSING. JANE WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND BY WRITING REFERENCE LETTERS FOR US.

WHILE I HAVEN'T EXPERIENCED OTHER SHELTERS, I CAN CONFIDENTLY SAY THAT MY SUCCESS STORY TODAY SURPASSES WHERE WE STARTED. I HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED AT NEW FLYER FOR NEARLY A YEAR, WE HAVE MAINTAINED OUR OWN HOME FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS, AND WE ARE BOTH STILL SOBER. WHENEVER WE NEED SUPPORT, WE KNOW WE CAN ALWAYS TURN TO CARE AND SHARE. THE CURRENT AND PAST STAFF THERE ARE PRETTY REMARKABLE!!

THANK YOU,

Jon P.

BOARD MEMBER INTRO



GREETINGS,
MY NAME IS JON STREET AND I'M A NEW MEMBER ON THE CARE & SHARE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. I AM ORIGINALLY FROM ST. JAMES, MN AND HAVE CALLED CROOKSTON MY HOME SINCE 1988. I AM MARRIED TO LISA AND HAVE TWO CHILDREN HANNAH AND RYAN. I HAVE WORKED FOR POLK COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE PAST 16 YEARS. MY FAVORITE PAST TIMES ARE CAMPING, FISHING, HUNTING, MUSIC, AND GARDENING. THE CARE & SHARE HAS PROVIDED THE SUPPORT AND SAFETY FOR SO MANY OVER THE YEARS, AND I AM HONORED TO SERVE ON THE BOARD HELPING INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY THRIVE.

CARE AND SHARE BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S

KARI BRAULT - BOARD CHAIR

CAROLINA DIAZ - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ANNA CORONA - VICE CHAIR

ANGEL KORYNTA - TREASURER

MIKE ANDERSON - SECRETARY

LEAH WINJUM - DIRECTOR

STEPHEN LARSON - DIRECTOR

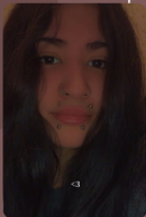
KYLE HUNT - DIRECTOR

JON STREET - DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS

WELCOME TO
THE TEAM!

*Klarissa R.
Security*



HAPPY
Birthday



Aurora S.

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
Mark D.

JANUARY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

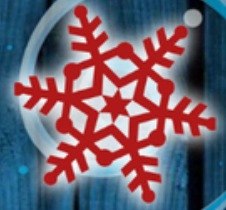
Candace S.
Administrative
Assistant

"Candace has consistently demonstrated remarkable dedication, passion, and skills in her role at Care and Share, and for that, we recognize her hard work."





Care and Share
of Crookston
Presents



Open Hearts, Open Doors

Dinner & Silent Auction

Saturday, February 1st, 2025

CROOKSTON INN

5:00 p.m. - Social Hour
6:00 p.m. - Dinner
7:00 p.m. - Silent Auction
& Games

BUFFET:
Barbecue Ribs
Creamy Chicken with
Garlic & Spinach
With Sides



All proceeds will go
towards a Walk In Freezer
for the New Hope Food Shelf

\$50 per ticket

TICKETS:

Available to purchase at American Federal Bank, Care and Share or any
Care and Share Board Member. For Questions call 218-281-2644

The Care and Share of Crookston, Inc.

& New Hope Food Shelf

220 E 3rd St Crookston, MN 56716

218-281-2644

[HTTPS://WWW.CAREANDSHARECROOKSTON.ORG/](https://www.careandsharecrookston.org/)

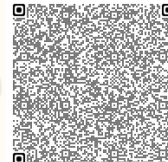
Please scan
this QR code
to be brought
directly to our
WEBSITE!!



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO
OUR E-NEWSLETTER E-MAILING LIST
PLEASE SEND THE EDITOR CANDACE
S. AN E-MAIL @
CANDACES@CAREANDSHARECRK.ORG

THE GENEROUS DONATIONS WE RECEIVE,
INCLUDING THROUGH THE AMAZON WISH LIST HELP
US BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR GUESTS,
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATE THROUGH OUR
WISH LIST!!

SCAN me to go to
our **Amazon
Wishlist**



[HTTPS://WWW.GIVEMN.ORG/DONATE/CARE-AND-SHARE](https://www.givemn.org/donate/care-and-share)



To visit our
GiveMN site to
donate directly
& paperless
SCAN this QR
code



Editor: Candace Sam