



Damiano Center

serving people in need

ANNUAL REPORT

2021 / 2022



Friends of The Damiano,

This has been a beautiful year. Yes, there have been challenges, heartache, struggles, and loss- but it has also been a year for reconnecting, gathering, working together, and hope. We see both of these daily within the walls of the Damiano Center- often in the stories of the same person- regardless if they are guests, volunteers, or staff. We are all carrying both the heavy and the light at the same time. No one is exempt from this, regardless of socio-economic status, race, age, gender, or ability- we are all experiencing both the heaviness and the light. I truly believe that this shared experience is beautiful.

At the Damiano we provide space for people to gather, to rest, to eat, to clothe themselves, to wash, to grow, to just be. It is basic human dignity that everyone deserves. We are able provide this space and these services because of the generosity of the community- because of you.

And so we are simply taking a moment to share with you all of the beautiful things that have happened in 2021-2022 because of your support. You did this! You provided dignity, honor, respect, and value. You have allowed for people to experience light in the midst of heaviness. To experience hope and joy in the midst of challenges and heartache. You have done this and we can't thank you enough.

For forty years the Damiano has had the opportunity and privilege to serve as an in-between space. In-between spaces are some of the most vibrant spaces. In nature the space between two different ecosystems is the space where the most life and diversity happen. The Damiano is the same. It's a space where community members who don't always have the chance to interact together, get to do so in a safe and beautiful way. They have the opportunity to let down their guard a bit and get to know each other. The Damiano is also a space that the community trusts enough to send finances and material goods, knowing that they will be used responsibly and given to people who need them most. It is a space where guests know that they can get what they need while being respected and honored. This gathering space, this in-between space, is so full vibrancy and life. It is beautiful. So again, thank you for creating beauty. In the midst of everything else, you have done a beautiful thing by supporting- in a myriad of ways- the beauty that is happening in this vital vibrant space.

Thank you.



Seth Currier
Executive Director

THE DAMIANO CELEBRATED 40 YEARS

Forty years ago on March 15th, 1982, the first meal served in the Damiano Center's Community Kitchen was Hamburger Soup, made with Jean McKinnon's recipe. 40 years later, to the day, that same meal was served at the Damiano Center 40th Anniversary lunch in order to celebrate all of the amazing work that has been done in the past four decades.

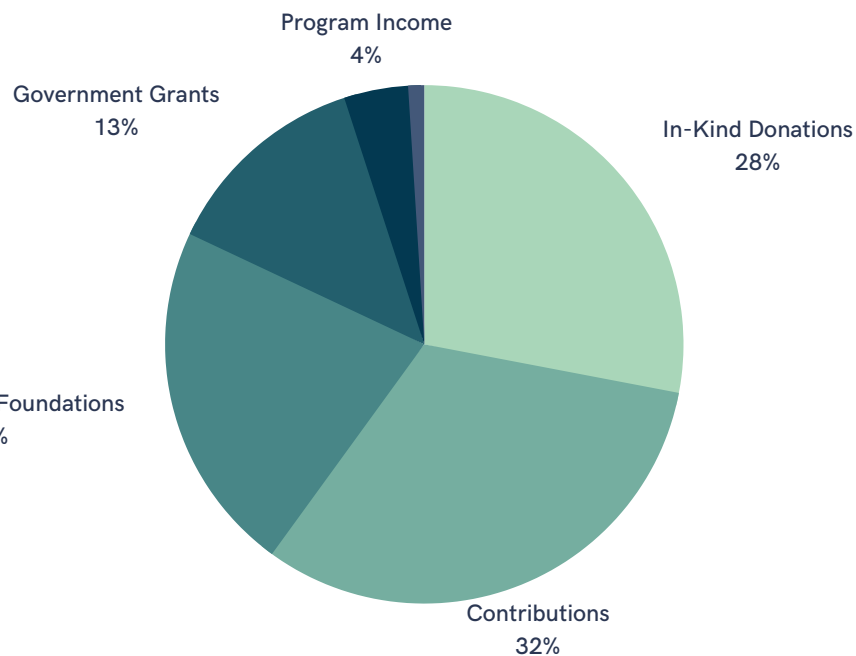
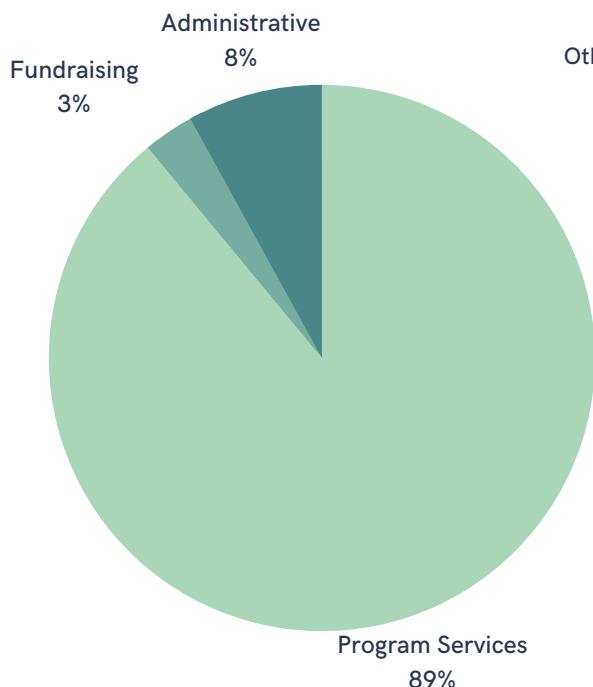


HOW WE SERVED

- 50,836 meals were served in the Community Kitchen
- Over 6,000 hours were volunteered in the Damiano Center programs this year
- The Free Store gave away 200,247 items of clothing
- Kids' Kitchen served 1,319 meals
- Our Wednesday and Sunday Health Realization meetings had 926 total attendees this year
- The Hygiene Unit was utilized for 1,211 showers
- The Community Services program assisted guests with transportation by providing 1,944 bus tokens and 53 gas vouchers

Financial Report

Expenses



Revenue

Damiano Staff

Maria A. Alicea
Children's Program Manager

Maurice Bolden
Weekend Custodian

Jenny C.
Health Realization Facilitator

Seth Currier
Executive Director

Jennifer Eaton
Office Manager

Lisa Forrestal
Health Realization Facilitator

Phillip Howell
Kitchen Worker

Michele Naar-Obed
Cook

Kim Prekker
Kids' Kitchen Assistant

Bobby Price
Hygiene Unit Custodian

John Rathe
Hygiene Unit Custodian

Robin Tomczak
Community Services Coordinator

Rebecca VanGrevenhof
Kitchen Worker

Donna Verhel
Clothes That Work Coordinator

John Williams
Facilities Manager

Flora Woodfork
Community Kitchen Manager

Willie Woodfork
Kitchen Worker



Board of Directors

Ben Clarke
University of Minnesota Medical
School

Rev. Elizabeth Liebenstein
Benedictine Living Community

Pat Conway
Essentia Health

Sr. Lois Eckes
St. Scholastica Monastery

Brad Gustason
Human Development Center
(retired)

Sen. Jennifer McEwen
Minnesota State Senate

Susana Pelayo-Woodward
University of Minnesota Duluth

Ethan Roe
Duluth Police Department

Andrea Simek
Fond du Lac Tribal and
Community College

Cathy VonRueden
UCare

Ethan Roe
Duluth Police Department

Kari Carlson
National Bank of Commerce

Jacob Disterhaupt
St Luke's Hospital

Tiffany Doherty
Legal Aid Services of
Northeastern Minnesota

Steve Hanke
City of Duluth Attorney's Office



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