**Letter from the Board Chair**

As I think about all that has happened at HOPE 4 Youth this past year, I am once again humbled by the support and impact our community has provided for the lives of young people who are experiencing homelessness or are at-risk of becoming homeless. When we started HOPE 4 Youth nearly four years ago, I never dreamt that this support would have moved the organization from a start-up to an adolescent one so quickly, putting us where we are today.

This growth has allowed HOPE 4 Youth to do more than ever before. Last year, we recorded 8,352 visits to our Drop-In Center by 369 youth. That means that in one year we increased the number of youth we served by almost 9%. This means that we are reaching young people and providing them with opportunities, resources, and guidance.

We also decided that the timing was right to move forward on the next step in our plans to tackle youth homelessness - providing young people a safe place to lay their head at night. We did our planning and received approval to purchase a building in Coon Rapids that will serve as HOPE Place, our new transitional living facility.

It is an exciting time at HOPE 4 Youth as we are seeing the difference that our services and resources make in the lives of the youth. We cannot, however, continue to further our mission without our community of supporters. I encourage you to stay engaged with us so we can ultimately end youth homelessness in the northern suburbs.

Thank you!
Brian Swanson, Board Chair

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**HOPE Place: Our New Transitional Housing**

On October 6, 2015, the Coon Rapids City Council brought us one step closer to our goal of ending youth homelessness by approving our request to fully remodel a building into HOPE Place, a transitional living facility for homeless young people.

Twelve young people, at any one time, will call HOPE Place “home.” These young people will work to gain the skills needed to become independent adults who walk-out the doors of HOPE Place with a new title of Bank Teller, Personal Trainer or Certified Nursing Assistant - whatever they dream to be!

The first 12 young people will move into their new “home” when the doors of HOPE Place open in the Fall of 2016.

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**Volunteers: The Backbone of HOPE 4 Youth**

Volunteers are the reason that we are able to put the young people on a path to a successful future. Whether they are serving as Drop-In Center Mentors, providing a hot-meal, managing our Donations Center, leading fundraisers or furthering our mission as a Board Member, 395 volunteers contributed 16,765 hours to transforming the lives of the young people we served in 2015. Words cannot adequately describe our appreciation for every one of you. Thank you for all that you do!

"I like being part of a group that is helping youth in our community gain independence, find jobs, locate housing and become well-adjusted contributing members of our society.”

– Kim, HOPE 4 Youth Volunteer

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**2015 by the Numbers**

In 2015, 369 homeless youth walked through our Drop-In Center doors in need of resources and services:

- **8,352** visits to the Drop-In Center
- **5,776** visits to our food pantry
- **3,060** visits to our clothing closets
- **5,038** hot, nutritious meals served
- **47** referrals to permanent housing
- **167** referrals to shelters
- **138** youth received independent living skills
- **146** youth referred to education services
- **239** mental health and medical referrals

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**Donations Center**

The young people who visited the Drop-In Center had access to food, clothing, personal hygiene items and more thanks to the generosity of the community who donated these items at our Donations Center.

The team of volunteers who managed the Donations Center brought in nearly 39 tons of donations. This included 35,621 pounds of food, 11,579 pounds of clothing and 7,367 pounds of hygiene. Thank you!

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**We Focus On HOPE**

- **Housing**
  - We provide resources that link young people to all housing options (shelter, transitional, affordable, etc.).
- **Outreach**
  - We meet young people out in the community and provide them with basic items as well as referrals to resources.
- **Prevention**
  - We partner with service providers to connect youth to prevention services.
- **Education**
  - We offer educational opportunities to the youth, volunteers who support them and the entire community.

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**We Thank You**

For meeting someone as special and unique as you.

Than a stranger’s opinion who has no place on this earth

And I wish my gift possessed more worth

Thanks for going the extra mile just to make another smile

That you’re the only one who gets to read these words

I’ve waited for you but I’ve taken my sweet time

I gave this to you because I knew you were kind

I do not own a single penny

To all of you. Thank you for all that you do!

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**Volunteering Opportunities**

- **Education**
  - We offer educational opportunities to the youth, volunteers who support them and the entire community.

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**2015 Board of Directors**

- **Brian Swanson**
  - Chair
  - V.P. of Quality & Enterprise Excellence
  - NAQC, Inc.

- **Bridget Barr**
  - Treasurer
  - Business Analytics Specialist
  - Menter Health and Astha

- **Paul Ekstrom**
  - President
  - The Paul Ekstrom Team
  - (Kelley Williams Classic Realty)

- **Anita Tuch**
  - V.P. of Operations
  - Medtronic Neuromodulation
  - PLC

- **Susan VanVoorhis**
  - Assoc. V.P. & University Registrar
  - University of Minnesota

- **Katherine Waggoner**
  - Dir. of Membership Engagement
  - Minn. Coalition for the Homeless

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**ROPES 4 Youth**

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located in Anoka, Minnesota, meets the basic needs of young people (ages 23 and under) experiencing homelessness and those at-risk of becoming homeless in the north metro Twin Cities including all of Anoka County and parts of Hennepin County.

On any given night in Minnesota, more than 4,000 young people are homeless. We work hard to change the life trajectories of the youth who walk through our Drop-In Center door. Whether they need basic necessities – food from the food pantry, clothes from the clothing closets, a hot shower, a hot, nutritious meal or personal hygiene items – we help them get back on their feet. By providing them with employment, housing, education and other opportunities, their education or assistance with health referrals, we help put them on a path that allows them to leave their title of “homeless” in the past.

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**Thanks Stranger**

I could’ve given this to many
But you stuck out to me
I do not own a single penny
This pen and paper was even free
I gave this to you because I knew you were kind
I’ve waited for you but I’ve taken my sweet time
The time has come and I’m finally sure
That you’re the only one who gets to read these words
Thanks for going the extra mile just to make another smile
And I wish my gift possessed more worth
Than a stranger’s opinion who has no place on this earth
But writing this poem was the least I could do
For meeting someone as special and unique as you.

- A youth who visited the Drop-In Center
| 2015 HOPE 4 Youth Donors (>$500 and above) |

- **Fritch, Peggy Aileen**
- **Fritch, Christopher**
- **Fritch Enterprises Inc.**
- **Gillis, Patricia & John**
- **Go Youth**
- **Gorham, Gary & Christina**
- **Gould's Diamonds & Jewelry**
- **Grace Lutheran Church of Andover**
- **Hakes, Gretchen & Robert**
- **Haller, Donald**
- **Halvorson, Diane**
- **Ham Lake Chamber of Commerce**
- **Hanford Donald & Connie**
- **Heartland Tire Inc.**
- **Hedgers, Becky**
- **Hoopman, Carol & Jason**
- **Insurance Specialists Team Agency, LLC.**
- **InterVarsity Christian Fellowship**
- **Jam Hops Gymnastics**
- **Jenkins, Sherry**
- **John Roberts Company**
- **Jokinen, Tracy C & Brett**
- **Juneau Inc.**
- **Katnis, Emily**
- **Keiler Williams - Chris Fitch Team**
- **Key Bank National Association**
- **Kingswood Church**
- **Knights of Columbus Council 2018**
- **Kramer, Kevin & Jennifer**
- **Kumpel, Andrew & Cassandra**
- **Kurth, W. Paul & Terri**
- **Lande, John & Deb**
- **Larson, David**
- **Liberty Title Inc.**
- **Litecky, Bernard**
- **Majestic Oaks Ladies League**
- **Mall of America Mall Holdings, LLC.**
- **Mallak, Loretta**
- **Maple Grove Lutheran Foundation**
- **McGraw, Barbara**
- **Medtronic**
- **Mickman, Chris**
- **Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures**
- **Miller, Dianne**
- **Minneapolis Foundation**
- **Minnesota Community Foundation**
- **Minnesota Masonic Charities**
- **MNChallengers**
- **Moms Club of Coon Rapids of MN**
- **Moose Real Estate Services Inc.**
- **Moss & Barnett**
- **Nason, Bennett**
- **National Metro Networking**
- **Nielson, Eric**
- **Nienow, Patricia**
- **Nobbe, Brenda**
- **Nordin, Ronald**
- **Norsemen Trucking**
- **North Anoka Control Systems**
- **North Country Ford**
- **Northgate Church**
- **Northstar Associates Inc.**
- **Nybo, Kimberly**
- **Nyhammer, Steven & Barbara**
- **Oak Haven Church**
- **O'Brien, Bobbi Jo**
- **Ole Piper Inn**
- **Orrey, Joseph & Melissa**
- **Owen, L. Gregory & Barbara**
- **Packard, John**
- **Pae Sales Inc**
- **Panek, R. Rodney & Charlotte**
- **Panter, David & Angela**
- **Paul Ekstrom Team**
- **Peterson, Gregory**
- **Phillips, Alan**
- **Pierskalla, Karla**
- **Precision Repair Calibration Inc**
- **Premier Commercial Property**
- **R Lee Properties Inc**
- **Rademacher, Michelle**
- **Ramsey Lions Club**
- **Rasmussen College**
- **Ratfield, Don**
- **Rivertek Medical Systems Inc**
- **Roberts, Kara**
- **Rohrer, Mark**
- **Roles, Bradley**
- **Rosen, Mark**
- **Rotary Club of Ramsey**
- **Rud, E.G.**
- **Rusch, Jim & Cathy**
- **Salaski, Ann**
- **Senden, Brenda**
- **Shasky, Tina & Paul**
- **Sitlar, John**
- **Sons of Norway Vennekreten Lodge**
- **Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church**
- **Spitzley, Marian Faye**
- **Spitzley Enterprises Inc.**
- **Spring Lake Park Lions**
- **St Joseph of the Lakes Catholic Church**
- **St Philips Lutheran Church**
- **St. Francis American Legion Club Ren**
- **St. Joseph of the Lakes Catholic Church**
- **State of Minn. Housing and Homeless Grant**
- **Stark, Jodi and Duane**
- **Steadland, Kevin and Erin**
- **Stirtz, Lawrence**
- **Stormy Lee Salon**
- **Strategic Consulting & Coaching LLC**
- **Sullivan, Brian and Ashley**
- **Super Inc**
- **Swanson, Brian & Lisa**
- **Sweeney, C A**
- **The Church of St Joseph the Worker**
- **Thompson, Emily**
- **Thompson, Joan & Steven**
- **Thompson, Diane**
- **Thrivent Community North Central**
- **Thrivent Financial for Luthers**
- **Tom Keating Foundation**
- **Toro Foundation**
- **Traver, Victoria**
- **Truck Writers**
- **Tuch, Ronald & Anita**
- **Tullbane, Jeffrey & Molly**
- **Turner, Troy & Catherine**
- **Unique Dining Experiences**
- **United Methodist Women**
- **United Way Arise Grant**
- **UnitedHealthGroup**
- **US Venture**
- **VanVoorhis, Susan & Thomas**
- **Village Bank**
- **Vista Outdoor Sales LLC**
- **Walsh, Joseph**
- **Walter, Lisa & Gregory**
- **Waranica , Gregory & Nina**
- **Ward, Kim**
- **Welle, Jacqueline**
- **Wells, Mary**
- **Wells Fargo**
- **Wilber, Mike & Donna**
- **Yang, Youa**
- **Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**

We greatly appreciate each gift given in support of HOPE 4 Youth, and we have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this listing. Please notify Lisa Jacobson, Executive Director, of any inaccuracies or omissions by contacting her at 763.323.2066 or ljacobson@hope4youthmn.org. We regret any errors.
**Mission**

Providing pathways to end youth homelessness.

**Vision**

That all youth will feel safe, valued, and supported while reaching their full potential. This begins with meeting their basic needs and leads to giving them tools to thrive.

**Goal**

To end youth homelessness in Anoka County by 2024.

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**2015 Financial Statement**

**Allocation of Expenses**

Total: $664,380

- Program Services: 77.78%
- Management & General: 20.75%
- Fund Development: 1.47%

**Sources of Revenue**

Total: $1,419,344

- Restricted Pledge (For Purchase of Building): 28.53%
- In-Kind Contributions: 12.96%
- Special Events (Net Income): 4.72%
- Businesses, Churches & Civic Organizations: 20.9%
- Individuals: 16.47%
- Foundations & Contracts: 16.42%

*As reported in 2015 IRS 990*