



2024

==== **Impact Report** =====

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2024 in Review

2024 was an exciting year for Guest House! Thanks to the support of our partners, Governing Board, Associate Board, and Volunteers, the staff and leadership team were able to successfully deliver our mission.

Key achievements included:

- Expanded for the first time since 2018 as we launched a direct relationship with Northwestern Medicine, and because our partners Road Home at Rush increased capacity
- Continued to support patients receiving treatment at our hospital partners: the UChicago Medicine, Rush University Medical Center, Stroger Hospital of Cook County, and UI Health
- Deepened our relationship with American Cancer Society, Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network, and Schreiber Philanthropy, which helped us expand our base of patients and families
- Established relationships with foundations and corporations that made major donations
- Secured funding to make capital improvements and update furniture
- Expanded volunteer activity, building a platform to increase programming



Delivering Our Mission

KEY POPULATIONS

- 92 Cancer Patients — 1,694 nights
- 260 Military Veterans — 3,040 nights
- 71 Transplant Patients — 3,342 nights
- 13 NICU/Peds Families — 88 nights

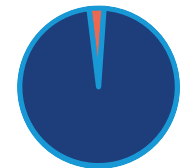
Supported **687**
Families and
Military Veterans



Delivered **11,269**
Nights of Service



Provided **\$454,971**
in room rate subsidies,
an average of **\$40.37** per night



98% of guests
received some form
of financial assistance

2024 in Review

Foundations & Sponsors

Thank You to Our— Hospital Partners



COOK COUNTY
HEALTH

Stroger Auxiliary



AT THE FOREFRONT

UChicago Medicine



UI Health



Northwestern
Medicine

Program Partners



Anonymous

Andrew and Alice Fischer
Charitable Trust



Carl R. Hendrickson
Family Foundation, Bank of America,
N.A., Trustee



Chicago Board of Trade
(CBOT) Foundation



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS



Elizabeth Morse Genius
Charitable Trust

George M. Eisenberg
Foundation for Charities



James B. Boskey
Memorial Foundation

Janet and Robert
Helman



The Labcorp
Charitable Foundation

McGraw Foundation

Mayer Brown
in honor of John Janicik

Olivia Bea Ross
Foundation



Walter Lee Barker &
Betty Ruth Barker Foundation



2024 Impact Report

When Ethan and his family arrived at Guest House from his home in Georgia, he was in critical condition and could not eat solid food. When he reached a milestone in his recovery, we celebrated Ethan's improved health with a "Harold's Chicken" party to commemorate the good news before he went home. He has made remarkable progress daily and is truly a walking miracle.

During his second visit to the Guest House, a few military veterans staying with us were so inspired by his story that they visited him in the hospital to give his father a break to be able to eat dinner at the Guest House. Talk about community providing comfort!



Ethan

TREATMENT: Trauma & Transplant



Jayme, Russ, Sheree

CAREGIVER & TREATMENT: Organ Transplant

A Nebraska family rallied around their sister Jayme, who came in from Omaha to receive a double lung transplant at Northwestern Medicine. Russ and Sheree stayed at Guest House to support and care for their sister throughout her treatment.

“ We want to bring attention to the wonderful volunteers and staff,” Jayme said. ‘The kindness, compassion, and food they supplied during our stay was incredible. The generosity of hot meals, breakfast bags, and access to a pantry was great!’ ”

We are always touched when former guests return to support Guest House. One volunteer, Steve, was diagnosed with cancer and came to stay at Guest House for treatment. When he thankfully recovered, Steve showed his gratitude by asking residents from his small hometown in East Central Illinois to donate items for our weekly Breakfast Bags that are given to current guests. During the summer of 2024, Steve, his wife Lynn, and members of their church, put together over 50 Welcome Bags and wrote Comfort Cards like the ones he and his wife received when they stayed at Guest House. We are happy that Steve's health has continued to improve, and we thank him and the community of Hoopeston for their generosity.



Steve

TREATMENT & VOLUNTEER: Cancer



Tina

CAREGIVER: Organ Transplant

Not only is former guest, Tina, a caring wife and caregiver to her husband, Charles, who traveled here from Oklahoma to receive a heart transplant, but she has truly been a ray of sunshine here at Guest House. Tina is an interior decorator, event coordinator, and master crafter with all the right touches. She was kind enough to teach our fellow guests the art of jewelry making and help us add small, yet noticeable touches to their rooms. We were honored that Tina used her talents to help the Guest House and others in need, while she was also in need.

“ It’s a place of comfort and healing and family...it feels like a place that you can just relax, get well, heal, and be super proud of. ”

Volunteers emPOWER and enCOURAGE



“Our volunteers left the event feeling fulfilled and look forward to future volunteer opportunities.”

— Fortune 100 corporate women’s group



“Thank you for such a wonderful experience... It was also special seeing the Veterans enjoying each other, and a good meal. :) Our whole family loved being there!”

— Recent family volunteer

In 2024, the Guest House celebrated a continued increase in volunteer service.

- Volunteer Time Donated: **Over 2,130 hours**
- Breakfast Bags Delivered: **662** (over 35% from 2023)
- Welcome Bags Assembled & Comfort Cards Written: **805**

Guest House thanks each individual and organization that donates their time, talents, and funds to provide a sense of comfort and community for our guests. The weekly dinners are truly a highlight for many of our guests.



2024 Jane Reich
Volunteer of the Year AWARD

Regina McCabe

The Jane Reich Volunteer of the Year Award encourages people to serve the Guest House community. The award recognizes the generous contribution of time and talents of volunteers. Jane Reich is the Founder of the Guest House, and a member of the Board of Directors. We encourage you to be inspired and get involved in the joy of community service.

The **Guest House** Team

The Guest House staff is the heart of our organization. Dedicated to delivering our mission and helping our guests, thank you to our staff for bringing the Guest House to life every day —**Adam Helman**, Executive Director.

Joanie Vernasco — Director of Business Operations

Dionne Nicole Smith — Director of Development

Jan Kroeschell — Manager of Volunteers & Programming

Gabi Accetto — House Manager

Art Sims — Community Outreach Manager

Kali Saffert — Development Specialist

Lorenzo Owens — Guest Services Representative

Farnoosh Ganjipour — Volunteer Program Assistant

