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Adopt a Family Thanksgiving Program

Join us in the fight to end homelessness! Did you know that on any given night, 748 people in Monroe County experience homelessness? Once the COVID-19 pandemic subsided, even more individuals and families struggled to find affordable housing due to increased costs of living. As the fair market rents (the cost to rent a moderately-priced unit in a local housing market) have increased (from \$1,050 to a projected \$1,149 for the Rochester, NY area), those living on fixed and limited incomes are struggling more than ever to save enough to afford the first month's rent and security deposit many property managers require in order for prospective tenants to secure a unit. In an effort to alleviate some of this burden in our community, Dimitri House has been running a program specifically targeted toward providing security deposits since 2015.

The DASH program (otherwise known as Dimitri Affordable Safe Housing) has helped provide security deposits for those in need who are also experiencing homelessness in the Rochester community. In an effort to ensure that clients remain housed, the DASH program requires case management with regular monthly contact so that there will be adequate support available should difficulties arise. Additionally, Dimitri House makes quarterly contact with participating landlords to confirm our clients' ongoing success or discuss options if they are struggling. Although some housing is short term, it often gives people the stability they needed to consider and enroll in a program for recovery for substance use and/or mental health disorders. Housing First is a key component of a successful path in recovery, employment, education, and building the bonds of family.

Since its inception in 2015, the DASH program has assisted 236 individuals and families in securing the housing that they needed. Half of the total participants in the program have been single parents which has allowed us to support families with children in obtaining the housing permanency necessary for increased success in school. Some participants in the DASH program have remained housed for up to eight years!

Dimitri House is a non-profit organization built upon the belief that every human being has immeasurable value, and our services are here to help them on their journey toward self-sufficiency. Often a client will express their gratitude for such assistance, knowing that without this assistance they may never have overcome homelessness (see upper right hand corner page 3 for a letter from a DASH participant.) At Dimitri House, we believe that everyone deserves a safe and secure place to call home.

We have been honored to receive a sizable grant yearly from the William G. McGowan Charitable Fund to support this program and, without them, we would not have been able to aid as many as we have in these past few years. Would you consider at least a \$100 donation to help give one more family the home they need and deserve? Times are tough for all of us, but together we can make a difference!

Blessing to each one of you, Laurie

To donate scan the QR Code below:



MEMORIALS & TRIBUTES

Honor and remember someone who has made a difference in your life with a memorial or tribute gift made to Dimitri House.

We acknowledge all memorial gifts and send out letters of recognition to those people you have chosen to honor.

HONORS

Ann Crerand

Kathy England

MEMORIALS

Eleanor Goode

Charles McElhinney

Marie Kosel

“Did you know we give hygiene products in our food cupboard?”

- Shampoo/conditioner
- Bath soap
- Deodorant
- Shaving supplies
- Feminine hygiene supplies
- Laundry soap
- Dish soap

Honoring Our Team

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT: DAVE DINARDO

Throughout Dave’s incredible twenty-two years of volunteering at Dimitri House, he has given so much! Dave has demonstrated unwavering dedication and incredible versatility, having held many volunteer positions at Dimitri House. Dave regularly goes above and beyond and even delivers to a few Food Cupboard clients who cannot pick up themselves, due to mobility, or other barriers. When asked, why Dave has continued to share his time and gifts year after year with us he replied, “Because it’s rewarding, I like to give back to my community and the rest of the volunteers are great to work with.”

The phrase ‘Volunteers are not paid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless’ captures exactly what you are to us, Dave. You are priceless! Thank you so very much for all that you give and do.



Pictured Left: Dave Dinardo

Pictured Right: Michael Curry

\$40
Case of
Can Bee
cocktails

A portion of the proceeds will go directly to supporting Dimitri House

DIMITRI HOUSE

In partnership with Dimitri House, we are donating a portion of all sales generated from the purchase of a case of **Can Bee** Bee’s Knees Ready-to-Drink Cocktail, as well as \$1 for each **Can Bee** cocktail sold during the month of October 2024!

Valid only in our tasting room at 1344 University Avenue, Rochester, NY

What's Happening at Dimitri House?

2024 ADOPT A FAMILY THANKSGIVING PROGRAM

Thanksgiving allows for the opportunity of gratitude, giving, and collective festivity, bringing individuals and communities together. Unfortunately, during this time of abundance and celebration, many Rochester families struggle to meet basic needs, let alone those associated with holidays. Dimitri House has traditionally helped alleviate these challenges for our community members by facilitating connections between those experiencing harder times and those looking to provide help that is so greatly needed and appreciated during this time of the year.

We are excited to continue our Adopt a Family Thanksgiving Program this year! Our valued donors will be connected directly to a family in need in our community to determine what they can do to make their adopted family's holiday brighter.

Worried about the cost? You don't have to do it alone - grab a group of friends, rally those co-workers, pull your classmates together! With everyone contributing to the Thanksgiving basket, you'll find that your donation pulls together with only a little effort and money for each contributor.

The best part by far is setting up a time to deliver your basket and being able to witness the difference that you have personally made in someone else's day.

If you are interested in helping us alleviate hunger and promote togetherness in our Rochester community this Thanksgiving by adopting a family, call us at (585)325-1796 - ask for Laurie or Rosalie, or email us at ljprizel@dimitri-house.org.



"Hello!

I apologize but I do not know your name.

My name is ***** and you helped me get a security deposit and move into my new home. I'm writing you to say Thank you. I don't know the proper words to express the depth or greatness of my gratitude, but please know it is deep and it is great!

You helped give me stability. You helped give me safety, a home for my dog. I tear up thinking about how your actions helped set me down a different path, gave some me peace of mind. I will forever be grateful and appreciative to a for you, and will never know how to fully express it.

So I say thank you. I wish you peace, love and joy. May blessings cover you always.

Sincerely,

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

— Martin Luther King Jr.



102 North Union Street
Rochester, NY 14607

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We make a life by what we give.

Dimitri House's namesake, Dimitri Mamczur, was a homeless man with a kind and giving heart who helped his fellow homeless friends and everyone he met. Dimitri wanted to make the world a better place.

Yes, I want to help our neighbors on their journey towards self-sufficiency.

- Donate:** By check in the **reply envelope** or **online at www.dimitri-house.org** (one time or monthly);
- Food drive:** Hold a neighborhood food drive with your family, place of worship, or business;
- Volunteer:** Call **585-325-1796** or go to **www.dimitrihouse.org**, click the **Online Volunteer Application** link on the homepage.

Every act of kindness and giving breathes new life into Dimitri's legacy. *\$40 buys a family of four at least 3 days of emergency food.* Thank you for all you do for Dimitri House.

ABOUT DIMITRI HOUSE

Dimitri House works within the Rochester, NY community to provide essential services to those coping with poverty and homelessness. We offer a drop-in lunch program, an emergency food cupboard, security deposit program (DASH), and apartments. Additionally we provide various case management and referral services.

Learn more:
www.dimitri-house.org

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