



2018-2019 annual report



DamianoCenter

serving people in need

Thank you!

You have yet again, supported so many individuals and families in our region with your generous giving. This year you fed people over 120,000 meals, provided hundreds of thousands of clothing items, and fed 670 children and their families in Kids' Kitchen! You did this! Thank you so much.

This year at Damiano your support allowed for some pretty exciting growth to take place. Health Realization expanded from one weekly meeting to three, now including two much needed gender-specific small groups. Summer Food Corps became its own program and allowed six teens to be hired, several of them in their first job. They learned how to grow vegetables, plan and implement children's programming, and work with the children in Kids' Kitchen. Again, you did this!

You are the lifeblood of the Damiano. Your financial gifts are essential to providing these lifesaving services to our community members. Your donations of items are what allows so many Duluthians to have warm clean clothes, full bellies, and warm blankets at night. Whether you volunteer weekly, like Virginia and Leon, or you have only volunteered





one time, your service is the only way that these services are provided to our neighbors. Thanks to you they are provided with a smile, a kind word, and with dignity.

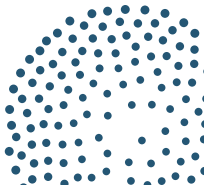
You, through your many gifts, are living the mission of the Damiano Center. Together “with respect and compassion, we honor the dignity of all people and strengthen our community by providing essential services to individuals and families who are in need.” You are doing this every day, through your gifts of money, time, and donated items. This is truly a community effort, but the most essential part of that community is you, because none of this would happen without you.

And so we simply want to say “Thank you.” The need is growing and so we are so honored that you continue to walk beside those in our community who need you so much.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Seth Currier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Seth Currier
Executive Director





Being there for each other

Virginia and Leon volunteer multiple times per week in the Free Store. Leon wears his safety yellow volunteer vest as he welcomes guests and donors with a smile. He assists donors in unloading vehicles and directs them to the donation room. Virginia meets donors in the donation room, thanks them sincerely, and helps them fill out a receipt if needed. She then supports any aspect of the Free Store's operation: sorting donations, bringing items out to the store, training new volunteers, and helping guests find what they need.

Virginia and Leon have known each other for decades, and at first they were friends through their spouses. Virginia was widowed, and then her best friend – Leon's wife – became ill. As she neared death, she asked Virginia to take care of Leon. Soon after, Leon was widowed as well.

Virginia supported Leon through the grieving process. Eventually they began to see each other as more than friends, and they have been married for almost eight years.

Virginia has been a volunteer for over twelve years in the Damiano Free Store. Leon was retired and seeking a meaningful way to spend his days, so he started to come along with her seven years ago. Virginia and Leon are two of our most reliable volunteers.

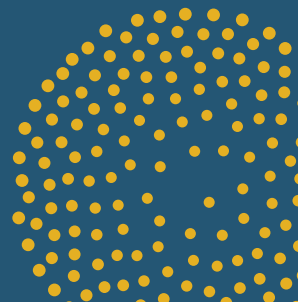
Through the many years volunteering at Damiano, Virginia has fought cancer and healed from knee surgery. Leon has also gone through his share of health problems. Through it all they have always been committed to giving back to the community through volunteering.

“I enjoy helping guests pick out clothes and it also gives me something to do,” Virginia says while sorting and hanging up clothing. Leon volunteers so he can be close to Virginia, and because he truly enjoys helping others.

They come to the Damiano Center day after day and year after year because they care so much about folks who are struggling with poverty. Both of them have known great difficulty in their own lives, and they know how much their kindness and support can mean to someone who is struggling.

Want to join Leon and Virginia?

Visit www.damianocenter.org/volunteer



Thank you to our generous donors:

\$100,000+

Ordean Foundation
Sanford Family Trust

\$50,000-\$99,999

Head of the Lakes United Way

\$20,000-\$49,999

Lloyd K Johnson Foundation
Northland Foundation
Essentia Health Community Contributions
Community Development – City of Duluth

\$10,000-\$19,999

Arsher Charitable Trust
Miner's Inc. - Super One
maurices
Whole Foods Community Co-op
Miller-Dwan Foundation
Victory Fund

\$4,000-\$9,999

Anonymous Friend Fund of Duluth
Superior Area Community Foundation
North Shore Bank of Commerce
TJX Foundation
Benedictine Sisters Benevolent Association

\$1,000-\$4,999

Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick
Inter City Oil Foundation
Knight Foundation
LHB Engineers & Architects
Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures
Peace In Christ Lutheran Church
Women's Group
Republic Bank
Robert and Candace Madich Fund of
InFaith Community Foundation
Glen Avon Presbyterian Church
Ever-Green Energy
Fuller Fund of Duluth Superior Area
Community Foundation
Lakeside Presbyterian Church
A.W. Kuettel & Sons, Inc.

Hermantown Community Church
First Lutheran Church
Pachel Foundation
US Bank Foundation
Walter and Leona Schmitt Family
Foundation
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
WELCA
Atkins Memorial Fund of Duluth Superior
Area Community Foundation
BNSF Railway Foundation
Dale Heimbach Wheeler Memorial Fund
of Duluth Superior Area Community
Foundation
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Pfizer Match
Wetherby Fund of Duluth Superior Area
Community Foundation
Ben & Jeanne Overman Trust
Junior League of Duluth
RBC Wealth Management
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux
Community
Arrowhead Regional Arts Council
Diocese of Duluth

Duluth Rotary Club #25
Gary and Catherine L Graham
Foundation
Lahti Charitable Trust
Medica Foundation
The Fiddlehead Fund
Verso Paper Holding
Wells Fargo Foundation
Wildey Mitchell Family Foundation

\$500-\$999

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Dougherty Funeral Home
French River Lutheran Church Women
Gift of Love
Grace Lutheran Church
Kiwanis Club of Friendly Duluth
Lakewoods Real Estate
Shopko Foundation
South Mountain Company Foundation
St. John's Church
Verso Corporation
Peace United Church of Christ
French River Lutheran Church

\$100-\$499

American Engineering Testing, Inc.
Altrusa International Club Of Duluth

Arrowhead Council, TelecomPioneers
Bethany Lutheran Women
Bethesda Lutheran Church
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Women
Blandin Foundation
Center City Housing Corp.
Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 6
Dougherty Veterinary Clinics
Duluth Owl's Club Auxiliary
Duluth Superior Friends Meeting
Ericson Builders
First Presbyterian Church
First Presbyterian Church Wrenshall
Women's Association
First United Methodist Church
Gloria Dei
Hillside United Methodist
Hope Lutheran Church
Lakeside Presbyterian Church Women
Lincoln Park Middle School
Minnesota Power Employees Credit Union
Nordling Family Fund
Northland Neurology and Myology, PA
Northwest Building Services
Northwestern High School
Salem Covenant Church
Samuelson Insurance Agency, Inc.
Sappi

Sons of the American Legion West
Duluth Squadron 71
St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
St. Peter's Esther Circle
St. Teresa's Circle
Twelve Holy Apostles Church
United Food & Commercial Workers
Local 1189
United Methodist Women
West Duluth American Legion Post No. 71
Women of St. Lawrence

Up to \$99

AmazonSmile
Duluth Coffee Company
Duluth Lioness Club
Italian-American Club of Duluth
Law Office Of Jessica Sterle
Minnesota Office of Rural Health
Northwest Farm Management
Order of Ahepa/Twelve Holy Apostles
Church
St. John's Lutheran Church WELCA
St. Margaret's Guild/St. James Church
St. Mary's Catholic Church
United Baptist Christian Church
United Protestant Church Women's Guild
WELCA Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Special thanks to participants of our Sustenance Partners program:

James & Julienne Abelsen · Maria Alicea · Suzanne & Gerald Bahar · Jennifer Beers · David & Pamela Benson
Elizabeth Carlson · Julie & Tim Cerar · Barbara Currier · Erin & Seth Currier · Matt & Kay Doyle · John Pastor & Mary Dragich
Katherine Mueller & Kevin Farnum · Zack Filipovich · Ronald Gagne · Steve & Kelli Glonchak · Jared Strasburg & Briana Gross
Carol & Dennis Healy · Margaret Hodnik · Catherine Carter & Carl Huber · Julie Jago · John & Beth Kelly · Daniel Kuluvar
Elizabeth Liebenstein · Mary & Michael McParlan · Susan Maki & Robert Myers · Tom & Laurie O'Neill · Jake Rodel
Tina Silverness · Robert Spehar · Mary Ann Starus · Sandra & Gerald Swanson · Matt & Mia Thibodeau · Carol Thompson
Jonathan Thompson · Kevin & Diane Tobin · Jeffrey & Wendy Tucker · Jen McEwen & Rich Updegrove · Charles & Catherine
VonRueden · Colleen Belk & Bill Vouk · Michael & Luanne Wachula · Stephen & Karen Wedel · Andrew Wheeler
Nola White · Women Living Our Faith of St John's Church



Our year by the numbers

**8,616 hours were volunteered
in the Community Kitchen**



**120,023 meals were served
in the Community Kitchen**

**3,795 hours were volunteered
in the Free Store**



**1,095 guests were assisted with
transportation needs and 857 guests
were provided with hygiene items**

**Kid's Kitchen served 2,224
meals and was open 195 days**



**Kid's Kitchen served
670 unduplicated children**

**Clothes that work provided apparel
to 670 people to help them attain
or retain employment**



**The Free Store gave away
272,701 items of clothing**

**99% of Health Realization participants said
the program changed the way they think
about their problems for the better**



**33% of guests use Health Realization to help
with addiction/chemical dependency;
31% use it to reduce stress;
26% use it to improve relationships**

Staff

Maria Alicea
*Community Services
Specialist*

Aaron Axford
Communications Specialist

Maurice Bolden
Weekend Custodian

Johnny Brown
Kitchen Worker

Seth Currier
Executive Director

Lisa Forrestal
Health Realization Facilitator

Ashley Grimm
Children's Program Manager

Kyra Gustafson
*Community Development
Manager*

Phillip Howell
Kitchen Worker

Richard Howell
*Building Maintenance
Coordinator*

Kim Jones
Cook

Katherine Mueller
Grant Writer

Michele Naar-Obed
On-Call Cook

Barb Parks
Accounting Associate

Robin Tomczak
Free Store Specialist

Rebecca VanGreevenhof
On-Call Custodian

Donna Verhel
Clothes That Work Coordinator

John Williams
Health Realization Facilitator

Flora Woodfork
Community Kitchen Manager



Who do we serve?

29% of guests are employed · 81% of guests are single, divorced, or widowed
29% of guests are homeless · 57% of guests are unable to see a dentist regularly
47% of guests are responsible for the care of a child

Board of Directors

Sr. Lois Eckes, OSB, *President*
St. Scholastica Monastery

John Kelly
Hanft Fride Law

Jennifer McEwen, *President-elect*
Falsani, Balmer, Peterson & Balmer

Tina Silverness
Center for Alcohol and Drug
Treatment

Jonathan Thompson, *Treasurer*
North Shore Bank

Kim Terhaar
St. Luke's Health Care System

Rev. Elizabeth Liebenstein, *Secretary*
Benedictine Living Community

Bilin Tsai
Retired,
University of Minnesota Duluth

Josette Church
Center for Alcohol and Drug Treatment

Cathy VonRueden
UCare

Steve Glonchak
Members Cooperative Credit Union

Nola White
Evolution Design Lab

Lt. Jeff Kazel
Duluth Police Department

Financial report

Revenue	In-kind donations	35%
	Individual gifts	17%
	Foundations & community groups	27%
	Corporations	4%
	Rental	5%
	Government grants	8%
	Miscellaneous	4%

Expenses	Program expenditures	81%
	Administration	14%
	Fundraising	5%



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206 W 4th St.

Duluth, MN 55806

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US POSTAGE

PAID

DULUTH, MN

PERMIT NO. 208

