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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Springtime Pop Up Pantry

Saturday, March 27, 2021 From  
11am-1pm, 100 N. Union St.

Come drive by and see the Easter Bunny. Donate food to our cupboard or grab a bag of food for yourself!

### Dimitri HouseWalk-A-Thon

May 3rd- May 28th

A chance to get some exercise and prizes for a great cause.

Does not matter where you live. You can participate from anywhere. More details to follow.

Remember the Hike-for-the Homeless?

## Letter From The Board Chairperson

Dear Friends,

Spring is right around the corner and we could not be happier about it! 2020 was quite the year for Dimitri House. While we did not get to celebrate at the Wine, Dine & Share or hold a groundbreaking for Mamzcur Place we got to do what we do best. We served thousands of our neighbors in need. We figured out new ways to get food into our community with Pop-Up Pantries, Take-Out hot lunches, hundreds of Thanksgiving baskets and even Santa made a visit to hand out food!

2021 brings a new set of challenges and opportunities. Mamzcur Place, with its 6 brand new apartments, takes our focus on housing to a new level. With a full-time case manager we will be able to support and enable our tenants to become independent again. We all have stories of men from our shelter or lunch program who just need a break, need a hand up and desperately want to find their way out of homelessness. A chance is all they need and that chance is what we aim to provide.

We are reminded in times like this that service to others is the greatest gift we can give. The years ahead hold great promise for Dimitri House and I could not be more proud to be a part of it all. There are never enough ways to thank our staff, our volunteers and our generous donors for giving of themselves throughout the year. We hope to see more familiar faces in the months ahead as life begins to return to 'normal'!

Stay well and healthy.

Amy

## 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

Dr. Timothy Geen

Donald Potter

Betsy & Tim O'Sullivan

Michael Thompson

Jacqueline Lindauer

David Marshall

Bob Wood

## MEMORIALS

Carl Costich

Jacqueline Davidson

Jerry Raniewicz

Rosemary W. Caito

Memorial & Tribute gifts made after January 30, 2021 will be listed in the next issue.

*“As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands - one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.”*

*- Aubrey Hepburn*

# The Difference You Make

## MAMCZUR PLACE AT DIMITRI HOUSE

The rehabilitation of Mamczur Place is now complete! What began as a dream years ago is now reality! Mamczur Place has six one-bedroom, permanent supportive apartments ready for the chronically homeless in our community. Dimitri House will provide a spectrum of services to serve these tenants on their road towards self-sufficiency. The program combines housing, case management and supportive services to assist people who have experienced long-term, chronic homelessness. Dimitri House is working with MC Collaborative to fill the vacancies and hope to begin moving people in within the month.

Studies have shown that counseling, rental assistance and peer mentoring assist homeless persons in achieving housing stability. The clients of Mamczur Place can take advantage of Dimitri House's food cupboard and drop in lunches, all within fifty paces from their front door. These services are designed to build independent living skills and connect people with community-based health care, treatment and eventually employment services. We are excited to begin our new path and are offering many new volunteer opportunities for people who wish to be a part of lending a hand to those in need.



## ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

In 2020, Dimitri House provided these services to people in need:

1. Provided 3,664 individuals in the city of Rochester, NY with emergency food from the Emergency Food Cupboard.
2. Served hot meals to 2,367 individuals in the Drop-In Lunch program.
3. Provided 894 bed-nights during the 2019-2020 shelter season to 38 homeless men.
4. Provided 11 security deposits along with intensive case management to homeless individuals seeking permanent housing placements through the Dimitri Affordable Safe Housing (DASH) program. A total of 151 families have been housed through DASH since its inception.
5. Provided Thanksgiving baskets to over 250 families.

# Volunteers Get It Done

## DRIVE-BY SANTA. GIVE OR GET POP-UP PANTRY

**Problems in the year of COVID:** Families couldn't get to Dimitri House to pick up food, and in December, kids couldn't sit on Santa's lap.

**Solution:** A drive-by pop-up pantry with Santa!

Despite the cold and "wintery mix," 160 families stopped by to get a turkey and two bags of groceries. Kids got candy canes and a selfie with Santa and Ms. Claus. Others stopped to drop off donations. Approximately 450 individuals benefited from this event.



We thank the volunteers who made this possible: Patrick Barr (Santa). Kathy Herendeen (Ms. Claus), Brice Meade (The Grinch), Michele Ashlee (Elf), the Helper Elves from Our Lady of Mercy High School, Maggie Bauman, Sammi Bailey, Lauren Cicoria, Teagan Holmes, Rebecca Moore, Lauren Ogden, and their service coordinator, Therese Mack Randazzese.

## NUTRITION ACCESSIBILITY CARTS

Since the COVID-19 pandemic started, we've had to become very creative to continue delivering our programs safely. To reduce exposure during the Thanksgiving basket program we made the decision for donors not to deliver baskets directly to clients. Many of our clients don't have vehicles; they bus or walk to get to Dimitri House. How will our clients get their turkeys home?? Some brainstorming and one grant later, funding was received to purchase 100 grocery carts to distribute to those who needed them. Our Nutrition Accessibility Carts (NAC) program helped our neighbors in need get their turkeys and all the fixings home with ease! With the help of our amazingly dedicated and generous community, we were able to distribute Thanksgiving meals to over 250 families in Rochester! **You folks ROC!**

## COVID-19 UPDATE - VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are and always have been Dimitri House's bread and butter.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we made the difficult decision to limit taking on new volunteers, in the best interest of the health and safety of our staff, volunteers, and clients.

With the inception of the COVID-19 vaccine, we are hopeful for re-opening our doors to new prospective volunteers between April and May this year! We are eager to resume engagement with our community and are so happy to be able to do so with the health and safety of our entire team in mind! If you are interested in volunteering, please submit a volunteer application on our website at <http://www.Dimitri-House.org>. The application can be found under the "Get Involved" tab.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Patrick Barr

Emergency Cupboard Volunteer

Patrick joined the Dimitri House team just in time to help us carry out the annual Thanksgiving program, and oh boy, were we thankful!

Patrick shows up every day ready to work hard and with a smile on his face. He is currently our "star" volunteer in the Emergency Food Cupboard and the master of keeping our pantry stocked and organized. We are so happy to have him here with us! Thank you Patrick for your service to DH!

*"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."*

*- Elizabeth Andrew*



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## Kindness is like a Spring day!

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](http://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](http://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. *\$25 buys a family of four at least 3 days of emergency food.* Thank you for all you do for Dimitri House.

### ABOUT DIMITRI HOUSE

Dimtri 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](http://www.dimitri-house.org)

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