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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Dimitri House Euchre Tournament

See inside for details!  
Register online at:

<https://www.dimitri-house.org/event-details/>

### Thanksgiving Basket Program

## Return to Thanksgiving Delivery

The Dimitri House has had a long tradition of offering Thanksgiving Baskets to families in need. **This year is no exception.** I can share a story that has stuck with me for many years. A young, single mom, parent to an excitable 5-year-old, called to add her name to our list of Thanksgiving recipients. She had recently lost another child in a car accident, and times were tough for her. She felt embarrassed to be needing help with food, sad about her lack of finances, and wishing she could make her 5-year-old happy with a treat (specifically, a cake) for their Thanksgiving dinner. I made a note on her application regarding the "cake." As it happened, the day I was due to deliver her Thanksgiving meal and supplies, a local bakery had donated a number of pumpkin pies, apple pies... and one chocolate cake. I added that cake to my bags of food, resting it right on the top. I made my way over to their residence. Their apartment was on the second floor of the building, up a very steep flight of stairs. The mom came down to help me with the groceries, telling her child to stay at the top of the stairs. We unloaded a few boxes, and then as I brought the last bag into the entryway, the 5-year-old screamed out loud, "YOU GOT CAKE!!!!!" The mother was so moved that I had remembered that detail, she gave me the biggest hug that lasted several minutes.

Stories like these were common prior to our COVID-safe restrictions, whereby donors were matched with a specific family and delivered their turkey and the fixings directly to the family's residence. The last two years, we adapted our programming in order to maintain social distancing to keep our donors and our clients safe. This year we are hopeful that our donors will consider returning to our direct delivery model. By this format, donors will connect directly with the family in need that they will sponsor and coordinate together to schedule a time for their Thanksgiving Basket delivery. Not only does this enable us to serve more families in need due to our limited storage capabilities here at the Dimitri House, it also embodies the true spirit of the season by connecting those we serve with those who enable us to do so! With the help of our dedicated donors, we were able to serve more than 300 families in the Rochester area with a complete Thanksgiving meal in 2021. With our return to direct delivery, we hope to break this record! If you are interested in adopting a family for Thanksgiving, please contact Kathy Herendeen at [kherendeen@dimitri-house.org](mailto:kherendeen@dimitri-house.org). We will be able to accommodate those with special concerns regarding delivery - please just let us know!

Kathy Herendeen  
Events Coordinator

## 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

Randy Gardner

Sally DeCarolis

Steven Looney

# What's Happening at Dimitri House?

## CALL FOR BOARD MEMBERS

I was introduced to Dimitri House over 30 years ago as it was one of the many outreach ministries of Corpus Christi Church. Initially I volunteered at the overnight men's shelter. Staying in the shelter 1 night a month, between November to March, I got to know the homeless men who called Dimitri House 'home.' "Why?" - I would often ask myself - 'are these men homeless?' What unfortunate circumstance led them to this point? For some, it was an addiction, for others, a lost job, or no family safety net put them on the streets. I felt honored to help house, feed, and offer hospitality for those few hours before the men went to sleep. Soon afterwards, I offered my database skills to help with scheduling volunteers for the shelter. As I used these skills to help the volunteer organization, little did I realize my corporate skills were the foundation of my future contributions to Dimitri House.

One day Bob Campbell, a sitting Dimitri House Board Member and personal friend, said to me, "Gene, you'd be a great asset to Dimitri House's board - would you consider joining?" I never pictured myself a 'board member' as I thought about Bob's proposal. What might this 'opportunity' entail? I met with the board chair, sat in on one of the board meetings, and realized I could contribute my skills to help Dimitri House achieve its mission.

Today, eight years later, I am helping to shape the future strategic direction of Dimitri House/Mamczur Place. I have learned what it takes to run a not-for-profit, exercised skills I had, and acquired new skills along the way.

Dimitri House is in need of a few good board members. Do you have a passion to help those less fortunate? We could use your skills, particularly if they involve donor development/fundraising, marketing/social media, or legal. Do you have any skills you can share?

## WINTER GEAR COLLECTION

The snowy winter months are near and Dimitri House is seeking donations of new or gently used men's winter jackets as well as new hats and gloves. Your donations help keep our neighbors in need warm during our frigid Rochester winters.

## SCORE SOME DIMITRI HOUSE THANKSGIVING SWAG

We are excited to share with our loyal supporters a way to show their Dimitri House pride! Those interested can purchase a short-sleeved t-shirt, long-sleeved t-shirt, or crewneck sweatshirt to let their community know - they adopted a family for Dimitri House's 2022 Annual Adopt-A-Family Thanksgiving Basket Program!



Navigate to the website to place your order by using the camera on your mobile phone to scan the QR code to the left. A wide array of sizes are available and can be shipped directly to your front door!



*"Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others."*

*- Booker T. Washington*

# What's Happening at Dimitri House?

## THE EUCHRE TOURNAMENT IS BACK

Join us on Saturday, October 15th at the VFW, 300 Macedon Center Road in Fairport, for the return of our Annual Euchre Tournament! This beloved fund-raising event has been greatly missed not only by our Dimitri House team, but by our dedicated supporters, and we are so excited for its return!

The cost of registration is \$26 per player and 100% of the proceeds raised will support Dimitri House's programs, supporting our neighbors in need and keeping our community fed during these difficult times. Please consider bringing a non-perishable food item to help us stock our Emergency Food Cupboard. Sign in begins at 11:30AM and cards fly at 12:00PM!

Register online using the camera on your mobile phone to scan the QR code to the right or by calling the Dimitri House at (585) 325-1796.



## MAMCZUR PLACE UPDATE

The Mamczur Place Apartments at Dimitri House, our permanent supportive housing program, celebrated its one year anniversary of opening in May of this year. To say this novel endeavor has been a success is an understatement!

To date, we have successfully housed six formerly homeless individuals, noting improvements for these folks in a multitude of circumstances, including family reunification, life skills, maintaining sobriety, mental health, physical health, socialization, and overall stability. One of our tenants has even secured a full time job to support themselves!

With the supports of Dimitri House's programs just a few feet away, such as our Emergency Food Cupboard and Drop-In Lunch program, and intensive onsite case management, our Mamczur Place superstars are set up to flourish - and they are thriving!

## THE FIRST ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ WAS A HIT

On a gorgeous Friday evening in June, the Dimitri House team took on a fund-raising event we have never tried before - our first chicken BBQ! The results exceeded our expectations, selling 208 chicken dinners and raising a grand total of \$2,000 through your generous donations to support our Dimitri House programs.



We would like to extend a huge thank you to St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Penfield for allowing us to use their parking lot to hold the BBQ, and also to those who came out to support and enjoy a delicious chicken dinner! We are looking forward to hosting more events like this in the future. We hope to see you there!

## MEMORIALS & TRIBUTES

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## MEMORIALS

Bill Combs

Carmen Rossi

Charlie McElhinney

Eleanor Goode

John Martin "Marty" Forken

Leon B. Holt

Margaret Wittman

Michael & Charles Barton

Peter Hahn

Memorial & Tribute gifts made after September 1, 2022 will be listed in the next issue.

*"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."*

*- Maya Angelou*



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

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