THE DIMITRI DIGEST



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UPCOMING EVENTS DH Chicken BBQ

June 23, 2023 @ St. Joseph's Catholic Church

See inside for more information!

Letter from the Board President

Dear Friends,

Our community has shown tremendous strength and resolve these past 3 years. Dimitri House is proud of the work we have done to support our community and keep people fed. Our programs have grown faster than we ever imagined, and these needs continue to grow, as we seek out every possible way to serve and support our neighbors in need.

Stretching ourselves further than ever in the history of Dimitri House, last year we were able to welcome almost 4,000 people to shop from our Emergency Food Cupboard. Working as hard as we could, we fed over 10,000 people through our Drop-In Lunch program. Sustaining this pace is nothing short of an olympic gold medal performance by our staff and volunteers. We will not slow down in 2023. We will continue to look for ways to bridge the gaps in our community, to root out hunger and food insecurity.

March brings with it the end of the SNAP Supplemental Emergency Allotments. This is an astounding loss for many families in Monroe County. It is estimated 62,000 families will lose these additional dollars. 108,000 men, women, and children will feel the devastation of this. More than 10 million dollars will simply evaporate. **Individuals** will see a decrease of **\$95/month**, **seniors** a decrease of **\$168/month**, while **households with children** will lose **more than \$200** from their monthly food budget. The impact this will have on those we serve is undeniable. We are preparing for the influx of those who rely on our services to survive.

Dimitri House is not immune to the skyrocketing cost of food. Just as it has in each of our home's, our food budget has surged. We must keep our cupboard full and our kitchen stocked to support our clients, regardless of the steep increase in cost required to do so.

Our community has been generous beyond measure. We rely on our donors to help us continue our work, to feed and house our neighbors in need. A donation of \$40 can help us feed a family of 4 for three days. Each day we work toward bringing our vision to life, a community where no one goes hungry and all are safely housed. Please consider supporting the valuable work we do, the wonderful community we serve, and the mission we are so dedicated to upholding.

With love and gratitude,

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

Betsy & Jim O'Sullivan

Bill Rubley

Diane Casey - being CANCER FREE!

Donald Potter

Earl W. Costich

Frank Liberti

John & Kathy Albertini

Jordan Cole

Judy Daniels

Justin Pelletier

Kenny & Bob

Margaret Geen

Timothy Geen

"For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other." - Millard Fuller

What's Happening at Dimitri House?

REMEMBERING ELLEN CLOUSER

Ellen Clouser graced the Dimitri House with her service for nearly ten years. Ellen was what we call one of our "rocks," a volunteer we could count on week after week, no matter the weather; one who stayed with us even through the unprecedented mayhem and uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Up until her very last week of life, every Tuesday afternoon, you could find Ellen in Dimitri House's kitchen and dining room, serving up meals and spreading love and laughter to the hundreds of clients who come through our doors for the Drop-In Lunch program.

Last June at 86 years old, our sweet, soulful, and dedicated Ellen suddenly concluded her time on this earth with us. In truth, our Tuesday afternoons haven't been the same since. Ellen's spirit and devotion embodied Dimitri House's values. We miss her every day.

Rest in Peace, Ellen.

November 3, 1935 - June 25, 2022

WELCOME TO THE DIMITRI HOUSE TEAM!

The Dimitri House is excited to announce the addition of THREE new members to our Board of Directors! Welcome Marietta Smithrand, Keith Weber, & Mike Harren. We are thrilled to add your talents to our amazing team!

Dimitri House is always looking to expand our crew! If you are interested in becoming a member of our Board of Directors, please contact our Board President, Amy Edwards, at aedwards@dimitri-house.org. Those interested in volunteer opportunities or supporting Dimitri House in other ways, such



as organizing a food or hygiene product drive, please reach out to our Program Coordinator, Anjill Lee Burr, at aburr@dimitri-house.org.

Pictured: Keith Weber & Marietta Smithrand in our Emergency Food Cupboard.

Not Pictured: Mike Harren.



VOLUN-"CHEER" CELEBRATION!

There's nothing like spreading a little holiday cheer, and who deserves it more than Dimitri House's team of dedicated volunteers?! For the first time in three years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to host a cel-



ebration in honor of this fabulous crew, and WOW, did we have fun! We look forward to continuing this tradition to honor the folks who make our work possible.

Pictured: Dimitri House staff, board, and our **incredible** volunteers.

2022 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

In 2022, Dimitri House...

1. Served **3,919** individuals in the city of Rochester, NY in the Emergency Food Cupboard;

2. Served 10,300 hot, nutritious meals in the Drop-In Lunch program;

3. Provided **21** security deposits along with intensive case management to homeless individuals seeking permanent housing placements through the Dimitri Affordable Safe Housing (DASH) program; and

4. Provided Thanksgiving Baskets to nearly 200 families.

5. The Mamczur Place Apartments at Dimitri House have **successfully** housed 6 formerly homeless individuals for a year or more.

SECOND ANNUAL DIMITRI HOUSE BBQ DINNER FUNDRAISER

Get ready for a night of delicious food and support a great cause! Our Dimitri House BBQ dinner fundraiser is coming up and we need your support! Join us on Friday, June 23, 2023, for a delicious BBQ dinner and help raise money for Dimitri House.

Sticky Lips BBQ Juke Joint will be serving up their Uncle Frank's Grilled Chicken and Smoked Pulled Pork Dinner, including ¼ chicken, pulled pork & sauce, Mustard Coleslaw, Cajun Corn, and Cornbread. Dinner pickup will be from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 43 Gebhardt Road in Penfield.

Not only will you be enjoying a delicious meal, but you'll also be supporting a great cause. Proceeds from this event will support Dimitri House's mission, programs, and make a difference in our community. Last year's BBQ dinner raised a total of \$2,055, for the Dimitri House Emergency Food Cupboard and Drop-In Lunch programs.

Advanced tickets (\$17.00) will go on sale Monday, May 1, 2023. We hope to see you there for a night of great food and a good cause. Thank you for your support!

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MEMORIALS

Art Heveron Barbara Macholz Grimaldi Bob Everts Carmen Rossi Charles McElhinney Francis A. Passero Jerry Raniewicz Kathy Kuntor Lisa Laurelli Margaret Richter Mary Engels Michael Asselta Shirley Renner Roat Walter, Marie, & Kate May

Memorial & Tribute gifts made after February 28th, 2023 will be listed in the next issue.

> "Everyone can experience the joy and blessing of generosity; because everyone has something to give."

> > - Jan Grace





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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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Dimitri Digest is a publication of Dimitri House, Inc.