

The Song



Winter Edition 2025

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT: Generous Donor Matches December Donations Up to \$50,000 for HOS



This December, your gift to Home of the Sparrow can make an even greater difference. Thanks to a generous donor, every dollar contributed this month will be matched one for one, up to \$50,000.

This match doubles the impact of your support, helping provide safe shelter, housing resources, and critical services to women, children, and individuals experiencing homelessness.

Your generosity helps ensure that families have a warm place to stay, access to stability, and hope for a brighter future. With the demand for services continuing to rise, this opportunity comes at a vital time. If you're able, please consider giving today. Your kindness goes twice as far and brings comfort and possibility to those who need it most.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE & DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT](#)

OUR COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Home of the Sparrow welcomes the community's initiatives to help further the awareness of the needs of homeless women and their children in our programs and services. Many of these initiatives include donation drives, volunteer groups, and more.

Thank you to Dark Heart Tattoo for raising over \$1,300 for HOS!



Thank you to Unity Spiritual Center of Woodstock for your \$1,000 donation from World Peace Day



HOS attended Stevenson High School's Key Club Service Fair



Thank you to our volunteers from Grace Lutheran Chruch!



Thank you to Read With A Buddy for their donation of 50 book bags!



HOS spoke to Westlake Christian Academy about our mission and volunteer opportunities!



Thank you to the LITH Rotary for helping fund our Sensory Area at our shelter!



Thank you to D214 for volunteering at our Community Threads Store



Our Executive Director, Matt, celebrated his 50th birthday!



Thanks to Volunteers from Hickey Insurance Pros, Com24 Heating & AC, and Spartan Roofing & Restoration



HOS celebrated Amanda & Diane from Events by Artful Decor for 20 yrs!



HOS presented to the Rotary club of Palatine on our mission & services



Thank you to the volunteers from Christ Community Church - Huntley!



HOS hosted our "There's No Place Like Home" Charity Gala!



Thank you to volunteers from Peace Lutheran Church - Lake Zurich!



LGMC's Youth Program visited HOS to learn about what we do



Castle Subaru in McHenry helped deliver Thanksgiving dinners



Thanks to Dan Hickey & Robertson Ryan Charitable Giving Foundation



Thank you to ServiceNow for sponsoring all of the children at HOS for the holidays!



Thank you to ServBank for supporting HOS during their "Season of Serving"



THANK YOU TO OUR GRANTORS!



Alfred Bersted Foundation



Andrew & Alice Fischer Charitable Trust



Fred J Brunner Foundation



Robertson Ryan Charitable Giving Foundation



Home of the Sparrow Shelter Wishlist Drive

Your donation makes a real difference. Items purchased from our Wishlist will go directly to Home of the Sparrow's Transitional Shelter and to the women, children, and families served through our programs. These essentials help provide comfort, stability, and support as clients work toward independence. Home of the Sparrow serves individuals and families experiencing homelessness in McHenry County and Northern Illinois. **Thank you for helping us bring hope to those in need.**

KITCHEN ITEMS:

- Food Storage Containers
- Cutting Boards
- Liquid Measuring Cup Sets
- Knife Set with Block
- 13-gallon Trash Can*
- Glassware Sets*
- Coffee Makers
- Dish Sets*
- Pots & Pans
- Toasters*
- Bakeware

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:

- Dishwasher Detergent Pods
- Laundry Detergent Pods
- Broom & Dust Pan*
- Stick Vacuum
- Mop & Bucket*
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Dish Soap*
- 13-gallon Trash Bags
- Bathroom Trash Cans
- Ziplock Bags (All Sizes)

HEALTH & BEAUTY

- Hand Soap
- Tissues

***NOTES EXCEPTIONAL NEED**

ITEMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT HOS HQ OFFICE: 1991 DUNCAN PLACE, WOODSTOCK, IL OR TO ANY OF OUR SPARROW'S NEST THRIFT STORES

Thank you to those who hosted HOS Giving Trees

Crystal Lake Public Library – AAUW

Pure Barre – South Barrington

Woodstock Public Library

Chick-fil-A – Algonquin

McHenry Public Library

J & G Pastries – Woodstock

Marengo Community Middle School

Our Lady of the Lakes Parish, St. Peter Church – Ingleside

Village Squire – Crystal Lake

Ridgefield Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church

Village of Lake in the Hills – Village Hall

Roscoe Antique Mall – Woodstock

Fox River Grove Public Library

Kishwaukee Brewing Company – Woodstock

Anime and Things – Woodstock

MSUFCU – McHenry

Unique Nails – Woodstock

Functional Medicine by Well-Rooted – Crystal Lake

Squire on the Square, Woodstock

Rookies – Crystal Lake

Chicago Institute for Health & Wellness – West Dundee



SCAN QR CODE FOR
FULL WISH LIST



GET INVOLVED WITH HOS

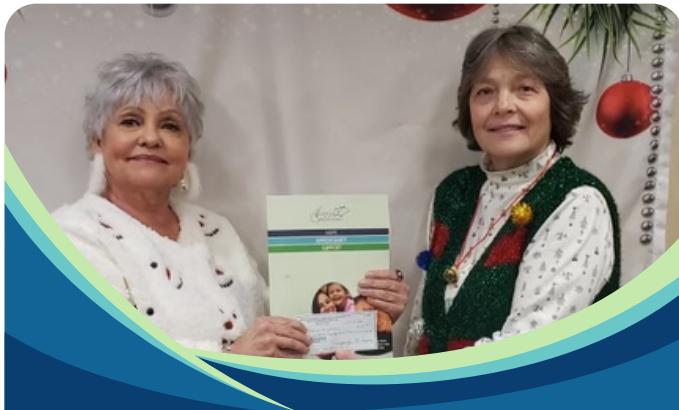
Join our Sparrow Volunteer Family!

Volunteers are the heart of our agency and dedicate their time and talents volunteering at Home of the Sparrow's fundraiser events, Headquarters Office, housing unit and shelter maintenance, yard work at the housing units, and at the Sparrow's Nest Thrift Stores and Community Threads across Northern Illinois.

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY!](#)



Questions about Volunteering? Contact Volunteer@hosparrow.org or call 815-271-5444 x260



Host a Community Fundraising Event!

Community Fundraising Events are sponsored or hosted by individuals, businesses, organizations or groups in support of Home of the Sparrow.

These may include donation drives, social media/virtual fundraising campaigns, runs/walks, auctions and raffles, luncheons or dinners, car shows, fashion shows, self-improvement classes, and restaurant nights where a portion of proceeds or the profits from the night are donated to Home of the Sparrow.

[APPLY HERE!](#)

Questions about Fundraising or Donations? Contact Events@hosparrow.org or call 815-271-5444 x262



Community Threads

A Home of the Sparrow, Inc. Resale Store



HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS: HOW YOUR GENEROSITY HELPED SPENCER FIND STABILITY

If you received a holiday card from us this year, then you already know who Spencer is. But if you did not, please allow us to introduce you to Spencer and share the story of how your generosity helped transform his life. As we enter this season of gratitude and giving, we want to highlight the impact your support has on children and families right here in our community.

Spencer, a bright and resilient eight-year-old boy, is one of many whose lives have been forever changed because of donors like you.

Earlier this year, Spencer, his younger brother, and their mom found themselves **without a home** after a series of unexpected expenses pushed them beyond what they could manage. Their mom worked full time, but rising costs and an unexpected car repair left the family with no safety net. They spent weeks **living out of their car**, trying to keep routines intact and spirits high, even as uncertainty grew.

Everything changed the day they arrived at **Home of the Sparrow**.



Because of the generosity of our supporters, Spencer's family was welcomed into our **Transitional Shelter program**. Donor funding made it possible for them to receive **safe shelter, warm meals, case management**, and the **stability** they had been longing for.

From the moment they arrived, progress began. Spencer and his brother finally had **beds of their own**, a place to study, and a dependable routine. Their mom received one-on-one support to strengthen her finances, enroll in job training, and start planning for permanent housing. Each milestone was fueled by the resources made possible through donor contributions.

Now, in the heart of the holiday season, Spencer's family is filled with **hope**. They recently secured an affordable apartment and are preparing to celebrate the holidays in a home of their own. Spencer's mom says she finally feels like she can breathe again. The boys have already decorated their shared room, proudly showing off the space they never thought they would have.

This transformation did not happen by chance. ***It happened because of you.***

Your donations keep our shelter warm, our housing programs running, and our support services available for families who are working hard to rebuild their lives. **You helped turn a frightening and uncertain time into a season of hope for Spencer and his family.**

As we celebrate the holidays at Home of the Sparrow, we are reminded that every gift, large or small, helps create moments like these. Moments where families find stability, children rediscover joy, and hope is restored.

From all of us at Home of the Sparrow, thank you for helping families like Spencer's move from homelessness to home.

Your kindness makes this season brighter for hundreds of families in our community. Wishing you and your loved ones a warm, joyful, and hope-filled holiday season!



Community Threads

A Home of the Sparrow, Inc. Resale Store

HOS THRIFT STORES

Home of the Sparrow operates seven total thrift stores across Northern Illinois; six under the banner of Sparrow's Nest Thrift Store and Donation Centers, and one under Community Threads Upscale Resale Store. The purpose of our thrift stores is to support the mission of Home of the Sparrow and proceeds fund our programs and services.

Home of the Sparrow's Thrift Stores are also a zero cost provider of clothing, furniture and housewares to Home of the Sparrow clients and clients of other partnering agencies in Northern Illinois. With an exception to mattresses and box springs, everything sold in the thrift stores are new and/or gently used donations from members of the community.



STORE HOURS:

MONDAY-FRIDAY: Open 10am-6pm
SATURDAYS: Open 10am-5pm
SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS: CLOSED

CARY
380 Northwest Hwy.
Cary, IL 60013
(847)639-4082

MCHENRY
3714 W Elm Street
McHenry, IL 60050
(815)363-6008

MUNDELEIN
357 Townline Road
Mundelein, IL 60060
(847)970-5584

PALATINE
275 E Northwest Highway
Palatine, IL 60067
(847) 705-6852

THIRD LAKE
34500 N. US Highway 45
Third Lake, IL 60030
(847)752-8397

WOODSTOCK
120 E Calhoun St
Woodstock, IL 60098
(815)206-5070

COMMUNITY THREADS
250 W. Rand Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
(847) 818-1630

WHAT'S NEW AT THE HOS THRIFT STORES?



PALATINE EXPANSION

Our Palatine Sparrow's Nest is getting an expansion! We're adding an additional 1200 sq. ft. to the store to make a beautiful new furniture showroom! Stay tuned for more details coming early next year!



NEW SOCIAL HUB!

We've combined all of our social pages into one Facebook and Instagram page! Our individual store pages are going to stop posting on January 1st, 2026, so be sure to follow us for updates on all things Sparrow's Nest and Community Threads.

[CLICK TO FOLLOW](#)



GIFT CERTIFICATES

Valentine's Day is coming! Grab your beloved a Sparrow's Nest gift card! Whether they love thrifting, decorating, or finding that perfect treasure, a gift card lets them choose what they love – while your purchase helps change lives.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We're looking for volunteers throughout our stores! If you're interested in joining the Sparrow's Nest team, reach out to Volunteer@hosparrow.org!

[CLICK FOR VOLUNTEER INFO.](#)



EVERY PURCHASE HELPS US PROVIDE SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY. LEARN MORE AT HOSPARROW.ORG

CELEBRATION OF *Women* *Home of the Sparrow*

MARCH 6TH 2026

11AM - 3PM

BOULDER RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB
350 BOULDER DR. LAKE IN THE HILLS, IL

VIP TABLE OF 8	\$600
TABLE OF 8	\$425
VIP TICKET.....	\$80
INDIVIDUAL TICKET....	\$55

REGISTER
TODAY!
REGISTRATION
CLOSES FEB. 27TH

Questions? Contact Events@HOSparrow.org or Call 815-271-5444 x262

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!



OCTOBER:

10/02 Susie L. 10/03 James C. 10/04 Jennifer R. 10/04 Michael S. 10/06 Andrea B. 10/07 Kathryn M. 10/09 Kevin C. 10/10 Kaleb P. 10/14 Julie A. 10/14 Orlando P. 10/16 Eddie Z. 10/18 Frank K. 10/20 Lisa C. 10/21 Joseph S. 10/25 Lori S. 10/26 Alexis D. 10/28 Nathan D. 10/28 Melissa C. 10/30 Martha W. 10/31 Lauren R.

NOVEMBER:

11/01 Sandra G. 11/02 Suzie E. 11/02 Stephen P. 11/06 Raelyn S. 11/07 Matthew N. 11/08 David K. 11/09 Payton A. 11/09 Stacey C. 11/09 Ved M. 11/11 Lauren W. 11/12 Khristine H. 11/13 Frank K. 11/12 Ian G. 11/13 Lisa C. 11/13 Joseph S. 11/13 Lori S. 11/13 Benjamin S. 11/14 Petya D. 11/17 Angelina B. 11/18 Ashley Z. 11/18 Zoe S. 11/19 Elinore P. 11/22 Stephanie H. 11/23 Patti H. 11/24 Josephine B. 11/24 Alexander Z. 11/26 Karen F.

DECEMBER:

12/01 Wendy W. 12/04 Vincent R. 12/06 Silvina A. 12/06 Samantha L. 12/09 Rhonda G. 12/09 Nancy J. 12/09 Rylan M. 12/09 Peter R. 12/10 Niccole C. 12/10 Cathleen L. 12/10 Carol P. 12/12 Ian G. 12/12 Randal H. 12/13 Kylee N. 12/15 Anna B. 12/16 Tanvi B. 12/17 Tiffany R. 12/19 Erin H. 12/20 Shane K. 12/21 Lori H. 12/22 Erin C. 12/25 Crystal W. 12/28 Amy M. 12/28 Elizabeth K. 12/28 Vadim S. 12/29 Michael S. 12/29 Ethan B. 12/29 Karley S. 12/30 Cynthia R. 12/30 Mehak G. 12/31 Andy L. 12/31 Ronald S.





THANK YOU TO THE HOS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Koenig

Jim Thorpe

Chris Christensen

Dean Karamagianis

Barbara Webb

John Eiermann

Sarah Crittenden

Jonathan Fox

Tom Hanna

Donna Jackowiak

BECOME A SPONSOR

Various sponsorship levels are available and may include tickets to HOS's three annual events. As a sponsor, your company will benefit from exposure through HOS's promotional efforts.

We are willing to work with businesses, big and small, to make a lasting impact. We are flexible, budget-friendly, and ready to create positive change!

For details, contact
Events@HOSparrow.org

WE'RE HIRING!

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE
EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT
MEANINGFUL MISSION
& MORE!



CLICK HERE FOR JOB DESCRIPTIONS & APPLICATIONS

DETAILS HERE



INCREDIBLE PEOPLE, INSPIRING IMPACT

Thank you to some of the AMAZING Home of the Sparrow's volunteers!



RETAIL VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

Some of our thrift stores are in need of some volunteers! Our **Palatine, Third Lake, Mundelein and Woodstock Sparrow's Nests** need more helping hands. Whether you can give a few hours or a full shift, volunteering makes a huge difference, and we would love to have you!

INTERESTED?

Email Volunteer@hosparrow.org
or call 815-271-5444 x260



URGENT

WHY BE A HOME OF THE SPARROW LANDLORD

Home of the Sparrow (HOS) is looking to partner with local landlords in order to facilitate housing for the clients we serve. HOS provides hope, opportunity and support that empowers women and children as they journey from homelessness to self-sufficiency. *Why partner with Home of the Sparrow?*



SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

Being a landlord with Home of the Sparrow allows you to support your community by offering affordable housing at Fair Market Rent to homeless women and children on their journey back to self-sufficiency.



GUIDANCE

Each tenant is assigned a Case Manager who provides assistance to the client and can work directly with our Landlord Partners to ensure a successful housing partnership.



PAYMENT SECURITY

Landlords receive timely and consistent rent payments with facilitation from Home of the Sparrow.



MARKETING

Save money on marketing costs to advertise vacancies in your unit! Home of the Sparrow will reduce vacancies by providing clients to occupy your unit consistently.

GET MORE INFORMATION TODAY!

Contact LKellner@hosparrow.org

or Call 815-271-5444 x258



HOPE

OPPORTUNITY

SUPPORT



**DONATE
\$1,000**

Can provide Case Management services



**DONATE
\$500**

Can provide one month's rent for a family



**DONATE
\$250**

Can provide a week of childcare for a working mother



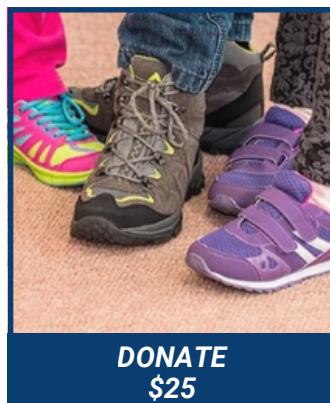
**DONATE
\$100**

Can help pay for a week of groceries or a month of utilities



**DONATE
\$50**

Can help supply a week's worth of gas to get to and from work



**DONATE
\$25**

Can provide a new pair of shoes for a child

CLICK HERE TO DONATE TODAY

MAKE AN ONLINE DONATION BY CLICKING HERE: WWW.HOSPARROW.ORG/DONATE
OR MAIL A CHECK TO HOME OF THE SPARROW
1991 DUNCAN PLACE, WOODSTOCK, IL 60098

FOLLOW US ON SOCIALS!





THANK YOU, 2025 SPONSORS!



CRYSTAL LAKE BANK
& TRUST COMPANY, N.A.
A WINTRUST COMMUNITY BANK



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

Each year, Home of the Sparrow helps hundreds of women, children, and individuals experiencing homelessness. One way we fund our programs and services is through our annual fundraising events. We hope you will help support our efforts by becoming an event sponsor. As a participating sponsor, your company will benefit from extended exposure through promotional efforts including logo recognition on our website, social media platforms, e-blasts, newsletters, and more. For additional information about our different sponsorship levels for each event, please contact Events@HOSparrow.org or Call 815-271-5444 x262