

# DIRECTION IN THE STORM



## PARTEE FORE A PURPOSE

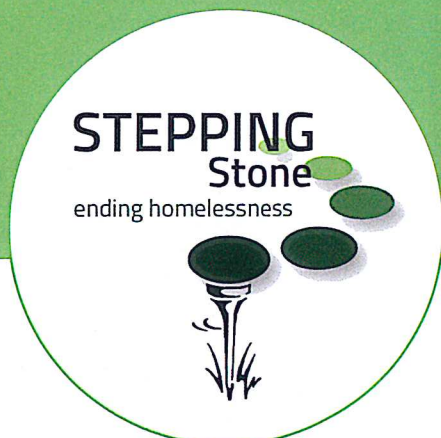
Thursday, September 10  
Shotgun Start at 11:30am

### The Refuge Golf Club

21250 Yellow Pine St NW  
Oak Grove, MN

### Register at

[www.steppingstoneeh.org](http://www.steppingstoneeh.org)



## GOLF AND A CONCERT

In addition to our annual golf tournament, Punch Board, raffle, and dinner, we are proud to host Kat Perkins for a special LIVE CONCERT!

Kat Perkins is a successful Minneapolis singer and songwriter. The nationally recognized public speaker and finalist from NBC's The Voice will be performing her Curbside Concert. JUST FOR US!

We wanted to make this year's tournament special as we've had to modify the dinner to keep everyone safe during this time.

### Golf Registration Includes:

- Box lunch
- Dinner buffet
- Admission to Kat Perkins Concert

### Registration Options:

- Foursome - ~~\$450~~ \$375
- Twosome - ~~\$225~~ \$175
- 18-Hole Single - ~~\$125~~ \$100

*Early Bird Special Pricing  
Through Aug. 15*

Add-ons include Mulligans, Help Your Putt Rope, Punch Board, Raffle tickets, and more!

Register online on our website.

## SPONSORSHIP

### All Five Sponsorship Levels Include:

- Logo on registration banner, website, e-newsletters, social media, and printed media.
- Promotional item in goody bags.
- Hole sponsorship including signage, table and two chairs, one lunch, and one dinner.
- Admission to Kat Perkins Concert

### Sponsorship Levels:

- Self-Sufficiency - \$5,000
- Housing - \$2,500
- Employment - \$1,000
- Education PLUS - \$350
- Education - \$250

See our website for more details about each sponsorship opportunity.





# FACING A STORM

Julie Jeppson, Executive Director

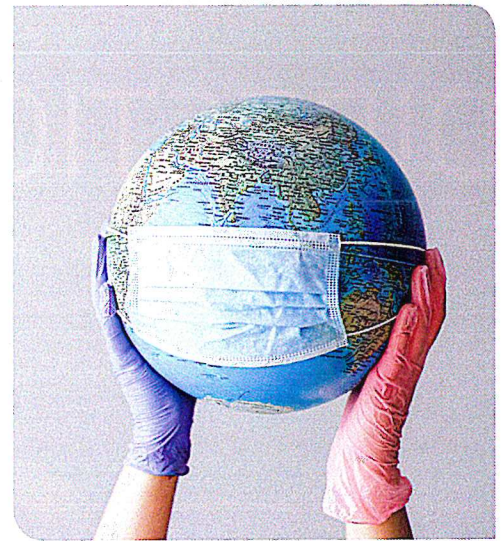
To say our world looks different these past few months is an understatement. We've had our lives turned upside down, and know that you have too. Not only did we have to navigate the storm of a pandemic, but also the impact of systemic racism.

Helping people facing homelessness has never been easy, but it's especially difficult right now. Stepping Stone residents have faced many new barriers to independence as we've had to put in many safety and health measures these past few months. We continue to be flexible and creative in order to meet residents' needs that we never could have anticipated this just a few months ago; such as making sure our residents can safely find transportation or access free WiFi.

With the creation and implementation of our Pandemic Preparedness Plan in late March, we reduced the need for our in-house staff to be on-site and suspended all volunteer access to the shelter. With the Stay-At-Home order, we removed limitations on access to TV, gaming systems, and computers. Residents, for the most part, used this time respectfully and enjoyed their expanded freedom.

What we didn't foresee was the immense toll of being alone for those who suffer with mental illness. Four individuals presented a fever within a few days of each other and were placed in isolation. When their ability to control and maintain their mental health abruptly and completely stopped because of this situation, one woman started hallucinating, hearing voices, and becoming paranoid. We changed our PPE so the individual could receive support. At the same time, providing other staff and residents with immediate testing, transportation to get testing, and activities to occupy their time while in isolation such as puzzles, TV, and coloring books.

**My hope is this virus gives us an understanding and acceptance that things in life happen to us that we have**



**zero control over.** Nobody is excluded and nobody is the exception, regardless of skin color or bank account balance. Even more people in our community are at risk of becoming homeless due to job loss, unemployment or under-employment, or caring for family members.

We realize nonprofits are more important than ever. We fill the gaps, plug the holes, provide the missing pieces. But we can forget the phrase, "getting back to normal." Our jobs just became exponentially more difficult as the way we earn revenue just tipped upside down while the extreme need and dependency on our programs just exploded. COVID-19 caught us all off-guard.



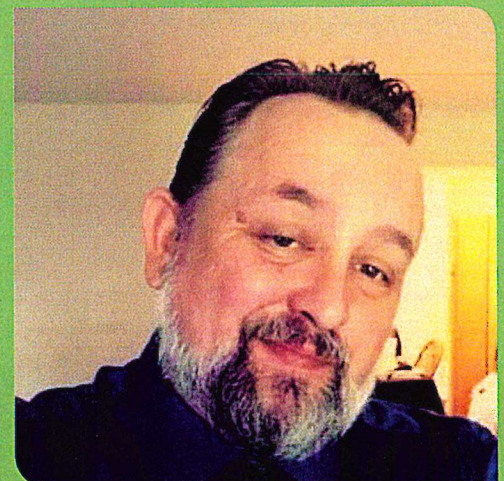
# DIVERSITY AND HOPE

Justin Torguson

The biggest surprise I've uncovered while working at Stepping Stone is the diverse and unique stories that each resident has. It doesn't matter your background, it doesn't matter where you started, homelessness can happen to anyone. This makes me realize how grateful that I am for my own life experiences. It shows me to be thankful for the support that I have in my life. In the past, without family's full support, I could have been a resident here.

If you do have a chance to interact with someone experiencing homelessness, my advice is to ask a lot of questions. A lot of our residents have to deal with mental health and addiction, and asking about their stories, gives them a voice. It also gives them hope.

The residents who have moved into their new home are amazing. They come here having reached rock bottom and then find a future. They find a home and purpose. They are empowered to move forward and make changes towards the right path.







## ADAPT! CHANGE! SUCCESS!

Real Stories | One Stage – a VIRTUAL Stepping Stone experience was a success!

We reached our fundraising goal of \$40,000! These donations help provide food, programs, and essentials for our residents!

Despite the last-minute date change and altering the format to a virtual event, our team developed a plan to deliver this one-of-a-kind dinner theater experience to our supporters very homes. A film crew followed the journey a resident takes once they enter our doors. The performance also included talented actors from Illusion

Theater, who performed and voiced our resident's stories through words and song.

It was a wonderful experience! Thank-you to all who helped make this event happen, even in the middle of a Stay-At-Home order.

We'd also like to thank our sponsors: 21st Century Bank, Financial One, Hoffman Weber Construction, MidWest One Bank, Blaine-Ham Lake Rotary Club, Box Financial, and Chain of Lakes Church.

The replay can be viewed at [www.SteppingStoneEH.org](http://www.SteppingStoneEH.org)

## 4 PILLARS IN ADVERSITY

Our four pillars provide us with a compass on how to live our lives, at work, at home and in our communities, especially in times of adversity like racism.

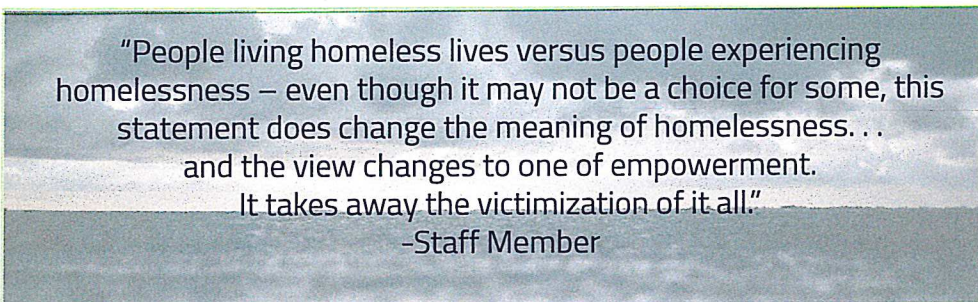
**Empowering** staff and residents by providing a safe space to voice thoughts, feelings, and emotions without fear of saying the wrong thing, because saying nothing is worse.

**Respecting** each other to intentionally improve upon our communication, actions, and responses to racial issues, tension, and confrontation.

**Collaborating** with those who have lived experiences of homelessness and racial oppression, both staff and residents, to ensure that our communications, actions, and responses are productive and necessary.

Being good **stewards** by looking after, managing, and ensuring that all residents receive the support, resources, and opportunities they need.

We continue to work hard for those who are experiencing homelessness, regardless of color, shade, blemish, and brokenness.



## HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED?

Why do we use the term experiencing homelessness rather than saying someone is homeless?

At first glance, it doesn't seem like a huge difference, but if you break it down, you realize that lack of housing comes down to describing a condition rather than a personality trait. By using

the term, experiencing homeless, you're describing something a person is going through rather than defining them by it!

Even a simple change in phrasing leads to the understanding that a resident is valued. That homelessness is not who they are, but it is a situation that can be resolved.






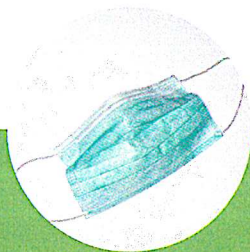
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Anoka, MN 55303

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## WAYS YOU CAN HELP



### MASKS AND PPE DONATIONS

With all places requiring masks for entry, we can't keep up with demand. Hand Sanitizer is also needed.



### DONATE A MEAL

Our regular food donations have stopped, please consider donating. A donation of \$25 provides 17 meals!




### REGISTER FORE THE PARTEE

Help us sell out ParTee Fore A Purpose. Even if you don't golf, come enjoy a dinner and Kat Perkins' concert.

## Our Guiding Principles

- Empower individuals to change their lives
- Treat each resident with dignity and respect
- Collaborate with partners in providing services
- Ensure strong **stewardship** in managing resources

## Stay in Touch

 3300 4th Avenue North  
Cronin Building 14  
Anoka, MN 55303

 (763) 323 - 7006

\* Our 2019 Annual Report  
will be available online soon!

## Donate Online



Sign up for Amazon Smile to see our Charity List of much needed items.



Donate online with confidence.

[www.steppingstoneeh.org](http://www.steppingstoneeh.org)