



# Restoring *Hope* Transplant House

Lions Club Council of Governors Report

January 2023

7457 Terrace Avenue ■ Middleton, WI 53562 ■ (608) 831-1726 ■ [www.restoringhope.org](http://www.restoringhope.org)

Dear Lions Council of Governors Friends,

Here are some of our Restoring Hope Transplant House updates that we wanted to share. Blessings to you all for a wonderful new year. Thanks for all you do!

- RHTH is excited to celebrate 10 years of serving transplant families as the calendar flips to 2023. Your collective support has helped to make a decades worth of miracles a reality for so many families throughout Wisconsin and beyond.
- One of our current families of a wife and two daughters from Hawkins, WI was hit with the hard news that their loved one doesn't have much longer. Prior to coming to RHTH, the wife was sleeping in her car to save money. A state Lion contributed a huge amount of food over the holidays for us to use for guests. Long-term families like this already have enough hardships and debt to deal with...this really made a difference.
- The last year of intensity has really shaped our focus. Everything is being examined for cost increases, maintenance, construction, services and volunteers returning safely.
- Partnering with UW Transplant staff for best practices with needs of our patients but also our caregivers who are often depleted, exhausted and have health issues of their own. This was a really hard year for many of our families.
- We have increased our donor base and need to continue that awareness and potential in all areas. It is crucial to our stability.
- The advances in technology based communication throughout covid has made it more efficient for us to share the mission and stories of RHTH to groups while also being able to meet the daily needs of the house and our families. Traveling great distances is often challenging when you have a house full of guests. We hope to work with all of our groups, supporters and donors to increase our virtual speaking opportunities.
- The Milwaukee districts were our areas of greatest guest growth this year.
- RHTH collected a massive amount of plastic bags over the course of 2022 and donated them to Lions as part of their recycling program that turns 500 pounds of plastic into a bench for charity and have begun encouraging our families to bring bags to RHTH..
- 2022 started to finally feel more like a normal RHTH year, but we are still operating under the Covid safety precautions of the hospital which means continued mask use in public areas and no sharing of bathrooms. The safety of our immune compromised patients is our number one concern, but these precautions still limit our capacity compared to pre-covid years.

- It was wonderful to see so many Lions throughout the state again in 2022 as Covid protocols eased. Thank you all for the warm receptions, kind words and generosity towards RHTH.
- There are dozens of Lions who follow our regular updates on Facebook. Please follow Restoring Hope Transplant House to keep closer tabs on the inspirational stories that happened under our roof.



**About Restoring Hope Transplant House:**

Restoring Hope Transplant House is a non-profit home away from home in downtown Middleton that offers comfortable and affordable housing to transplant patients and their caregivers while they are in the Madison area receiving life-saving care at nearby Hospitals.

For more information about Restoring Hope Transplant House, please visit: [www.restoringhope.org](http://www.restoringhope.org) or call 608-831-1726.



**RESTORING HOPE TRANSPLANT HOUSE**  
**Celebrating 10 Years Of**  
**Welcoming Transplant Families**

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Restoring Hope Transplant House is extremely blessed to celebrate 10 years of serving transplant families who have arrived at our door from all parts of Wisconsin, 44 different states and even 8 other countries in search of a second chance at life through the miracle of transplantation. In many ways, so many of those early 2013 families shaped this house into the special place that it is today. We are so grateful to those initial families who took a chance on us when we were just getting started and all who have followed over these 10 wonderful years. Thank you all!

