

# THE TURNAROUND

A 180 DEGREES E-NEWSLETTER

## CELEBRATING YOU

What a challenging year! Thank you so much for your support. In a time of real crisis, you have helped us keep our five emergency shelters and community-based programs operating during Covid-19.

**Thank you for the hand-sewn face masks, gallons of hand sanitizer, art activity kits, and volunteer labor that transformed outdoor spaces into new gathering spots for clients and their families.**



Your generous financial support and notes of encouragement have sustained us during a time of great need.

As the pandemic continues, demand for emergency shelter is at an all-time high. Homeless youth experience waiting lists for available beds at our southwest metro shelter, Hope House.

Demand for sex trafficking has not dropped during Covid-19. In fact, the number of girls entering Brittany's Place is the same, if not higher, compared to a year ago. Families are struggling. In our two rural shelters, more youth are arriving because home is no longer safe.

Amidst these challenges, your support brings about real, positive change. In this issue of The Turnaround, read about how a teacher inspires learning at Brittany's Place, a new affordable housing program sparks hope, and volunteer efforts improve lives.

**Thank you for making a positive difference!**

Sincerely,

*All of us at 180 Degrees*

## NOVEMBER = NATIONAL HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS MONTH

Open 24/7, [Hope House](#) is an emergency shelter for teens in crisis in the Twin Cities' southwest metro. Youth experiencing homelessness often arrive in need of clothing, especially when their stay can be for weeks at a time.

An Eagle Scout and students from Minnetonka High School re-organized the “Clothing Closet” making it easier for teens to find what they need.



*Before*



*After*

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## NEW PROGRAM EXPANDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR FORMER INMATES

Men who have served their time in prison face many challenges. Some of the biggest challenges are finding affordable housing and a job within 60 days of being released – or risk violating their parole and having to return to prison.

In May, 180 Degrees launched a new Supportive Housing Program for graduates of its [Clifton Place Program](#) – the 37-bed, first-stop residence for men exiting prison. The program is designed to address the barriers men with records face when trying to secure housing.

“We have a high job placement rate for Clifton Place residents,” said Program Director Richard Coffey. “Finding housing for our clients is another story, especially when you need to secure that housing in 60 days.”



*Clifton Place Apartments*

*(Continued)*

In March, as Covid-19 took hold, CEO Dan Pfarr took action, partnering with a nearby landlord to sub-lease, refurbish, and furnish studio apartments close to Clifton Place. By May, four fully furnished studio apartments were available exclusively for Clifton Place graduates.

Transition out of Clifton Place to independent living in the new units has gone smoothly for the first few clients who pay \$950/month, an affordable market rate. The units are located on a bus route, convenient to work sites, services, and community appointments.

[Read more](#)

## BRITTANY'S PLACE PROGRAM: COMPASSION IN THE CLASSROOM



*Rhonda McGinley, Educator*

Girls who have been sexually exploited arrive at [Brittany's Place](#) in the midst of severe trauma. They are in need of clothing, food, sleep, and safety. The healing process is difficult, and math classes might seem very irrelevant in the face of their struggles, but Rhonda McGinley has made her classroom at Brittany's Place into one of honesty, integrity, and hope.

When you step into her classroom, you see a whole bookshelf of young adult literature, and her wall has photos of her dog and children. Rhonda teaches by providing choices and outcomes to the students in her classroom. This honest approach removes the power struggle between students and teachers, giving students the ability to control things within their world. Rhonda tells her students, "Don't be embarrassed if you don't know it, but be embarrassed if you do nothing about it." [Read more](#)

## CONFRONTING RACISM: A MESSAGE FROM DAN PFARR

After a summer filled with protests and civil unrest, our team recently took the opportunity to get outside and host several informal dialogues with our neighbors and supporters.

These conversations were meant to bring people together to learn about our work at 180 Degrees, and our commitments to improving both our community and the lives of our staff and clients.



At 180 Degrees, we start with the premise that racism exists and has been baked into the policies, procedures, and laws of our country since it was founded. Racism can be as subtle as a person's individual bias, or as extreme as a police stop that turns deadly.

[Read more](#)

*Dan Pfarr, CEO, speaking at the garden conversations*

## NOVEMBER 19TH IS GIVE TO THE MAX DAY

**This *Give to the Max Day*, please consider donating to 180 Degrees!**

With your help, youth and adults experiencing crisis will be connected to life-saving shelter and services.

**Donate at [givemn.org/organization/180-Degrees](https://givemn.org/organization/180-Degrees)**



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