Celebrating 50 years at Peace

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Peace Neighborhood Center 1971 - 2021
For 50 years, Peace Neighborhood Center has been working to make our community better and break the cycle of poverty — one person at a time.

**We have helped over 16,000 people across Washtenaw County overcome extraordinary obstacles, helping them build bright futures for themselves and their families.**

**A key to the lasting impact Peace has is our unwavering commitment to those we support.** We provide an important source of stability, continuity, and consistency in people's lives — fostering life-long positive connections.

**For many in our community, Peace serves as an extended family — a safe and compassionate place that inspires mutual trust; where everyone is treated with dignity, kindness, and respect.**

**Respect for everyone and everything, cooperation, and a sense of responsibility to each other and to our greater community are just a few of the core values we seek to model and instill here at Peace.**

**The need for Peace Neighborhood Center has never been greater.** Events of the last year and a worldwide pandemic have highlighted continuing disparities between black and white, rich and poor.

**As we reflect back on 2020, a year filled with unprecedented challenges, we’re looking forward to celebrating 50 years at Peace and the impact we’ve had on thousands of lives.**

**We are also seeking to build a more sustainable future for Peace so that together we can continue to invest in a more just, equitable, and hopeful future for the young people and families we support.**

**With your support, we can continue to change lives.**
While Peace Neighborhood Center has grown over the last 50 years, we have stayed true to our core values, family-style approach, and unwavering commitment to helping people find their greatness.

I never get tired of sharing the miracles we witness at Peace every day—from the 2020 Peace Parent of the Year, a single working mother of four who navigates four virtual classrooms and a rotating childcare schedule, all while ensuring her kids attend Peace programs with near perfect attendance, to the young man who recently walked into my office and thanked us for helping his mom find housing so his family could be reunited.

While the last year has brought unprecedented challenges, I’m extremely grateful for our entire Peace Family—

• Our young people and families who continue to persevere as they navigate the current crisis with grace and resilience;
• Our talented and committed staff who continue to work tirelessly, adjusting programs and their schedules, to be available and offer in-person support to those greatest in need;
• Our dedicated volunteers who helped expand our food distribution;
• And our community of supporters who continue to respond generously. Not only did people give their stimulus checks, but over 300 made their first gifts to Peace ranging from $10-$100,000. All to help their neighbors in need.

As we look forward to celebrating Peace Neighborhood’s 50th Anniversary this June, we want you to know how much we appreciate all of you who have played an important role in Peace’s continued success. And while events of the last year have reminded all of us that we still have a lot of work to do—I truly believe that together we can do great things.

Peace and Blessings,

Bonnie Billups, Jr.
Peace Neighborhood Center Executive Director

DEAR PEACE FAMILY ———

I’ve been at Peace Neighborhood Center most of my life. I will never forget my first introduction to Rose Martin, and all that I learned from her no-nonsense approach and steadfast commitment to helping people. When I was 10 years old, my father volunteered to drive a bus of young boys up North for a camping trip with Rose, and he strongly encouraged me to go. I will never forget that trip. Picture an open field filled with tents and borrowed camping equipment; $400 of groceries for 48 hungry growing boys; and after the volunteers quit, only a few of us with any camping experience. It turned out to be a life-changing experience for me.

I started attending Peace’s Summer Day Camp a few years later, and Rose gave me a job as a Youth Program Assistant at the age of 15. She always believed in me, giving me responsibility beyond my years. And she showed me by example what it means to genuinely care about people and how to find the potential in everyone.

Over my 40+ years at Peace, I’ve had the privilege of meeting thousands of remarkable people. Each with their own personal story that reflects the hard work they’ve put in to overcome extraordinary obstacles and move forward to create a brighter future for themselves. Many have gone on to careers to give back and pay it forward by helping others. All continue to remind me every day that we really do have the power to help people change their lives.
In 1971, a diverse committee of neighbors from Ann Arbor’s west side took the initiative to seek common ground and a positive means to address growing racial tensions in the area. Their efforts led to founding Peace Neighborhood Center as an independent self-governing community center. Trinity Lutheran and Zion Lutheran Churches provided the original space.

Over the last 50 years, Peace has experienced extraordinary growth in our programs, staff, and facilities—as we have witnessed transformational growth in people’s lives.

Since the beginning, Peace has always taken the time to step back, evaluate our community’s emerging needs, identify the root causes, and look for ways to provide unique solutions. We continue to launch innovative new programs to address the specific needs of Peace youth and families.

It’s hard to engage young people when they’re preoccupied and stressed. Two caring neighbors who understood, Elmira Collins and Lula Fortson, stepped up to help. With $100 from Rose Martin, the two women rose at 5 am every morning to serve a healthy breakfast to over 20 elementary school students daily.

The program soon grew to include middle and high school students. Long-time Peace supporters Jack & Jean DiGiuseppe helped supplement the program by buying and delivering the groceries each week.

Thanks to those generous volunteers, Peace was able to meet a critical need several years before schools started serving breakfast. Since that time, Peace has included nutritious meals as an essential component of our programs—which today, on average, serve over 14,000 meals per year.

**SOUTH MAPLE BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

In 1992, an elementary school principal reached out to Peace to share his concerns about disruptive students on the bus; some were falling asleep in class. Peace investigated and found that without a proper breakfast, students were starting school hungry.
We tackled some big topics that others may have considered us too young to comprehend. Peace wasn’t afraid to teach us how to navigate hard conversations about political issues, stereotypes, socio-economic status, and more. It all helped lay an important foundation, as well as build my confidence as an inclusive leader.

Peace’s College & Career Prep Club helped me with all my college applications. They helped me study for the SAT and ACT, and helped me get a really good scholarship that paid for my first year. Though my dream school was Penn State, they helped me refocus that goal as a grad school option. I’m so glad they supported my going to Central, since I discovered I could major in Nonprofit and Public Administration there.”

Nayan’s especially appreciative of Bonnie Billups’ help moving her in to college, the opportunity to work at Peace during college, and his continuing mentorship:

“Bonnie gave me valuable advice about working at small nonprofits. How everyone has to take on multiple roles and responsibilities to support the organization and the rest of the staff. He shared ideas about ways to show appreciation for volunteers and staff, which I’ve shared in my new role. I’m so thankful I can support myself and work at a career where I can help other people. Peace showed me how.”

A recent graduate of Central Michigan University, Nayan is just starting her career at a foster care agency in Pittsburgh. She’s thankful for the range of support and guidance she received at Peace Neighborhood Center throughout her growth and education.

Nayan started attending Peace’s after-school and summer programs in 5th grade, and remembers, with some disbelief, that Peace would pick her up at her charter school all the way out on South Wagner Road. Peace’s Alternatives for Youth after-school program and the summer Leadership Development Camp, both for middle school students, made big impressions. Nayan shared:

“Early on Paul Johnson really believed in our potential to do great things, that we all could be great leaders. The staff welcomed having adult conversations with us, even as young kids...”
A Lasting Impact on People’s Lives

A KEY TO PEACE’S CONTINUING SUCCESS IS THE UNWAVERING COMMITMENT WE MAKE TO EVERYONE WE SUPPORT. OVER 90% LIVE BELOW THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE; 75% IDENTIFY AS PEOPLE OF COLOR.

For many in our community, Peace serves as an extended family—a safe and compassionate place that provides a range of wraparound support that helps people overcome extraordinary obstacles and address a range of issues.

We help people find their greatness. Over the years, we’ve had the pleasure of celebrating hundreds of high school graduations. Many of our youth have gone on to college, earned graduate degrees, and pursued meaningful careers to help others—as social workers, counselors, educators, health-care workers, and Peace staff members.

Many “Peace Kids” continue to stay in touch and maintain life-long positive connections to our Peace Neighborhood Center Family.

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45 College degrees supported by Peace’s College & Career Prep Club since the program’s inception in 1999. 100% of Peace students graduate from high school.

1,703 Youth have participated in Peace’s Summer Day Camp since 1975. Each summer, over 100 youth throughout Washtenaw County enjoy six weeks of structured recreational activities, field trips, and enrichment groups.

5,270 Families, individuals, and heads of households served by Peace’s Programs and Case Management Services.

450,000 Meals served through our Youth and Family programming. Incorporating healthy snacks and meals has always been an important component of Peace’s programs—to alleviate hunger and food insecurity, and foster positive engagement and connections. Taking time for shared meals also builds community.

3,400+ Substance Abuse Recovery Meetings hosted at Peace Neighborhood Center for our community. Today, over 40 people originally enrolled in Peace’s program are celebrating 15 - 25+ years of sobriety each.

16,000+ People assisted by Peace Neighborhood Center since 1971.
What has stayed true to Peace Neighborhood over the years is the impact they have on people’s lives through a unique combination of support, tough love, and life lessons...

I am grateful that Peace has been able to endure and adapt, even in the midst of a world-wide pandemic, continuing to combat the effects of poverty and inequity, and working toward a more just and equitable community.

Nicole Banks currently serves as an Associate Dean at the University of Michigan. She’s grateful for the consistent investment Peace made in her at each level of her growth and education. “Always a Peace kid,” she has fond memories of the experiences that opened up new worlds to her, and credits the life lessons and values she learned, including fairness and a responsibility to the greater community, in helping to shape her career. “Thanks to Peace, my career in higher education has been fueled by the values of access, diversity, inclusion, and service to larger communities.”

Paul Johnson first came to Peace when he was six. He attended Peace youth programs throughout his childhood—and worked in a number of roles at Peace. As an educator, Paul currently develops curriculum for the Houston Health Department to help public school teachers create a safe and positive environment to engage adolescents.

Peace was the first place that gave me a voice. They make it their mission to identify and preserve the potential and goodness in everyone. They showed me how to celebrate my strengths and individuality. Peace taught me how to look inside myself to be able to look beyond myself—to look for what I could do, what I could give, and what I can offer to help others... Peace is the reason I work so hard as a teacher and a father.”

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Denise “Dee” Burris
MSW, Eastern Michigan University
Service Manager, Michigan DHHS Washtenaw County Child Protective Services
Former Peace Youth

Paul Johnson with his son Devin
BA Education, Southern University
Program Manager, Houston Health Dept. Bureau of Youth & Adolescent Health
Former Peace Youth and Peace Youth Program Director, 2006 - 2014

Though it’s hard to pinpoint just one thing... what I appreciate most about Peace is that I learned a lot of lessons and values there. The staff showed us how to treat each other with respect... [though] they weren’t afraid to call us out on stuff. You got to witness how adults should behave and what healthy relationships look like.

The work Bonnie and the Peace staff continue to do is so important. They do so much for families and do a good job connecting with kids. For a lot of these kids, Peace is family. Even when kids grow up, Bonnie makes sure to stay in touch.

Your connections to Peace Neighborhood Center don’t end even when you stop attending programs. It’s an amazing organization. I guess it says a lot about an organization when you stay connected because the time you had there was so meaningful.”

“Paul Johnson with his son Devin
BA Education, Southern University
Program Manager, Houston Health Dept. Bureau of Youth & Adolescent Health
Former Peace Youth and Peace Youth Program Director, 2006 - 2014

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Championing the Potential in Everyone

**WE HELP PEOPLE FIND THEIR GREATNESS AND CELEBRATE THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.**
With Peace’s support, young people, adults, and families discover options, enhance their skills, and make choices that promote education, health, well-being, and fiscal independence.

**2020 OUTSTANDING YOUTH AWARD**

A model of positivity, hard work, and resilience, we know Blessing is poised to do great things. Throughout the pandemic, Peace youth have had to navigate extraordinary hardships and challenges. One young student has stood out as a role model for everyone around her.

A senior at Skyline High School, Blessing has demonstrated extraordinary grit and determination. She’s worked hard to earn all A’s, navigate virtual classes, and apply to college—all while getting ready for her final basketball season after a devastating ACL injury meant taking a year off to work through a lot of physical therapy.

As an athlete and top student, Blessing shows up to Peace every day, asks for help, and is always kind.

She sets goals and then does everything in her power to achieve them. She’s looking forward to attending Oakland University next year. A big fan of documentaries, she hopes to study film and film editing.

Blessing credits Peace with helping her heal and move forward.

"What keeps me going is all the support I get from everyone here at Peace—Mira, Bonnie, everyone. They check in on my school work, see if I need anything at home, if we’re low on food... Online school hasn’t been that bad because I still get to come to Peace. They help me stay on track. There’s nothing but love and support here. I feel so appreciated. They see how hard I work and want to see me do good, to head off to college. They’re always there to support you in moving forward in your life, providing a way to create and take advantage of opportunities.”

"I PROMISE"

I Will Love and Respect My Family.
I Will Respect Others and Myself.
I Will Honor and Respect the Elders in My Community.
I Will Strive to Keep Learning.
I Will Take Responsibility for My Actions.
I Will Work to Become More Honest and Express My Feelings and Needs.
These are the Promises I Make to Myself Because I Create My Present and Future.
We are so blessed to have Peace in our lives because of all the support they give us. The most loving people, they’re like family. All four of my kids smile and look forward to going to Peace. I love how they mentally stimulate my kids, treat them with respect, and really understand each of them. You can already tell that my ten-year-old son is a ‘scientist’, and they always help him find answers to all his questions. He really looks up to Bonnie . . . And my eight-year-old daughter is already looking forward to volunteering as a teen at Peace to help others.

It’s not only that my kids attend Peace programs, but that Peace makes sure my kids are okay and progressing in school. They even email teachers. It’s been such a help as it’s hard for me to keep up with all four.

And they take the time to check in with me to make sure we’re all okay, financially and emotionally. Because of all their help, I’ve truly grown as an individual and as a parent. When they surprised me with the award, it was really emotional. That they took the time to thank me? No one has ever done that before. I really believe it takes a village, especially for low-income families. I’m truly blessed.

It’s the genuine part. They genuinely care.”
Comprehensive Wraparound Support

Each year, Peace provides a range of integrated programs and services that offer youth, adults, and families holistic wraparound support to ensure their health, economic, educational and emotional well-being—and their long-term success.

In 2020, Peace’s wraparound support was critical in helping to fill gaping holes in our community’s safety net, helping families address a variety of challenges and emergency needs as they navigated the COVID pandemic and crisis.

175+ ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVED IN-PERSON ACADEMIC SUPPORT FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING THROUGHOUT THE PANDEMIC. Peace offers young people a continuum of support throughout their growth and education: individualized academic support and tutoring, meals, enrichment experiences, social connections, and vital emotional support. We work closely and collaboratively with parents, teachers, and schools—providing a critical connection between Peace, home, and school to ensure kids stay on track academically and have the support they need to succeed.

57 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN OUR COLLEGE & CAREER PREP CLUB. Peace helps high school students prepare for college or career training through a range of individualized support: helping to choose the proper high school courses, maintaining a good grade point average, college visits, help with college applications and essays, finding scholarships, and moving in—with continued support and mentorship through college and graduation.

99 FAMILIES PARTICIPATED IN PEACE’S FAMILY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM. The parent engagement component of Peace’s youth programming is required for all parents. Peace offers family-centered programming and activities, including: parenting workshops, monthly Peace Family Nights, meals, enrichment opportunities, and support groups. All of which are designed to strengthen families and provide an important sense of community and connection.

320+ INDIVIDUALS AND HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVED CASE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT. Peace offered a range of wraparound individualized support to help people manage extraordinary challenges during the pandemic from counseling and advocacy to mental health support.

1,095 NIGHTS OF TRANSITIONAL HOUSING AT PEACE HOUSE gave families a chance to regroup, with time to find a job and/or secure affordable housing.
PEACE’S YOUTH PROGRAMS ARE CENTRAL TO OUR MISSION TO CREATE SELF-SUFFICIENT AND POSITIVE COMMUNITY LEADERS.

Our Family Enrichment Program, together with a range of wraparound services, is designed to strengthen families and help break the cycles that lead to unsuccessful outcomes. Throughout the year, our Youth Programming and Case Management Staff have worked closely with Peace families to ensure their children stay engaged with school and families are getting all the support they need to navigate the pandemic.
OVER THE LAST 50 YEARS, PEACE HAS PILOTED AND SUSTAINED A RANGE OF NEW PROGRAMS. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ABLE TO PROACTIVELY PIVOT PROGRAMS AND ADJUST SERVICES QUICKLY—TO MEET THE EMERGENCY NEEDS OF OUR YOUTH AND FAMILIES, ESPECIALLY IN MOMENTS OF CRISIS.

When the COVID pandemic arrived in March, Peace responded immediately. Thanks to our community’s generous support, we were able to mobilize a comprehensive response—adjusting programs and expanding services to help meet our families’ emergency needs and help them navigate a range of unprecedented challenges throughout the pandemic.

WHILE FOLLOWING LOCAL AND STATE GUIDELINES TO KEEP PEACE FAMILIES, OUR VOLUNTEERS, AND STAFF SAFE —

WE REFOCUSED YOUTH PROGRAMS ON ACADEMIC SUPPORT FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING.

When schools moved to remote learning, Peace immediately refocused youth programs, helping over 175 students navigate a new world of virtual learning. Throughout the pandemic, Peace has hosted students for in-person academic support during the school day in small “learning pods”—five days a week at all three Peace sites. With Peace kids at risk for falling behind academically, we knew we had no choice. Our highest priority was to ensure our youth stayed connected to school and engaged in learning. Hosting Peace kids in person also provided an important source of childcare for working parents, important social connections to peers, and emotional support for anxious students. Last summer, Peace partnered with the Ann Arbor Public Schools’ virtual summer learning program. Our insights and our experience helped shaped the District’s new Connections+ Program and its efforts to collaborate with other local nonprofits.

Throughout the crisis, Peace staff have continued to assess what our youth need most—continually adjusting our programming and staff schedules to ensure students stay on track academically, while helping to safeguard their emotional well-being and keep everyone safe. When COVID cases in Washtenaw County began to rise, we moved to hosting youth in small family pods on a rotating schedule, prioritizing those students at greatest risk of falling behind. Special study sessions for middle and high school students helped them getting ready for finals to finish their semesters strong.
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Lisa and Marcus are working parents with four children. Both have jobs as essential workers. When the pandemic hit, they were affected immediately by school closures; and like many working parents, they had to scramble to figure out childcare. With their oldest child only eleven years old, they could not put the responsibility of three younger siblings on her. Because of our community’s generous support, Peace was able to assist their family with emergency child care funds, food assistance, and important emotional support with their case manager—helping them navigate this “new normal”.

WE BROADENED FOOD DISTRIBUTION TO SERVE MORE FAMILIES

Families received produce through our weekly distribution with Food Gatherers. We served more families, and provided additional food assistance with grocery gift cards to ensure families had enough food on their tables.

School meals delivered to all three Peace sites twice a week, in partnership with the Ann Arbor Public Schools and our volunteers. Last March, we worked with AAPS to identify the neighborhoods with large populations of students who qualify for free and reduced-fee lunch. We also coordinated delivery to all Peace sites.

Meals delivered to 61 homes, with family activity kits for our monthly Peace Family Nights which we hosted virtually.

WE EXPANDED CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AND EMERGENCY AID

In Emergency Aid distributed to families and individuals to help cover lost wages, rent, food, and unexpected expenses like car repairs to ensure Peace families didn’t go hungry, lose their homes or jobs. We also provided a range of individualized case management support. To meet the increase in stress, anxiety, and depression, Peace has provided individualized counseling support for those feeling overwhelmed. We also recently introduced a new initiative, “Talk About it Thursdays” — a special support group for adults to share their concerns and discuss current issues.

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Peace Neighborhood Center’s programs are funded by a diverse range of community support. In 2020, we raised over 80% of our annual operating budget from private sources. Over half came from our generous donors. Our community’s extraordinary generosity was critical in helping Peace mobilize a comprehensive response to the pandemic. And our dedicated staff and committed volunteers, coupled with low administrative costs, means Peace can continue to deliver services to people in need at very low cost.
### SUPPORT AND REVENUE

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### EXPENSES

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#### Change in Net Assets

- **$270,332**

### NOTES:

1. 2020 financials shown here are preliminary, unaudited figures. Audited financials will be publicly available upon final receipt and approval of the annual audit.
2. Peace typically charges a minimal fee for Summer Day Camp, but chose to waive all fees in 2020.
3. Contributions to Peace’s Above & Beyond Fund reflect fulfilled pledge payments from the 2015-20 campaign, and early leadership gifts to Peace’s 50th Campaign.
4. Change in Net Assets reflects 3.6 months of operating expenses.
THANK YOU

Your generous support in 2020 was critical to helping Peace meet the increased need and unprecedented challenges the COVID pandemic presented for our youth and families.

$50,000 — $100,000+

Three Anonymous Donors
Ann Arbor Housing Commission •
City of Ann Arbor •

Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development •

$10,000 — $49,999

Five Anonymous Donors
Absolute Title, Inc.
Best Buy Foundation
Bethlehem United Church of Christ •
Coordinated Funders of Washtenaw County •
Steve and Judy Dobson •
Google Ann Arbor
Ann and Brent Hollenbeck •
James A. and Faith Knight Foundation •
Brian L. Mackie and Joan Doughty
Dr. Pramit S. Malhotra
Stacey and Mike Marsh
Stanley and Robin Mendenhall •
Roger and Coco Newton •
Michael and Christina Nisson
Christy Perros and Tom Dewhirst •
The Pryor Foundation •
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church •
Washtenaw United Way •
Carol W. Weber •

$5,000 — $9,999

Four Anonymous Donors
Marcia Alter •
Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation •
Youth Council Grant
Erin and Daniel Barbossa
Buhr Foundation •
Timothy and Robin Damschroder •
Jack and Jean DiGiuseppe •
Scott Drain & Carol Knight-Drain •
Debbie and Joe Eggleston
First Presbyterian Church •
J.F. Ervin Foundation •
David and Louise Lutton •
Roy and Sue Muir •
Daniel Papajcik & Jessie Newman •
Rotary Club of Ann Arbor •
Rodney Smith, MD and Janet Kemink •
Michael and Deborah Tirico •
TJX Foundation
Victor and Felecia Vojcek
Amb. Ronald and Eileen Weiser •
Wendy Wellman •
Zion Lutheran Church •
$1,000 — $4,999

Two Anonymous Donors
Abby Rose Photo
Susan and Rich Allison
Cheryl and Antony Ambroza
Amcor Rigid Packaging
Harvey and Mary Amoe
James and Sue Andersen
Gerard and Lizann Anderson
Peter Andruskiewicz
Ann Arbor Chapter of Links
Ann Arbor Host Lions Club
Ann Arbor Insurance Associates, LLC
Ann Arbor Thrift Shop
Katharine T. Babcock
James and Lisa Baker
Eric and Rebecca Bakker-Arkema
William D. Bastow and Patricia A. Green
Lisa and Tim Bell
Bethel AME Church
Peyton Bland and Rebecca Spangler
Bodman Law LLC
David and Carol Bradford
William F. Brinkerhoff and Kathy Sample
Mary Caldwell
Paul A. Callam and Lynn Gregory
Jean Carlberg and Bunyan Bryant
Creg and Sheila Carpenter
Elizabeth and Royal Caswell
Pat and John Chapman
Charles Reinhart Company, Realtors
Mike and Amy Chatas
Wayne and Melinda Colquitt
Comerica Charitable Foundation
Diane D. Coxford
Gwendolyn Davidge
Kristine and Dave Denzin
Detroit Street Filling Station
Mary H. Dobson
Daniel Eyler
Susan and Michael Falcon
First Unitarian Universalist Church
Esther Floyd
Larry Friedman and Mary Kalmes
GE Foundation
Steven Glauberman and Margaret Schankler
Heinz Grassl and Deanne E. Sovereign
Martha Buhr Grimes and Bill Grimes
Mark and Brenda Gunderson
Linda Haab
Jennifer and David Haines
Judith Hanks
Kelly and Paul Harms
David Heffner and Diane Wagner-Heffner
Sarah Howard
Linda Hubbard
Paul Hughes-Cromwick
Tom and Ann Hunt
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Class Principal, Pioneer High School
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Logan Elementary Student Council
Lord of Light Lutheran Church
MOVE Wellness Studios
New Beginnings Community Church of Washtenaw County
Noodle Partners
Northstar Bank
Produce Station
Reau & Associates, PC
RelaxStation LTD
Rotary Club of Ann Arbor
Rozettes by Reklove
S. I. Company, LLC
Schwaebischer Unterstuetzungs Verein
Second Baptist Church
Slauson Middle School
Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’is of Ann Arbor
Spotlight Homes
Spun Ann Arbor
St. Clare's Episcopal Church
St. Joseph Parish
T+E+A+M
Telluride Association
The Discovery Center
The Hair Spot
The Last Word
The Minister's Alliance
Treasuring Christ Church
Tree Town Boutique
Tribble Painting Company
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
University of Michigan Medicine - Community Health Services
University of Michigan School of Social Work
Washtenaw Intermediate School District
Washtenaw Master Gardeners
Weber's Inn
Whole Foods Market
Zingerman's Community of Businesses
Zion Lutheran Church
A tireless and fearless advocate for people in need, Rose Martin lived in over 38 different foster homes before she turned nineteen. That experience didn’t define or break her. She learned and grew from it instead.

Rose was fond of sharing: “Somewhere along the way, it occurred to me that the only way to live was to treat people like I wish people had treated me . . . And when you’ve been abused, kicked around and under-valued as much as I have been, you sure have plenty of time to think about how people should treat each other.”

Rose brought this core philosophy to her life’s work and her role as Peace Neighborhood Center’s Executive Director for 30 years, from 1976-2006. At Peace she launched a number of innovative programs. And under her direction, Peace became a respected, trusted, and valued resource for so many in our community. Hundreds of “Peace Alum” have their own stories of how Rose made a special impact in their lives.

Rose Martin’s legacy of helping people in need continues at Peace, as does her life’s philosophy and commitment to treating people with kindness, compassion, and respect.

PEACE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER STAFF

Bonnie Billups, Jr.
Executive Director

MaryAnn Johnson, LLMSW
Youth Programs Director

Alexa Wutt
Development Manager

Ella Olive
Office Manager

Cornelius Olive
Building Maintenance Supervisor

Suzanne Upton
50th Campaign Manager

Anabel Cruz, BSW
Satellite Centers Youth Program Coordinator

Mira Friedman-Lindquist, LLMSW
College & Career Prep Coordinator

Taylor Gamble
Alternatives for Youth Program Coordinator

Bernice Hardman, LLMSW
Family Enrichment Coordinator / Field Placement Supervisor

Raven Vawters
Children Services Coordinator

Lauryn Comer
Youth Specialist

Elanda Curry, BSW
Case Manager

Kelly Martin, BSW
Case Manager

Pat Patillo
Case Manager

Allison DeWolf
Programs Assistant

Johnathan Faulkner
Programs Assistant

Justin Gordon
Programs Assistant

NaTiyah Hugan
Programs Assistant

Dwight Johnson
Programs Assistant

Dana Peterson
Programs Assistant

Solomon Putten
Programs Assistant

Blake Stephens
Programs Assistant

Robert Turner III
Programs Assistant

Madeline Zandhuis
Programs Assistant

Jeremiah Young
Information Technology Assistant

Latricia Juide
Kitchen Manager

Larry Mitchell
Transportation

John Ulmer
Transportation
OUR VISION
A community where personal growth, opportunity and diversity are constant; the cycle of poverty and social and economic inequality has been broken.

OUR MISSION
To provide programs for children, families, and individuals who are affected by social and economic problems—to help them discover options, enhance skills, and make choices that lead to self-sufficiency and positive community involvement.

AT PEACE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER —
1. We value openness, consultation, diversity and inclusion.
2. We are not impulse-driven. We prioritize our programs. We create and implement new ideas for optimum effectiveness
3. We nurture our clients to reach their highest potential.
4. We employ competent, motivated people, and provide the training, tools, environment, and opportunities for them to succeed with our clients.
5. We focus on what we do best; and collaborate with those who are “best in class”.
6. We value our donors’ and sponsors’ involvement & seek to include them.
7. We address inequality in ways that help our community learn, heal and change.
8. WE CHANGE PEOPLE’S LIVES.