

FALL ISSUE | OCTOBER 2023



A Publication of Care and Share of Crookston, Inc.



MORE STORIES IN THIS ISSUE:

- Executive Director- page 2
- Ox Cart Grill page 3
- Qualified Charitable Donations- 4
- Board Member Intro & vaccine clinic - 5

Soup Kitchen nourishes many souls

Did you know we offer free home cooked meals at noon and 6 pm every single day of the year? Open to the public as well as residents. In the month of August we served over 1,400 meals from our kitchen!



Executive Director News

Hello Everyone – this is a bittersweet message to write. I am retiring from Care and Share. Some years ago, I retired from a career in corporate Human Resources, so this is my second retirement. I'm hoping this one sticks! My tenure as Executive Director of Care and Share was always going to be relatively short term. I have some ongoing health issues. Plus, I have a grandson in Arizona who wants me to be there with him really, really, bad. Okay, maybe that's a mutual desire. My goal was to keep Care and Share on its feet, make some improvements, and give the Board of Directors enough time to find and hire the right person to take the Executive Director position. I feel I have met each of these goals.

I am pleased to announce that Carolina (Carrie) Alfonso is the new Executive Director for Care & Share Inc! Carolina brings with her the experience, passion and desire needed to keep our shelter operating in the long haul. I have the privilege of sticking around awhile to help her learn the ins and outs of the Care & Share, so I will be around a bit longer. Hopefully, this will give me the chance to say personal goodbyes and many thanks to the wonderful people I have encountered while in the Director's position. The ongoing support, financial and otherwise, makes me proud to be a part of this community! Thank you everyone for the good wishes and support I have received. I wish you all the best!

Jane Freeman



I am excited to announce that I have joined The Care and Share of Crookston, Inc, as the new Executive Director. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

For 15 years I worked in the community utilizing the resources to house individuals I served that were in crisis and facing homelessness. This experience also taught me well how the rental system works and showed me the challenges that come with managing buildings and how to respond to facility related issues. I then worked for a while as a mental health therapist and would probably still be doing that except a unique opportunity came along at Care and Share - the position of Executive Director. As I read the job description it seemed to fit well with the skillsets I learned over the years: a therapeutic, healing approach, an understanding of facilities, and knowledge specific to the challenges of people who are homeless. I couldn't pass it up.

While I've lived in different cities, Crookston is my home, and I am passionate about making a difference in my community. I am confident that there is no better way to achieve this than through Care and Share of Crookston alongside our dedicated community networks, donors' staff and volunteers.

I would also like to thank my predecessor, Jane Freeman. I am so thankful for the opportunity to get to know Jane and work with her over the next several months as she transitions into retirement. I am grateful for her continued dedication to this organization and those we serve as well as for her role as a mentor to me.

I hope to have the opportunity to get to know you – our donors, volunteers, partners, and neighbors – and invite you to stop in and visit Care and Share of Crookston, Inc to share stories and new ideas.

Carolina (Carrie) Alfonso

Care and Share grill at Ox Cart Days

This year Care and Share had a hamburger and hot dog grill going for Oxcart Days. It was very successful, and a great time was had by all!! There were hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks each at a reasonable price.

Care and Share would like to thank all the volunteers who helped at the booth. We couldn't have done it without you. Board Members, former Board Members, and community members showed up to help. Freedom Church heard the call and several church members stepped up to make sure the booth had coverage.

Care and Share would also like to thank the several local businesses who gave donations that helped make our booth a success: Hugo's, Coca Cola, Old Dutch, Noah Insurance, Bimbo Bakeries, Crookston Eye Clinic, Andy Oman State Farm Ins., Ye Ole Print Shoppe, Inc., Proulx refrigeration-heating and appliance, and Aaron, Horak, Farmers Insurance.

THANK YOU EVERYONE

Community Blessings



John Vallager and Bob Anderson volunteer at the New Hope Food Shelf transporting donations from Walmart and Hugo's. Thank you John and Bob!



Do you have a Qualified Charitable Distributions?

Tom Amiot, Crookston resident and volunteer at the New Hope Food Shelf has seen a need for a Care and Share vehicle and he's stepped up to get things started. Thank you, Tom!

Tom has donated \$8470.98 to Care and Share specifically to be used to purchase a vehicle. Why that amount?? Well, Tom worked with his financial advisor and that was the amount he could donate as a Qualified Charitable Distribution. Tom says this is a good way for him to donate with some tax benefits.

After discussion it has been determined that the vehicle should be a van. We are looking for a van with enough room in it to haul pallets of milk, or a full-size mattress. If you are aware of a vehicle that you think will meet our needs, please let us know. You may leave a message with anyone at Care and Share at 218-281-2644, and we will let Keith DeRemer, Facilities Coordinator know to get in touch.

If this need speaks to you, please donate to our "vehicle fund". Any donation designated for the vehicle will be held separately to be used only for the vehicle. If you are interested in learning more about how to donate to Care and Share via Qualified Charitable Distribution, please see your financial advisor or tax advisor.



Donation Given!
Pictured left to right:
Carrie Alfonso, Keith DeRemer
and Tom Amiot.





Board member Introduction

Kamille Meyer recently became a Board Member for Care and Share of Crookston, Inc. Welcome Kamille!

Kamille is a lifelong resident of Crookston who currently is a stay-at-home mom with 2 small children. In her previous lives she worked with UMC in Athletics and Wellness, and also at Riverview in Human Resources.

Kamille and her husband are very family oriented and enjoy bringing their children to visit grandparents, going to local parks, and playing with the nieces and nephews in the area.

Kamille is somewhat familiar with Care and Share as over the years she has volunteered when she was part of sports teams, and through church groups. She has spent some time in our donation room, so she knows that space is a challenge. She has served and shared meals with residents in the past.

With her history of service to Care and Share and with her community knowledge, Kamille is a welcome addition to the Board of Directors. Kamille says she is looking forward to extending her service to Care and Share by being a Board Member. Thank you for volunteering Kamille!

CROOKSTON COMMUNITY VACCINATION CLINIC

AT CARE AND SHARE
COVID and FLU vaccinations available
November 15, 2023
10:00 am til 3:00 pm

The Minnesota Department of Health will be at Care and Share on November 15, 2023 from 10 til 3 to make Covid Shots and Flu Shots available to Care and Share residents and the community in general.

Contact Shaola at shaolab@careandsharecrk.org or 218-281-2644 to put your name on the list. Vaccinations will be in given in order of names on the list, but walk-ins will be welcome.

If you can, bring ID and your insurance card.

Show your support



Getting an Amazon Wish List package always makes us smile and brightens our day! The generous donations we receive, including through the Amazon Wish List, help us better meet the needs of residents. Thank you to everyone who sends donations through our Amazon Wish List!!



https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/38VILHSTVSDR7?ref=cm_sw_em_r_un_un_RpyAbTRbu9vSj

218-281-2644

If you are interested in receiving our newsletters through email, please contact Jane at

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 34
Crookston, MN

Care and Share of Crookston, Inc.
220 E. 3rd Street
Crookston, MN 56716

