



Update

A NEW NAME AND A LASTING MISSION



Gift of Life Family House is a special place. The first facility of its kind, the Family House has provided over 80,000 comfortable nights of lodging, more than 336,000 delicious meals, and over \$11 million of welcoming, subsidized care to thousands of families since it opened its doors in 2011.

For places as special as the Family House to be created, it takes a spark of imagination, generous funders and years of planning. In the case of Gift of Life Family House, that reality is due largely to the vision of Howard M. Nathan.



Howard M. Nathan with Cherri Gregg, Esq., WHYY Host/Anchor and *Gift of Life Donor Program* Medical Advisory and Policy Board member



Rick Hasz, President & CEO, *Gift of Life Donor Program*; Howard M. Nathan, Executive Director, Transplant Foundation; Jan L. Weinstock, Chief Administrative Officer & General Counsel, *Gift of Life Donor Program*

Howard is a towering figure in the world of organ donation, having served *Gift of Life Donor Program* for 43 years, 38 as its leader. Under his leadership, *Gift of Life* has grown into the largest and most successful organ donor and transplant network in the nation.

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Alongside this work, Howard has spent over 20 years realizing the Family House vision – an idea that began very close to home. In 1991, Howard's sister Martha needed a liver transplant, and Howard saw first-hand the challenges facing not only transplant patients, but the families that support them. In waiting room conversations with families, Howard discovered that worries about finding affordable lodging and meals were additional sources of stress for families already faced with the challenges of caring for a loved one.

In gratitude for all of these accomplishments and his tireless dedication to the organ transplant cause, *Gift of Life* is proud and delighted to announce that the Family House will now be known as **Gift of Life Howie's House.**



TOP LEFT: Deandra Hollingsworth; TOP RIGHT: Rick Hasz, President & CEO, *Gift of Life Donor Program*; ABOVE: Carly Ramge with Abdi Geleta, TIC Clinical Night Supervisor, *Gift of Life Donor Program*



Donor mothers and former board members Cynthia London and Sue McVey-Dillon



Donor mother and volunteer Mary Smith with Donor family and volunteers "Team Spiers" Joan Spiers, Maureen Bowie, Shannon Bowie, Lauren Savage



ABOVE: Howard M. Nathan with his wife, Liz Flanagan Nathan

Howard's vision and determination, paired with the generous support of thousands of contributors, has made the Family House a place of warmth and support for people navigating some of the most stressful periods in their lives.

In gratitude for all of these accomplishments, and his tireless dedication to the organ transplant field, *Gift of Life* is proud and delighted to announce that on June 29, 2022, the Family House was officially renamed Gift of Life Howie's House.

The dedication was marked by celebrations that allowed family, friends, colleagues, contributors, and volunteers to recognize Howard's career and impact in person, following his stepping down as President and CEO in January 2022.

Longtime colleagues shared stories of their years working side-by-side with Howard, and a PA state proclamation that highlighted his critical contributions to the field of organ donation was read by *Gift of Life Donor Program* Board Chair Barbara Wadsworth, DNP, RN.

The celebrations culminated with remarks from Howard himself, and the unveiling of the new Gift of Life Howie's House logo, which will be visible for miles from its position atop the House.

"I am very honored that Gift of Life Family House is being renamed Gift of Life Howie's House." said Howard during his remarks. "Some of you may wonder where that name came from. While most people know me by Howard, my family and close friends know me as Howie. It is a name that reminds me of home, growing up as a small-town kid in the safe haven of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. It is this atmosphere of comfort, warmth, and safety that we provide here for our transplant patients and families at Howie's House."

Make a gift to provide a lasting tribute **BEYOND MEASURE: The Howard M. Nathan Impact Fund**

BEYOND MEASURE: The Howard M. Nathan Impact Fund will benefit Gift of Life Howie's House both now and into the future, and is an opportunity to honor Howard with a personal or corporate contribution, in thanks for his outsized influence on donation and transplantation. The **BEYOND MEASURE** fund will ensure that Gift of Life Howie's House remains a welcoming home away from home, and continues to fulfill its commitment that no family be turned away for inability to pay.

Every donation to the Fund is a symbol of gratitude to Howard, and a promise to support transplant families and the future success of Gift of Life Howie's House – and we hope you will join us!

To make a gift, please use the enclosed envelope or visit us online at **GiftofLifeHowiesHouse.org**



GIFT of LIFE
Howie's House



Seer Interactive



LAOH Division 25



Rowan University Office of Volunteerism



Organ Donor Advocacy Association



Penn Hospital OR



The Jones Group



La Familia Dei Fratelli



Temple Health Critical Care



MTF Biologics

Serving FROM THE HEART!

The Home Cook Heroes Program is back in full swing, and groups of up to 8 volunteers are welcome to cook in the Gift of Life Howie's House kitchen for transplant families!

The Home Cook Heroes Program is an essential service for families, providing them with baked goods and a home-cooked meal daily, and brunch on the weekends. This meal service means the world to guests, especially after a long day at the hospital.

THANK YOU to all the volunteers who have returned with their groups to cook on-site, dropped off meals, or donated to cover the cost of food.

Gift of Life Howie's House is still in need of Heroes to sign up to provide a meal or baked goods for families. **Help support transplant families and sign up today! Visit [GiftOfLifeHowiesHouse.org](https://www.giftoflifehowieshouse.org) or call 267-546-9800 for more information.**



Caregiver Lifeline Spotlight

by Faith Osborne, LSW
Gift of Life Howie's House Social Worker

TIPS for Caregivers, from Caregivers

Caregivers from the virtual transplant caregiver support group provided insight on what they've learned from their experiences, as well as suggestions for other caregivers who are new to the process.

Here's what they said:

Learn pre- and post-transplant expectations and responsibilities. Create lists, schedules, and agendas with the transplant patient. Review these lists with your medical team to develop a sense of confidence in your role and responsibilities as a caregiver.

Ask lots of questions and take notes. Keep a journal and bring it to all appointments, labs, and meetings. Write down the answers to your questions so you can refer to them later.

Be an advocate. You will quickly become an advocate for both yourself and the patient. Keep your patient's healthcare goals in mind while navigating interactions with the transplant team.

Keep a bag packed. Assemble an overnight bag for both you and the patient in the event of an unexpected hospitalization. This bag can include extra clothing, as well as a list of things you won't want to forget, such as electronics and medication.

Transplant is multidimensional. It impacts not only the physical health of the transplant patient and caregiver, but also the emotional and spiritual health of you both. Prioritize self-care whenever possible.

This process is a rollercoaster. It has many highs accompanied by lows. You will likely experience feelings of hope, fear, excitement, and everything in between. Find ways to connect to other transplant caregivers to share these feelings.

It will require a lot of flexibility and communication. There are times that the transplant process may not go as you expected. Keeping an open mind and remaining adaptable will help to cope with these changes.

Find things, places, or people that keep you grounded and give you perspective. As a caregiver, it can be difficult to remember life beyond treatment and transplant. Try to find distractions and enjoyment outside of this experience.

Find something every day that makes you laugh. Participating in activities or spending time with people who bring you joy can support your mood, health, and decrease the chance of burnout.

Remember that transplant is a marathon, not a sprint. This is a journey that doesn't end with surgery. It is a commitment that involves ongoing support, obstacles, and care. Supporting your own needs is a critical part of avoiding burnout and navigating your 'new normal.'

If you're interested in connecting with other transplant caregivers to hear their stories, share your own, and experience a sense of community, join the monthly support group here:

[GiftOfLifeHowiesHouse.org/upcoming-support-groups/](https://www.giftoflifehowieshouse.org/upcoming-support-groups/)

The Caregiver Lifeline Program is supported in part by TD Charitable Foundation and Bridge to Life. We are thankful for their partnership and generosity.

TD Charitable Foundation



Be a part of the GIFT OF LIFE HOWIE'S HOUSE JOURNEY, FOLLOW US TODAY!

When you follow Gift of Life Howie's House on social media, you will gain access to inspiring family stories, important house updates, helpful resources, information on the House's supportive services, and more! Whether you're a past guest, volunteer, transplant family or just finding out about our mission, we share content that everyone can enjoy. **Scan the QR codes below and be a part of the House's virtual community today!**

@GiftOfLifeHowiesHouse



@GiftOfLifeHowiesHouse



@Howies_House



@GiftOfLifeHowiesHouse



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Recognizes Unparalleled Support from TRANSPLANT COMMUNITY

“It may have been raining, but the sun was certainly shining,” said Jan L. Weinstock, Chief Administrative Officer & General Counsel about the annual President’s Breakfast that was held on May 6, 2022.

After two long-awaited years, generous contributors, volunteers and staff were finally able to reunite in person during the Rise and Shine President’s Breakfast hosted by Rick Hasz, President & CEO.

Gift of Life Howie’s House staff were grateful to have had the opportunity to share many laughs and memories and recognize the continued generosity of our amazing community, despite the rain.

Rick Hasz, along with Jan L. Weinstock, also had the pleasure of sharing some important milestones reached, updates and remarks about the House’s exciting journey ahead and transition into its new name, Gift of Life Howie’s House.



Jason Vaughn, past guest and kidney, liver transplant recipient with Talia Giordano, LSW, Family Services & Caregiver Lifeline Program Director, Gift of Life Howie’s House



Janine Fortuna, volunteer and Bobby Fortuna, kidney recipient



L to R: Jason Vaughn; Ward Family: Josef, Josiah, Lucie, Nicole, Jude; Jan L. Weinstock; Rick Hasz



L to R: Patty Nelson, donor mother, volunteer, Keith Hodges, living donor, and Joan Coan, supporter

As past guest, transplant recipient and veteran, Jason Vaughn, said in his speech at the breakfast, “At the Family House, I had a place to go to after a long day... I was surrounded by my family as well as a new family of people with the same shared experiences... I want to say thank you to all the contributors who help keep the Family House going, as well as the staff, fellow patients and families. Without you, so many people would not have a second chance at life.”

His gratitude represents the thousands of patients and caregivers supported by Gift of Life Howie’s House on their journey to hope.

Thank You for supporting families during their transplant journey.

Contributions of \$250 or more received between JANUARY – MAY 2022

Founders’ Circle

[GIFTS OF \$10,000+] Current members who have made renewed gifts of \$10,000 or more
CSL Behring, LLC
Gamma Iota Sigma – Sigma Chapter
Sam and Jean Jones

Legacy Society for Planned Gifts

Estate of Susan R. Clark

2022 Family Circle

[GIFTS OF \$250+] to support the annual fund
HONOR IN PLATINUM [\$5,000+]
Dr. Marshall and Michele Schwartz
State Metal Industries, INC.

HOPE IN GOLD [\$2,500+]

Donor Network of Arizona
Jack Lingo, Inc. Realtor
Organ Recovery Systems
Pincus Family Foundation
John and Brenda Scanelli

CARE IN SILVER [\$1,000+]

Anonymous in memory of John Moretto
Raymond and Maria Aviles
Larry and Diane Beard
Margaret Belfield
Paul and Jenifer Brucker
Wendy Bullotta
Sarah Davenport
Barry and Mary Doane
Allen and Carol Drucker
Lauren’s Foundation
Dr. Gerard and Elizabeth Fulda
Susan Gibbs
Michael Giurlando
Ruth and Nick Grigoriades
Independence Blue Cross
Jean and Sam Jones
Kelly Family Cuidiu Foundation
Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund

Krysta Hankee Memorial Fund

Denise Lenzo
Glenn and Lois Luse
John Lynch
Dr. Warren Maley
Sharyn and Wayne Marier
Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Club
Mid-South Transplant Foundation
Rivers Casino
Rutger’s Gang
St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church
Dr. Neal Stansbury
Nancy Tindall
TRIO Philadelphia
Huseyin and Dianna Unver
URA Inc.
Phyllis Weber
Diane Wilson

GRACE IN BRONZE [\$500+]

Anonymous
Bank of America Foundation
Debjeni and Satya Bhounik
Richard Bradley
Jim and Karen Carns
Martha Chase and Brian Reisinger
Dr. Andrew Courtwright
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Kelsey Fadel
Sam Goren
Angelia Graham
Brian Hamilton
Rick and Linda Hasz
Thomas and Joann Hollinger
Susan Karpuk
Debby Kerr
Henry and Joyce Landau
Terri Lathan
Marion Luckers Kidney Foundation
Gwendolyn Mayes
Christine and Thomas McGarry
Margaret McGoldrick
Carolyn and Robert McGrory
Michael McVey
John and Eleanor Michele
Amy Nichols

Arthur and Gail Pasquarella

Ruth Peachey
David Pierson
Andrea and Sean Reynolds
Johann and Beverly Schneider
Carl Fritz and Debra Scotti Fritz
Cody Jude Varrasse Memorial Fund of the Scranton Area Foundation
Anita Sgrignoli
Jay and Pat Souder
St. Paul’s United Church of Christ
Frederick and Eunice Thetgyi
John Visconi
Robert G. Walsh, Sr.

COMFORT IN COPPER [\$250+]

Anonymous
Dr. Rene Alvarez, Jr.
Carol Amey
Mary Ann Barlow
David Barnett
Eileen Barrilli
Michael Perkins and Julie Baumgardner
Eugene and Patricia Blum
Bright Horizons Foundation for Children
David Carlino
Thomas and Marilyn Costanzo
Roshai Crichlow-Ward
Chris and Sharon Crooker
Theresa Daly
Stephen and Priscilla Demosky
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Filipino Executive Council of Greater Philadelphia, Inc.
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MTF Biologics
The Malvezzi Family
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Marguerite Marcinek
Lawrence Markovitz
Burton Mattice
Mary McAllister
McCabe Ambulance Billing Department
Rebecca McGrane
Mike Morrissey
Daniel Mosser
Linda Muller
Deborah Neimeth
Newtown Lodge No. 427
Scott Noye and Family
Alan Oberman
Cindi and Vincent Pasceri
Mansur Rasul
Sean Rhoads and Keri Fisher
Willard Richan
Jodi Schatz
Mary Schmidt
Herbert and Rose Schweitzer
Carl and Janet Sharer
Janice Simeone

The Emily Fredricks Foundation

Amy Thorne
Paul Townsend
Belarmino and Anna Viegas
Ronald Walsh and Jean-Marie Cadorette
Renee Weer
Kevin and Mary Wiedel
Melissa Wilkes
Lynn Wilson
Rachel Woodman
Denise Wurst

ITALIC = upgraded member
BOLD = renewed member

The Legacy Garden Paver Program

Thank you to those who dedicated an engraved paver
Angels for Ally in memory of George Greis
The Bacher Family in celebration of Michael Bacher
Lori Thomas in memory of James D. Skelton
Maryanne Maczuga in honor of Ronald Hannon
Susan and Amanda Gibbs in memory of George Gibbs

We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that you contact us at 267-546-9812 to report any corrections.

Wish List Drives

Keith Chalmers
Jennifer Coco-Feinstein
Roshai Crichlow-Ward
Brianna Harrell
Allison Sarver
Alice and Donnie Sellers
Kelly Stott
Leah Zenker

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
Transplant Team
Trappe Family Dental Associates, LLC
Paul IV High School
Ardmore Presbyterian Church

CALLING ALL CLASSIC CAR LOVERS: Do We Have A Car For You??!!
Watch for upcoming details on how to participate in the Great Shelby Sweepstakes for an opportunity to drive home in a Ford Mustang Shelby signed by Carroll Shelby.

Welcome Home CLUB
HEART MEMBERS
Recognizing monthly contributors who donate \$21 or more per month
NEW Members
Anonymous Mary Ganikos Eleanor Kissel

To make a contribution to Gift of Life Howie’s House, please visit GiftofLifeHowiesHouse.org or use the enclosed envelope.

The official registration and financial information of Transplant House d/b/a Gift of Life Howie’s House may be obtained from PA Dept. of State by calling toll free 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.