



# Joseph's Coat

FALL 2023

BY  
APPOINTMENT  
ONLY

## Shopping Hours:

Monday and  
Wednesday  
9:00 - 3:00

## Donation Hours:

Tuesday and  
Thursday  
9:00 - 2:30

**FINANCIAL  
SUPPORT IS FULLY  
TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**

**WE DO NOT  
PUBLISH, SELL,  
TRADE OR RENT  
DONOR  
INFORMATION.**

## Welcome to our New Executive Director

The board of directors is thrilled to welcome Rebecca Bedner as our new executive director. Rebecca will lead the store's staff, volunteers and all programming starting Sept. 25.

Rebecca's experience positions her as an effective leader for Joseph's Coat, and her zeal for our mission, our shoppers and our volunteers makes us confident she's the right leader for our future growth.

Rebecca's 20 years of non-profit experience includes program development and



implementation, fundraising, and – in every role – leading volunteers. Most recently, she served as development director at Rose-

ville Lutheran Church, where she was responsible for raising over \$1 million annually; previous roles have been at Avivo, Prepare + Prosper, Make-a-Wish Minnesota, Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota, and Family Tree Clinic. During our executive search, we learned from those who've worked with Rebecca that she excels at developing relationships with others, and we've experienced that first-hand as we've gotten to know her over the past several weeks.

*Cont'd on back*

## Hello from Rebecca

I am so excited to be working here at Joseph's Coat! My mom introduced me to JC decades ago when she used to donate items, and I followed in her footsteps. I spent my career in non-profit organizations working with volunteers who share their time, talent and hearts

trying to make the world a better place. To say I am thrilled to be here is an understatement. I look forward to meeting all of you and learning about your history with and passion for this amazing organization.

Over the past few weeks, I have gotten to know Cheryl

and she is amazing! We have been working together and will continue to do so through the store re-opening the week of October 9<sup>th</sup>. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from her and will be sad, as I know you will, when she retires. Hopefully she will come back and visit!

## A Few Notes...

- ◆ We cannot accept: TV sets, hangers (plastic or wire), sharp knives, adult diapers (such as Depends), medical equipment, inoperable small appliances, telephones or electronics and used cosmetics
- ◆ We need women's feminine products (tampons and sanitary pads), toothbrushes, travel size shampoo, conditioner, body wash and toothpaste, full size shampoo, lotion, conditioner and body wash.
- ◆ Please be sure to check our website for important information about unexpected closed dates/times due to weather or overwhelming amount of donations.
- ◆ We are now accepting Fall and Winter clothing.
- ◆ PLEASE DO NOT PUT DONATIONS IN CARDBOARD. OUR RECYCLING PROCESS HAS CHANGED AND IS NOW LIMITED.

## New Executive Director (cont'd.)

In 2014, Rebecca received the Minnesota Association of Volunteer Administrators Excellence in Volunteer Program Development Award after being nominated by the team she supervised. She has a bachelor's degree in family social science from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in

human resource management from Concordia University. Bedner volunteers with Midwest Animal Rescue as a foster home for dogs, and at Make-a-Wish Minnesota as a wish granter.

When you stop by the Coat to donate, shop or volunteer, please say a warm hello to Rebecca.



## A Note from Cheryl

Hello and goodbye are words that go together. We say them every day. As we say hello to Rebecca, the new director of Joseph's Coat, my goodbye naturally follows.

With a grateful heart, I thank all of you for your generosity and support of Joseph's Coat over the past 13 years. One person can lead, but it takes a community of great people like you to accomplish the mission of this organization. How fortunate we are to be a part of a group that has kept Joseph's Coat successful for 34 years.

My life will forever be enriched because of my interactions with all of you -- the volunteers, donors, and shoppers of Joseph's Coat. Thank you.

## Volunteer Appreciation and Fashion Show Recap:

More than 110 volunteers, board members, and alumnae gathered to celebrate our community and to honor retiring director Cheryl Stern. The August 25th party at Town and Country Club included a buffet, a playful fashion show, and City Councilwoman Rebecca Noecker officially proclaiming it Cheryl Stern-Joseph's Coat Day in the city of St Paul. It was an opportunity for volunteers who don't always work with each other to meet, swap stories, and honor Cheryl, who led The Coat for 13 years.



*Cheryl and Q, otherwise known as the Can-Do Sisters, are officially retired! Thank you to all the volunteers for your loyalty and dedication, but most importantly, your friendship.*

Please consider making a tax deductible financial contribution to help sustain our work.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please put your mailing address label in the enclosed self-addressed envelope and mail it back to us. Thank you.