



Joseph's Coat

NOVEMBER 2024

Thank You for Supporting Joseph's Coat!

During this time of giving thanks, I want to take a minute to thank you, our generous supporters, for your gifts of time, in-kind items, and financial support. We have been operating a free store since 1989, where all are welcome to shop in an environment of dignity and respect, thanks to our generous supporters, like you. Thank you!

I am grateful for our volunteers who are the heartbeat of our organization. We are lucky to have a group of over 75 volunteers, many of whom have served for decades, who keep things running smoothly and have built a strong and lively community at the Coat. Last year, they volunteered approximately 12,500 hours in our store. This is the equivalent to just over \$450,000 of in-kind service to support the mission of Joseph's Coat.

Our new or gently-used items are provided without charge, thanks to the generosity of our supporters who donate their items to Joseph's Coat. Our donors go out of their way to make an appointment and bring their items to us, knowing that they will go to someone who needs them for free. We have hundreds of donation appointments each month, and we appreciate the lengths you go to bring your items to us!

Our generous financial donors provide the support we need to continue to serve the growing needs of our community. In addition to supporting our general operating expenses, financial donations are used to buy items that aren't often donated, like new underwear and coats in extra-large sizes. We do our best to provide basic necessities for the people we serve, and we could not do it without your gifts.

In the words of one of our shoppers:

"As a recipient of your generosity, I want to tell you that I am so grateful for people such as yourself who donate items that are much needed as well as appreciated for those of us in need. Your gift brought me much needed relief and a smile from ear to ear."

We are fortunate to have the support of so many in our community. During this time of thanksgiving, please know that your gifts are greatly appreciated and they help to ensure we can continue to serve those most in need in our community.

With Warmth and Gratitude,

Rebecca Bedner, Executive Director

35th Anniversary Event a Success!

Last month, donors, volunteers, and staff came together to celebrate our 35th anniversary and raise funds to support our mission. We surpassed our \$35,000 goal and raised \$35,175 at the event, as well as \$3,040 prior to the event and \$3,365 through our silent auction. The first \$20,000 in donations were generously matched by the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation, bringing our total to \$61,580 to support the mission of Joseph's Coat. Thank you to everyone who contributed to our event, including the list of generous individuals and businesses below who donated items for our silent auction:



Mike Maxwell: Board Treasurer and Event MC on 10/3/24.



Marilee Miller, who has been a volunteer for 19 years, on 10/3/24.

- *A-Side Public House
- *Allegra | Image 360 Downtown St. Paul
- *At Your Service
- *Aveda
- *Bay Street Grill
- *Big Ink
- *Bonfe's Auto Service & Body Repair
- *Circus Juventas
- *Day by Day Café
- *Dermatology Consultants
- *Hope Breakfast (Give Hope MN)
- *Inver Wood Golf Course
- *Iron Ranger
- *Jandrich Floral
- *Jimmy John's
- *Keller Golf Course
- *Leitner's Garden Center and Landscape Product Center
- *Mississippi Market Co-op
- *Oak Marsh Golf Course and Event Center
- *Park + Coop
- *Parkway Barber Stylist
- *Paula Graff
- *River Falls Golf Club
- *Serenity Nails
- *Shamrocks/The Nook
- *Sharman Davis Barrett
- *Skinner's Pub
- *Soapy Joe's Car Wash
- *Swor and Gatto Attorneys
- *T.C. Running Company
- *Tommy Chicago's Pizzeria
- *Traveling Tomten
- *Zamboni's on 7th



Morgon Mae Schultz: Board Chair on 10/3/24.



Staff and volunteers at our event on 10/3/24. From left to right: Linda Mischke, Debbie Andrews, Mary Conlin-Warner, Rebecca Bedner, Connie Schlundt, Barb Roloff and Remy Rodriguez Flaten.