

DONOR CONNECTION



KICKING OFF 2023 WITH THANKFUL HEARTS

"Thank you is the best prayer that anyone can say. . . [It] expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding." - Alice Walker

For the inaugural 2023 issue of *Donor Connection*, **we're sharing heartfelt thanks for all who contributed to Pittsburgh Mercy's services this past year!** Your generous support helped improve the lives of our fellow citizens in untold ways.

Life-saving care for our community's most vulnerable

Access to behavioral health and primary care services is critically important in reducing health disparities and improving wellness. Thanks to ongoing donations and the tremendous response on Giving Tuesday, we were able to:

- Continue offering critical safety-net programs like Operation Safety Net and our Family Health Center that provides medical care to anyone in need.
- Enhanced innovative programs like our Low Barrier Shelter and our Certified Peer Specialist program.
- Provide special events and community field trips that enhance physical, mental, and social well-being.



Pittsburgh Steeler, Arther Maulet, hosts a special dinner and winter coat event for guests.



Yeniece Hill from PNC Finance & Accounting Development Program delivered donated clothes to Pittsburgh Mercy colleague Heather Kisow.

Holiday joy for those experiencing homelessness

The outpouring of support from so many donors enabled Pittsburgh Mercy to brighten the holiday season for the thousands of homeless in our community.

- Our colleagues baked over 1,500 cookies and delivered them on Christmas to all shelter guests.
- At a special January 11 event donated by Pittsburgh Steeler Arther Maulet, allSecond Avenue Commons guests received a free winter coat, catered meal, and haircuts provided by SportsClips.
- Gifts of clothing and hygiene products were received from PNC Finance and Accounting Development Program, Shady Side Academy, and dozens of individuals.
- Donations of pet supplies (from our donation page on Chewy.com) made it possible for shelter residents at Second Avenue Commons to keep their beloved pets with them. (As a low barrier shelter, the Commons allows dogs and cats to stay with their owners.)



Melissa DeiCas and her daughter Alice drop off gifts collected by St. Jude Parish for persons served in our residential programs.



Pittsburgh Mercy colleagues, Frank Borelli, Gail Quigley-Smith, Stacy Fitzgerald and CEO, Tony Beltran, help distribute holiday gifts.



Gift opening at Pittsburgh Mercy's Day Program in Beechview.

Gifts for those with intellectual disabilities and mental illness

Thanks to some generous donors, each and every person in our residential programs - 350 in all! - received a wonderful surprise when they woke on Christmas morning. Funding was provided by the Edith Trees L. Charitable Trust and gifts were donated by Saint Jude Parish, Pittsburgh North Regional Chamber, and Pittsburgh Mercy colleagues. Site supervisors helped determine the best gift for each client, ranging from Pittsburgh Steelers and Penguins hats (a big favorite), to robes and slippers, and craft supplies and games. As the photos show, the joyful memories will last for years to come!



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