



connections
FOR THE HOMELESS

MAKING CONNECTIONS



A NOTE FROM BETTY: CHANNELING MACKENZIE SCOTT

I recently received a call from my colleague and fellow Executive Director Karen Singer at YWCA Evanston/North Shore. She let me know about the extraordinary gift that her agency just received from MacKenzie Scott. I am beyond thrilled for her, her team and board, and our community at large.

Even though we can't all be MacKenzie Scotts, we can each do our part to make a difference. So many of you have stepped up to help us navigate a difficult, but exceptional year. Connections grew to try to meet the insatiable need for our services. We have expanded by every measure; evictions we prevented, neighbors we sheltered and housed, size of staff, visits to our food pantry, and of course budget. Our expansion is a reflection of deep community partnerships and support from individuals like you.

I look forward to seeing how you decide to channel your inner Ms. Scott as you plan your [year-end giving](#), sign up to [volunteer](#), and make [in-kind donations](#). We know that we can count on you to do your part in the new year and that together, we will end homelessness, one person at a time.

Warm holiday wishes,

Betty

P.S. Still have someone on your shopping list? Make a gift in their honor and complete a certificate to include in their holiday



Volunteer Opportunities

We are looking for volunteers to help at our Chicago Ave. drop-in. Get involved and sign up [here](#) today!



Holiday Hours

Please note that Connections will be closed on **Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1.**



Feels Like Home

Connections has helped move over **150** individuals into housing since March.

card. [Click here](#) to get started!



ICYMI: VIRTUAL MILESTONE CELEBRATION

Under normal circumstances we would gather throughout the year to honor the accomplishments of participants, volunteers, and staff. We didn't let the pandemic stop us from celebrating our Connections community and we recently held our first virtual Milestone Celebration! During the 30-minute video, we honor two dedicated volunteers, three recently-housed participants, and the entire Connections staff. Warm your heart and lift your spirit and vide the [video](#) linked above!



HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

This year, with your support, over **150** participants moved into their new homes for the holidays. In total, we have served over **2,500** people since March through eviction prevention, hotel and shelter operations, and housing programs. We are committed to locating housing for every individual in our care, but we cannot do it alone.

We know that you will join us in celebrating the season of

Help furnish their new homes by purchasing items off our [Feels Like Home Amazon Wish List](#).



Currently accepting donations of:

ADULT WINTER COATS
ADULT HOODIES
ADULT WINTER BOOTS
WINTER HATS
GLOVES
SCARVES
SNACK FOODS
NEW TOILETRIES

Drop-off at:
2121 Dewey Ave.
M-F 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
or 1458 Chicago Ave.
M-F 3 - 5 p.m.

DONATE

According to Need

a project of 99% Invisible

Learn More About Homelessness

99% Invisible recently launched [According to Need](#), a 5 chapter podcast focused on homelessness. We added it to our new [webpage](#) filled with

giving as we continue to end homelessness in our community, one person at a time.

GIVE NOW

Or make a gift of securities by [completing this form](#).



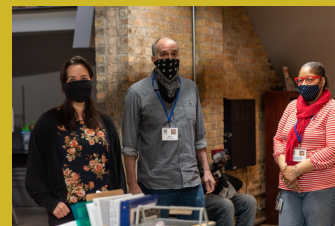
OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH & TEENS

We're excited to relaunch the Junior Council, a volunteer and leadership opportunity for teens. Nearly **50** active student volunteers representing ETHS, North Shore Country Day, Niles West, Beacon, and New Trier have committed to organizing donation drives and help fundraise. To recommend a school, student, or for more information on how to get involved, [email Jonathan Pacheco](#), Development Operations Coordinator.

We have also gathered resources, activities, and opportunities for youth, teens, and adults on our new [Activities and Resources webpage](#). Check it out!

ACTIVITIES & RESOURCES

activities and resources for every member of the family.



We're Hiring!

Connections is hiring for multiple positions. Visit our website at connect2home.org/careers to learn more.



Gift of Giving

Our annual holiday gift giving program was a huge success! This year, we were able to match over **350** participants with supporters to purchase items off their holiday wish lists. Thank you to everyone who helped spread holiday cheer to participants this year!

NEED HELP?

SAVE
the
DATE



A CELEBRATION TO BENEFIT CONNECTIONS

SATURDAY
02.20.21
VIRTUAL
EVENT

THE NORTHSORE'S PREMIERE BENEFIT
MOVING TO
INTERACTIVE DIGITAL FORMAT

SAVE THE DATE FOR THRIVE 2021

Our biggest event of the year is taking place virtually on **Saturday, Feb. 20!** Save the date for THRIVE 2021 for an evening of great music, one-of-a-kind cooking and cocktail making demos, mingling with new and familiar faces, and a special inside look into the lives of participants we have helped move from hotel to housing during the pandemic. You won't want to miss this special event! Stay tuned for more information and in the meantime, mark your calendar!

Ending homelessness, one person at a time.

connect2home.org

