

# A Magnet for Mission

Invisible Force Field • Results You Can See  
**2023**



Attic Angel Association  
has attracted attention  
for the good works of its Angels  
for 134 years and counting.

In addition, the philanthropic  
organization's senior living community  
draws residents and staff who  
identify with and further magnify  
the mission to improve  
quality of life for all.

Enjoy this snapshot  
of Attic Angel's undeniable magnetism  
and its positive charge  
for life in Dane County.

[www.AtticAngel.org](http://www.AtticAngel.org)



## After Covid Derailed Life for Many Youth, Program Helps to Put It Back on Track

Covid pushed life off the tracks for everyone. Thankfully, forward-thinking professionals at Briarpatch Youth Services recognized the effect that social isolation, service program closures and even death of parents could have on youth.

In 2021, they launched the Connections Advocacy Program in collaboration with the Madison Metropolitan School District to identify students, ages 14 to 19, who are at risk of homelessness and to provide counseling and case management.

The program provides individual, family, and group counseling with a goal of helping youth build healthy relationships with adults and connecting them to service providers to break the cycle of homelessness.

An Attic Angel Association grant in 2022-23 (*photo on front cover*) allowed the program to expand and now anticipates serving 50 youth annually. Help comes in the form of everything from life skills assessment and training, to academic planning and housing, to referrals to



appropriate social service programs and even counseling to reconnect the youth with their families — a big victory.

“Since the program started, we have reconnected three students with their families, and our follow-up shows that their relationships are stable,” reports Connections Advocacy Counselor Dylan Kramer. Briarpatch keeps in contact at 30-, 60- and 90-day intervals as well as the one-year mark.

The program seeks to improve participants’ coping skills, safety planning and relationships with other youth, parents and caring adults as they rebound from the pandemic and other life challenges. In family counseling sessions, the Connections

Advocates help parents develop parenting skills and cultivate and reinforce family bonds.

By getting students back on track, such connections and victories fuel well-being for the entire community.

**Caring for community** is in our Angels’ DNA. Each year, proceeds from three Signature Sales and our Golf Open fundraiser yield important grant monies for community-serving organizations in Dane County. For the fiscal year 2022-23, the following nonprofits were awarded grants totaling nearly \$105,000 to **help families with school-age children to address housing insecurity:**

- ▶ Briarpatch Youth Services
- ▶ Catholic Charities
- ▶ Tenant Resource Center
- ▶ WayForward Resources
- ▶ United Way of Dane County
- ▶ YWCA

### Strength in Numbers

**475 Angels**

(the name given to members of Attic Angel Association)

**599 financial gifts totaling \$163,799** were given by 228 Angels

**23,970 volunteer hours** in support of seniors, children and community outreach

### Attic Angel’s Continuing Education Program

is open to the public each Monday morning from September through May. Three dozen speakers each year present on a variety of topics, ranging from history and literature to culture, travel and current events.

# STAFF INFLUENCE, ON THE JOB AND OFF



▲ *Chef Steve Baltès shelves a fresh delivery.*

▼ *President and CEO Michelle Godfrey (also shown on cover, serving lobster to residents) and other Attic Angel team members volunteered around town for several great causes:*

- 1) *Habitat for Humanity*
- 2) *the Attic Sale, in support of our Angels who raise money to give back to community*
- 3) *Second Harvest Food Bank*

## You Are What You Eat, So To Speak

Attic Angel's Director of Dining Services has taken thoughtful steps to align food offerings with the philanthropic organization's values.

Serving as many as 14,000 meals per month (more than 400 each day), John Kaage insists on food that is not only fresh and tasty but mission-driven as well – sort of like a multivitamin for living well. Here's a sample menu from which he selects food sources:

- ▶ **Locality:** Attic Angel has a small garden plot for herbs and squash, and a nearby Wisconsin producer supplies hydroponic microgreens and edible flowers year-round.
  - ▶ **Freshness:** Some garden produce, especially in winter months, is shipped from the country's Southeast and Southwest. His vendor guarantees peak ripeness and delivery 24 to 72 hours after harvest.
  - ▶ **Sustainability:** Most meat, seafood, dairy and produce come from regional farms with Earth-friendly and chemical-free practices.
  - ▶ **Stewardship and Mission:** Companies are favored that make jobs accessible to all abilities and vendors who have a program of giving back to community.
- These values, and more, are reflected in meals for all levels of service and in the dining options that are open to the public: Arbor Café and The Terrace restaurant.

The result is a mission-driven experience that offers an authentic taste of Attic Angel.

**Did you know?**  
222 people work for  
Attic Angel Community



Thanks to our historic mark on Madison, Attic Angel's mission resonates with the seniors who choose to call Attic Angel home. In many cases, it magnetizes our nearly 500 residents, who spring into action of their own to further improve life within Attic Angel, our managed facilities, and beyond.

## ► Close to Home

A group of residents from Attic Angel Place and Prairie Point have been meeting for nearly a decade to pursue a range of ideas that increase awareness of and provide solutions for civic, social and environmental issues. The Community Connections group was the catalyst for the solar arrays on Attic Angel Apartments and The Haven and on the 46 Prairie Point homes, so far, that have "seen the light" regarding solar energy. They are working with the remaining Prairie Point homes and homeowners in the greater Junction Ridge Neighborhood to harness the power of the sun.

Attic Angel serves 496 Dane County residents living in Attic Angel Prairie Point (Madison), Attic Angel Place (Middleton), Oakmont Senior Community (Verona) and Olympic Village (Sun Prairie).

## ► In the Neighborhood

Avid gardeners and prairie enthusiasts grow their interests at Attic Angel Place, Prairie Point and Junction Ridge Park. The group received a grant from Plant Dane for 300 plants that encourage pollinators to fertilize plants for the production of fruits, seeds and young plants. This new prairieland (photo below) can be enjoyed at the southeast corner of the campus.

Likewise, the residents care for the Junction Ridge Neighborhood Park, too, by planting similar flora and clearing invasive species. Attic Angel residents make up more than 20% of the neighborhood association's membership and are active in so many ways, including planning the Junction Ridge Neighborhood's community-building festival.

### Did you know?

156 residents gave 287 gifts to support the good works of Attic Angel Association, totaling \$112,787

## ► The Great Beyond

The additional contributions of our individual residents to the greater good are innumerable and immeasurable. They range from fundraising, scholarship administration and community volunteer service to leadership roles in local, state and national organizations. Attic Angel salutes all of our role models whose outward focus is a magnet for the mission-minded.



**THE HOUSE THAT  
Angels Built**

**Attic Angel Community / Attic Angel Association**

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