



# Nourish

Attic Angel's Impact for a Stronger Dane County

**2022**



Garden coordinator Colleen Sonderberg, with daughter Megan and son Zion, enjoy the abundant flavors that come from the earth.

## Neighborhood Center Expands Thinking and Cultivates Skills to Put Food on the Table

To revise a well-known adage: You can give a man (or woman or child) some vegetables, and he eats for a day. But if you teach him to garden, he eats for a lifetime.

Growing your own food is a welcome idea in this time of hyperinflation, prohibitive gas prices and looming food shortages. Vera Court Neighborhood Center on Madison's north side has launched a multi-pronged program to make food more accessible to the area's socio-economically diverse community.

Thanks in large part to a \$15,000 grant from Attic Angel Association, the program addresses food insecurity in a number of interesting ways, including the following:

- ▶ Invest in community gardens, offering 32 plots for neighborhood families
- ▶ Lead hands-on education about gardening and nutrition
- ▶ Conduct culturally relevant cooking classes
- ▶ Provide transportation to food pantries

In addition, a youth-led farm stand opens opportunity for leadership in planning, operating and marketing. "All of life is a chance for them to learn," says garden coordinator Colleen Sonderberg.

Each child's personal development is paramount, and the greater community gains healthy, skilled and confident youth who know how to thrive.

**For 130+ years,** Attic Angel Association has been caring for community. Since our official gifts and grants record-keeping began in 1983, our members have volunteered their time to raise and give away more than \$8 million to community-serving organizations in Dane County. During the covid-19 pandemic, fundraising was so challenged that no grants were given in 2020-21. For the fiscal year 2021-22, the following nonprofits were awarded a total of \$90,000 that help families with school-age children address food insecurity:

- ▶ Community Action Coalition for South-Central Wisconsin Inc.
- ▶ Elver Park Neighborhood Center
- ▶ Extended Hands Pantry
- ▶ Lighthouse Church
- ▶ Lussier Community Education Center
- ▶ Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District Education Foundation
- ▶ Vera Court Neighborhood Center Inc.

## Support for Quality of Life

Our strategic efforts to provide a Life Plan Community keep seniors in a place they call home without uprooting them when health circumstances change.

**Our health care partners** are integral to this approach. From on-site services and in-home therapies to medical experts and clinicians, Attic Angel Community provides for a wide range of health situations over the lifetimes of our residents.

**Personal and social needs** rank high on our list of priorities. Attic Angel is a co-founder of SAIL (Sharing Active Independent Lives), which provides social opportunities and services that help seniors remain independent yet connected. In addition, Attic Angel's dining program delivers personalized meals to residents in our Prairie Point homes, and our Medical Transport program, fueled by volunteer Angels, arranges several hundred rides each year to ensure that residents get to their medical appointments.

**Our Resident Aid Fund**, an endowment valued at \$7.8 million in early 2022, offers a safety net for Attic Angel residents who outlive their resources. In 2021-22, nearly \$160,000 was distributed to help residents remain in their homes within Attic Angel Community.

**Attic Angel Management Services** oversees three additional senior facilities with a goal that's two-fold: lend our time-tested expertise to improve the lives of even more seniors, and generate income and harness efficiencies that keep costs as low as possible for the residents we care for.

## Safety for Community

Attic Angel kept residents, staff and volunteers safe during the covid-19 pandemic via stringent protocols, frequent testing and use of personal protective equipment.

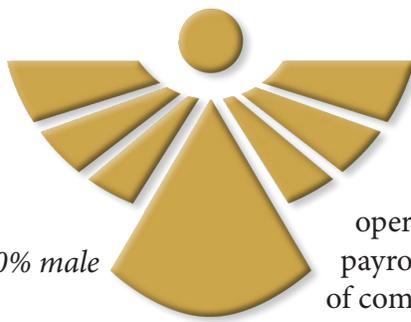
Keeping our operations going was critical to our economy, our employees' ability to support their families and our residents' health and well-being.

Other safety highlights:

- ▶ Provided covid shots and flu vaccines for residents, staff and volunteers; 260 staff and 186 residents took advantage of the on-site inoculations against covid-19
- ▶ Offered 26,000 surgical-grade and N95 masks for use in Attic Angel Place
- ▶ Shared personal protective equipment with another long-term care facility in need during a shortage
- ▶ Conducted professional development and training regarding medication distribution, dementia, health care skills and general competencies for senior care and facility protocols, including fire safety
- ▶ Orchestrated a facility-wide simulation to prepare our staff, volunteers and residents in the event of a natural disaster

## The Faces of Attic Angel

- ▶ **259 employees**
- ▶ 82.6% female; 17.3% male  
*Dane County (2020): 50% female, 50% male*
- ▶ 73.3% Caucasian; 26.6% non-white  
*Dane County (2020): 85% Caucasian, 15% non-white*



## Our Economic Impact

▶ Attic Angel's \$20.1 million in operating expenses, including employee payroll of \$12.3 million, along with \$125,000 of community outreach, makes for a healthy contribution to the local economy. Our suppliers, in turn, support their employees and economies. In both cases, gainfully employed individuals have purchasing power, and the taxes they pay have a ripple effect on quality of life for all.

▶ **Payments in lieu of taxes:** Residents living in our life-lease homes are exempt from property taxes but still pay for municipal services. In 2021-22, Attic Angel Prairie Point gave \$106,340 to the City of Madison and Olympic Village paid Sun Prairie \$9,131 for the seven months it was managed by Attic Angel Management Services.

▶ **A program of tuition assistance** allows our employees to advance their knowledge, careers, wages and purchasing power, yielding a positive economic impact for the workforce and families.



- ▶ **366 residents** in five levels of care
- ▶ 185 residents gave 337 gifts to support the good works of Attic Angel Association, totaling \$192,871

- ▶ **486 Angels** (the name given to members of Attic Angel Association)
- ▶ 300 Angels gave 859 gifts totaling \$217,858
- ▶ 11,116 volunteer hours supported residents of Attic Angel Place and 4,097 hours went toward fundraising, community education and meal delivery

## Our Environmental Legacy

Thinking ahead about what we'll leave behind, Attic Angel residents, staff and volunteers cherish the health of the environment. Among our "green" initiatives:

▶ Solar arrays on Attic Angel Community congregate living buildings as well as on 41 Prairie Point homes, with five more being added in 2022. The energy savings benefit residents, and the reduction in carbon emissions benefits everyone.



▶ Our dining services has secured more sustainable disposables that focus on high recycled content, recyclability of materials and their ability to compost or bio-degrade.

▶ Prairie Point residents coordinate a quarterly collection of medicine bottles, batteries and printer ink cartridges to reduce the burden on and contamination of landfills and groundwater.

▶ Our annual signature sales of used home goods, clothing and holiday decor keep items out of landfills and improve quality of life for people who need them. The proceeds support community-serving nonprofits, and the remaining merchandise is donated to other organizations to further serve our community.



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