



REVITALIZE
MILWAUKEE

840 N. Old World 3rd Street, Suite 600
Milwaukee, WI 53203

(414) 312-7531
lynnea@rtmilwaukee.org
www.freehomerepairs.org



2019 Annual Report

**Transforming neighborhoods,
home by home, block by block**



OUR MISSION

**Transforming communities by providing
FREE, critical home repairs and
comprehensive services to
low-income seniors, veterans, and
people with disabilities.**

A Letter From the CEO



“ We are seeing Milwaukee neighborhoods transform every day. When you invest in people and the places they live, it ripples out into neighborhoods and the rest of the city.

In 2019 we continued our work as the largest provider of free home repairs in Southeast Wisconsin. Our year-round repair programs provided nearly 450 people with the safety and peace of mind we all expect when we're in our homes.

Our work is critical to the well-being of our community, and it would not be possible

without our staff, board, volunteers, donors, sponsors, and partners.

Last year had several highlights, including our annual Block Build MKE event that brought together more than 300 community members to perform nearly 1,000 home repairs, and our annual gala that brought in over \$115,000 to help more homeowners.

As we look forward to 2020, celebrating our 20th anniversary, we plan to build on our success by helping more homeowners, but we can't do it without your support. I encourage you to find a way to get involved with our organization that fits you best and change someone's life.

[Lynnea Katz-Petted](#)
CEO



Older Adults

68%



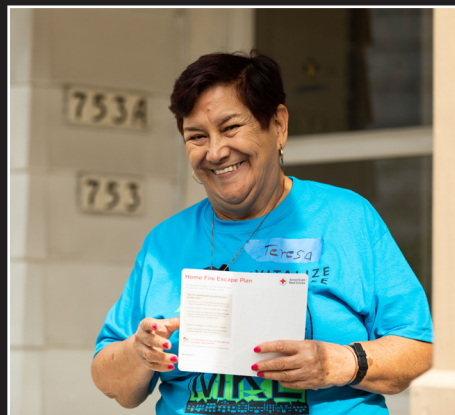
Veterans

49%



People w/ Disabilities

20%



*Homeowners can be in more than one category

2019 Year In Review

This year was record-setting in numerous ways--number of homes repaired, number of repairs, amount of money invested into the community, and so much more. This speaks to the hard work of our stakeholders as well as the growing need for our services.



- **361** homes made safe
- **377** referrals to partners for comprehensive services
- **81** Emergency repairs (water heaters, exposed wires, etc.)
- **41** water heaters installed, **21** repaired
- **15+** local, licensed contractors employed
- **498** accessibility modifications
- **999** individual repairs in two days during Block Build MKE

An infographic with a solid green background. A vertical white line runs down the left side, with three dark grey hexagons attached to it. Each hexagon contains a white number. To the right of each hexagon is a corresponding text label in a dark grey font.

3,791

Life Changing Repairs

\$1.7

Million Invsted in Our Community

445

Lives Changed

Homeowner Stories

Our homeowners are the reason we started this work and the reason we continue to fight for them every day.

The lives and backgrounds of our homeowners vary greatly, but they all have one thing in common: the desire to be safe and comfortable in their homes regardless of their financial situation.



52% of our homeowners are still paying mortgages



Out of those 52%, the average mortgage amount is \$670



Their average monthly income is \$1,553



After paying their mortgage, utilities, and other bills, they have very little to survive on, let alone repair their home.



Jose, 69 | income = \$2,150/month

Jose and his wife have lived in their home for 27 years where they raised six children. Jose had both his legs amputated and is living in a wheelchair, but his home wasn't wheelchair accessible which made navigating in and out of his home difficult. We built a ramp for him so he could regain his independence by leaving his home whenever



Rose, 81 | income = \$750/month

Rose has lived in Milwaukee her entire life and has been in her current home for half of it. Her nephew called and explained that her basement was flooding so we went out to take a look and discovered that her water heater was leaking. To make matters worse, her shut-off valve was broken, preventing us from stopping the water. We called one of our partners who came out immediately to replace the water heater and the shut-off valve.



Gracie, 72 | income = \$1,873/month

Gracie lives with one of her daughters and four of her grandchildren in Clarke Square. The bathrooms in her home were in serious repair, both having substantial holes in the shower walls. During our home visit, we discovered electrical wires coming through one of the broken walls. We put out an urgent call to our volunteer master electrician who rushed over, determined the wires were live, and made the necessary repairs. Gracie is thankful no one in her family was injured or even killed.

Our Services

As the only organization that offers free home repairs in Southeast Wisconsin, we make sure our services are professional and comprehensive; when someone calls us and we can't help them, we *always* make sure they're referred to a trusted

All of our repairs are performed by licensed contractors. Last year, we provided 12-15 contractors with local work and sustainable wages.



Critical Repairs

Repairs that are critical to preventing deferred maintenance which causes bigger problems in the future. Examples include carpentry, porch repair, and updating electrical items.



Emergency Repairs

Repairs that mitigate immediate threats to someone's home and well-being. Examples include water heater repair/replacement, and fixing gas leaks.





Accessibility Modifications

To create a safer home for older adults and people with disabilities, we modify appliances and other basic household features. Examples include wheelchair ramps, grab bars, handrails, and walk-in showers.



Chore Services

This program provides older adults with services that became more difficult with age and can lead to fines and accidents if not taken care of. Examples include mowing, snow shoveling, and replacing lightbulbs.



Block Build MKE

The biggest home repair event in Milwaukee! Every year, dozens of corporations and hundreds of volunteers come together to transform 20-30 homes in two days.

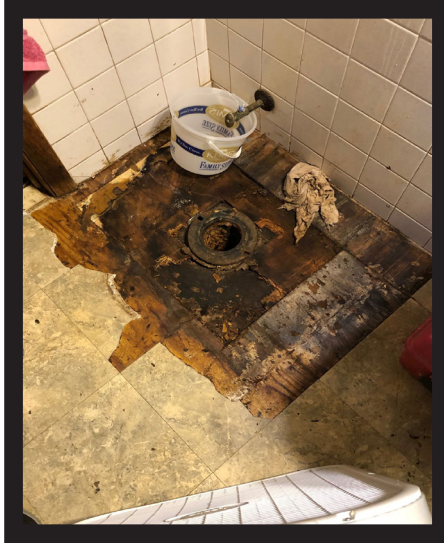


REO Home Sales

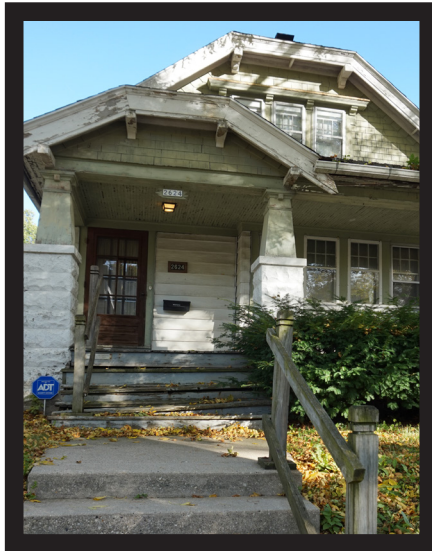
We rehab foreclosed homes and turn them into safe and affordable homes for low-income homeowners. This stabilizes neighborhoods, adds to the city's tax base, and provides more money to increase repairs.



Before & After



"I'm so glad y'all came to help me out, I didn't know what else to do. You're a life saver"



"Before [Revitalize Milwaukee] came to fix my porch I was worried someone was going to fall through it."

Above Par Golf Carts
All Star Rentals
Bliffert Lumber & Hardware
Botanas Restaurant
Briggs & Stratton Corp
Burton & Mayer
Central Office Systems
Cousins Subs
Einsteins Bagels
El Rey
Feeding America
Fiduciary
Geiger Inc
Great Lakes Imaging
Harbor Shores on Lake Geneva
John Krause (graphics)
Journey House
Jumping Beans Tent
Kitchen by Design (Cheryl Ryan)
Kwik Stop
Lake Geneva Canopy Tours

Lake Geneva Country Meats
Landre Video
Lisbon Storm, Screen & Door
McDonald's at 25th & National (Sean Kennedy)
Milwaukee Brewers
Milwaukee Bucks
Milwaukee Forestry
Milwaukee House of Corrections
National Warehouse
Pieper Electric
Port-A-John, Inc.
Sazama Design
Self Storage on Wheels
Sherwin Williams
Silver Leaf Signs & Graphics
Silverwater Productions Video
Stein's Garden and Home
Topline Consulting
Trophy Athletic Supply
Wilma's Smokehouse
Wisconsin Club

Thank you for your support!

In-Kind Donors

Key Supporters

\$50,000+

Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Catherine and Walter Lindsay
Foundation
Charles W. and Marilou Williams
Chapman Fund
Cletus and Olive Carey Fund
Dorothy E. Jaeger Fund
Ernest and Florence Weitzer Fund

Greater Milwaukee Foundation cont'd.
Hummel, Greg, and Wells Fund
John and Shirley Jeffrey Fund
Paul G. Phillips Fund
Salsini Family Fund
Verna R. Wenzel and William and Hazel
Wolcott Fund

Joseph & Vera Zilber Charitable Foundation
The ROS Foundation

\$15,000 - \$49,999

Associated Bank
City of Milwaukee CDBG

Lynde & Harry Bradley Foundation
Forest County Potawatomi Foundation

Retirement Research Foundation

\$5,000 - \$14,999

Briggs & Stratton Corporation
CBRE
Continental Properties
Eppstein Uhen Architects
Glaser Business Law/Steve Glaser
Great Midwest Bank S.S.B.

GROTH Design Group
Horner Plumbing Company
JH Findorff & Son
Lippert Flooring & Tile
Milwaukee Bucks LLC

Ponte Giulio
Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren S.C.
Tri City National Bank
US Bank Foundation
Wells Fargo

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Adaptive Technology Resources
Berghammer Construction Corp.
BMO Harris Bank
Bruce & Renee Elliott
Catch-22 Creative
Christine Woods/Stephen G. Franks
Family Fund of the Community
Foundation for Greater Atlanta
Community Insurance Information
Center
Containers UP
Dan Brophey
Daniel R. Woods
David Dowd
Deep River Partners, Ltd
Direct Supply
El Rey Grocery Stores
EWH University LLC
Fiduciary Real Estate Development

Froedtert Health
Gary Ebert
Gwyn Wheeler
Harriet Pedersen
Havenwoods Economic Development
HGA
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Janie Rivera-Conley
Jason Baltz
Jeff Kober
Jeff Solie
Jeffrey & Jennfer Buth
John Halechko
Johnson Bank
Jones Lang LaSalle/Dan Jessup
JP Cullen
Juan Carlos Medina
K R Assoc/Kevin Riordan
Karl Johnson

Kelley Kleczewski
Kim Grimm
Lee Menefee
Leona Knobloch
Melissa Wilichowski
Metropolitan Builders Association of Greater
Milwaukee
O'Leary & Anick
O'Neil, Cannon, Hollman, DeJong & Laing S.C.
Patrick Thomey
Pieper Power/Pieper Electric
Sherwin Williams
Spring Bank
TCF Foundation
The Boerke Co, Inc.
Tom Ryan
WaterStone Bank
William and Deanne Kellner

\$500 - \$999

Aaron Thrower
Barenz Builders/Ronny Barenz
Dagen Law Office/Bradley Dagen
Debbie Schwerman
Findorff
First Citizens Bank
Greater Milwaukee Association of Realtors
Greg & Therese Lyons
Greg Mager

Heather Nelson
Jim Daugherty
Joe Hofstetter
Joseph Hastreiter
Joyce Lutzow
Juliane Hertznel-Nelson
Kathy Knoebel
Melanie Varin
Nate Keller

Patricia Jessup
Patrick O'Brien
Pete Musha
Richard Spauling
Sid Grinker Restoration, Inc.
Thomas Thompson
Tom & Angie Daugherty
WE Energies
Wisconsin Insurance Plan

\$250 - \$499

Abby Wright
Allison DeVan
Amy Coats
Beth Thompson
Bruce Kuhs
Catherine Priebe
Cecelia Valentine
Chad Hoffman
Daniel Schwind
David & Diane Wolfson
David Pike

Good City Brewing LLC
Gretchen Wilder
Joshua Lemke
Kevin & Lizanne Armstrong
Lewin & Marie Millard
Lisa Holden
Lynn Menefee
Marlene Castillo
Matthew Tadisch
Merilou Gonzales
Randy Spaulding

Rick Ziller
Robert Ferriday III
Scott Revolinski
Selzer-Ornst Construction/Matt Tadisch
Spano Pratt Executive Search
Susan Seagrist
Sylvia Brandhgaen
Wasserman & Shuff LLC
Wisconsin Commercial Real Estate Women
Zachary Wolff

\$10 - \$249

Alyssa Flandermeyer
Anchit Menawat
Andrea Petrie
Andrew Stefanich
Angie Krause
Anton Johansen
Ashley Mitchell
Ayla Griggs
Becky Wright
Bill Kopka
Brenda Lewison
Brenda Olguinlecuona
Carlos Wu
Christian Chambers
Cory Slotterback
Daniel Peterson
Eduardo Herrera Mier
Elizabeth Knepke-Hamit
Emily Coplai
Emmy Klug

Evan Woodbury
Friends of Michael Murphy
Honeywell Hometown Solutions
Ian Grisham
Jannette Bradley
Jean Casey
Jean DiMotto
John Lilteich
John Mazza
Judy Block
Karl Wiedenman
Kevin Garske
Kim Mitchell
Laurie Coleman
Len Cratic
Margaret Gehring
Mark Charlton
Mary Claire Jones
Max Ranansky
Megan Federighe

Otis Anderson
Paul Povlick
Paula Wink
Phyllis Eckles
Robert Heimerl
Robert Reinhardt
Robin Peck
Ron & Kathleen White
Rose Spang
Russell Peterson
Ryan Caho
Sandy Gregory
Scott Furmanski
Shane & Mary Fields
Sofia Ismaili
Sue Piette
Tara Squire
Terry Gallant
Trent Poole

Our Board

Rick Spaulding
Pieper Electric
President

Gary Ebert
Retired
Immediate Past President

Bradley Dagen
Dagen Law Office
Vice President

Marie Millard
Baker Tilly
Treasurer

Steve Glaser
Glaser Business Law LLC
Secretary

Daniel Woods
Associated Bank

Viola Hawkins
Community Volunteer

Dee Kellner
Community Volunteer

Matthew D. Tadisch
Selzer-Ornst Construction

Daniel J. Jessup
JLL

Greg Lyons
O'Neil Cannon Hollman
DeJong & Laing

Daniel R. Schwind
Town Bank

Bruce Elliott
Tri-City National Bank

Leona Knobloch
Community Volunteer

Rick Ziller
Adaptive Technology
Resources

Karl Johnson
Lippert Flooring & Tile

Lynnea Katz-Petted
Revitalize Milwaukee
CEO

Advisory Committee

Bruce Elliott
Chair

Ronny Barez
Vice Chair

Dan Brophey

David Dowd

Colleen Horner

Leona Knobloch

Dan Meyer

Gerry Miller

Rusty Peterson

David Schulz

Susan VerPlank

Staff

Lynnea Katz-Petted
CEO

Kathy Snyder
Construction Manager

Debbie Knepe
Director of Transformation

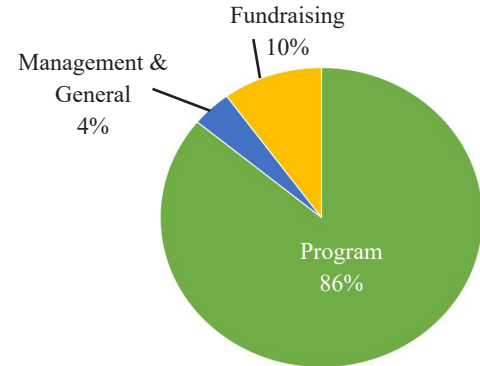
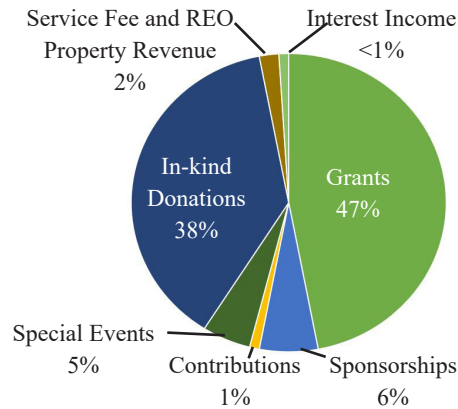
Ginny Fendt
Homeowner Advocate &
Resource Manager

Amy Sorenson
Home Improvement
Coordinator

Abbie Solie
Assistant to the
CEO

Mitch Slater
Special Projects
Coordinator

Financials



Revenue & Support

Grants	\$1,003,450
Sponsorships	\$127,513
Contributions	\$26,017
Special Events	\$114,270
In-kind Donations	\$794,269
Service Fee and REO Property Revenue	\$51,772
Interest Income	\$2,470

Total: \$2,119,761

Expenses

Program	\$1,339,103
Management and General	\$60,141
Fundraising	\$152,647

Total: \$1,551,891

Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenses and Losses	\$567,870
--	-----------

Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$1,165,525
-------------------------------	-------------

Net Assets, End of Year	\$1,733,395
-------------------------	-------------



Get Involved

Donate

With 86 cents of every dollar going directly to homeowners, you can be sure your contribution, no matter the size, will make a lasting impact.

www.freehomerepairs.org/donate

Volunteer

Performing over 2,500 repairs/year is a lot! No matter what your skills set is, we can find a way for you to make an impact on your community.

www.freehomerepairs.org/volunteer

Sponsor

Partner with us! We understand every company has a different budget, so we have different sponsorship levels to fit each one.

www.freehomerepairs.org/sponsors

Work

We're growing! We're always looking for reliable, licensed contractors that want to help us serve more low-income homeowners than ever before.

www.freehomerepairs.org/careers

Keep in Touch

Address

840 N. Old World 3rd St., Ste 600
Milwaukee, WI 53203

Contact

(414) 312-7531
lynnea@rtmilwaukee.org

Web

www.freehomerepairs.org
[@revitalizemilwaukee](https://www.instagram.com/revitalizemilwaukee)