

# Neighbors Helping Neighbors

**Helping seniors  
and adults with  
limited  
mobility remain  
independent in  
their homes**

INTERFAITH  
CAREGIVERS

OF OZAUKEE COUNTY

Solving the Senior Transport



# Helping hands, willing hearts

“As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands — one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.”

— **Audrey Hepburn**



A report from **Maureen Squire**, executive director

As I look back on the past year, I can't help but notice the biggest constant has been change.

As the senior population continues to grow in Ozaukee County, we, too, are growing as an organization so that we can continue to meet our clients' needs.

Some of the milestones have been major.

The new year brought new and larger office space for Interfaith Ozaukee. All of the planning paid off as we packed up and moved down the hall at the Family Enrichment Center on a very busy morning in January. I'm not saying the move went without a hitch, but for the most part the transition went very smoothly.

The reason we needed bigger quarters was to accommodate the Ozaukee h.e.l.p. Corner, our new health equipment lending program that provides walkers, wheelchairs and canes to area residents in need – for just the cost of a small deposit.

In the past year we also have taken delivery of our second van so that we can transport more clients in wheelchairs. The second van also allows volunteers to use an Interfaith Ozaukee vehicle instead of their own cars to drive clients to appointments.

Other changes may be harder to quantify, but are major in their own way. Specifically, our volunteers have had to step up and take on added responsibilities as we serve even more clients. We are deeply appreciative of their efforts in rising to the occasion, and also in helping to increase the ranks of volunteers by spreading the word as part of the new Driven to Serve incentive program. This program awards a gift card to existing volunteers who bring new volunteers on board.

Which brings me to the quote above. In addition to her acting skills, Audrey Hepburn had an overwhelming desire to give back after receiving aid as a child in occupied Germany. As a way of showing her gratitude, she became a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF, visiting orphanages around the world, fighting for more immunization programs and clean water.

Hepburn and our volunteers have something major in common. They all have discovered the rewards of reaching out to help others.

Going forward, please know that as we grow and succeed, it is because of the helping hands and generous attitudes of our many volunteers. That's what makes the difference in so many people's lives.

# Interfaith Ozaukee's impact

Whether providing services or benefiting from them, folks have wonderful things to say about Interfaith Ozaukee. We asked volunteers and clients what Interfaith Ozaukee means to them. A few of their responses:

“I enjoy meeting my clients and find their life stories very interesting. If I can make their lives a little easier as I listen to their interesting life stories, it becomes a win/win.”

-- **Tim, volunteer**

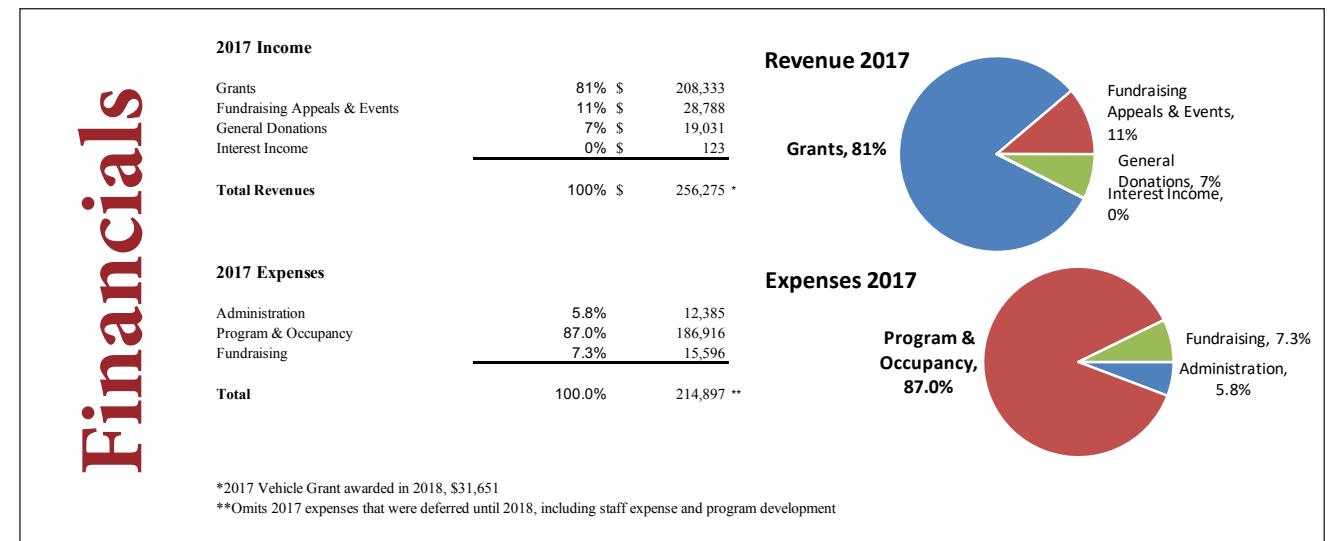
“I am an 84-year-old great-grandmother who, at this stage of my life, would be lost without you.. Thank you all for your thoughtful care that you extend to us”

-- **Barb, client**

“I initially elected to volunteer with Interfaith because the flexibility fit my crazy schedule so well, I really appreciated the organization's mission and the staff made everything easy.

“Since starting, I have met so many wonderful people who are so grateful for the help. They make me laugh, give me great advice, and share so many meaningful life experiences . . . all in one trip!

-- **Sherry, volunteer**



**1993** Interfaith Ozaukee launches as a Faith in Action model supported by the R.W. Johnson Foundation

**1994-1996** Services expand to provide 4,000 volunteer hours and 1,800 service requests

**2000-2004** Add respite care and friendly visits to services offered

**2005** Expand service to clients with dementia

**2007** Begin collaboration with other county organizations and extend outreach, education and program services

**2012-2013** Offices move to FEC. Fulfill 99% of requests and provide more than 10,000 instances of service

**2014** Report 92% increase in instances of service reaching 700 clients with 400 trained volunteers

**2015** Start providing mobility resources for Ozaukee County. Partner with 30 community organizations and 50 congregations

**2017** Launch wheelchair-accessible van fleet. In our 24 years, we have served a total of 1,000+ clients with 500+ volunteers providing 25,000 transports

**2018** Move to larger office space in the FEC to provide headquarters for the Ozaukee h.e.l.p. Corner, which lends durable medical equipment. Add a second wheelchair-accessible van to the ICO fleet.

## **Interfaith Ozaukee Board of Directors**

**President** – Lois Roeske

**Past President** – Sharon Pechiva

**Secretary** – Pat Weatherhogg

**Treasurer** – Joseph Schirger Jr.

**Executive Director** – Maureen  
Squire

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Catherine Adedokun, Kathy Blume,  
John Wirth

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## **Interfaith Ozaukee Advisory Council**

Wilma Bonaparte, Ph.D., Dave  
Fischer, Jill Hepburn, Karl Hertz,  
Peter Hitler, Rick Nelson, Judy  
Schwerm, Cindy Shaffer

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## **Interfaith Ozaukee Staff**

**Executive Director**  
Maureen Squire

**Program Coordinator**  
Megan Beine

**Program Coordinator**  
Denise Loveridge

**Marketing & Fund Development  
Coordinator**

Kathy Meulemans

**Project Manager**  
Matt Manes

**Project Manager**  
Nancy Herrick

# **By the numbers**

The significant growth of the senior population in Ozaukee County is having a big impact on Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County and its volunteers. Consider these statistics that compare the year 2016 to 2017.

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**43%** Increase in  
overall miles driven by  
volunteers from 2016 to  
2017.

**40%** Overall  
increase in requests by  
clients for volunteer  
services.

**38%** Increase in number of trips  
taken by volunteers transporting clients  
to health care activities.

**20%** Overall increase in  
hours donated by volunteers.

## **Won't you join us?**

As the Ozaukee County population ages, Interfaith Ozaukee has a critical need for more volunteers so that we may continue to meet the community's needs. Call us at (262) 376-5362 or go to [www.interfaithozaukee.org](http://www.interfaithozaukee.org) to learn more about volunteering.