



Hildegard House

dignity has a home



HILDEGARD HOUSE PURCHASES A BUILDING FOR *The Center for Caregiver Education*

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Issue 12
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We purchased another house located on Story Avenue. The whole endeavor has been a story of miracles and blessings. When David and Paula Walz, owners, remembered that Karen had asked to let her know if they ever were going to sell the property, they approached her and graciously gave a selling price \$100,000 less than what they were going to ask on the market. Thank you, David and Paula! When it got time to buy the building, Karen asked several very loyal Foundation partners who gave us enough cash to buy the house. No bank loan! Miracle!

Now we have a duplex that needs lots of work to turn into The Center for Caregiver Education. Karen gets on her knees and channels Hildegard and the angels and saints.....

On a Monday she receives a call from an attorney that asks if she could have lunch because someone has left money in their estate for Hildegard House. It seems that we had cared for Glen Woolem's mother, Ruby. He was so grateful for the care she had received at Hildegard House her last days. Glen had cared for his dear friend, Joe. Joe asked Glen to be sure the money



1429 is part of The Center for Caregiving Education

from his estate went to a good charity. Glen chose Hildegard House after learning that we were beginning to develop The Center for Caregiver Education. It was a blessing of abundance, \$450,000. It will take care of most of the renovation of this historic building. What an amazing thing a Legacy Gift can do! Blessings to you, Joe!

Our Volunteer Coordinators and Nurses are experts at teaching "regular" people how to care for individuals at home that are at the end of life to become Compassionate Companions. We know that there are many individuals that we are unable to serve at Hildegard House. Our vision is to support people at home that are trying to care for their loved ones, either with in-house training, on-line support

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A Word from our Executive Director

Dear Friends of Hildegard House,

According to the NIH, 50 million people care for a disabled, older adult or chronically ill family member or friend. Caregiving, especially for individuals with dementia or cancer, takes its toll on caregivers and maybe linked to a decline in caregivers' overall health.

With that in mind, and knowing Hildegard House could never support every eligible individual at the end of life Hildegard House, we realized that we could still find a way to support caregivers at home. Although we wouldn't have a bed for them at Hildegard House, perhaps we could help the family learn to care for their loved one at home. There are two important uses for The Center of Caregiver Education. The first, it will be a place of resources, refuge and relief for family caregivers, as well as a place for support and comradery. Secondly, you recall that Hildegard House doesn't charge our residents. We really have no steady income stream except for donations and grants. We are trusting that the community will find this building so beautiful and useful that they will rent it out for training, conferences, church meetings, wedding receptions, and so on.

Program planning for now is a distant goal, for now it is time to construct the building! And aren't we blessed to be able to get a move on that, thanks to our generous legacy donor. If you would like to help make this dream a reality, your support is appreciated!

Have you ever thought about what your legacy will be? Have you made plans? Would you consider putting Hildegard House is your plan through the Viriditas Society? For a small non-profit like Hildegard House, it makes such a difference.

For more information about the Viriditas Society, you can go to our website or call me. I'd be happy to talk with you or answer any questions.

Often, I get asked what my biggest surprise has been in starting Hildegard House. It is not the sweet souls that we serve and how grateful they are for their care. It is the group of compassionate, caring dedicated volunteers, Board and Compassionate Companions that are attracted to the mission and how we take care of each other and our neighbors. Thank you for all you have given me and the ways you show me how to be compassionate. I am a feather on the breath of God.

Blessings,

Karen

Karen Cassidy
Executive Director



Mike Meffort and wife Robin



Dennis and Terry Dunham
(Compassionate Companions)



Karen Cassidy Executive Director
Mary Jo Ellis Bell Award Winner
David Ellis



Bob & Kim Priest
(Compassionate Companions)



Melissa Dillinger,
Hildegard House nurse and
husband Bill Burton

Continued from page 1: Hildegard House Purchases A Building For The Center for Caregiver Education

groups, videos, phone support and perhaps home visits to actually do one-on-one teaching. We anticipate listening and learning what caregivers need for support. This facility will be a premier facility for training, including a skills lab, so we are hoping that others in the community will find it useful. We also hope it will be used for other types of community gatherings, wedding receptions, church nights, and neighborhood meetings. For us at Hildegard House, we will have our Volunteer Training there, as well as Board meetings. (Our current space is not accessible, lots of steps).

Because we don't charge our residents a fee, we look forward to this opportunity being of service to our neighbors and having a revenue source. We know that most people want to die at home. We strive to help support those families that might need some confidence, knowledge and a little training to make death not a medical event, but a sacred time for their family.

While the renovation costs are secured, we will still need funding for technology, furniture, appliances, and fixtures. If you are called to help with this new endeavor, we welcome your support. And prayers!



Hildegard on Story (1427) to the left. 1429 is part of The Center for Caregiving Education.

Welcome New Board Members

Hildegard House welcomed five new board members in January. These community leaders have joined our Board for a three-year term.



Joy Berger is Editor in Chief of Hospice and Palliative Care Today, a chaplain and music therapist. Joy brings so many skills to our Board. We are thrilled to have her!



Catherine "Cate" Darmstadt is Senior Manager at GE, a Haier company. She and her husband, Jamie, who also works at GE, have been long time Hildegard House supporters. Thank you Cate for joining our Board.



Tim Farley, MD is an internist. He is also a Compassionate Companion. We look forward to all the many viewpoints he will bring to the Board.

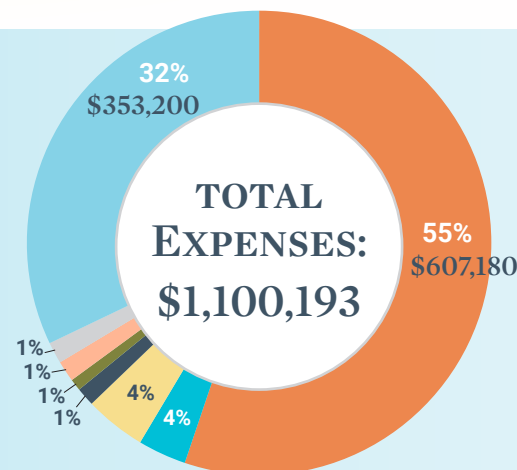


Loren Powell is a Project Manager for A&W Software. He and his wife, Ilsi have been supporters of Hildegard House for many years.



Randy Strause is an attorney. He has been a securities arbitrator for 25 years and also is a tennis champion.

2024 YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION



- 55% People and things employed to accomplish our mission
- 32% Purchase of The Center on Story
- 4% Buildings, utilities and insurance for our residents to live
- 4% Funds used to raise the support that drives our mission and our impact
- 1% Interest Expense
- 1% Accounting and financial requirements
- 1% Computers and office equipment and supplies to keep us running
- 1% Insurance, banking, and other expenses



THE VIRIDITAS SOCIETY is a special group of people who notify Hildegard House in writing that they have included Hildegard House in their estate plans. Hildegard of Bingen, a 12th Century mystic, herbalist, musician, and healer is the namesake of Hildegard House. She coined the word *Viriditas*. It means "the greening power of the Divine." Members of the Viriditas Society provide a greening – or renewing – power to Hildegard House. No matter the size of the gift, it all is part of the legacy you leave.

For more information www.hildegardhouse.org or call Karen Cassidy 502-797-7411

Our Board

Carl Herde, *Chair, Retired, Kentucky Hospital Association*
Joy Berger, *Editor in Chief, Hospice & Palliative Care Today*
Larry Grossman, *Chair Elect, Independent Consultant*
Barbara Gordon, *Vice-Chair, UofL Trager Institute*
Rev. Tara Reck, *Secretary, Anchorage Presbyterian Church*
Barret Collins, *Community Volunteer*
Catherine Darmstadt, *Community Volunteer*
Tim Farley, MD, *Internist and Compassionate Companion*
Sean Higgins, *CEO, Mint Julep Tours*
Donald Kavanaugh, *Barry Wooley Designs*
Jim Morris, *Retired, CPA, Baptist Health*
Kacy Noltemeyer, *Rainey Allen Shaw*
Loren Powell, *Project Manager, A&W Software*
Derek Reed, *Retired, Chief Regional District Judge*
Misha Rhodes, MD, *Chief Medical Office, Centerwell*
Randy Strause, *Attorney at Law*
George Webb, MD, *Retired, Hosparus Health*
Kenneth "Chuck" Anderson, MD, *Baptist Health,
Medical Director, Hildegard House*

Our Staff

Karen Cassidy, *Executive Director*
Amara Mui, *Volunteer Coordinator*
Kim Summers, *Volunteer Coordinator*
Mary Hanseman, *Interim Administrative Assistant*

www.hildegardhouse.org

502-581-8267



Moments at Hildegard House

Our Scottish Compassionate Companion, Alison Ewart, frequently arrives with this delicious loaf of Irish soda bread. Such a treat!



HILDEGARD HOUSE

P.O. Box 5613
Louisville, KY 40255

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
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PERMIT NO. 1609

We provide a home and compassionate care for individuals at the end of life who have no home or loved ones to care for them so that they may die with dignity.

Save the Date

COCKTAILS
for
COMPASSION


September 18, 2025

WATERFRONT
BOTANICAL GARDENS



Ways to Give:

- SCAN this code to donate on our website
- or MAIL using the enclosed envelope
- Join the Compassionate Care Circle by committing to a monthly gift to Hildegard House
- Make a gift in memory or in honor of someone special
- Consider a legacy gift by making arrangements with your financial planner to join the Viriditas Society



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