

Monthly Newsletter

MOTHER TERESA HOUSE

October 2025



Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

Welcome to our monthly newsletter! We are thrilled to share with you the latest developments in our mission to provide comfort and care to the terminally ill in a warm, welcoming environment.

Firstly, we would like to express our gratitude to all of our donors and volunteers who have continued to support us as we open our house in Williamston. Your generosity, dedication, and time have allowed us to keep both houses well staffed and running smoothly and effectively.

In terms of our recent activities, we had our Volunteer Appreciation Event on Friday, September 5th. It is a blessing to have so many passionate volunteers and it was so wonderful to be able to thank each of them at our event. You can read more about it on the following page.

Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of those who need it most. Thank you for your continued support!

Enjoy this month's newsletter!

MTH Staff

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Mother Teresa
House Updates

Upcoming
Training

Impact Story

How you can
help



Mother Teresa House Updates

This past month we had our Volunteer Appreciation Event where we got to honor and thank all of our volunteers for their hard work and dedication. We shared a meal together, reflected on the past year at Mother Teresa House, and distributed volunteer awards. Following that, we did a group team building exercise and finished out the evening spending time together.

We are so blessed to be able to serve in this ministry, it would not be possible without our volunteers. Over the past year, because of the commitment our volunteers have shown, we have been able to care for 22 guests: 17 at our Lansing location, and 5 at our new Williamston location, 17 guests were from Ingham County, and 1 each from Clinton, Ionia, and Montcalm County, 10 Catholics, 8 Christians, and 4 with no faith association. Our volunteers helped us impact the lives of 22 lovely people and countless more family members and friends.

Please help us celebrate these fantastic volunteers and their commitment to Mother Teresa House.

Compassion Star award: *these volunteers have shown extraordinary compassion in their care for the guests*

- Jeanie McClung, Harmony Dawson, Judy Polaskey

Coming in Clutch award: *these volunteers were essential during the summer and were always willing to pick up additional shifts*

- Kasey Bandy and David Barton

Rising Star award: *though new to Mother Teresa House, these volunteers have shown great potential in their service and have jumped into their caregiving role quickly and with great zeal*

- Gabby Fugazzi and Gloria Chou

Leader award: *these volunteers have shown great leadership skills and dedication to Mother Teresa House*

- Clare Frey and Chris Bourque

Consistency award: *this volunteer has been one of the most consistent. She rarely calls off for a shift, and we can always depend on her.*

- Michele Pazur



**Oct 2025
Training**

Invite your friends to our upcoming volunteer orientation and skills training! We will talk about what being a caregiver entails and provide training on needed skills for caregiving. Here are the details:

- Orientation Tues, Oct 14: 4-5p
- Skills Training Wed, Oct 22: 10a-2p
- Please fill out application on the website before attending. Training is tentative on sufficient sign up.

www.motherserteresahouse.org/how-can-i-help/volunteer/





Stories of impact: this month's story is about how Mother Teresa House impacted our student volunteer Davis Christy.

I began volunteering at Mother Teresa House (MTH) during my freshman year at MSU after a friend encouraged me to get involved. At first, my motivation was simple—I wanted experience in a healthcare setting as I prepare for medical school. What I didn't expect was how much this place would change me.

Volunteering at MTH quickly became more than "experience." It has given me perspective, community, and gratitude. Caring for guests at the end of life has reminded me never to take my own life for granted. Even in difficult circumstances, our guests show remarkable gratitude for caregivers and volunteers. Their kindness inspires me to seek out gratitude and compassion in my own daily life.

I've also been moved by the trust that fills MTH. Guests know that anyone who walks through the door is there to help, and families place incredible faith in the volunteers and caregivers. That sense of community makes every visit meaningful.

One guest in particular stays with me. Early on, she kept me busy—always standing up and walking away just as I thought she was settled. But over time, we built a connection through countless games of War, coloring books, and watching WWE. As her health declined, she continued to greet me with a smile until her passing. Her smile truly made my day every time I would see her and reminded me of why I was here.

Before MTH, I had little experience with death. The first loss of a guest startled me, but I quickly realized that MTH is not about waiting for death. It's about making each day meaningful, creating memories, and cherishing the time we have.

Serving at MTH has made me more thankful, more compassionate, and more grounded. It is a privilege to be part of this home.

Davis Christy
MTH Volunteer, MSU Student

YOU CAN HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Donations

These donations will be used in our daily care for our current guests. By making a donation, this will allow us to continue to provide personal, around-the-clock care to those in the greatest need at no cost. Thank you for your generosity!

We are currently in need of...

- Meijer gift cards for groceries
- FREE & CLEAR Sensitive Skin liquid laundry detergent

Donate your time!

We are always looking for hands-on caregivers to provide loving, comforting care to our guests.

For more information come to our next orientation (see page 2) or reach out to Sophia at serving@motherteresahouse.org



Thank you for reading!

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