



Part of the Nora's Home Team - Natalie, Breanna, Peggy, Marilda, Morgan, Laurel

NORA'S NEWS

Mission Statement

Nora's Home provides affordable lodging for organ transplant patients and their families in the comfort of a warm, home-like environment.

Hello Summertime!



Summertime is here, which means school's out, and the fun can begin! We send our congratulations to all those recent graduates and wish you much success in your future endeavors! Consider visiting us this summer, and please read on for ways to get involved. We love to hear from our Nora's Home friends and family!

At this halfway mark, we reflect on the start of the year and remain excited for what's to come. In this issue, we feature a recap of our awe-inspiring "World of Wonder" gala held on April 27th; as well as inspiring stories from our community, and the incredible impact-to-date thanks to our WONDERful friends, supporters, volunteers, guests and partners!

Enjoy!

Natalie Lencioni | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HOME HAPPENINGS



Milestone Achieved!

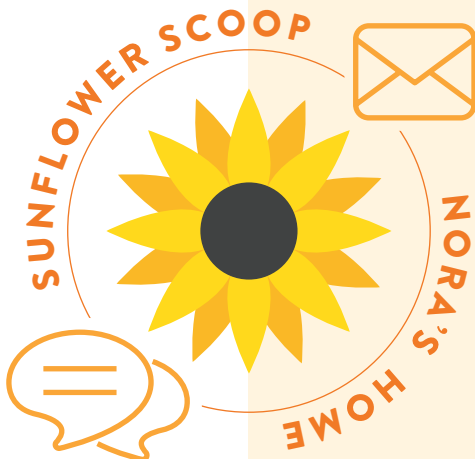
Earlier this year we reached a huge milestone of **60,000** nights stayed.

This would not be possible without the help of our supporters, volunteers, and of course the AMAZING guests that stay at Nora's Home. We're looking forward to hitting 65,000 hopefully in the next few months. Nora's Home is grateful to be a home away from home to so many.



Welcome to the Houston Food Bank

We are incredibly thankful for our newest community partnership with the Houston Food Bank. With once-a-week deliveries of fresh produce and pantry staples, the families staying with us have the benefit of enjoying various items that are in our two community pantries and kitchens. Guests can include these items in their weekly meal plans, or many choose to make meals to share and eat together.



Sign up for the Sunflower Scoop!

Make sure to sign up for our blossoming monthly e-blast, the **Sunflower Scoop**! Sign up today so you can get to the root of upcoming events, special shout-outs, and highlights of our amazing guests! We are excited to grow this newsletter and the way we share information with our Nora's Home family.

Sign up on our website norashome.org!

HOME HAPPENINGS

Mid-Year Home Report

Nora's Home is pleased to provide a mid-year report to our community. We have had progress and achievements in 2024 that we have made together with our community.

This mid-year report captures a snapshot of the guests we have had the pleasure of serving from January 1 to May 15, 2024. We have also included year-to-date statistics that we are very proud of. We recently surpassed 60,000 nights and have a lot to celebrate in this eleventh year of Nora's legacy at the home.

The safety and wellbeing of our guests remain our top priorities. We continue to implement a mask mandate for all who enter the home and are in our communal areas. Due to the new and improved cleaning protocols our housekeeping team enacted during COVID, the home has remained infection free of the COVID-19 virus. And our dedicated team of staff are committed and remain steadfast to providing compassionate hospitality to all who enter our doors.



Year to Date

Adopt-A-Family Funds Awarded	\$94,874
Families Served	277
Number of Transplants Received	18 transplants

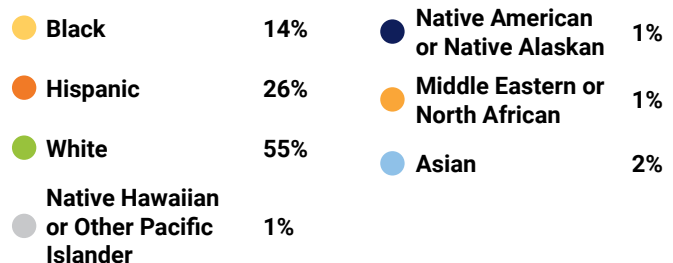
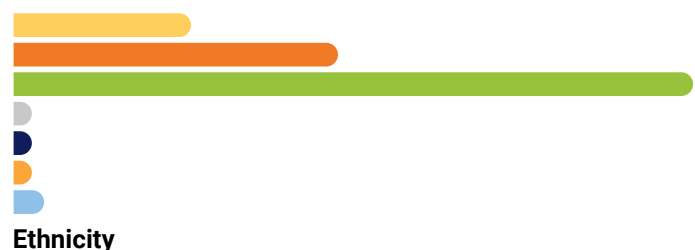
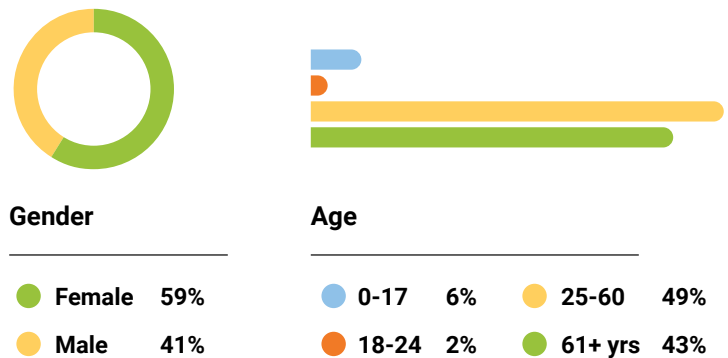
Total

Adopt-A-Family Funds Awarded	\$3,123,359
Nights Stayed	63,965
Total Families Served	3,971
Meals Served	14,458

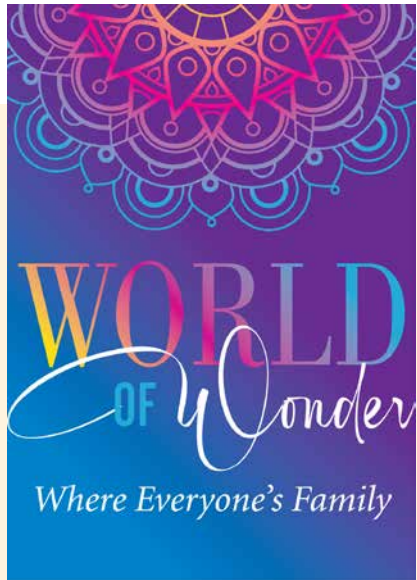
Transplant Centers Served

Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center
 HCA Healthcare
 Houston Methodist
 Memorial Hermann
 Texas Children's Hospital

Patient Statistics



FEATURE STORY



More than 500 supporters of Nora's Home gathered on April 27 to celebrate a World of Wonder benefiting Nora's Home held at The Revaire. Friends and supporters came together to celebrate our mission of serving organ transplant patients and their families.

Gala Reels in \$820K for Transplant Patients

Gala chairs, Shazma and Arshad Matin, ushered in an international flair for an awe-inspiring night featuring belly dancers, an aerialist, a surprise performance from International Voices Houston and an interactive dance performance by Rhythm India.

Honorees from the team at Texas Children's Hospital (TCH) Transplant Services were spotlighted for their exceptional patient care and teamwork. The crowd also heard a powerful testimonial from a Nora's Home guest and TCH patient, 11-year-old Parson and her mom, Jennifer, interviewed by event emcee, Lisa Malosky.

Parson is the recipient of a double lung transplant when she was merely 11 months old. The medical team at TCH taking on Parson's case included the celebrated and recently retired pediatric pulmonologist, Dr. George Mallory, who was recognized in the crowd with a standing ovation and applause from colleagues and friends.

Supporters dined on a delicious meal prepared by A Fare Extraordinaire, admired décor by Flora & Eventi and finished the night on the dance floor with music by DJ Senega. In total, Nora's Home supporters raised \$820,000 to help patients and their families which accounts for 10,933 night stays.

Nora's Home wants to THANK our chairs, host committee, underwriters, volunteers, and staff who made this year's event one for the books! You truly made it a WONDERful night for the home and fulfilling our mission of providing transplant patients and their families an affordable place to stay where they can find support and share experiences with others in the comfort of a home-like environment.

Read more and view the gala video at <https://norashome.org/news>.

FEATURE STORY



THEME

World of Wonder

CHAIRS

Shazma &
Arshad Matin

EMCEE

Lisa Maloksy

Event Features

Beautiful hanging freesia arrangements

Heads or Tails Game

Live Auction

Paddles Up for Adopt-A-Family Program

Belly Dancers, Aerialist, Dhol Drummer &
Dancing demo from Rhythm India



FEATURE STORY

A World of Wonder Underwriters & Sponsors

Language of Love

LifeGift

C. James & Carole Walter Looke Family

Walter Oil & Gas Corporation

Symbols of Giving

CHI Farouk Systems

Shazma & Arshad Matin

Texas Children's Hospital

Tasnim & Dr. Mohamed Vadva

Standards of Kindness

Shahzad Bashir Family Foundation

Drs. Lillian & A. Osama Gaber

Sanofi Genzyme Solid Organ Transplant

Paula & Rusty Walter

Westwood Financial Management

Values of Virtue

Susie & Lloyd "Bucky" Cunningham

Houston Methodist

Houston Methodist J.C. Walter Jr. Transplant Center

Drs. Sandra Hurtado & Michael Braun

Million Air

Drs. Disha & Ashish Saharia

Dianne & Ellis Tudzin

Beliefs of Hope

Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center

Ben Bono Family

Caldwell Companies

Carla & Cole Dawson

Dril-Quip, Inc.

Eastham Enterprises

Dr. Joseph Galati | Liver Specialists of Texas

Gilead Sciences

Judy & Ron Giroto

Goldman Sachs

Laura & Dr. Mark Hobeika

Houston Kidney Consultants

Karen & Dr. Howard Huang

Caroline & Eddie Kuntz

The Living Bank

Nick & Vicki Massad

The Transplant Center at Memorial Hermann - Texas Medical Center

Farida & Nasruddin Rupani

Satterfield & Pontikes Construction, Inc.

Roberta & Lee Schwartz

Cartha & Nameer Siddiqui

Krista & Ronnie Smith

John and Stephanie Smither Visionary Fund

Caren & John Steffes | FORVIS

Ann & Karl Stern

Takeda

Christine & David Underwood

UTHealth Houston - School of Public Health

Kathleen & Pat Wood

Dr. Stephanie Yi & Terry Padden

Maria & John Zerr

Printing

Veloxis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Valet

Anonymous

Photo Booth

National Kidney Registry

Party Favor

Chinhui & Eddie Allen | Eagle Global Advisors



TRANSPLANT STORIES

Donate Life Month Recap

Nora's Home spent the month of April celebrating National Donate Life Month with our guests and community.



This year's theme was "Donors are Super Heroes" and we couldn't agree more! The transplant community came together for several events to celebrate and raise awareness of organ donation.

Not an organ donor?

Take time to register today at organdonor.gov!



The Nora's Home team enjoyed participating in Houston Methodist's Annual Celebration of Life Event. We were able to share our mission, encourage volunteerism and answer questions about how to stay at the home. Thanks to all who stopped by our booth to say hi!



Nora's Home was invited to celebrate National Donate Life month and National Pediatric Transplant Week with Texas Children's Hospital. We had a table and shared more about the work we do and how we serve pediatric patients and their families.



We celebrated Blue & Green Spirit Week with our guests staying at the home. We hosted a movie night, welcomed volunteers as Chef of the Day and for rock painting, and held a Donate Life flag signing. We kicked off our first of many "An Evening with Dr. Pat Wood" nights where he answered any and all transplant questions.



Nora's Home was honored to partner with The Health Museum and other transplant organizations to plan activities for National Donate Life Month. Educational opportunities were made available all month long for the Houston community to engage in while learning about the importance of organ transplants and organ donations.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Nora's Home is grateful for those who offer their time, talent and treasure to the home and become a Home Helper! Whether it is a family coming to volunteer, a church group, company team or school – we are fortunate to all who help enhance the home.

We recently welcomed two groups that helped to beautify the home and meet some of our needs. The Home Depot Foundation brought a crew to spruce up the Butterfly Garden, located outside in our Healing Garden area. This garden was a gift from our Board of Directors in memory of Nora's grandmothers. It's a solace to our guests when the flowers are in bloom and the colorful butterflies are flitting around. The team came on a Saturday and prepped the beds and weeded, laid fresh new mulch, planted about 12 new plants, and trimmed back the current plants. It's truly a sight! Nora's Home was gifted with the shovels, garden gloves and other tools used for any future projects we have.

Isn't the need for space and storage a hot topic in your home? Well, it is in our 27,000 square foot home! Nora's has needed extra space to store various items like our hurricane supplies, pantry staples, bottled water, masks, and other items and has been creative with where to put things. When JE Dunn Construction heard our need, they offered to coordinate the building of two new pantries where space allowed. Phoenix Millwork, Inc. joined the team to build out the space with sheetrock, doors and shelving units. After all was finished, JE Dunn hosted a painting party and placed the shelves for a seamless look. We are grateful for this newfound storage and the impact it has made!



HOME HELPERS

You CAN do it! | Items Needed



Canned Goods:

- Beans
- Chili
- Fruit
- Juices: fruit, V-8
- Meats: beef, chicken, fish
- Soup
- Veggies

Basics:

- Coffee: ground, k-cups
- Creamer
- Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayo
- Cooking Oils/Sprays: olive, vegetable
- Flour
- Honey
- Jarred Sauces: alfredo, marinara, jam/jelly
- Sugar: artificial sweetener, baking, sweet 'n' low

Staples:

- Applesauce
- Boxed Mixes: bread, brownie, cake, cookie, muffin
- Cereal
- Crackers
- Fruit Leather
- Granola bars
- Grits
- Mixes: jello, pudding
- Noodles: macaroni, pasta, ramen
- Oatmeal
- Peanut Butter
- Protein Shakes
- Rice
- Salad Dressings
- Snacks (individual packages): crackers, chips, cookies, pretzels

For more Wish List information and pantry drives you can host, visit <https://norashome.org/wish-list>.

NORA'S GIFT FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024

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A. Osama Gaber, M.D.
CHAIRMAN, FOUNDING DIRECTOR

Lillian Gaber, M.D.
FOUNDING DIRECTOR

John Zerr
VICE CHAIRMAN, LIFETIME DIRECTOR

Matthew Giroto
TREASURER

Michael Rose
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Arshad Matin

Amy McCall

Jerry Patel

Nancy Patel

Ellis Tudzin
LIFETIME DIRECTOR

R. Patrick Wood, M.D.

Nancy Zakhour

Nora's Home is fortunate to have a committed Board of Directors that work to further our mission. In each issue of our newsletter, you'll get to know one of our lead volunteers.

Ellis Tudzin

Lifetime Director



Q: How were you introduced to Nora's Home?

A: I was introduced to Nora's Home as a result of my serving on the Board of the JLH Foundation. The JLH Foundation has (and had) a relationship with Houston Methodist Hospital. Paula Hern, Tom Barbour, and I met with Ron Giroto, Marc Boom, Osama Gaber and Lillian Gaber along with representatives from the Houston Methodist Hospital Foundation. Drs. Osama and Lillian Gaber presented an incredibly moving story about their daughter, Nora, and the support of the Gabers' family, friends, and colleagues in Memphis after Nora's tragic death. JLH Foundation was presented with an opportunity to help establish a hospitality home for transplant patients and their families in memory of Nora. This would be a hospitality home that would serve all of the hospitals in the Texas Medical Center. The JLH Foundation's support also included the opportunity to serve on the Nora's Gift Foundation Board of Directors.

Q: What does serving on the Board mean to you?

A: Serving on the Nora's Home Board gives me the opportunity to honor the memory of John L. Hern (Paula's dad), a former client who helped support my law practice and who was a terrific friend for many years. John was a heart transplant recipient. John received a new heart at Houston Methodist Hospital but, unfortunately, his body rejected the heart after nine or ten months. I had the privilege of working with Paula and Tom to establish the JLH Foundation in John's memory. As a result of that opportunity, I have had further opportunities to meet and learn about transplantation from many distinguished physicians and transplant surgeons and to interact with top community and business leaders also serving on the Nora's Home Board.

Q: What's the best piece of advice you've been given?

A: There is not just one "best piece of advice" I've been given, but many! Here are a few in no particular order, but all are important:

- Listen to what others have to say—I may not like it, but I will try to understand the other person's view. Often times others have different experiences which factor into their views, and often times my own experiences will factor into mine.
- Treat others with the respect and dignity which they have earned.
- Be positive, keep looking forward and do good.
- Learn from the past, but do not dwell on it.
- Change can be a positive thing.
- Trust your "gut".

Q: Share any hidden talents you may have!

A: I am pretty certain that I do not have any hidden talents, and if I did and if I shared them, they would no longer be hidden.

HOW YOU CAN HELP



Donate

Every donation, no matter the amount, made to Nora's Home help guests and their families. Donations support the operations of the home from supplies needed to providing a night's stay through our Adopt-A-Family program. To make a one-time donation, or to join the monthly giving Sunflower Club, scan the QR code below or visit www.norashome.org/donate. Donations are 100% tax deductible to the full extent of the law.



Volunteer

All of our volunteers are an essential part of our home! We have opportunities for individual and families, as well as groups from your church and workplace that can fit your schedule and interests. Learn more about how you can be a part of Nora's Home by scanning the QR code below or visit <https://norashome.org/get-involved/volunteer/>.



Supplies

Our home has 32 guest suites and requires many supplies to run smoothly. Pantry items, kitchen utensils, and cleaning supplies are just a few of the items you can help provide to the families we serve. Our wish list is available on our website and a link to our Amazon page. You can view the list at <https://norashome.org/get-involved/wish-list/> or scanning the QR code.



NORA'S HOME

for transplant patients and their families

SAVE THE DATE

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

2024 11TH ANNUAL **NORA'S HOME** GOLF CLASSIC

Friday, October 18, 2024

**WILDCAT
GOLF CLUB**

S&P

**SATTERFIELD & PONTIKES
CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

