Looking Back and Moving Forward
Neighbors has been a cornerstone in the community for many years. It is a resource for those who find themselves in crisis or struggling to make ends meet. It is a place for people to come together to help each other. This past year has included many opportunities for the organization to take stock of how far it’s come and make plans for where it will go in the future. Thank you for the support you’ve provided. We hope you will continue to grow with us. I know I’m excited to see what’s next.

Brian Counihan
Chair, Neighbors’ Board of Directors, May 2016 - May 2017

Our Programs
Neighbors assists low-income members in the northern Dakota County communities of Inver Grove Heights, South St. Paul, West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Mendota, Sunfish Lake and Lilydale through the following programs:

- Emergency assistance – Neighbors provides food, clothing and other assistance to families not able to provide for themselves. Services include vouchers for the Clothes Closet thrift store; holiday assistance for families; nutritional assistance for seniors; a food shelf; and emergency grants for rent, prescriptions, utility bills, daycare, transportation and other similar emergencies. Neighbors’ programs and services are provided by hundreds of volunteers serving thousands of hours annually.

- Supportive assistance – Neighbors schedules transportation to medical appointments provided by volunteer drivers; provides daily reassurance calls to people living alone and follow up checks if needed; and facilitates a social program for adults with developmental disabilities.

Our Impact
It’s easy to quantify the work Neighbors does into service statistics and financial data, however the organization’s impact goes far beyond numbers. Here are just a two examples of how, with the help of its volunteers, Neighbors works to reduce poverty, promote self-sufficiency and build community:

- A single mom who had come to visit the food shelf was crying before she even sat down. Her renter’s rebate was later than anticipated and she was concerned her electricity would be shut off and she would be evicted. She had been working extra shifts to make payments, but was overwhelmed by the fear that it wouldn’t be enough. The intake staff member working with her was able to call the utility company and confirm that she was not facing disconnection. She left our office visibly more relaxed and reassured that her family would not be homeless.

- A woman was at the food shelf and the volunteer shopping with her noticed that she seemed a little shaky. He asked if she needed something to eat or drink, or if she needed to sit down, and she explained that she hadn’t had anything to eat since lunch the day before. With a family of five to take care of, she clearly had been making some sacrifices herself. Because of the generosity of our donors, the Neighbors food shelf was able to provide her with 250 lbs. of food (50 lbs. per family member) – enough to feed them all for more than a week.
2016 In Review
In many ways, 2016 was a year of growth for Neighbors, Inc. We welcomed new individuals that helped the organization continue building connections throughout the community. We also saw marked increases in our Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign and Give to the Max Day results, as well as event sponsorships, providing Neighbors with the resources needed to continue serving as many people as possible. In addition, we purchased a new database system that will allow us to track our impact more effectively and efficiently.

One of our biggest challenges continued to be maintaining the amount of food and funds required to continue serving those in need in our community. However, with your support, we were able to provide help when our neighbors needed it most.

Our Leadership
As a community-based organization, Neighbors is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of engaged leaders from local businesses, churches and civic organizations. In 2016, the Board included:

Brian Counihan, Chair
Thompson Reuters
Juliette Francis, Vice Chair
Science Museum of Minnesota
Greg Kuntz, Secretary
RE/MAX Specialists
Joe Gullerud, Treasurer
Bester Brothers
Pastor Gail Alexander
Faith United Methodist Church
Pastor Katie Estes
First Presbyterian Church
Dr. Tim Felton
Twin Cities Foot & Ankle Clinic

John Glieden
Sherman Insurance
Tom Leonard
Fury Motors
Pastor Ed Nelson
Centro Cristiano Nueva Esperanza
Jodee Paape
Jodee Paape & Associates
David Paton
RBC Wealth Management
Paston Leesa Soderlind
Good Shepard Lutheran Church
Dan Warner
Warner Law Offices

Day-to-day operations were overseen by executive director John Kemp, who announced his plan to retire – effective April 15, 2017 – in fall 2016.

Our Partners
In 1972, volunteers from six local faith communities gathered to address the challenges being faced by many of their neighbors. Those initial meetings led to the creation of Neighbors, Inc., and both volunteers and our faith partners continue to be vital to the organization’s work today.

Also key to the organization’s efforts are the many businesses, civic groups, foundations and individual community members who help us work toward our mission. We also work with other organizations to minimize the duplication of services, ensuring that the community has access to as many resources as possible.
Overall Support: $4,101,311

Neighbors’ vision is that all people who live in northern Dakota County will have access to the emergency and supportive services necessary to live hopeful, independent lives. We thank you for your gifts in 2016 and hope that you will continue to think of us when determining your charitable contributions in the future.

In addition to the monetary and in-kind donations that allow us to serve the community through our various programs, Neighbors is always looking for volunteers. Additional information and a list of opportunities can be found at www.neighborsmn.org.
Our Corporate, Community, Business & Foundation Donors

As a 501(c)3 organization, Neighbors relies on financial support provided by the community. We are so grateful to all who give to help our neighbors in need. For a list of individual donors, please visit www.neighborsmn.org/2016-donors.

$80,000
Otto Bremer Trust

$30,000 or more
SpartanNash Foundation
Thomson Reuters

$20,000 or more
Augustana Lutheran Church
$15,000 to $19,999
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation
Target Foundation
Union Pacific Foundation

$10,000 to $14,999
Catholic Community Foundation
CHS Inc
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peace-Shalom Foundation
St. Anthony of Padua’s Friends
Stevens Square Foundation

$5,000 to $9,999
Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN
Church of St Thomas Becket
Greater Mpls Council of Churches
South St Paul Lions
St James Evangelical Lutheran Church
$2,500 to $4,999
Albarella Design Inc
Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church of St Joseph
First Presbyterian Church of South St Paul
Luther Memorial Church
MidWest One
Open Systems Technologies, Corporate Office
RBC Foundation
Salem Lutheran Church
South Robert Street Business Association
St Stephens Lutheran Church
Steenberg

$1,000 to $2,499
3M Foundation
Ameriprise Financial Inc.
Apple Valley American Legion Post 1776
Bituminous Roadways
Church of St Patrick
Clark-Grace UCC
Craig-Hallum Capital Group LLC
Croatian Hall
Faith United Methodist Church
Grace Christian Reformed Church
HealthPartners (Mpls)
Joseph S Kieraskey & Sons Funeral Home
Protouch Painting, Inc
Rotary Club, South St Paul/IGH
Sanimax
Schenian Family Foundation, Inc
Sherman Insurance Agency
Spirit of Hope Catholic Church
St Michael’s Catholic Church
The Allegro Fund
Travel Tags
Travelers
United Methodist Women of St Paul's United Methodist Church
Walmart Sam's Club #4738
Waterous
Western National Mutual Insurance Company

Up to $1,000
010 Innovations
401K Latte Company
AA Club (alcoholics anonymous)
Aetna Foundation
AFSCME Local 22
AFSCME LOCAL 306
Allina Health Community Engagement
American Legion - Abner Rude - Post 481
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 424
Amore Coffee
Antonsen Construction
Assurant
Automatic Data Processing, Inc
Beckman Court Residents
Bester Brothers
Bethesda Lutheran Church Women
Bisantz Brothers Development
Bremer Bank (IGH)
Bremer Bank (SSP)
Broadcom Limited
BWS Systems
Camelot Cleaners
Challenger American Legion Post 521
Chapter H. Peo
Church of St Peter
City of South St Paul
Concordia Lutheran Church
Crown of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church
Cub Scout Pack 95
Dakota County Electric Association
Dan Grevas Photography
Deerwood Bank
EAA Chapter 1229
Endris Chiropractic, Inc
Entira Family Clinic (WSP)
Every Event Gives
Federal Hwy Administration
First Student Mounds View
Gap Foundation
Gateway Bank
Glewwe Doors Inc
Good Shepherd AM Bible Study
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Graco
Gramercy Park
Green Tree Servicing LLC
Groove Photo LLC
Heartland Credit Union
Heartland Textile Preservation
Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Ideal Credit Union
IGH Snowmobile Club
IGH Volkswagon
Independent School District: 197
Inver Grove Chiropractic
Jodee Paape & Associates LLC
Kandt & Tetrick Funeral Home
Kaposia Convenience Center
Key Community Bank
Knights of Columbus
Krech O'Brien Mueller & Associates, Inc
Kwik Trip
Ladies of St George Church
Langer Construction Company
Liberty Diversified International
Lieflworks Services Inc
Lincoln Center
Lincoln Exteriors Inc
Lofton Label Inc

Luther Memorial Church Women Bible Group
Fellowship
Macson Services, Inc
Mendota Heights UCC
Mid Country Bank
Midwest Study Club
Midwest Guaranty Title Company LLC
Midwest Snowmen’s Foundation
Miller/Anthes Family Fund within the Community Foundation
Minnesota Masonic Charities
Mizpah Lodge 191
MN United Snowmobilers Association
Moose Lodge #1088
Mount Bethel United Methodist Church
MSP Professional Services, Inc
Oakdale Community Church
On the Road Again
Paces Tire & Service
Paintball Plaza
Pine Bend Elementary School
Polish American Club
Premier Parking
Presbyterian Women of South St Paul
ProPharma
Quick-Serv License Center
RBC Wealth Management
Red Hot Peppers
River Run Team RE/MAX Results
Rose’s Jewlery
Roundbank Insurance Agency
Royal Star Furniture
S&S Tree Service
Saint Paul Hotel
Salon Fusion
Sexton Printing
Simley Senior High School
South St Paul Study Club
South St Paul High School
South St Paul Medallions
South-West Lioness Club
Sportsman’s Guide
St Anne’s Episcopal Church
St George Orthodox Church
St John Vianney Church
St John Vianney Church Crafters Group
St Paul’s United Methodist Church
State Farm Insurance - Doug Kuchera
State Farm Insurance (SSP)
Sunshine Ladies
Tapemark
Team Calhoun Charitable Trust
Tech Dump
TelecomPioneers
Tennis Sanitarum
The H.B. Fuller Company
Timeless Essential Oils LLC
Twin Cities Foot & Ankle Clinic
United Health Group
United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut
Warner Laws Offices
West St. Paul Commercial Club
Wheelele Awesome Natural Products LLC
Willy Percy, Trucking Inc.
Women of Good Shepherd
Women’s Fellowship of Clark Memorial United Church of Christ
Woodbury Chorus & Orchestra
Xcel Energy Foundation
Zinner Family Charitable Fund