

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

Sands through

The Hour-Glass



About

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

We are a continuing care retirement community located near historical downtown Plattsmouth.

Our home has been successfully serving Masons and their wives, widows, mothers, sisters, daughters, grandmothers and granddaughters for 117 years.

*Independent Living
Assisted Living
24-Hour Nursing Care
Alzheimer's/Dementia
Care*

**For information on
The Nebraska
Masonic Home
Please contact
Chris Abbott
Admissions Coordinator
at 402-296-7302
or cabbott@nemh.net**

The Nebraska Masonic Home
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www.thenebraskamasonichome.org

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COVID-19 UPDATE:

July 2020 marks four months since we closed our doors to families and visitors in order to protect our residents from COVID-19. This has been an interesting and, at times, a difficult journey for residents, families, and employees as we all love the company of visitors, guests, and entertainers.

Because of the coronavirus there is a new way of life for everyone in the world. Through the ever-changing rules and guidelines from the CDC, local and state health departments and ICAP we have learned that we are flexible and can do what needs to be done to confront the coronavirus.

We are ever so thankful for the many outside donations of homemade masks and gowns for our employees. We all tried to pick a mask that would coordinate with the outfit we wore each day. Because of these donations made by loving and caring individuals from all over the state, we were able to safely continue our work until we were able to get surgical masks.

The donations also included hand sanitizer, N95 and KN95 masks, gowns and gloves from the Sarpy/Cass Health Departments, Nebraska Health Care Association, and the State of Nebraska Health Department. The struggle to get enough PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) to maintain a safe environment for our residents and employees is a problem worldwide.

We are also thankful to the individuals, lodges, and the Plattsmouth Community Foundation for donations of iPads so that the residents can communicate with their families, celebrate special occasions, and have tele-health checks with their doctors.

Over the course of the last two months we have had five employees test positive. We are thankful they have all returned to work after the appropriate quarantine time at home. All residents tested negative in recent testing. We are so fortunate we have conscientious

employees that follow the CDC guidelines both inside and outside of The Home so that they protect themselves and the residents.

Now, however, is not the time to let our guard down. All employees continue to be temperature checked and screened before starting work each day. We are also planning for future situations until there is a vaccine.

Once again we thank you for uplifting our residents with phone calls, iPad visits/celebrations, cards, letters, and care packages. Our employees are also very appreciative of the cookies and treats that have been delivered. A positive environment during a stressful and uncertain time helps all of us to remain positive.

Please know that you always make a difference in everything you do for The Masonic Home. We are blessed to have so many good friends.

Turn to the letter on Page 3 from Foundation Director Steve Barchus for further information on how you can financially assist us as we continue to battle through these trying times.

May God bless each of you.

Mary Russell
Executive Director



This is us
Our Life. Our Story. Our Home.

Together
IS OUR FAVORITE
PLACE TO BE



Family

The Nebraska Masonic Home

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Dear Friends:

I want to start out by **thanking all of you** for your amazing support of **The Nebraska Masonic Home**. Our plans for the Canopy project are moving forward, and we are so close to making our goal for the Nurse Charting Stations. We know during these very stressful times it takes **special people like you** to continue supporting the various projects and groups that you are passionate about. We are grateful that you have chosen The Nebraska Masonic Home to be a part of **your passion**.

COVID-19 has raised everyone's stress and awareness levels to a point we have rarely, if ever, seen in our lifetimes. **Our family and friends** have become more important to us and many of us have found how important it is to reconnect and take care of one another. "Passion, prejudice and error interpose many obstacles between man and truth, but none that energy, perseverance and passion cannot surmount." The passion our Masonic family shows for our Home is insurmountable. And for this I say, **"Thank you."**

The pandemic has challenged all of us. Who would have guessed or planned for all the added expenses we have incurred because of COVID-19? Terminology like N-95 and PPE have become everyday terms as well as expenses. Just to properly dispose of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment like gowns, masks, etc.) costs \$500 per week. Proper masks, gloves, face shields, goggles, sanitizers, disinfectants, and disposable containers and utensils for meals are just a few of the things needed to make The Home run and keep our residents safe. iPads have been donated to help our residents keep in touch with family and friends. I wish I could list all the things it takes to handle this pandemic but there is not enough room. Our staff has done an amazing job adapting to the ever-changing protocols to handle COVID-19 now and in the future.

While we do not know what the total cost of COVID-19 will be, we are asking for your help with what it takes to get us through these very unusual times. We are looking to raise **\$50,000** to help offset the cost of all the extra items that it takes to operate during a pandemic.

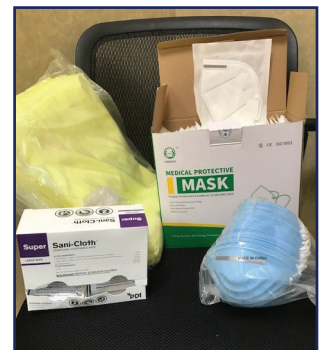
We hope and pray this pandemic will end sooner than later. It has lasted too long now and, unfortunately, will probably last longer than any of us would like.

Please know that **The Nebraska Masonic Home** is a very special place for our friends, family, brothers, and sisters. Our staff continues to adapt to the ever-changing environment that COVID-19 has presented us with during these very trying times. The exceptional care our employees continue to provide for the residents even during these troubled times for The Home as well as for the employees and their own families has been and continues to be made possible by the amazing support of donors like you. Your donations keep The Nebraska Masonic Home at the forefront of care.

This experience has changed how we do many things and how we will do them in the future. It is reassuring to know that we can always count on you and that you are a constant for us. As time marches on, I hope all of you stay safe and well. **Thank you** again for your support of The Nebraska Masonic Home.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Barchus
Foundation Director
The Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation



3 ways to help The Home offset the cost of COVID-19 while you shop!



We've been selected for the
HY-VEE REUSABLE BAG PROGRAM!



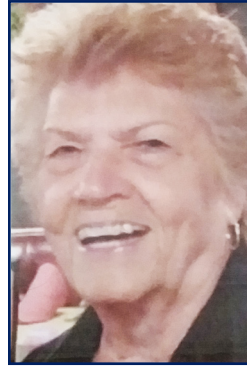
When you buy the \$2.50 red My Heart Reusable Bag this month, we will receive a \$1 donation.



You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to The Nebraska Masonic Home.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



By donating annually to The Nebraska Masonic Home, I am proud to know the funds are used toward residents' daily needs. My desire is to bring a level of comfort to their lives and many of their families.

As a young teenager, I myself was invited to become a Rainbow Girl. And, also, a former good friend of mine lived her final years at The Home in Plattsmouth. Her family asked memorials to be offered to The Masonic Home, I have and will continue to donate to the well being of its residents.

Jimmye Ewing
Bellevue, NE

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