

SPRING NEWSLETTER

A SAFE & LOVING PLACE



The Ivy House has grown tremendously this year. Though we still provide the same free and confidential services to families in need, we've been able to do it on a much larger scale due to your support.

Because of you, every single eligible family that has called the Ivy House in the last 4 months has been able to access care within 30 minutes or less. This is made even more unbelievable by the fact that more than 70% of our budget comes from the local community.

Your support through volunteering, donating, and prayer has allowed us to successfully accomplish our mission and care for all families that are in need. With your continued support, big things are in our future!

FREE & CONFIDENTIAL

A big part of why our program is so successful is that the Ivy House is free and confidential. When families need to use our services, it can be challenging to tell someone else that you're dealing with a crisis. The Ivy House makes it easy to overcome this feeling by assuring all families that their information will be kept strictly confidential. Our highly trained staff and volunteers take that confidentiality seriously, and the fact that we're an independent nonprofit organization makes it easy for families to feel that they can express themselves and seek help in a private way.

In addition, no family that uses the Ivy House will ever pay a dime for the services we provide. Whether they use the Ivy House for shelter, food, blankets, formula, diapers, bottles, or even just a compassionate ear, donor support ensures that families in crisis don't have to worry about money during their hardest times.

The fact that the Ivy House breaks down these barriers to service is a huge reason for our success, but not charging for services or being affiliated with a larger organization also means that we can't exist without your support. The generosity and vision of our community clears the way for children and families to access our services.

We can't continue to help children without YOU!
Please consider attending one of our upcoming fundraisers:

Join us for our annual Taco Feast Fundraiser Thursday **March 26th**
from 4:30-7:30pm in the St. Mary's Church Basement!

Save the date for our annual Wine Tasting: **October 15, 2020**

And watch for more info on our annual spring garage sale! New this year: a food truck!

Keep up to date online at smncrisisnursery.org or follow us on Facebook!

JAKE'S STORY

When Jake first visited us, he was hungry. The upheaval his family was experiencing meant that regular meals were a thing of the past. His mother was struggling with domestic abuse, lack of employment, and health issues. The fact that our services were free and confidential broke down barriers and allowed Jake's family to feel comfortable accessing our services. When we first met him, Jake was suffering from the stress and anxiety that go along with that situation. When you're a kid, even when parents do their best, being in a stressful situation can take a toll on you.

When you're a kid in a stressful situation, healthy eating can take a back seat:

Jake's situation made him wary of eating new things. He had a very small repertoire of foods that he enjoyed, few of which were nutritious. The childcare staff at the Ivy House patiently role modeled eating healthy foods. At first, Jake had no interest. But through continuous, predictable, safe, and loving interactions, Jake eventually learned to expand his diet into a healthy one.

When you're a kid in a stressful situation, things like healthy development are hard:

Jake couldn't speak when we first met him. The Ivy House was able to refer Jake to appropriate services and help his mother stabilize her situation in order to interact more positively with Jake. The last time Jake used our services, he was talking with one of his peers about trucks and using descriptive words, "This truck goes fast!"

When you're a kid in a stressful situation, it can be hard to feel safe:

Jake didn't sleep well when he first came to us. It took Ivy House staff a while to help him understand that the bed he would sleep in here was safe. Through calm, positive reassurance our staff and volunteers were able to ensure that Jake felt safe, warm, and cared for. Jake was eventually able to sleep well at the Ivy House.

When you're a kid in a stressful situation, the sky is your limit.

Through the patient, caring and predictable role modeling of Ivy House Staff and Volunteers, Jake is a different kid. The path he's on is still a difficult one, but his time at the Ivy House has given him tools that will serve him well in life. By offering a safe place to be a kid, strengthening his family, and providing him with positive role modeling, The Ivy House has ensured that Jake's future is brighter now than it has ever been.

You can help support kids like Jake today by making a tax-deductible contribution to the Ivy House. With your support, more kids like Jake can have a brighter future



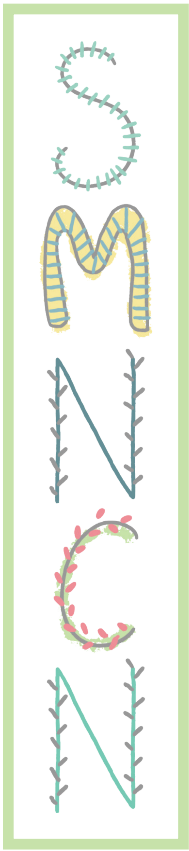
VOLUNTEERS

The Ivy House relies on volunteers to assist children in need! Volunteers have donated more than 3800 hours of their time since the Ivy House opened in 2017. That's more than \$50,000 of childcare!

The Ivy house also needs volunteers for all sorts of things. From lawn mowing to office help, we even need help with getting our backyard garden planted to expose children to healthy vegetables!

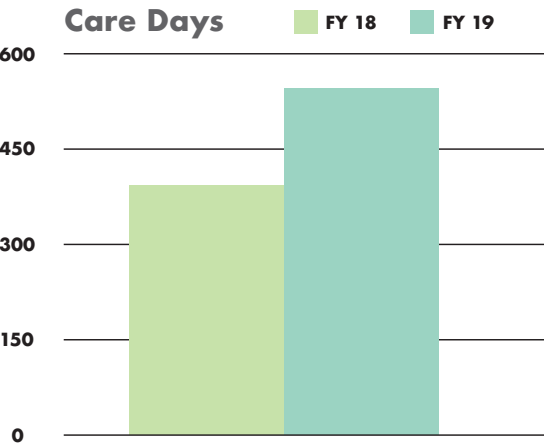
If you or someone you know has a passion for helping children in need, please visit: smncrisisnursery.org/volunteer or email director@smncrisisnursery.org





The need for our services has grown! With your support, we've been able to hire 7 childcare providers who work tirelessly to ensure that every child who needs our services receives the care they need. The only way we can continue to grow is with your support!

Our budget relies heavily on local donations. This innovative, confidential, and effective service is only available due to the generosity of our neighbors and friends.



OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE OPENING

The Ivy House has provided more than 1200 care days to children in need.

The Ivy House has served more than 80 families.

The Ivy House has served children more than 1800 healthy meals.

100% of the families that used the Ivy House in the last year said the staff showed respect for the client and their family and the way they do things at home.

100% of families also said they felt that their children received good care while staying at the Ivy House.

100% of families reported that our staff was able to help connect them with other community services or resources.

99% of families reported that using SMNCN helped me feel less stressed.

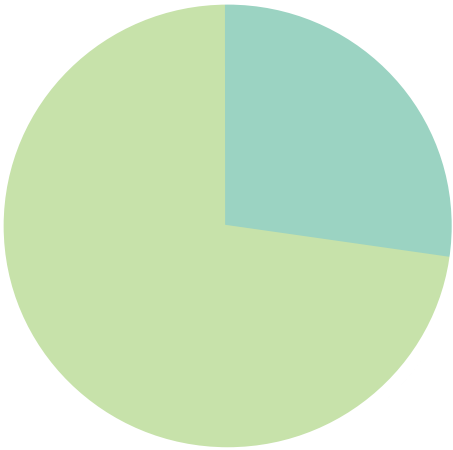
It costs \$206 per day to house one child.

Join the one child club today by clicking the button at: smncrisisnursery.org/newsletter



Childcare Staffing	\$112
Food	\$16
Shelter Supplies	\$3
Children's Needs	\$5
Home Mortgage	\$14
Home Maintenance	\$4
Utilities	\$6
Family Advocacy	\$13
Supervision	\$18
DHS Compliance	\$12
DHS Licensing Fee	\$3
Total:	\$206

HOW WE'RE SUPPORTED



Non Local Grants • \$50,000
Local Donations • \$134,533

A Donation to the Ivy House helps children in need. Your tax deductible donation ensures that all children will have a safe and loving place to stay when their family is experiencing a stressful situation.

To contribute, visit our website at: smncrisisnursery.org/donate or send a check to: P.O. Box 53, New Ulm, MN 56073.

Have questions? Contact: Director@smncrisisnursery.org or call (507) 766-6925.