



Celebrating 125 years

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



The **Danish Home**
of Chicago

A Boutique Senior Community

The Spirit of 125

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**Dear Friends and Family of
The Danish Home of Chicago:**

What does The Danish Home of Chicago have in common with the Chicago Cubs, Yosemite National Park, *Vogue Magazine* and the University of Chicago?

Impeccable reputations? Sure!
Avid devotees? Without question!
Consistent success? Yes!

Each of these institutions shares another remarkable trait. They have all met and surpassed their quasiquintennial anniversary...a landmark that is so rare and extraordinary, that you may not know what it means...in fact, the term wasn't even coined until the 1960's. Quasiquintennial is a 125th-anniversary...125 years. Let that sink in for a moment.

A 125-year milestone doesn't just happen by accident, coincidence or fate. It is the result of drive, commitment, integrity, and fortitude. And it can only come about because of passion, ethos, and tradition.



Over the past year, we've celebrated The Danish Home's quasiquintennial anniversary through a series of special events, some significant changes, and a careful look to the future.

The events have included our community: our residents, families, staff, neighbors and more. We have been delighted to have all of these constituencies celebrate our legacy with us.

Moving forward, we have plans to update and renovate our beautiful campus while also ensuring our ability to provide charitable care for residents who have outlived their financial resources.

We thank you, the friends and families of The Danish Home, for your unwavering support. And we invite you to join us as we eagerly look forward to our next 125 years!

Scott L. Swanson
President/CEO

125 years



Sonia Winthers, keynote speaker, and Emma Thorsen's descendants, Emily, John Jr. and Miles Thorsen.

POPULAR BLOG LEADS MAN TO CONNECT WITH HIS ANCESTORS

A chance Google search, which led to a popular blog, introduced a New York resident to his family's prestigious legacy, beyond anything he could have imagined. John Thorsen, Jr. of East Hampton, New York, fortuitously stumbled on The Hope Chest, a blog of The Danish Home of Chicago. "I Googled my great-great-grandmother Emma Thorsen and right away, boom! The Hope Chest came right up!" he recalled. To John's astonishment, he learned that Emma was the driving force behind the twelve founding women of The Danish Home.

Upon reading the blog, John learned that his great-great-grandmother Emma had emigrated to Chicago with her husband and five children, and 22 years later, led the founding of The Danish Home to care for aging individuals of Scandinavian descent.

John and his sister Leslie, and his 16-year old son Miles came last year to visit The Danish Home, and to attend the Women's Auxiliary Luncheon. He was touched by the instant feeling of family and moved by all he witnessed about the community.

"There's an enduring legacy of my ancestors in Chicago. To pull up in front of The Danish Home, and see this solid, impressive, brick building which has been on the same site since it was founded by my great-great-grandmother was amazing. To see the bronze plaque with our family name...it all makes me feel very proud of her legacy. My ancestors left a mark in Chicago. We were there and left a mark and did something positive that endures," he said.



SPIRIT OF HERITAGE

The Danish Home Women's Auxiliary held its Spirit of Heritage luncheon, kicking off the year-long celebration of The Danish Home's 125th-anniversary.



SPIRIT OF FAMILY

Tivoli Gardens featured rides, live musical entertainment, activity tents, refreshments, and casino games.



SPIRIT OF FRIENDS

Cuisine and Spirits highlighted the savory creations of world-renowned Danish chef Stig Hansen.



SPIRIT OF FUTURE

Lillejuleaften (Little Christmas Eve) was the culmination of the 125th-anniversary celebration.



THE DANISH HOME FOUNDATION

From the time that The Danish Home was founded in 1891, its guiding principle was to provide the very best care for aging seniors. This has remained our steadfast commitment.

The Danish Home Foundation, which is the fundraising arm of The Danish Home, was launched in 2013. The Foundation carries out our founders' foresight and works to ensure that their tradition of caring for the seniors in our community continues.

The Danish Home Foundation communicates our mission, and coordinates fundraising as well as identifies and solicits gifts, bequests, and opportunities for estate planning. The Foundation's role is crucial to the community as it moves forward. Funds raised through the work of The Danish Home Foundation will be used to provide charitable care for those eligible residents who have exhausted their own financial resources and for capital improvements at The Danish Home.

Tradition of Caring



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We depend on the generosity of our donors to help sustain The Danish Home and our 125-year old mission of providing care for seniors. This helps ensure that we are positioned to remain strong for the future. More than ever, broad-based support is vital to the successful operation of all Foundation programs and activities. Please consider the following ways in which you can help support The Danish Home Foundation.

ANNUAL GIVING AND PLEDGES

We ask that these be fulfilled by the close of our fiscal year on September 20th. Pledges may be made over several years.

MATCHING GIFTS

These permit doubling or even tripling the dollar value of your annual gift. Please check to see if you or your spouse are affiliated with a matching gift company or organization.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This supports charitable care of our residents.

SECURITIES

Gifts of appreciated securities are always welcome and may offer significant tax advantages to the donor.

PLANNED GIFTS

We welcome the opportunity to review different planned giving alternatives with you. Donations can be made via our website at www.DanishHomeOfChicago.org.

THE DANISH ASSOCIATION SELECTIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION:

Current assets	\$714,540
Investments - Foundation	7,727,170
Interest in donor controlled perpetual trust	5,319,389
Property and equipment with other assets	4,021,462
Current liabilities	392,003
Reserve for Life Care costs	1,683,949

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES:

Operating revenue from residents' services	\$3,012,336
Operating expenses	3,437,518
Operating - net loss	<425,182>
Revenues from Foundation activities (net)	181,073
Excess of revenue over expenses	<\$244,109>

CENSUS:

Independent living	15
Catered living	14
Healthcare	9
TOTAL	38

Note: Our operating fund's net loss is a measure of The Danish Home's historic charitable mission, and is covered by our Foundation's investment earnings, contributions and bequests.



LILLEJULEAFTEN

Lillejuleaften, the Scandinavian Little Christmas Eve, was celebrated at the Hyatt on McDonald's campus in Oak Brook on Saturday, December 16th. The fundraiser marked the culmination of the year-long festivities for The Danish Home's 125th-anniversary.

More than 270 people attended Lillejuleaften, with culinary creations overseen by The Danish Home's own Executive Chef Roger

Sukhu. To the delight of the attendees, the menu featured Scandinavian favorites including roasted duck and pork, Frikadeller, rice pudding, gløgg and more.

The celebration included live musical entertainment and a St. Lucia procession. More than \$41,000 was raised, benefitting The Danish Home Foundation.

2017 ESSENCE AWARD

The Essence Award of The Danish Home Foundation was first created in 2012. The honor is bestowed annually on a person, people or organization integral to preserving the legacy of the Danish community through their commitment, compassion, caring and giving.

The recipients of the 2017 Essence Award were Paul and the late Sharlene Roge, in honor of the contributions they have made to the greater Danish community and The Danish Home through their time, energy and financial resources.

Paul learned, from a very young age, the time-honored Scandinavian tradition of supporting his Scandinavian heritage. Through the years, he served on the boards of countless Danish organizations including DAAC, Dania, Rebuild, the Curling Club and The Danish Home.



Shar, as people fondly called her, said that she became an honorary Dane when she married Paul. She immediately became involved with The Danish Home, volunteering as an entertainer, fundraiser, and a longtime member of the Sisterhood and Women's Auxiliary.

Perhaps the greatest legacy of Paul and Shar are their children Cheryl, David and Scott, who have picked up their parents' passion for volunteerism. "The Danish Home is truly a home, not a facility, and we will do everything in our power to keep this alive and well for many generations to come," said Cheryl.



OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Danish Home has a long-time commitment to the Norwood Park Community of Chicago, which has been our treasured home for 125 years. We demonstrate our dedication to having a positive impact on our community, in ways that include the following:

CHARITABLE CARE

In Fiscal Year 2017, The Danish Home and The Danish Home Foundation paid in excess of \$425,000 in charitable care for residents who have outlived their financial resources.

In 2017, The Danish Home paid a Long-Term Care Provider Assessment Fee of over \$23,000 to the State of Illinois. These funds are used to support the Illinois Medicaid Program, which provides healthcare coverage to low-income families lacking health insurance, children who are wards of the State, low-income senior citizens, individuals with disabilities and elderly individuals receiving care in skilled nursing facilities.

COMMUNITY CARE AND BEAUTIFICATION

The Danish Home's elegant campus has graced our community for generations and strives to be a good neighbor to the community it serves. The grounds and facilities are meticulously maintained so that neighbors and visitors can enjoy our beautifully landscaped, park-like atmosphere.

VOLUNTEER DESTINATION

Many groups and individuals are drawn to The Danish Home to work among our warm and welcoming residents. Volunteer opportunities include working in our salon, coordinating special events, serving on the Auxiliary and Board of Directors and more. The Danish Home facilitates almost 3,750 volunteer hours/year.

We are proud of our community and welcome Scandinavian and other not-for-profit organizations to have meetings and gatherings in our home.

OUR GENEROUS DONORS

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Peter Orum

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40th Anniversary

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Memory of Dr. Erik Larson
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Memory of Erving Jensen

Memory of Hans Petersen
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Memory of Mary Eskelson
Memory of Mary McCracken
Memory of Pauline Jensen & Elsie Drumm
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Memory of Walter Egebergh
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\$100,000 AND OVER

1

\$10,000 TO \$99,999

5

\$5,000 TO \$9,999

5

\$1,000 TO \$4,999

37

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28

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37

\$100 TO \$199

95

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168

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of Chicago

A Boutique Senior Community

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