
Serving Anoka County Since 2000

2020

Annual Report



Partnering for a Greater Impact

Cars For Neighbors provides vehicle repair funding for low-income residents of Anoka County

Our Mission: To foster independence by providing car care for neighbors in need who cannot afford to have their vehicle fixed

**From the
CFN
Board President:**

2020 – What a year! I think that says it all. Cars For Neighbors did not skip a beat helping our neighbors in need. As an organization we are proud to say that we did not close even for a day during the pandemic and were able to continue our work helping neighbors in need of car repair.

I am honored to have worked side-by-side with Joe McKenzie, our Director of Philanthropic Partnerships, and our dynamic CFN Board, to move our organization forward. 2020 was a year of additions to our Board of Directors. I would like to say “welcome” and “thank you” to Bob Hylland, Financial One Credit Union, who joined our board in February and Steve Landau, Raymond James Financial, who joined our board in October.

Our new community-facing initiative this year had Cars For Neighbors virtually out in the community connecting with our established partners as well as creating many new partnerships with other nonprofits and businesses. We are proud of our collaboration with other Anoka County nonprofits.

Due to the pandemic, we had only one FUNdraiser this year. Cars For Neighbors was fortunate to hold NASCARade 2020 Carsino Night on Tuesday, September 22nd. During our FUNdraiser we celebrated 20 years as an organization and paid tribute to the Founders of Free2B! (our original name). Thank you to all who supported us at our event.

Lastly I would like to thank each and every member of the Cars For Neighbors Board of Directors & Staff for their input, participation and leadership steering Cars For Neighbors toward the extraordinary nonprofit it is becoming.

Upward and onward,

Kat Smithe

Kat Smithe
President, Board of Directors
Cars For Neighbors

*“If you get knocked down,
be sure to get back up.”
- Tom Buchman
Free2B! Founder*

**In 2020,
CFN Repaired
*61
Vehicles**

2020 Highlights:

- ❖ **February 11** - Date of Incorporation of Free2B!, 20th Anniversary
- ❖ **March 24th** - Signed agreement with Environmental Initiative to begin Emission Repair Upgrades
- ❖ **September 22nd** - NASCARade Carsino Night at Brook Hall in Blaine

2020 Statistics:

- ❖ ***1 out of 5 vehicles repaired** - Helped a resident from one of our local nonprofit partners: Alexandra House, Elevate Hope House, Family Promise in Anoka County, Stepping Stone Emergency Housing, and The Dwelling Place
- ❖ **3:1 ratio** - Female to Male clients
- ❖ **67%** - Clients were unemployed (31% increase from 2019)
- ❖ **98%** - Clients whose income fell into the very low to low income range
- ❖ **2.48 tons** - Total number of Emissions reduced in the air of Anoka County through repairs on 44 cars between March and December

Operating Reveue & Expenses:

Revenue & Support

Contributions.....	\$22,826
Grants	\$118,688
Program Fees	\$0
Investment Income.....	\$377
In-Kind Donations.....	\$40,371
Event Income	\$31,483
TOTAL REVENUE & SUPPORT.....	\$213,745

Expenses

Program Services.....	\$185,714
Management & General.....	\$20,823
Fundraising.....	\$4,461
Total Operating Expenses	\$211,471
Change In Net Assets	\$2,274
Net Assets - Beginning of Year....	\$140,286
Net Assets - End of Year.....	\$142,560

Balance Sheets:

Assets

Current Assets.....	\$150,979
Property & Equipment.....	\$71,843
Less Accumulated Depreciation (\$70,934)	
TOTAL ASSETS.....	\$151,888

Liabilities & Net Assets

Liabilities & Net Assets.....	\$9,328
Net Assets	
Undesignated.....	\$142,560
Board Designated	\$0
TOTAL NET ASSETS.....	\$142,560
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NEW ASSETS	\$151,888

Board of Directors:

Kat Smithe..... President
Blaine Festival/Smithe Promotional Group

Kevin Leonard..... Vice President
Emerald Bay Performances, Inc.

Jeannie Grimes..... Secretary (*partial year*)
Medtronic/Mary Kay Independent Consultant

Lisa Mattson Acting Secretary (*partial year*)
Power of 100

Robin Schnaidt..... Treasurer
Numbers LLC

Colleen McGinn..... Member at Large
Tiki Hut

Bob Hylland..... Member at Large (*partial year*)
Financial One Credit Union

Steve Landau ... Member at Large (*partial year*)
Raymond James Financial

Staff:

Joe McKenzie Director of Philanthropic
Partnerships

Anna Weingart..... Administrative Coordinator

Tom Kosel Faith Community Outreach
(*partial year*)

Car Care Partners:

Mark & Barb Koloff Meineke Ham Lake

*Thank
you*

*"I need a vehicle I can rely on to help those who rely on me."
- A Thankful CFN Client*

In Their Own Words:

This is how CFN services make a difference in their lives...

- ❖ "Single mom starting over and hours were cut due to COVID. Transportation is a must for me to be able to provide for my son."
- ❖ "I'm searching for a job where a vehicle would be required. I live in an area with little services and grocery stores around and my vehicle allows me to access these services, my doctor's, and to engage in my community."
- ❖ "Very low income and needs predictable and safe, primary source of transportation throughout all MN seasons to get to grocery store, pharmacy, healthcare appointments, etc. We live in a rural area of Anoka County with no other access to transportation."
- ❖ "My car is my means of transportation to get to dr's, work, store, etc. I had no car prior for 3 years and struggled to use public bus and finding rides. I live paycheck to paycheck and there is no extra money for car repairs or other unexpected expenses right now."
- ❖ "At this time, I live alone and have no income while I wait for social security. Having my vehicle is a source of pride, independence, and I need to get to appointments and out of the house. As I have VERY limited funds and next to no help from family financially, this program would be a godsend to me."

Pictured at the right are a few of our Founders. Left to right: Luann Koskinen, Tom Buchman, Ellen Erickson, Sandy Froiland and Al Sannerud. From Their Vision came Our Mission: "To foster independence by providing car care for neighbors in need who cannot afford to have their vehicle fixed."

(This photo was taken at the September 2014 rebranding event when Free 2B! became Cars For Neighbors.)



How YOU Can Help:

- ❖ **Financial Support** – Make a tax deductible donation monthly, quarterly, or annually.
- ❖ **Donate a Vehicle** – Do you have a car at the end of its life? Donate it to Cars for Neighbors. The dollars go directly back into the vehicle repair program.
- ❖ **Expand Our Reach** – Do you know someone (family, friend, and/or neighbor) who could benefit from our services, please share our name and contact information with them.

***Thank You
to all of our
Volunteers, Supporters
and Partners!***

REPAIRING
Cars

FOR NEIGHBORS

Restoring Hope ONE Car Repair At A Time

Contact Us:

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