

Greetings!

There is so much to celebrate at Open Doors for Youth! Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, volunteers, and community partners, we've reached some exciting milestones this summer. From welcoming the first resident to The Next Door to transforming our Clothing Closet into a more inviting space for youth, these accomplishments reflect the power of a community that cares. We hope you enjoy these updates, and thank you for making this work possible.

The Next Door opens!



This last month was a milestone for Open Doors for Youth – The Next Door officially opened its doors! We welcomed our very first residents: a young person who has been connected to Open Doors for nearly a year, and a youth who just recently started coming to the drop-in center.

The Next Door provides stable housing where young people can focus on building the skills, confidence, and support systems they need to achieve lasting independence and permanent housing. Through individualized case management, life skills development, and connections to community resources, residents have the opportunity to build a strong foundation for their future.

This milestone wouldn't have been possible without **you**. Thank you to everyone who donated items from our house wish list, volunteered countless hours to prepare the home, and has supported this vision over the years. A special thank you to Union UCC for partnering with us by renting their parsonage for this program.

Clothing Closet Remodel



Marlee Fehrmann -- Girl Scout Gold Award project

A year ago, local high school student Marlee Fehrmann reached out to Open Doors for Youth with an idea for her Girl Scout Gold Award project: redesigning our Clothing Closet to create a more welcoming and streamlined shopping experience for the youth who visit our center.

Over the following months, Marlee developed a new layout, gathered donations, recruited volunteers, and over the past several weeks, brought her vision to life.

The result? A completely transformed Clothing Closet, now featuring a fitting room and a space that is more organized, functional, and welcoming for youth!

We're incredibly grateful for Marlee's vision, dedication, and countless hours of hard work. You can see the transformation [here](#).

Community Events



Shawnalie and Julia, ODFY volunteers, at Elk River Fest

We spent two weekends out in the community in July: at Wright Sherburne Pride and Elk River Fest, and we loved connecting with so many community members! We met people who were learning about Open Doors for the very first time and had the chance to catch up with many longtime supporters. Events like these are wonderful reminders of how much our community cares about local youth. |

If you missed us in July, we'd love to see you this fall! Stop by the [Elk River Farmers Market](#) on September 3, [Otsego's Prairie Festival](#) on September 12, or the [Thumbs Up 5K/Fun Run](#) on September 19 to say hello. |

Upcoming Events



Taste of Elk River

Mark your calendars for Thursday, August 13th, Elk River Rotary's Taste of Elk River. Enjoy an unforgettable evening featuring chef-inspired tastes, local beverages and great community. A bonus? Open Doors for Youth is the primary recipient of all funds raised from this event! Tickets for Taste can be purchased [here](#).

27th Annual Noelle M Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament

WHEN: 9-12-2026
WHERE: Elk River Golf Club
 20015 Elk Lake Rd NW
 Elk River, MN 55330
TIME: Shotgun start at 12:30pm
 Play is a four person scramble.
 Please arrive by 11:30am to allow for check-in.
COST: \$100.00/person (cash or check only)
 * Golf, cart, and meal ticket included *
 Please register by 8-31-26 by emailing:
 christineanderson630@gmail.com

Cost also includes entry in:

- Challenge holes
- Team mulligans
- Raffle tickets
- Ball toss

This fund was founded by Elliott and Chris Anderson in memory of their daughter, Noelle, who perished in a Jeep fire in January 1997 at the age of three.

Proceeds will benefit:

OPEN DOORS
 Helped your future
 Open Doors for Youth serves youth ages 16-24 who are experiencing homelessness or instability and offers a safe space where youth are empowered to move towards positive and healthy networks of support, personal well-being, and housing stability.

NEXT DOOR
 The Next Door provides safe, supportive transitional housing for people ages 18-24. Residents can stay up to 24 months while working toward long-term stability, independence and permanent housing.

Noelle M. Anderson Golf Tournament

Calling all golfers! The 27th Annual Noelle M Anderson Golf Tournament is Saturday, September 12 and we'd love to have you join us for this event. The \$100 fee is all-inclusive (cart, golf, meal, challenge holes and games) and all proceeds benefit Open Doors for Youth. To register, please email [Chris Anderson](#).

Wish List -- Drop-in Center Needs

Some of our shelves are looking a little bare this summer. These items are always in high demand, and we would love it if you'd consider picking up an item or two from this list on your next trip to the store!



OPENDOORS
FOR YOUTH
Unlock your future

Wish List

- ☐ Beef jerky
- ☐ Ramen
- ☐ Hormel Compleats (or other ready-to-eat meals)
- ☐ Mac and cheese cups, mashed potato cups
- ☐ PopTarts
- ☐ Fruit cups (peaches, mandarin oranges, etc.)
- ☐ Gatorade
- ☐ Small bottles of laundry and dish soap

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF MON-THUR
FROM 11AM-1PM OR BY APPOINTMENT

554 3RD ST NW #201 ELK RIVER 763-441-1473

We're grateful to be part of such a caring and compassionate community. Thank you for standing alongside youth and for continuing to invest in hope, stability, and opportunity. We can't wait to share what's next!

Warmly,
The Open Doors team

Open Doors for Youth | 554 Third St. NW, Suite 201 | Elk River, MN 55330 US

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