

One Million Strong

One Decade, One Million Men



2024 Annual Report

One Million Strong

A Bold New Vision for Caregiving

**A Letter from
Our Founder, Kyle Woody
and
Our Board President, Jean Accius**



In our 10th year, we expanded beyond our Minnesota roots to serve Caregivers across the U.S. and Canada. And we made our biggest impact yet—keeping our core programs strong while launching two groundbreaking new initiatives:

- [The Storm Chaser](#) – Our new mobile kitchen (think food truck, but with more heart) helps volunteers bring encouragement to Caregivers, one meal at a time.
- [CaregiverCON](#) – A first-of-its-kind conference bringing together a growing movement of people and organizations who believe non-professional Caregivers deserve to feel seen and supported.

Now, we have set our sights on the impact we will make in our next decade—strengthening one million caregiving men.

Continued...

Rethinking Strength

From childhood, men are told, "be strong"—which usually translates to bottling things up and white-knuckling through life. But at Jack's, we believe in a different kind of strength:

- The strength to ask for and accept help (without needing to "owe someone a beer" in return).
- The strength to rely on a team (because even superheroes have sidekicks).
- The strength to care for yourself while caring for others (yes, naps count).
- The strength to open your heart—so it can grow, not break.

Which kind of strength would you wish for the people caring for you?

A Bold New Vision for Caregiving

Imagine a world where caregiving isn't seen as a solo burden but as a team effort, where men who are Caregivers are finally recognized as athletes of compassion, not outliers. Where caregiving is no longer viewed as just a "women's role"—because last we checked, love and responsibility don't come with gender labels.

That's what One Million Strong is all about. It's more than a slogan, it's a movement. If you feel called to join it, let's connect. We need all the help we can get (yes, especially yours).

All our best,
Jean Accius & Kyle Woody



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Get the details on how you can reach us.



Founders' Core Value Awards

Jane Menning – Dustin Cesarek Compassion Award

I'm not certain how Jane found us here at Jack's, but we are so glad she did. Jane is a regular at our Caregiver Klatch (held right upstairs) once a month. These Klatches (support groups with beer and wings) are always awe-inspiring. I have witnessed Caregivers who have a lot on their plates offer practical advice and pure, uncut compassion. Jane once shared during one of these meetings that expecting "happiness" during a caregiving journey is a lot to ask of ourselves. But stringing together moments of joy in between the hard times gives her hope. Practical and compassionate... and for me, mind-blowing.

About a year ago, Jane agreed to lead our monthly Caregiver Klatch--not your average volunteer gig--leading a support group for fellow Caregivers, many of whom are guys. Following a recent Klatch after the attendees had left... Jane exclaimed.... Wasn't that fun?! It was! And informative and hilarious and sad and compassionate. This year's Dustin Cesarek Compassion Award goes to Jane Menning. -Written by Jeff Myhre

Eric Schleuter – Justin Nicolay Resilience Award

I remember the first time I spoke with Eric. It was right after his wife died. Eric had scheduled me for an online intake meeting, and, like a lot of first-timers, he didn't show. Being resilient myself, I looked up his phone number and called him. Some guys aren't ready. But with a little coaxing, Eric was. We talked for a good hour, and it was pretty obvious that Eric was dedicated to actively participating in his grief journey. He shared that he lost not only his wife, but also his best friend and his childhood sweetheart. Devastating, to be sure.

Eric is a regular at our Sequel Maker Klatch, a support group we hold right upstairs for those who have lost a loved one. He is candid about his grief journey and is unflinchingly supportive of his fellow attendees. The key to Eric's resilience is giving back. He volunteers with the U of M. He's a fierce advocate for fellow Caregivers at his workplace and has recently agreed to be a Klatch leader himself. This year's Justin Nicolay Resilience Award goes to Eric Schleuter. - Written by Jeff Myhre

Founders' Core Value Awards

Toni Kay Mangskau – Kyle Woody Courage Award

On April 26th, 2025, Caregivers and community partners serving them gathered in Rochester, Minnesota for CaregiverCONx Southeast. Everything from programming to logistics was made possible by Toni and the unwavering courage she brings to every battle she fights.

Her journey began with the challenges of caregiving within her own family, supporting her children through serious health issues, and later stepping into the role of Caregiver for other family members. She has experienced firsthand the emotional and financial burdens that so many Caregivers face, and rather than being defeated by these hardships, she has become a powerful voice for change.

Toni has spent decades fighting for health care reform, caregiving support, and social justice. Whether she's organizing community events to connect Caregivers with vital resources, advising national organizations like the National Patient Advocate Foundation, or testifying before lawmakers on the importance of paid family leave and affordable prescription drugs, her advocacy is deeply personal and profoundly impactful.

Toni's passion for advocacy and caregiving has transformed lives, not just in Minnesota but across the country. Toni embodies courage in every sense of the word. This year's Kyle Woody Courage Award goes to Toni Kay Mangskau!

-Written by Heather Erickson



Above, Left to Right, Eric Schleuter, Jane Menning, Toni Kay Mangskau

Caregiver & Sequel Maker Awards

Monica Bringle – The Jean Accius II Caregiver Award

There are certain people you want in your corner. Monica Bringle is one of those people. I know Monica from our Caregiver Klatches, and she always gives more than she receives. When Monica speaks of a resource that she recently learned about at one of our support groups, the pens and notepads come out. She brings humor, hope, and resources to her fellow Caregivers. There are no orphans when Monica is in the room. Monica pays special attention to new Caregivers and those who are having a tougher time. She often comes early or stays late to hold a mini-Klatch of her own. Monica is a Caregiver's Caregiver; Jack's and our Klatches wouldn't be the same without her. This year's Jean Accius III Caregiver Award goes to Monica Bringle. -Written by Jeff Myhre



Above, Left to Right, Jeff Fjeld & Monica Bringle

Jeff Fjeld – The Richard Anderson Sequel Maker Award

Jeff Fjeld is one of the first Caregivers Jack's had the privilege of supporting. And while his story as a Caregiver for his bride came to an end, the Sequel he's making has just begun. He has been a recurring donor for over five years and is also someone we can count on to ask his friends for their support, too. In fact, his friend Andrew Skwiot was the rare person to outbid Jeff on Rich Anderson's dinner at The Big GIVE last year. Earlier this year, at that very same dinner, we asked everyone, "When did someone go out of their way to show you that they cared?". While everyone pondered, Jeff instantly sat up straight and said with absolute certainty, "Everyone at this table did that for me." The look on Jeff's face said it all. Holding back tears, Jeff demonstrated in that moment one thing we hope every Sequel Maker never lets go of: The gratitude they feel for the people who showed up for them in their darkest days. This year's Richard Anderson Sequel Maker Award goes to Jeff Fjeld. -Written by Kyle Woody

Community Partner of the Year Award



When our longtime Klatch partner went out of business, I was charged with finding a new venue. After looking at 30 or so other locations, I actually got a meeting, in person, with a manager. It was Jill Pavlak. And you know how homeowners know when they've found the right house? That's how I felt and continue to feel at the Urban Growler. Twice a month, Urban Growler staff treats Caregivers and Sequel Makers like Kings and Queens. It was also a great place for our 2025 Hootenanny! We also plan to hold more gatherings at Urban Growler in the fall. This year's Community Partner Award goes to the good folks at the Urban Growler. We're so grateful we found them. -Written by Jeff Myhre



Caregiver CON



**I was overwhelmed
with gratitude for
the first time.**



I met Julie Niewald at our ambitious and equally successful CaregiverCON last fall. Julie's husband Steve uses a wheelchair due to a bike accident. He went from being an active retiree, to what Jack's refers to as a "Caregetter", needing 24/7 care from Julie. I was charged with greeting attendees at the street level entrance. Julie arrived shortly before the event, feeling alone and not knowing what to expect. She was hoping for some kind of connection. What she found after climbing three flights of stairs was a room full of Caregivers who were seeking the same thing. She shares, "I was overwhelmed with gratitude for the first time." The event helped Julie feel less alone and she knew she was in a room of like-minded, brave Caregivers and organizations like Jack's that were there to help. "I was in a room of caregivers who understand that healing isn't on a straight trajectory and that Caregivers need Caregivers."

Julie found Jack's that day. She experienced our Caregiver Klatch (Jack's brand of support group, led by Dan Cramer). She basked in both Priscilla Momah's Somatic Serenade and a feeling of solidarity with fellow Caregivers. She spent time with a therapy dog and met with the good folks at Open Arms, which opened the door for her to ask for help from her family. I don't think I'm overselling things when I say... Julie is a believer.

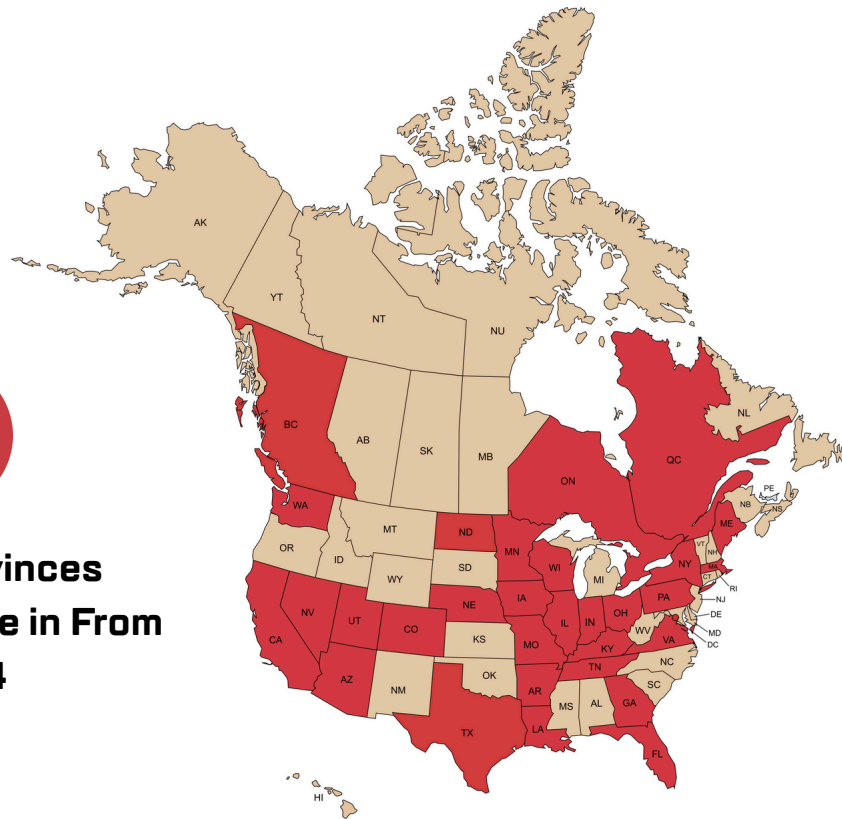
Join us at our next CaregiverCON at the U of M on Saturday November 1st, 2025. For more details, check out the CaregiverCON website, caregivercon.com.

-Written by Jeff Myhre

Donation Powered Expansion



**States/Provinces
Donations Came in From
in 2024**



We have quietly supported men who are Caregivers from across the country for years, and now thanks to donors from across the country we are proud to announce an official expansion of our service area. We now offer Jack-to-Jack Coaching to guy caregivers across the entire U.S. and Canada. And starting May 29th, 2025, our signature Caregiver Klatches will also be available virtually to all active Caregivers in the US and Canada. These virtual Caregiver gatherings will be held on the last Thursday of every month, creating space for Caregivers to connect, share, and support one another—no matter where they call home.

We remain deeply committed to our Minnesota roots, and our in-person community gatherings will continue as always. Caregiver Klatches will continue to be held at the Urban Growler on the first Thursday of each month, and Sequel Maker Klatches will continue on the third Wednesday of the month. Whether you're joining us around our table or from your own, we're here to walk this journey with you. And we believe the generosity of our donors will continue to ensure that the Caregivers we're showing up for never encounter a pay wall.

Caregiver Klatch



Cathy Krier recently attended our monthly Caregiver Klatch. Our Klatches aren't usually centered around advice, but Kathy needed some practical support to validate her frustration as a caregiver. A roadblock at a pharmacy that day seemed to be a defining moment for her. And how to approach the delicate topic of transitioning from palliative care to hospice with the various members of her family who each had different needs. What she received was confirmation of her instincts and feelings about past plans and an uncertain future.

Less than a month later Jeff Myhre received this text message from Cathy:

Hi Jeff- Just wanted to reiterate how meaningful it was to attend the last Klatch. Presently, I am a bit of a fish out of water as I miss my best friend (he passed last Friday). But the fam and I are adjusting.

It is a humble privilege to witness Caregivers supporting one another and receiving encouragement at the same time. If you haven't experienced a Klatch, we have our Caregiver Klatches on the First Thursday of the month. Sequel Maker Klatch is the 3rd Wednesday, and look for the pilot for our online Caregiver Klatch coming May 29th, 2025!



Step Into the Storm: Host a Storm Chase Experience

At Jack's Caregiver Coalition, we believe no Caregiver should have to weather their storms alone. These are the moments when we show up—often during a time of crisis—with our mobile kitchen, The Storm Chaser. We cook fresh, delicious meals and gather with the Caregiver's family, not just to feed their bodies, but to nourish their spirits. We show up as fellow Caregivers, people who truly understand the weight of the moment.

One of the most powerful ways we share our mission is through the Storm Chase Experience. The experience helps donors feel our mission. It's an opportunity for your friends, family, and colleagues to feel the heart of Jack's—and to see what happens when we choose to drive into a storm. When a supporter hosts an experience, they invite friends into a behind-the-scenes look at what it's like to engage in a real storm chase.

Want to help Caregivers feel seen and supported? Host a Storm Chase Experience and introduce your circle to our work. Simply invite people you think would be inspired by learning about why we do what we do. And it all happens when and where you want. Contact kyle@jackscaregiverco.org to learn more.



Fred Sklenar, our Storm Chaser Champion, and The Storm Chaser.

Tributes

In Memory of Alison Anderson

Kristen Ciarochi

Richard Anderson

In Honor of Amy Koland

Rich Koland



In Memory of Brenda Van Vugt

Randy Lee



In Memory of Annie Albers

Anonymous

Caroline Albers

Martha Benson

Jason Miskowiec



In Honor of Cassie and Dan Cramer

Jane Haller

Barbara DeClerk

Kay and Peter Walsh

Patrick Edeburn

Sarah Stoesz and David Foster



In Honor of Dustin Cesarek

Kelly Grosklags

In Memory of Julia Valley

Antoine Valley

In Honor of All the Caregivers

Georgia Duncan

Tributes



In Memory of Jackie Lonne

Marilyn Eidem

David or Sanra Forsman

Robert Gerwig

Bonita Holt

Julie Linville

Linda Ranisate

Pat Sovick

Mary Steffen

Julie Larson

Matt Begansky

Gino Anselmo



In Honor of Jack's Staff

Jeff Myhre

In Honor of Jake Jacobsen

Ann Johnson



In Memory of Kristi Pluimer

Aaron Nyquist

Bruce Nyquist

In Honor of Shawn McKinley

Thomas McKinley



In Honor of Donnice Woods

Stacy Woods

Tributes



In Honor of Kyle Woody

Elizabeth Amaya

William Behrens



In Memory of Jane Greenberg

Tom Esch



In Memory of Patricia J. Miller

Roger Miller



In Honor of Jeff and Jennifer Myhre

James Thomas

In Honor of Jeff Myhre

Christopher Burke

Carol Myhre

In Memory of Jordan Finkler

Lindy and Paul Yokanovich

In Memory of Julia Valley

Antoine Valley



Tributes



In Honor of Justin Nicolay
William and Susan Boylan



**In Memory of Kim Cesarek and
Kristina Ailara**
Andres Parra



**In Honor of Mark Mattson and In
Memory of Teri Mattson**
Chuck and Donna Mattson
Doris Parsell

In Honor of Mark Mattson
Dave Foster
Laura Keel
Nicole Tsadik



In Memory of Kathryn Hill
Aaron Hill

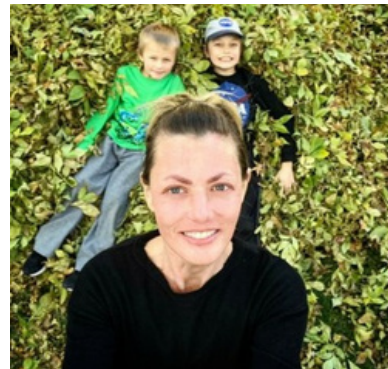
Tributes



In Memory of Melissa Zahn
Brian Zahn



In Memory of Tracy McGarry
Jodine Chelberg



In Memory of Sarah DeBord
Doug Dallmann
Jessica Lindsay
Stephanie Culp

Honoring Loved Ones Through Giving

We are deeply grateful to the many donors who chose to give in honor of or in memory of someone special this year. These heartfelt gifts are a powerful tribute, celebrating the lives and legacies of those who have made a lasting impact. Your generosity not only honors their stories but also helps us support Caregivers when they need it most.

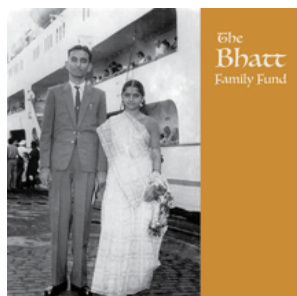
To make a future gift in honor or in memory of someone you love, visit:
jackscaregiverco.org/support

Corporate Sponsorships & Grants



MASONIC CANCER CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA





Chris & Tracey Rust Charitable Fund
Meysembourg Family Charitable Fund

The Janice Gardner Foundation
Mcelhone Enterprises LLC

OUR IMPACT

97% of the men who engaged with Jack's reported an average of an 80% improvement in how equipped they felt for their caregiving role.



[Click/Scan here to watch Steve Treberg's story in his own words.](#)



[Click/Scan here to watch Mike Dykema's story in his own words.](#)

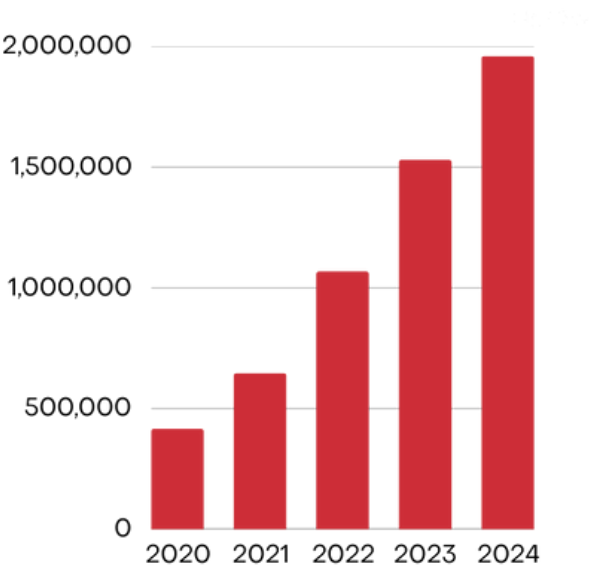
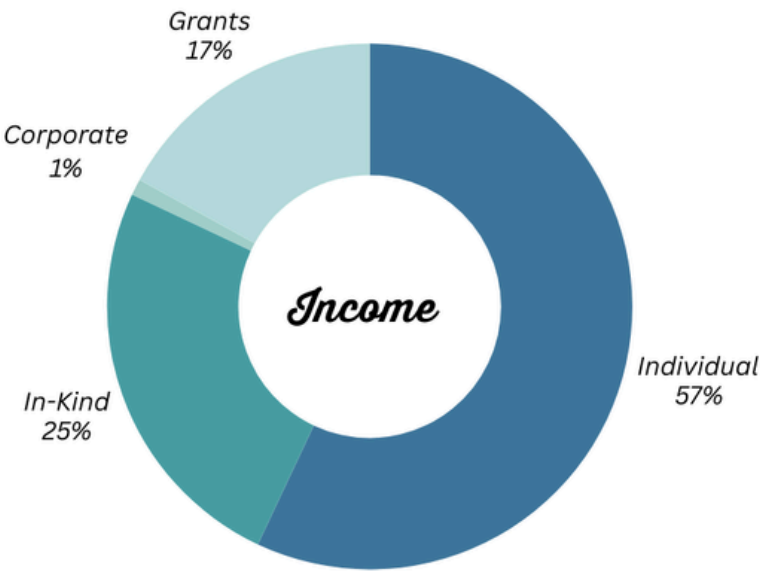


All videos & photography
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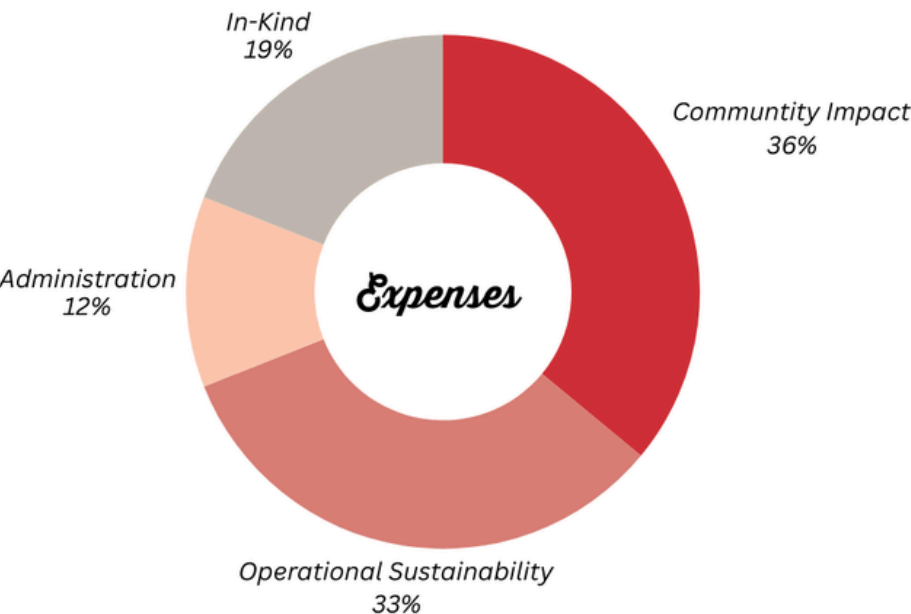
JESSICA STROBEL
photography

FINANCIALS

For the first time since Jack’s Caregiver Coalition began, we ended the year in the red. While this is a new experience for us, it reflects the reality of growing need and rising costs—and our unwavering commitment to showing up for Caregivers, no matter what. We’re asking for your help to get back in the black.



Total Cumulative Dollars Raised



Total Gross Income	\$429,522
Total Expenses	\$562,148
Total Net Income	-\$132,625

Thank You to Our 2024 Donors

Aaron Hill
Aaron Nyquist
Aaron Shipp
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Kristine Newcomer

Larry & Kim Bertram

Lars Leafblad

Laura Keel

Lee Munnich

Linda Ranisate

Linda Wick

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Scott Taylor

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Virginia Grossman
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31 Anonymous Donors



[Click/Scan here to feel
the impact our donors
made possible.](#)



How to Support Jack's Caregiver Coalition

Caregivers desperately need more support. A gift to Jack's Caregiver Coalition is a great way to give it to them.

Membership

When you become a sustaining member for \$25 or more a month, you enable us to plan programming for Caregivers and Sequel Makers in a thoughtful way.

Sponsorship

Corporate sponsorships support programming while increasing visibility for your company. Sponsor CaregiverCON or another program of your choice.

Donate Now

Donate now allows you to support Caregivers one gift at a time. You can offer these gifts in tribute of someone you care about, as well!

Volunteer

Volunteers make it possible to advocate for and serve Caregivers on a greater scale than without volunteers. Plus, it's fun!

Open A Door

Introduce us to someone new – Whether it's a potential donor, sponsor, or Caregiver, your connections can make a big difference.

**Click/Scan Here to
Donate Now**



**Our goal in
2024 was to
secure 24
new
members. We
ended up
secured 169!**



How to Contact Us

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Jack's Website

jackscaregiverco.org

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