



December 2021

Dear 2021 Starfish Foundation Members (and hopeful future members):

First and foremost, we wish to extend our sincere gratitude for all the support provided to the Starfish Foundation in 2021. As we do our best to adapt to a “new normal” amidst a lingering global pandemic, we continue to operate with an abundance of caution to ensure the safety and health of all retreat and event participants.

Adaptability has been essential and tied to this year’s numerous successes. Like many of you, we continue to navigate new technologies (Zoom, Skype, etc.) to connect with family, friends, donors, volunteers, and members of our purple family.

The Starfish Foundation is proud to say that by following CDC recommended health guidelines and using some thoughtful adaptations, we were able to host seven weekend retreats in 2021! Healing Warrior Hearts and Taking It Lightly weekends were conducted safely and provided some much-needed healing and hope to the participants and staff. All of this was possible because of you and the continued support of our Starfish Foundation Members and community – we cannot thank you enough!

As we reflect on the last two years and move forward into 2022, we know that compassion, empathy, love, and support of our community will remain extremely important. And of course, we cannot do this important work without you!

Please join us at **our Annual Starfish Foundation Membership Meeting on Saturday, January 15, 2022 from 10am CST to noon**. This year, the meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format.

**For those that wish to attend in person, we will be at the Center for Creative Learning, 10919 W. Bluemound Road in Wauwatosa, OR you may also choose to join us via Zoom:**

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4143745433?pwd=enZDbkpvr1owZHBzUSswcUJGK1h6QT09>

Meeting ID: 414 374 5433

Passcode: 10919

**One tap mobile**

+13126266799,4143745433#,,,,\*10919# US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 414 374 5433

Passcode: 10919

We look forward to celebrating our 2021 accomplishments with you and getting ready for more community hope and healing in 2022. This meeting will also be your opportunity to vote for individuals who are interested in serving on the board for the 2021-2022 cycle (2-year terms). Biographies, and the meeting agenda, will be posted on the Starfish Foundation website ([starfishfound.org](http://starfishfound.org)) no later than January 5, 2022.

## **Annual Membership**

The Starfish Foundation relies upon its membership dues to assist with administrative expenses associated with being a non-profit organization (e.g., supplies, postage, etc.). If you were a first-time graduate of **Taking It Lightly** or **Healing Warrior Hearts** in 2021, you may recall that the first year of your membership was gifted to you by the Starfish Foundation Board of Directors (the board gifts one 1-year membership per person – if individuals participate in future retreats, we kindly ask the participant to pay for future memberships).

**You might be thinking, what are the benefits of membership?** Bottom line, by paying it forward through foundation membership, **YOU** are a big part of helping our friends, our families, and our communities heal their hearts. If that is not enough, here are some additional benefits to membership:

- Receipt of emails about upcoming events (don't worry, we don't send too many emails), keeping you posted about workshops, graduation celebrations, and other community events
- Opportunity to join Fundraising Committee (help us plan future events . . . plan your own event)
- Opportunity to assist with social media and “getting the word out” about events
  - If you haven't already, please “friend” us on social media!
- Join a like-minded community to make lifelong connections
- Knowledge that your support is making a difference, “. . . it matters to this one”
- The right to be a “silent” member (with no other expectation – although we will always send invites just in case you change your mind)
- Invitation to attend Annual Membership Meeting
- Hold voting rights for new Board Members at Annual Membership Meeting
- An additional incentive (in case you need it) . . .

All members who pay \$25 membership fee for 2021 (in advance of January 16 meeting) **will be entered to win a Starfish T-Shirt and a Healing Warrior Hearts Facemask** (winners will be selected during the Annual Membership Meeting – you do NOT need to be present at meeting to win AND we would love you there to cast your vote).

### **How do you renew your membership or become a new Starfish Foundation member?**

**Option #1 (Online):** Visit the Starfish Foundation website at [www.starfishfound.org](http://www.starfishfound.org) and click the green “Donate” button in the top right-hand corner. This will take you to our Network for Good webpage where you may enter your contact information and pay the one-time \$25 membership fee via credit card. Please be sure to select the **Starfish Foundation Membership** option under the “Apply My Donation To” drop down menu.

**Option #2 (U.S. Mail):** Visit the Visit the Starfish Foundation website at [www.starfishfound.org](http://www.starfishfound.org) and click the “Ways to Give” option in the horizontal menu bar. From there, click the “Download Form” button under the **Membership** section. Print and complete the form.

Please make checks payable to: **Starfish Foundation**  
Send application and checks to: 2437 N. Booth Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53212

**As a reminder, to be eligible to VOTE for new board members at the annual meeting on January 15, 2022, you must be present at the meeting (in-person or virtually) and your membership dues (\$25) must be paid prior to the start of the meeting.**

***Thank you for making a difference!***

***In gratitude, The Starfish Foundation Board of Directors***

Michelle R. Hawley, President  
Dianne Young, Vice-President

Rick Benoit, Treasurer  
Dawn Strobel, Secretary  
Michelle Frost, At-Large Member