



# THEE Alliance Forgiving Medical Debt

January 2022 Newsletter



A warm hello to all the Founding Members of THEE Alliance-Forgiving Medical Debt.

### MEMBERSHIP

Recently, we have welcomed two new faith-based organizations as THEE Alliance Founding members. They are: St Michael Lutheran Church in Roseville  
Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka

This means that we now have **16 Minnesota faith-based organizations** that have made the commitment to give so generously to RIP during this past year. In addition, we have reached out to 22 faith-based organizations, many of whom have expressed interest in being part of this wonderful mission in 2022. We look forward to broadening our Christian and Non-Christian communities of faith, including Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist communities. Together, we are well on our way of bringing a diverse group together in Minnesota to forgive \$100,000,000 in medical debt over the next 3 years. A heartfelt thank you to our organizations and their members for helping to make this possible.

## METRICS

December and January brought amazing results through your commitment and passion for helping others. Total gifts given to date, total dollars forgiven, and number of families impacted have nearly doubled in this brief period. **As of 1/10/2022 there has been over \$244,000 raised toward our \$1,000,000 goal, medical debt forgiven is estimated to be over \$30 million, and you have made an impact on nearly 15,000 families.** We know this figure will grow significantly in 2022. Please visit the website at [THEEAlliance.org](http://THEEAlliance.org) to get the most current information and progress because of your wonderful work to date. As some of you embark on continuing your campaigns in 2022, you may use the donate page on the website to assist you in that process.

## UPDATES

RIP continues to work with key hospital organizations in Minnesota and with the Minnesota Hospital Association and RIP is confident that they will be accessing debt directly from several Minnesota hospitals soon after the new year.

The Advisory group has added three new members to our team: Pastor Danielle Bartz, Al Albrecht, and Cheryl Myhr. Danielle is Pastor at First Congregational in Winona and helped lead the “Winona 5” Faith Leaders that gave \$15,000, forgiving \$2.3 million of medical debt for 1057 families. They are welcome additions as we look at 2022 strategies for RIP and THEE Alliance. All have a passion for medical debt forgiveness and will bring terrific ideas on how to broaden our reach for new members and awareness.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

We have seen just how word of mouth can make an enormous impact in bringing to light the efforts by faith-based groups and the resulting impact it has made for families burdened with medical debt issues. Our members from Winona have done a wonderful job, sharing information about THEE Alliance and RIP. With their efforts, other churches in Southern Minnesota have joined in this stewardship as well. We have seen people across the entire United States make donations through THEE Alliance just because they have heard about us through family members from our Founding Members.

As wonderful leaders in this project, we are asking that you consider reaching out to a neighboring faith-based group or just a friend to let them know what you have done and what they could do as well. We view this as an **“EACH ONE, ASK ONE”** campaign. Mention THEE Alliance to them and encourage them to visit our website for information on how they can make an impact on those struggling with medical debt. **Every \$1 that is donated relieves \$100 in medical debt**

Also, as a reminder, we want you to share your stories with others through our website, [THEEAlliance.org](http://THEEAlliance.org). Feel free to send this information to [THEEAllianceFMD@gmail.com](mailto:THEEAllianceFMD@gmail.com). We will make sure your stories are shared with all members of THEE Alliance.

With immense gratitude and warmest thanks to all of you.

In Faith,

Skip, Pastor Peter, Pastor Danielle, Rick, Steve, Al, Cheryl & Lori  
THEE Alliance Advisory Team

"I'm a single mother, and medical debt has been hanging over my head for years. I was completely defeated and was convinced I would never be able to pay a bill this large. I cannot describe how grateful I am for this. When I received the letter in the mail, I was shocked. When I found out it was legitimate I started crying. I'm still in disbelief. Thank you so incredibly much."

RIP  
MEDICAL  
DEBT