



**Neighborhood House**  
OF MILWAUKEE

*Strengthening families and our community since 1945*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President**

**Kathryn A. Kuhn**  
Medical College of Wisconsin

**Vice President**

**Mark A. Katz**  
AVI-SPL

**Secretary**

**Susan M. H**  
LEGACY Private Trust Company

**Treasurer**

**Kevin Rich**  
Marquette University

**Nikhil Agarwal**  
WEC Energy Group

**Joel Brennan**  
WI Dept. of Administration

**Monica Genz**  
BMO Harris Bank

**Monique Jones**  
WEC Energy Group

**David Jorgensen**  
VJS Construction Services, Inc.

**Stephanie Ellis Radtke**  
Community Volunteer

**Michael Ramstack**  
MillerCoors

**Jeffrey Rohrer**  
PricewaterhouseCoopers

**Will Ruch**  
Versant

**Judith Davidson Shane**  
CAPS

**Brian Spaid**  
Marquette University

**Bryan Terry**  
Milwaukee Public Schools

**C.J. Wauters**  
Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.

**Terry R. Young**  
The Northwestern Mutual  
Life Insurance Company

**Jeff Martinka**  
Executive Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 3, 2019**

**CONTACT**

Widge Liccione  
Development Director  
(414) 933-6161 Ext. 127  
[widge@nh-milw.org](mailto:widge@nh-milw.org)

**Bucks – Celtics Twitter flame war turns into  
Neighborhood House of Milwaukee  
winning Celtics Fans’ support!**

**Milwaukee, May 3, 2019** --- Imagine the surprise at Neighborhood House of Milwaukee when dozens and dozens of gifts came pouring in from complete strangers!

In tracking this phenomenon down, it turns out this largess is due to Celtics Fans! In the run up to tonight’s NBA play-off game, a Twitter flame war erupted between Milwaukee Bucks and Boston Celtics fans. As things were getting ugly, one Celtics fan asked all involved to raise the discourse by doing some good.

This Celtics fan, **named Mike Vaughan using this Twitter handle**, @SteveMerkle9 wrote, "We could spend the next week going back and forth over who has the worst fans, or we could turn this into a positive, here is a link to a charity that does great work in the milwaukee area, please donate whatever you can. Retweet and post your donations." (link: <https://www.neighborhoodhousemke.org/donate/>) [neighorhoodhousemke.org/donate/](https://www.neighborhoodhousemke.org/donate/)"

**NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE OF MILWAUKEE** 2819 W. RICHARDSON PLACE MILWAUKEE, WI 53208 414.933.6161 FAX 414.344.0137 WWW.NH-MILW.ORG INFO@NH-MILW.ORG  
**INTERNATIONAL LEARNING PROGRAM** 639 N. 25TH STREET MILWAUKEE, WI 53233 414.344.4777 ILC@NH-MILW.ORG FACEBOOK.COM/NEIGHBORHOODHOUSEOFMILWAUKEE/



Fellow Celtics fans responded in force, many of whom sent Merkle screen shots of their donation receipts. One tweet said, “This is beautiful & amazing

... & this should be a thing we try and do with every playoff opponent we face...”

- MORE -

“At first we were a little confused and thought it might be a scam of some sort. But we soon found out what this Celtics fan did for us and his peers rose to his challenge. It’s been a wonderful day for the 3,500 children and families we serve,” emphasized Neighborhood House Executive Director, Jeff Martinka. “We are very grateful to this challenge and @SteveMerkle9. We have no idea how he selected Neighborhood House, but he personifies what we work to instill in the children we serve. Good character, doing good for others, and great sportsmanship; qualities that make us good and productive citizens. We just hope we can thank him properly for what he’s inspired.”

More than \$1,000 has been raised in just over six hours.

---

**ABOUT NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE:** *Neighborhood House of Milwaukee was founded in 1945 to help strengthen children and families in some of the city’s most under-served neighborhoods. The agency has touched the lives of nearly a million children and adults for more than 70 years. It’s a highly regarded, award-winning programs serve infants & toddlers, school-age and teen youth, adults and families, refugees and immigrants. More at [www.nh-milw.org](http://www.nh-milw.org).*

#####