

THE PROP SHOP

EDEN PRAIRIE



2017 Annual Report



See our feature story on page 2

VASILISA'S JOURNEY

From client to shopper, volunteer, donor, and now our newest staff member

by Vicki Bomben,
Operations Manager

I remember the day I met Vasilisa Costin in November 2008. The PROP Shop had been open about 18 months, and we were getting busier every day. Vasilisa had just immigrated to the United States from Moldova, and her family needed help. We met on the sales floor by women's pants. She couldn't recall the word for vacuum, so she mimed the vacuuming action to me. Today, Vasilisa is the PROP Shop's newest staff member, and her story illustrates the PROP Shop's history and purpose.

The PROP Shop was founded to help families through difficult times, and Vasilisa's first visit came just as the PROP Shop saw exponential growth in families' needs due to the recession. While Vasilisa's story is unique, she finds common ground with many of the families she sees today.

The PROP Shop's Family Services program was very different when we met; families checked in with volunteers on the sales floor to visit a curtained area in the warehouse. We tracked clients'

While Vasilisa's story is unique, she finds common ground with many of the families she sees today.



Vasilisa's daughters Michelle (center) and Sabina (right) visit their mother during a Sunday shift. Sabina became the PROP Shop's first intern in 2009.

information on an index card cleverly concealed in a cabinet behind women's shoes. It would be another five years before we tracked families' visits by computer.

Vasilisa had been a cancer care nurse in Moldova. Her husband, Nick, was an attorney. They immigrated to the United States largely due to the widespread corruption in Moldova and their belief in a better opportunity for their daughters. Imagine arriving in a new country, needing to learn the language, and navigating entirely new systems while obtaining drivers' licenses. They had difficulty getting an apartment because they had no credit history in the United States.

Vasilisa first visited the PROP Shop about two months after arriving in the US. She told us recently how little they had when they arrived. Vasilisa and her then 17-year-old daughter, Sabina, had to share boots for their first winter in Minnesota. She also explained to us how good she felt when she was able to buy her 2-year-old, Michelle, her first toy in the United States.

We provided Vasilisa with everything she needed from coats and clothes to pots and pans. After five years here, she would start her own catering business with the

help of supplies she'd received from the PROP Shop over time because she loved to cook.

In February 2009, I called to offer Vasilisa a couch and a bed she needed. I talked to Sabina instead as she was more comfortable with the English language than her mother at that time. A few months later, Sabina would contact me about an internship opportunity through TreeTrust, an organization which would pay her wages if she could find a nonprofit at which to work. Sabina was the PROP Shop's first intern and worked here for four months. She graduated high school while interning and left us to attend Normandale that fall.

Vasilisa was soon interested in helping at the PROP Shop like Sabina. She began volunteering in 2010 and spent many hours practicing her English with her fellow volunteers. With over 2,600 volunteers, we often marvel at the relationships built at the PROP Shop across ages, countries-of-origin, genders, and countless other demographics. The PROP Shop's volunteer program has created and strengthened friendships across this community.

“When we register a new family, I put myself on both sides. Now I’m helping. I understand them when they come here.”

– VASILISA COSTIN

Vasilisa became a proud donor and encouraged any client families she knew to donate back to the PROP Shop when they could. She would help other families navigate our program and championed the idea that you give what you can. She now provides interpretation services for some families as she is fluent in Russian, Romanian, Bulgarian, and Turkish.

In 2015, the Costins moved into their own home with the help of a nonprofit program called Homes Within Reach. In 2017, they all officially became citizens after a long and arduous process. The Costins are now excited and proud to vote and participate fully in the country they have chosen. Vasilisa is looking forward to visiting Moldova this summer to see her sisters for the first time in ten years.

In summer 2017, the PROP Shop needed an additional Sunday staff member, and we hired Vasilisa. She also fills in open shifts as needed. Vasilisa enjoys being able to give back financially to the PROP Shop; she’s donated gift cards for families knowing how big of a difference they can make for a family starting over.

Vasilisa says, “This place is where I want to be. It’s the best place for me. I feel comfortable because people understand me, people know me. I don’t feel I’m working. When we register a new family, I put myself on both sides. Now I’m helping. I understand them when they come here.”

As the PROP Shop has grown, we’ve been able to support so many families who need a little help. Most families we’ve helped are U.S. citizens already, but we are proud to have been a formative part of Vasilisa’s journey to citizenship. And we are proud to have her on the PROP Shop’s team.



Vasilisa adds to the shoes and boots display in the Family Services Area. Her experiences help her understand new families who access our services.

A Note from Cindy

After nearly eleven years, the PROP Shop still surprises me every day. Many aspects of our operations seem impossible, yet they work and make miracles happen. So many processes must work for every item we receive, and we needed over 500 volunteers to work more than 20,000 hours last year to do them all.

We couldn’t do this without the incredible support of every community member who donates. In 2017, families received more than 14,000 bags filled with necessities (at least 100,000 pieces total). Another 100,000 items were sold in the resale store, and there were thousands of other pieces we didn’t keep for space or quality reasons. All of those items were in someone else’s home and needed to be selected, bagged, and transported to us. Then our work began: unpacking, sorting, displaying, and more.

Ultimately, all of those items and processes become the means to providing help. Every dish, every shirt, everything makes a difference that goes beyond what numbers can say. We have so many examples of PROP Shop miracles: instances when an item arrives at the perfect time to fill an immediate need. This is the power of the PROP Shop; small things make a big difference.

Everything you do to help our neighbors is deeply appreciated. Thank you,

—Cindy Eddy
Executive Director

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Three Keys to Helping The PROP Shop

SHOP • DONATE • VOLUNTEER



When you support the PROP Shop, you are helping your local community. There are families in Eden Prairie and Chanhassen who need dishes, silverware, blankets, beds, kids' clothes, and more. Shopping, donating, and volunteering at the PROP Shop supports your neighbors by helping us provide these items.

We use donations to fill our Family Services area first. We make sure this room is stocked with necessities before placing anything in the resale store. We don't sell kids' clothes, pots, pans, sheets, blankets, and towels because families need more of these items than we can provide.

Your purchases support our programs and are an environmentally-friendly way to find unique treasures. Proceeds from the store are used to purchase new socks, underwear, sheets, blankets, and more.



2017 Service Statistics



We served **701** families with clothing, household goods, and/or furniture.



We provided **14,787** bags of clothing and household items (over 100,000 individual pieces).



We gave **9,705** pairs of new socks and 9,445 pairs of new underwear to local kids and adults.



We delivered **218** beds, 118 dressers, 50 tables and chairs, and 45 couches to 208 different families.



We provided **567** special request items through our Secret Shopper program (work boots, sports equipment, and other special needs).



The Family Services area was visited more than **3,600** times in 2017.



"The PROP Shop's mission is to provide basic support for families in need through volunteers, community, and other organizations."

In total, we provided more than \$360,000 worth of clothing, household goods, and furniture in 2017.

More Ways You Can Help The PROP Shop

Secret Shoppers

Sign up to receive periodic emails listing specific items needed by local families. If there is an item you are willing to purchase or find in your home, just respond to confirm your donation and then purchase the item or donate it as you're able. Participation each time is not required to receive alerts. Sign up by contacting community@propshopep.org.

Estate Sale Team

Be part of a group of volunteers which works with a select number of estate sale companies to pick up their end-of-sale goods. You will go to donors' homes and pack up high-end goods and urgently needed items. Email volunteer@propshopep.org for more information.

Bakers

Our events almost always involve homemade treats, and we need your help to provide them. If you like to bake, sign up by emailing volunteer@propshopep.org, and we'll request your help via email as needed.

Donation Drive

Organize a drive for an urgently needed item at the PROP Shop. Donation drives for coats, kids' clothes, blankets, sheets, towels, pots, pans, and more are always welcome. Send an email to info@propshopep.org or call 952-224-7051 to discuss details.

Community Group Liaison

Arrange for a PROP Shop speaker at your next gathering or set up a tour of the PROP Shop for your group. Email community@propshopep.org or call 952-224-7051.



Ongoing Family Services Needs

Please check our website at propshopep.org/donations to see a list of urgently needed items. We are always looking for more:

- Kids' clothes
- Kids' tennis shoes
- Coats
- Snowpants
- Waterproof mittens
- New socks
- New underwear
- Pots and pans
- Bowls
- Silverware
- Blankets
- Sheets
- Towels
- Beds
- Dressers
- Kitchen tables and chairs





2017 PROP Shop Volunteers

Colleen Aaberg
Lily Aaberg
Victor Abalo
Alex Abbott
Smitha Abbott
Aisha Abdulkadir
Estella Acevedo
Carol Ahrendt
Brooke Aksoz
Mary Aksoz
Maria Alleman
Nadia Alleman
Tammy Allison
Van Andersen
Cindy Anderson
Gloria Anderson
Hope Anderson
Izzy Anderson
Kelly Anderson
LaRae Anderson
Lucas Anderson
Tracy Lynn Anderson
Ashley Anseth
Gaby Aranda-Schwob
Rhonda Arendt
Hardy Armstrong
Lisa Ashley
Ashley Autio
Julia Baldwin
Kristen Baldwin
Fatou Barry
Michelle Baynes
Rose Baynes
Christine Beard
Olivia Beard
Kenya Becerra
Allison Beck
Josie Becker
Katie Becker
Meghan Becker

Pam Becker
Pat Bell
Michael Berger
Olivia Bergin
Ella Berneck
Katrina Berneck
Kimberly Berneck
Ann Berne-Rannow
Rahul Bhavsar
Kiera Birdwell
Kathy Blackford
Adriana Blanco
Hannah Bley
Heather Bley
Shane Boe
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Kaia Burroughs
Stacey Burroughs
Camilla Busklein
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Brynna Bystrzycki
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Raymond Campbell
Keely Campuzano
Kristy Campuzano
Mariann Cannon
Grace Carlson
Jennifer Carlson
Linda Carlson
Sherry Carlson
Marci Catt
Karen Chamberland
Rory Chase
Sarah Chase
Colleen Choles
Hannah Christenson
Lesley Christenson
Karen Christopherson
Emma Coburn

Melissa Coburn
Laurie Coleman-Lankford
Pamela Cook
Becky Copper
Rachel Copper
Vasilisa Costin
Jazmine Craig
Lynne Crist
Ashley Cronin
Katherine Cronin
Nicole Cronin
Kim Current
Rachel Current
Mary Beth Czech
Jayne Dakay
Andrew Danciak
Ellie Danielson
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Erin Falk
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Sofia Famigletti
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Janet Fehr
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Andrew Finnegan
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Lucas Frana
Sue Friend
Angel Garcia
Raphaela Garton
Cynthia Gitzen
Kristine Goldman
Patty Goodburn
Kate Gorski
Sue Gorski
Sue Grady
Andrea Gray
Neka Gray
Andre Danell Gray II
Ava Grell
Justin Grinnell
Michael Grundhauser
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Lydia Gschwendtner
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**508 volunteers
gave more than
20,600 hours of
their time in 2017!
Thank you all!**



2017 PROP Shop Volunteers, continued

If you volunteered in 2017 and cannot find your name, we apologize for the oversight. Please let us know and we will fix it for next year.

Larry Link
Noreen Linney
Tommy Lisko
Monique Livingood
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Ervin Locke
Andrea Lopezmalo
Lucas Lorenz
Michael Lothenbach
Lynn Luhman
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Mary Mackmiller
Govind Makaram
Kathi Margo
Allie Martens
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Jennifer Quast
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Mary Quiring
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Sophia Schwob

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Barb Scrimgeour
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 Prachi, Bipin & Madhura Pradhan
 Jacalyn Prentice
 John & Wendy Price
 Julia & Fred Prinz
 Patricia Putnam
 Heidi Quirk
 Dawn Rademacher
 Ann Berne-Rannow & Jim Rannow
 Sonja Raschke
 Michelle Rasmussen
 Peter & Marilyn Rasmussen
 Richard Rasmussen
 Gerald Reed
 Nancy Rions
 Charles Robbins
 Sandra Rodenz
 Joy Roff
 Carole-Lynne Roloff
 Don & Patricia Romanaggy
 Michael Tietz & Leah Romanov-Tietz
 Linda & Joseph Rorke
 John & Marion Roschen
 Kyle & Pete Rose

Armon Ross
 Diana & William Rouse
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 Carol Rueppel
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 Liz Rustad
 Cynthia & Daniel Ryan
 Laurie & Anthony Ryan
 Debra Sabatini
 Steve Ketcham & Chris Sadar
 Judy & Bradley Sanvick
 Charlotte & Tim Savaloja
 Sharon Scheihing
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 Barbara & Peter Smyth
 Bob & Janis Solberg
 Julie Sorensen
 Gary Soule
 Lynn Speaker
 Tatyana Spector

In 2017, 468 donors gave funds so we could meet the needs of families. We apologize for any oversights; please let us know so we can fix any errors.

Deann Speltz
 Linda & Jack Sprague
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 Stablich Foundation
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 Margie & Ronald Wulfschuhle
 Sandy Yasenachak
 Alicia & Roger Yost
 Nancy Zaltz
 Marsha Zieglmeier
 Cindy & Brian Zierwick
 Linda & John Zimmerman



Statement of Financial Activities

	Years ended December 31, 2017 Total*	2016 Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Support		
Grants and donations	\$101,574	\$101,872
Government support	\$50,000	\$-
In-kind contributions	\$-	\$15,900
Interest	\$55	\$34
Total Support	\$151,629	\$117,806
Program Revenue		
Contributions of merchandise	\$1,545,752	\$1,391,661
Sales of donated merchandise	\$619,379	\$552,442
Less value of merchandise sold	\$(619,379)	\$(552,442)
Net Program Revenue	\$1,545,752	\$1,391,661
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$1,697,381	\$1,509,467
EXPENSES		
Programs	\$1,490,109	\$1,262,191
Management and general	\$73,789	\$78,647
Fundraising and development	\$29,421	\$24,193
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,593,319	\$1,365,031
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$104,062	\$144,436
Net assets, December 31, 2016	\$1,442,958	\$1,298,522
NET ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 2017	\$1,547,021	\$1,442,958

*Unaudited

THE PROP SHOP
EDEN PRAIRIE



Statement of Financial Position

	December 31,	
	2017*	2016
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$376,705	\$322,089
Accounts receivable	\$8,219	\$3,234
Grants receivable	\$-	\$-
Inventory	\$150,150	\$137,314
Prepaid expenses	\$4,502	\$4,096
Total Current Assets	\$539,576	\$466,733
Fixed Assets		
Land	\$321,000	\$321,000
Land improvements	\$107,501	\$107,501
Building	\$1,075,625	\$1,066,718
Vehicles	\$17,728	\$17,728
Furniture, fixtures, equipment	\$28,949	\$28,318
Software	\$12,100	\$12,100
	\$1,562,902	\$1,553,365
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	\$(217,166)	\$(176,455)
Total Fixed Assets	\$1,345,736	\$1,376,910
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,885,312	\$1,843,643
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$7,907	\$6,968
Accrued wages and benefits	\$30,386	\$23,737
Accrued liabilities	\$2,887	\$2,584
Current portion of long-term debt	\$24,027	\$18,646
Total Current Liabilities	\$65,207	\$51,935
Long-Term Debt		
Mortgage note payable	\$273,084	\$348,750
Total Long-Term Debt	\$273,084	\$348,750
Net Assets		
Unrestricted		
General operations	\$1,385,576	\$1,331,085
Board restricted	\$150,000	\$100,000
Temporarily restricted	\$11,445	\$11,873
Total Net Assets	\$1,547,021	\$1,442,958
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$1,885,312	\$1,843,643

*Unaudited



Thank You to Our PROP Shop Partners!

The PROP Shop deeply appreciates its relationships with the following organizations who partner with the PROP Shop in a variety of ways as donors, volunteers, and supporters.

Allina Health	Eden Prairie Schools	Pace Analytical Systems
Amalli Talli	Eden Prairie Women of Today	Paddy O'Furniture
AmazonSmile	Encore	Pax Christi Catholic Community
Anytime Fitness	Epic Event Rental	Prairie Dental Group
Belladonna Florist	Esquire Estate Sales	Prairie Lutheran Church
Cargill	G & S Estate Sales	Primrose School
Chanhassen Lions Club	Gold Mine Estate Sales	People Reaching Out to People (PROP)
Chrestomathy	Grace Church	Redstone
City Hill Church	Graco	Restwell Mattress Factory
City of Chanhassen	H & B Gallery	Sailers Greenhouse
City of Eden Prairie	HealthSource Chiropractic	Sign Source
Classic & Associates	Immanuel Lutheran Church	St. Albans Church
Cockadoodledoo Estate Sales	INTEGRITY Partners	St. Andrew Lutheran Church
Cub Foods	Jerstad Family Foundation	Suburban Waste Service
Dollar Tree	J. Jill	Summit Place
Eaton	Junk King	SUPERVALU
Eden Prairie Beyond the Yellow Ribbon	Kim Teavor & Company	Target Corporation
Eden Prairie Center	LARK	TASSEL
Eden Prairie Community Band	Lean Culture Inc	Tavern 4&5
Eden Prairie Community Center	Magpie Shop	TC Running Co
Eden Prairie Community Foundation	Maple Crest Landscape	The Hanger
Eden Prairie Firefighter Relief Organization	Margot & Louise	Theos Company
Eden Prairie Library	Marshall's Farm Market	Thrivent Financial
Eden Prairie Lions	Minuteman Press	Thunder Communications
Eden Prairie Lioness	Muirfield Estate Sales	Top Tier Estate Sale
Eden Prairie A.M. Rotary	National Charity League	TurnStyle
Eden Prairie Noon Rotary	New Comers Club	UnitedHealth Group
	Nothing Bundt Cakes	Walgreens
	Once Upon a Child	Young Men's Service League
	One Kung Fu	

THANK YOU to the 5,800+ donors who gave items from their homes in 2017.

Thank you to volunteer Sue Schadow for again donating her photography and graphic design for this annual report.

Staff Members

Cindy Eddy
cindy@propshopep.org
Executive Director

Vicki Bomben
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Operations Manager

Alicia Yost
alicia@propshopep.org
Volunteer Coordinator

Amy Hanson
Family Services Co-Coordinator

Kyle Rose
Family Services Co-Coordinator

Julie Musech
Warehouse Coordinator

Christine Poague
Training Coordinator

Phetsy Locke
Store & Donations Coordinator

Vasilisa Costin
Store & Donations Coordinator

Dan Ward
Facilities & Donations Coordinator

Board Members

Cindy Eddy, Executive Director

Kathy Educate, President

Anne Byrne, Vice President

Lisa Toomey, Treasurer

Barb Scrimgeour, Secretary

Sharon Peterson

Susan Weaver

Mary Mackmiller

THE PROP SHOP
EDEN PRAIRIE



Store Hours and Donation Hours

Monday..... 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tues, Wed & Thurs 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday..... 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Due to our space limitations, please call or email ahead regarding furniture donations.

propshopep.org

THE PROP SHOP
15195 Martin Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
952.934.2323
info@propshopep.org