

[View this email in your browser](#)



MERRICK

Community Services
Growing. Stronger. Together.

“Step Into the Story” at UpLift 2026!

Tuesday, May 5th, 2026 \ 5:30pm - 8:30pm \ Merrick Community Services



We cannot wait to show you who Merrick is, what we do, and WHERE we do it! Join us Tuesday, May 5th for our annual fundraising event. With a Hollywood-style theme, wear your coolest shades/glasses to get into character as we *Step Into the Story*.

Get your tickets now to enjoy an evening highlighting the Greater East Side community and Merrick's success within it. Click below for tickets and more information!

[UpLift Info & Tickets](#)

March Food Drive: Help Reduce Food Insecurity!

Did you know?

Feeding America reports that **537,890** Minnesotans are facing hunger. **34%** of these individuals are under the **age of 18**.



Merrick needs YOUR support! Our Food Shelf distributed over 890,000 pounds of food to Ramsey County families last year, and we want to offer even more this year. Help feed your neighbors today with a donation at the link below!

We will be tracking donations during the campaign, with a goal of raising **\$30,000 and 5,000 pounds of food**. Follow the link to see a list of additional food collection spots.

[March Food Drive 2026](#)

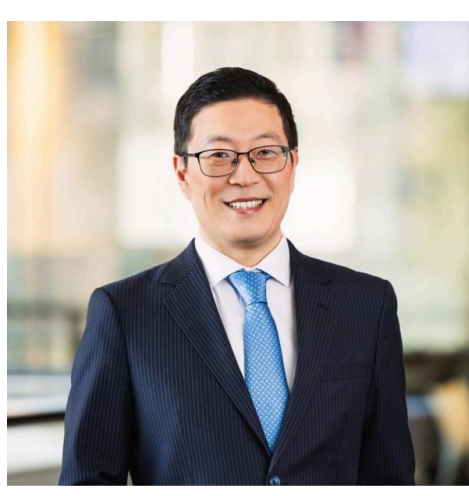
New Staff: Abigail Hernandez

Please join Merrick in welcoming **Abigail Hernandez** as our new Manager of Family and Community Services! Abigail joins us from her previous role as the Family Engagement Manager/Program Operations Lead at Friends of the Children in Eugene, Oregon. She has over six years of experience overseeing family and community services and supervising case management staff. She brings a strong skillset in cross-functional collaboration, policy implementation, grant compliance, and carrying a caseload while leading operations. Abigail is a great addition to the Merrick team and we are excited to have her!



Abigail Hernandez

New Board Member: Young Choi



Young Choi

Please join us in welcoming **Young Choi** to Merrick's Board of Directors! Young is a VP of Corporate Strategy at Allianz Life, where he focuses on strategy, business development, and transformation. He has served on a number of committees and advisory boards at Allianz Life and brings vast experience, resources, and skills to the MCS Board. Young said he is excited to have a role that impacts people and gives back to the community. Welcome, Young!

MCS Volunteer Recognition & Awards Breakfast



Last year's Dick McCarthy Award recipients, Dynamic Connections, with Dick McCarthy!

Please join us to celebrate and thank YOU, our faithful volunteers. We will enjoy a breakfast, short program, awards and recognition. All volunteers - past and present - are welcome to attend! See below for details and RSVP link.

- **Thursday, April 9th, 2026 at 8:30am**
- **Merrick Community Services - GA Church Courtyard**
- **RSVP by April 1st to let us know you are attending!**

[Reserve Your Spot](#)

Upcoming Events

- **March Food Drive**
 - March 1 - April 6, 2026
- **Volunteer Recognition and Awards Breakfast**
 - Thursday, April 9th, 2026, Merrick Community Services
- **UpLift 2026 Fundraiser - “Step Into the Story”**
 - Tuesday, May 5th, 2026, Merrick Community Services

[Click Here to Donate](#)

[Click Here to Volunteer](#)

[Click Here for Planned Legacy Giving](#)



MERRICK
Community Services
Growing. Stronger. Together.

Copyright (C) 2023 Merrick Community Services. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

1669 Arcade Street North, Suite 4

Saint Paul, MN 55106

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)