

Loaves and Fishes thanks IBEW Local 242 volunteers

By Joel Kilgour

On behalf of the Loaves and Fishes Community, I want to express our heartfelt thanks to IBEW Local 242 volunteers and area NECA Electrical Contractors for donating their time and skills to upgrade electrical service at two of our houses. It is a huge relief to have the work completed by such talented and generous professionals! We can't thank them enough for improving the safety and usability of our houses for the many women, men and children who find a refuge here from homelessness.

Loaves and Fishes Community is an all-volunteer project. We rely entirely on donations of time, goods, and labor to continue to offer hospitality and advocacy to Duluthians experiencing homelessness. It's criminal that people face homelessness in the richest country on earth. Without strong worker protections, living wages and affordable housing and health care, it could happen to any of us. Homelessness is a labor and economic justice issue, and we are so grateful to IBEW Local 242 volunteers and to all our brothers and sisters in labor who have donated their time and skills to keep our houses in tip-top shape, collected warm clothing and supplies, and stood with homeless Duluthians who are fighting for their rights.

We are stronger when we are united!



These two good International Falls natives donated their electrical skills last month to help Loaves & Fishes' Hannah House in Duluth with a needed project. Kent Hoffman, left, is an IBEW Local 242 Master Electrician and Jeffrey Kostiuik is a 2nd-year apprentice. It was a perfect volunteering and learning effort in helping an organization that works so hard and so well at helping others.