

HELPING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 23: HOLIDAY FOOD DONATIONS

Holiday food donations are accepted during normal hours. Our most needed holiday foods are:

TURKEY, HAM, POTATOES, YAMS, STUFFING, GRAVY, PIE/DESSERT (FRESH, FROZEN, OR BOX MIX), CANNED VEGETABLES, CANNED FRUIT, FRESH POTATOES AND ONIONS, SUGAR, FLOUR, CEREAL, AND SOUP

HOLIDAY GIFT DONATIONS NEEDED!

As we prepare to assist nearly 800 children this year, we need your help. This year, the Center's "Winter Wonderland" shopping area will supply families with holiday gifts, where families can self-select what their children want and need the most.

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 23: ACCEPTING GIFT DONATIONS:

- New or gently used books and magazines (1500 is the goal!)
- Pajama sets and pajama pants size 4T to adult 3X (600 needed)
- Warm twin and full blankets (300 needed)
- Board or card games (400 needed)
- New, unwrapped gifts/toys for all ages. Sometimes we run low on:
 - Craft and art kits, including paints, canvases, & supplies
 - Gifts for teens: shaving kits, Dungeons & Dragons starter kits, makeup kits, Bluetooth speakers, charging blocks, STEM kits
 - Snow boots sizes child 12 & 13, youth 1-5, and adult 6-13
 - Diapers in all sizes and diaper wipes



EXTENDED HOLIDAY HOURS:

MON., TUES., WED., FRI. 9AM-3PM, SATURDAY, DEC. 21 8AM - 10AM

CURRENT NEEDS

HOLIDAY FOODS LISTED ABOVE

Fresh produce of all kinds
 Honey, orchard fruits, venison, fish
 Butter & Eggs
 Dry cat & dog food
 Cereal, hot & cold (boxes and cups)
 Soup, stews, ravioli, spaghetti O's
 Diaper wipes
 Peanut butter & jelly
 Cooking oil
 Elbow macaroni
 Pasta sauce
 Rice
 Canned, dry, and baked beans
 Powdered milk
 Ready-made meals
 Tuna, beef & chicken, cans and pouches

NON-FOOD ITEMS TO DONATE?

Year-round, we accept new & gently used:

- Tennis shoes, bicycles, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, pots & pans, and small appliances
- Furs in any condition, as we support animal rescues that rehabilitate animals with old furs

Seasonally, we accept new & gently used:

- March/April/May: bicycles & pajamas
- June/July/August: school supplies & backpacks
- September/October: pajamas, winter boots, snow pants, waterproof gloves
- November/December: new toys, new bicycles, pajamas

We can only accept the items listed above and no longer accept general clothing and houseware donations. *We've run out of space!*

God's Will Resale Store (Depot & Deep Lake Roads, Antioch, IL) will gladly accept your clothing or houseware donations Wednesday through Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

25700 Wilmot Road
 Trevor, WI 53179
 262-298-5535
www.thesharingcenter.net
[f/TheSharingCenterSEWI](https://www.facebook.com/TheSharingCenterSEWI)

What a whirlwind year it has been! As you know, the Center purchased the building it had called home for the last 13 years, and the board has been diligently making improvements. Center volunteers and staff are pretty excited, as am I, as we now have a parking lot nearly triple in size, vertical storage for another 48 pallets of food and supplies, and additional improvements that make serving easier and more efficient.

This past year, we've also been planning the Center's long-term goals to serve the community. We always ask and investigate first when expanding, as good intentions are never enough when it comes to social service. I have watched this plan come together, I am even more grateful and honored to be a part of the Center's work every day, year, and decade.

Do you have ideas about what the Center could do to assist the community in the future? Partnerships that make great sense? Services that are direly needed? Ways to do anything better? I welcome any and all suggestions as we squarely follow the community leads.

In early January, watch for the Center's Growth Campaign launch as we begin implementing our long-range goals that will be both functional and beautiful, here as a part of the rural Kenosha County landscape. This expansion excites me, as I know these improvements will bring relief and support to families seeking ways to become self-sufficient and healthy in mind and body.

This year was similar to last: record high numbers in nearly all services we provide. With you, so far, we have met the need this year, whether you provided financial support, volunteered, or donated food or goods, and I thank you all immensely.

Now, at year-end and the holiday season, we again anticipate a record breaker, as food prices are still a challenge for families who live paycheck to paycheck or for folks on fixed incomes who can no longer make ends meet.



We've seen a stark increase in homeless families with newborns and small children and seniors nearing 80 years old. When I say 'struggle to make ends meet', these are the scenarios we see every single day. Increased rent and lack of housing stock are spiking homelessness overall. It's a 'rock and hard' place for sure.

Yet, our job is to hold hope, among all the other things we do. We advocate, encourage, and provide a listening ear when life is too tough to weather alone. It's part of the exceptional service we strive to deliver to the ~5000 who reach us annually for help or direction.

So, as we head into the holiday season, in a world in turmoil from natural disaster and war, we recognize those in dire need, and bow to those in service across the globe.

May this holiday season be one of gratitude, joy, and togetherness. Thank you for your service and wish you a most abundant holy season and a bright new year.

Sincerely,
Sharon Pomaville
Executive Director



DONATE BY MAIL:
 The Sharing Center,
 P.O. Box 172, Trevor, WI 53179
 or Online:
www.thesharingcenter.net



OUR SERVICES

Employment Assistance:

- Job Placement & Resources
- Training & Education

Housing:

- Homeless Services
- Housing Resources
- Emergency Rent & Utility Assistance
- 'No Wrong Door' Homelessness Provider

Food Pantry:

- Fresh Produce
- Online Ordering
- Cleaning Supplies
- Pet Food
- Hygiene Items
- Diet-Specific Items

Children's Services:

- Diapers & Baby Food
- WIC on the Go!
- School Supplies
- Car Seats
- Holiday Gifts
- Birthday Gifts

Domestic Violence Services:

For Women & Men:

- Individual Peer Advocacy (262) 298-5535 or mmurphy@thesharingcenter.net

Household & Clothing Closet:

- Winter Outerwear
- Sheets, Blankets, and Towels

Senior Services:

- Stock Box: Extra Pantry Staples
- Senior Resource Specialist

Veteran's Services:

- In partnership with Lovell Health Care, Kenosha Veteran's Administration, and Veteran's Path To Hope

The Center Also Offers:

- FREE Bus Transportation
- Internet Access
- Mental Health Advocacy
- Financial Coaching



The Sharing Center is a community supported, 501(c)3 non-profit organization in Trevor, Wisconsin. Our mission is to serve Western Kenosha County residents by sharing resources and advocating for self-sufficiency. Its extensive programs regularly serve 3500 residents of Western Kenosha County. Your donations keep families warm and housed, learning new job skills, and springboard them to a new life of financial independence.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

BETH:

I signed up to volunteer at the Sharing Center after I retired from AbbVie in 2022, and I now spend a lot of time with my 3 German Wirehaired pointers, training and competing. I volunteer practically every Monday. We have a good core team on Mondays, and we all help each other and welcome any additional people who show up to volunteer. I would tell people to invest in where they live by volunteering and/or donating to the Sharing Center. You never know who you might help, or how it might help them. The Sharing Center staff are always looking for ways to serve the community. The number of community activities and events that volunteers participate in and our number of volunteers is amazing!



JAN:

I heard about the Sharing Center through my church. Retired with time on my hands, I enjoy time with my grandchildren, am a serious DIY-er, hold a private pilot's license, and am an ordained deacon in the Eastern Orthodox Church. I have been volunteering here for many years, and every day I volunteer, I feel like I've helped people in a very small way. The needs are great but my contribution is a fraction. Fractions matter, though. I would say for anyone thinking about volunteering, DO IT!



INTRODUCING THE CANINE VOLUNTEER TEAM!

Juniper, Rayla, and Ladybug

As an essential part of our team, this motley crew of misfits help ease tension, reduce stress, create smiles, and provide laughter.

Juniper is the most compassionate and caring of the bunch. He waits impatiently to be petted, loves to be the center of attention, and soaks up all the belly rubs.

When **Rayla** is not stealing snacks or sleeping, she's working the front desk and doubling as a speed bump in the middle of the rug. She loves attention and has no problem falling asleep under a cart and snoring loud enough to wake babies.

Ladybug is a team player. She loves to visit with kids and play with toys but takes her volunteer role very seriously.

FINDING HOUSING IN A HOUSING SHORTAGE

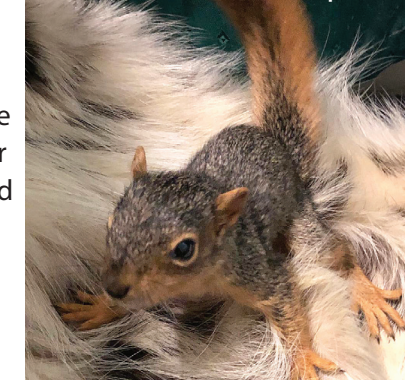
Providing safe and affordable housing is a priority as the need for housing assistance has drastically increased. To provide the best possible service, the Center has developed an effective process to assist families best. We've strengthened our relationships with Kenosha Human Development Services, State of Wisconsin

Housing Programs, USDA, local property management companies, housing authorities, and Community Action Agencies spanning several neighboring counties and states. We determine each circumstance's best course of action through a comprehensive needs assessment, increasing a family's self-sustainability. To date, we are proud to have assisted 72 critical cases in obtaining long-term housing and accessing housing-supportive programs.

PET RESCUE!

The Sharing Center offers assistance not only to Kenosha County residents but also to our furry friends. In 2024 alone, we assisted over 470 cats and dogs with over 3000 pounds of food, health supplies, and toys. To ensure the safety and well-being of local pets, the Center partners with Noah's Rest, an organization dedicated to helping those escaping domestic violence with long and short-term pet fostering. The Center participated in the annual PawTy In The Park event, raising awareness for animal adoption and health for animals of all kinds. Many of our volunteers donate their time locally to The Big Barn Animal Rescue. We donated unusable furs to Nebraska's Wildlife Rescue Team Inc., which uses the furs to rehabilitate injured, orphaned, and rescued wildlife.

A six-week-old rescued squirrel finds comfort nestled into a fox pelt.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR SUCCESS

During this Back-to-School season, the Center served 367 children with new clothes & shoes and backpacks filled with school supplies.

THAT'S 171 HOUSEHOLDS!



BEAUTIFICATION HAS BEGUN

The Center has recently undergone renovations to make us more efficient, inviting, and accessible to the community. A huge thanks to the following people and partners who have helped make it happen: KAS Roofing added our beautiful new front roof, Westosha Lakes Church repaired and painted our garage, and A.M. Woodland Outdoor Designs and Harpster Lawncare transformed our landscaping. More thanks to Bristol Pallet and volunteer Ed Bochat, who refreshed our Boy Scout can collection container, Advanced Tree & Stump Removal for their expert tree care, and volunteer Mike Edwards for power washing the building until it shined. And our most noticeable improvement to Willis Dirt Works and Cicchini Asphalt, who nearly tripled our parking capacity.

Inside, Southeastern Wisconsin Building Trades expertly installed pallet racking, allowing us to store 48 additional pallets of food to meet the growing need. Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 118 and Karlsen Plumbing were responsible for quickly installing our new hot water heater, and our bathroom received a fresh coat of paint courtesy of our volunteer, Paul. To all those mentioned and more, your collective contributions and support of our mission are greatly appreciated, and we are excited to see the positive impact these improvements will bring!



Committee and Board Membership Opportunities: If you are interested in learning more about becoming a committee or board member, contact Executive Director Sharon Pomaville (262)298-5535.

www.thesharingcenter.net

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