



Hope Restored

Winter, 2020

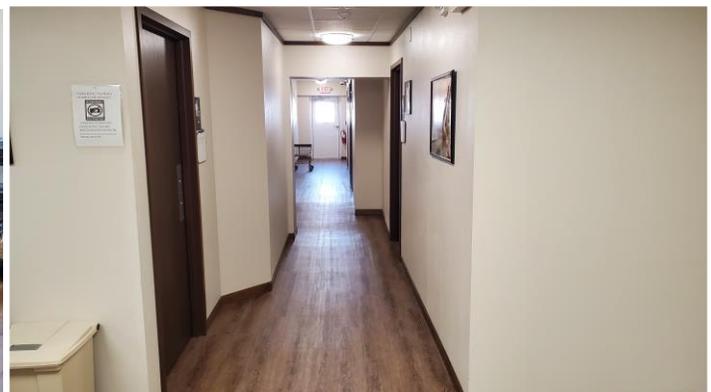
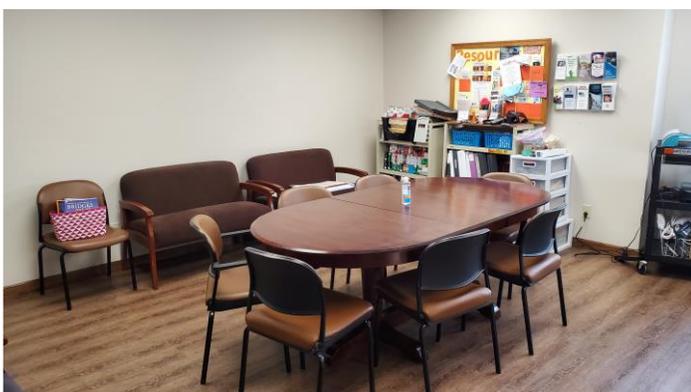
It's Official! SAM25 has Moved!



As of November 1, 2020, SAM25 has officially moved and is operating out of its new location at 105 East Richmond St, Shawano. We are thrilled to be in our new space and are settling in. Thanks to all who have helped in any way through this entire process.

Thank you to Dimension IV Architects, Larry Laude Builders, Moede & Sons Plumbing, Knope Heating and Cooling, Radtke-Reuter Electric, Dearco, and Carlton Construction for all of your amazing work! We are grateful to have so many amazingly talented people who have worked on this project. Our contractors have been so kind and generous to us. We couldn't have done this without all of them and appreciate their kindness.

Despite some delays in material supplies due to COVID, we have worked through it and were able to move in just in time for our Virtual Grand Opening on October 17th. It has been a whirlwind of a month but we got it all done just in time for the shelter season to start on November 1st. See below for some pictures of our new facility! If you missed our Virtual Tour on October 17th, it is posted on our website, so be sure to check it out!



We help those affected by poverty improve their circumstances to become self-sufficient.

Board President Note

Hello friends/supporters of SAM25!

Here we are, toward the end of 2020, and what a year it has been. Through the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic, blessings still shine through for SAM25. After closing the shelter early last spring due to COVID-19, SAM25 Resource Days continued safely and busier than usual throughout the spring, summer, and fall. Whether with food, clothing, a tent, hygiene supplies, or assistance with available housing and job applications, help was given to all who came to the door, thanks to our great staff and volunteers.

At the very same time, in a building just blocks away, our new, permanent SAM25 home was being renovated by so many wonderful contractors and volunteers. Our thanks to them all and to everyone who generously donated to the Capital Campaign. The renovations turned out beyond our hopes. We moved in and opened the shelter season on November 1st, able to safely feed and shelter one household per bedroom during this health crisis, with potential for more capacity post-covid.

A huge THANK YOU to Shawano Municipal Utilities and the SMU Commission for having faith that SAM25 could safely open and operate an emergency shelter in our community and for allowing us the use of their building for the past 5 years. What a great start they gave us.

How I wish the shelter was not needed, but needed it is. Our new space is home to the seasonal Emergency Shelter, the year-round Community Resource Center, and soon a Thrift Store/Professional Clothes Closet. Renovations for our 4th project, a Community Free Clinic, will begin soon. It will provide basic medical care for the uninsured and referral for assistance in obtaining affordable health insurance through the ACA.

We will participate in a year-long AmeriCorps/VISTA program in 2021. A yet-to-be-determined talented college graduate will help SAM25 build program capacity as we open our Thrift Store and Community Clinic.

Our thanks to all who helped make our October covid-friendly virtual open house (still on our website for viewing) and silent auction a success.

Coming soon, just in time for your Holiday gift giving, is another great fundraiser to help keep our programs going - a **cookbook "Favorite Recipes from our SAM25 Family"**. See below for a picture of the **cookbook!** Enjoy the compilation of delicious recipes from our shelter meal providers and SAM25 community! Watch our website for how/when to get your cookbooks.

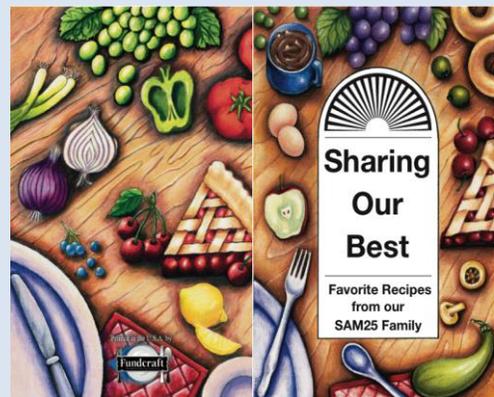
During this Holiday season, SAM25 thanks you for your generous giving and humbly asks for your continued support and prayers. YOU help make our community warmer, kinder and stronger with your support for SAM25 programs that help our neighbors get back on their feet in trying times. You are greatly appreciated.

Please wear your mask. Stay safe and healthy. Blessings to you and many thanks, Muffy

SAM25 Cookbooks for SALE!

Available for
purchase in December
at SAM25.

Give us a call at 715-851-7252 if you
would like to purchase one!



SAM25 Mission

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Steps to Success Update

By: Chris Ciucci

Whoa! Be careful what you ask for and prepared to thankfully take action when the answer is "Yes!" We're moved, we're open and we've hit the ground running. Thank you EVERYONE!

Steps to Success, (STS) programs began the same week we opened with some new season changes we think will be beneficial to all. This year, guests will be matched with mentors who are staff members. This provides a continuum of contact and flow of information on an ongoing basis and allows for staying on top of needs and progress. We still need our invaluable volunteers to work with guests. As goals need to come to fruition, we will ask volunteers to come in and help with the nitty gritty, i.e. housing and job applications, resumes, computer searches, paperwork, whatever the specific need is.

We will reach out to past mentors and send emails as needs arise, yet everyone is welcome to help with needs. If a specific day and time, on a regular basis works for you, we can do that too. When coming in to work with guests, Covid safe practices will be in place.

We've provided four STS presentations to date covering: Covid, STS at SAM25, Budgeting and Relationships. We have Housing and Fraud/Identity theft slated in coming weeks. We would like to provide at least one STS presentation a week, and require guests to attend 2 per month. We invite everyone who has some skill, experience or knowledge on a subject they'd like to share with guests to participate by presenting. If you'd like more information on STS programs or want to get involved, please contact us at 715-851-7252! - Chris

SAM25 Volunteer Opportunities!

Thrift Store: Donation Sorters; Front Counter Clerks.

Shelter: Intake, Overnight and Morning Shelter Shifts.

SAM25 Receives 100+ Women Who Care Shawano County November Meeting Award!

We are SO excited and grateful that SAM25 was chosen as the November recipient of the 100+ Women Who Care Shawano County award! The meeting was cancelled in November, but the 100+WWCSC Women were generous and decided to do a drive through voting event. SAM25 received

the most votes and was awarded approximately \$10,000 from the group. Wow! Thank you to all of the amazing women who make this group possible! Your generous gift couldn't come at a more pressing time! (Pictured: Pam Tadych of 100+WWCSC with Jen Bisterfeldt of SAM25)



Virtual "Longest Night" Homeless Memorial Service "Honoring all those who have died while homeless"

**Monday, December 21, 2020
6:00pm**



Virtual Service will be posted online via SAM25 website and Social Media

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Executive Director Letter

Hello SAM25 Friends! Happy Fall and almost Winter! The day has finally come...SAM25 has moved into its new home! It has been a long haul, but we are SO grateful to be here on Richmond Street! For so long, SAM25 having a building of its own was just a dream. We were so very lucky to have a wonderful start in the former City Hall building, provided by SMU and the City of Shawano. Now, this dream of having a permanent address has come true! We can hardly believe it!

Six years in and SAM25 is growing continually. To reflect back upon where it all started, with an idea by a group of people who knew that there were many in our community who needed help, is humbling. The birth of a non-profit is so often derived from an idea...the acknowledgment of a problem and then a group of people wanting to find a solution. As time goes on, that solution grows and evolves with the needs of our community. SAM25 was no different and now it has a permanent place to call home. This has only been made possible by all of our supporters. All of you who have sent in donations, dropped off goods, brought meals, volunteered in any way or kept SAM25 in your prayers...you are the reason this has all been possible. YOU are the people who have built this home for SAM25 and we couldn't be more grateful.

Our shelter season has started out well and this new space has made it possible to keep our guests, staff and volunteers safe through the current pandemic. While we have faced many challenges this year, we are working through it and hope to be able to continue our operations despite the current events. It hasn't been easy, but we are taking it one day at a time! The men, women and children we serve are thankful for a safe place to go.

As time goes on, the days, weeks and months seem to go more quickly. It is hard to believe we are not far from yet another new year! 2020 has been difficult for everyone but it has been one that has brought us all much perspective. It gives us even more to be thankful for...especially when times are good.

I am thankful for SAM25 and for all of you, who make it possible for our organization to be a part of the permanent footprint of Shawano. I am thankful for our volunteers, our staff, our board and the many wonderful people we serve. I am thankful for our amazing contractors and the many ways in which they gave so much of themselves and their talents to help us get this project done in time for the shelter season, especially in such a challenging year. I am thankful to our City and the wonderful support they have provided to us. Thank you to all who have provided support in any way. Even if this is a tough year, there is SO much to be thankful for. – Jen



Thank you to everyone who participated in our Virtual Grand Opening – Hope Restored Event

We had an overwhelming response for our Virtual Silent Auction and Matching donor opportunity! With your help, we reached our goal of over \$12,000 in matched donations!! Thank you!!

Many of the SAM25 Fundraisers have been cancelled due to COVID 19, but we still need your help! Please consider donating to SAM25 today! Options for donating to SAM25:

- Online: via PayPal on our website at sam25.org.
- By Mail: Make checks payable to SAM25. Shawano Area Matthew 25, Inc. P.O. Box 147, Shawano, WI 54166 Phone: 715-851-7252 Website: www.sam25.org

SAM25 Mission

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Virtual Grand Opening ~ Hope Restored 2020

Thank you to our Virtual Grand Opening-Hope Restored Sponsors below and to all who donated in any way to help us meet our match goal! We are grateful for your generosity!

Room Sponsors:

In Memory of Monie Blom
"Someone Who Loves Jesus"
Lois and Ron Brewster
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CoVantage Credit Union
Dave and Cherie Zelinger
Catholic Financial Life
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David and Heather Pahl
The Larry and Luanne Laude Family
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Anonymous
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honor of Connie Sommer
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St. James Lutheran Church
In Memory of Jeff Gretzinger

Virtual Grand Opening - Hope Restored Sponsors:

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Joanne Horn Family Fund, a fund within the Shawano Area
Community Foundation - Capital Credit Union -
Dave and Heather Pahl - Kelly Meidam/Kelly's Hair Studio -
Amy Slagle and Bruce Denny - Muffy and Kevin Culhane -
Barbara Heins - CoVantage Credit Union -
Warren Nett & Associates, LLC - Kathleen Akey -
Dan and Laura Robinson - Ron and Lori Bystol

Silent Auction/In Kind Donors:

Kazuko Rand - Larry and Linda Trevarthen - Sam and Wendy Crawford - Marilyn Paap -
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Becky and Barney Drew - Anonymous - Sharon Heath - NEW Media, Inc. - Lorraine Bisterfeldt -
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