



SHAWANO AREA MATTHEW 25, INC. NEWSLETTER

SAM25 Resource Center: Open Year-Round;
Open to the public; Mon-Fri. (9am-2pm);
105 E. Richmond St., Shawano

SAM's House Emergency Shelter:
November 1st through April 30th;
Daily Check-In (5pm-7pm)

SAM's Closet Thrift Store: Open to the public
Thurs, Fri, & Sat. (9am-2pm)

SAM25 Free Health Clinic: Thurs, (4pm-8pm)

Free Optometry Clinic: 3rd Monday each month 6-8pm.

105 E. Richmond Street
Shawano, WI 54166
Phone: 715-851-7252
Website: www.sam25.org
Like us on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/SAM25.org

Empty Bowls Caring Hearts

Our Empty Bowls, Caring Hearts Fundraiser on September 7th was loads of fun and very successful. A huge thanks to all who planned and helped at the event, the many Donors and Room Sponsors, and everyone who attended. It was a joy to be back together in-person again for this fun event!



Messages from....

Executive Director

I am thrilled to be writing to you as the new Executive Director of SAM25. I am honored to have the opportunity to work with such a dedicated group of individuals. In the few short weeks I have been at SAM25, I have been fully emerged in learning the ins and outs of SAM25, as well as the being able to connect with the wonderful staff, volunteers, community members, and board members. Shelter season kicked off on November 1st for its tenth season. We had 10 guests enter shelter the first night and the number of guests we serve continues to increase. SAM25 was granted an amazing opportunity with CoVantage Cares Giving Tuesday Matching Campaign and we look forward to partnering with them to be able to greater serve our guests and community. These are just a few of the many amazing things happening at SAM25. I wish I could tell you about all of them but there are not enough pages in the newlsetter to do so! This could not be possible without all of you, so from the bottom of my heart, thank you!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, ideas, or just to say hello. I'm excited to be part of SAM25, and I'm confident that, together, we can achieve great things.

-Kendra Brusewitz

Board President

Hello and Happy Holidays from SAM25! On behalf of the SAM25 Board of Directors THANK YOU for your continued support, which allows SAM25 to continue to help those in our area struggling with poverty and homelessness. We are blessed with our wonderful new Executive Director, Kendra Brusewitz, who brings experience in the outreach, prevention, and crisis management field to compassionately direct SAM25's four programs. We are blessed to be invited to partner with CoVantage and the CoVantage Cares Foundation for their Giving Tuesday Campaign December 3rd through 17th. Please see information within on how you can help double your donation to SAM25! We are thankful for the great staff and volunteers who make SAM25 programs run smoothly. We are always looking for more dedicated volunteers – there are so many ways to help at SAM25, including joining the Board to help guide and strengthen SAM25. If you are interested in volunteering, please stop in or contact us 715-851-7252. Take care, Happy Holidays, and many thanks for your continued support for SAM25. Peace and many thanks, Muffy

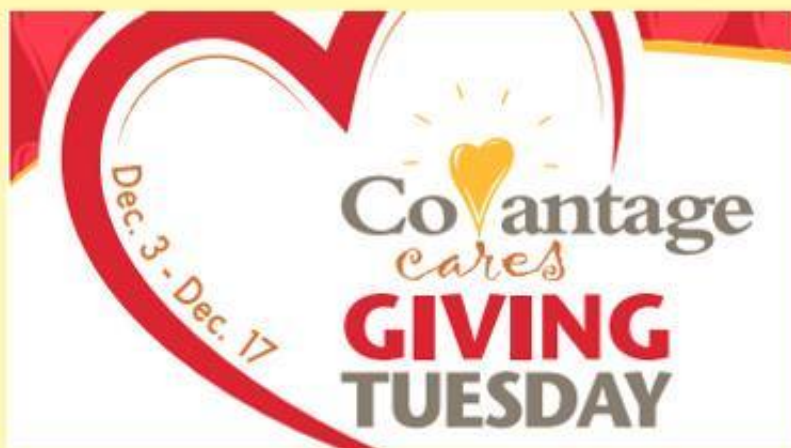


Donor Highlight

The Knights of Columbus-Bishop Fox Council 2836 visited SAM25 and made a donation from their annual Coats For Kids Donation Drive . This year the KOC donated 134 coats as well as other various winter gear. This donation will ensure that our guests have proper winter attire. THANK YOU!!



CoVantage Cares



SAM25 was selected by CoVantage Cares as one of thirteen non-profit organizations for their annual Giving Tuesday matching campaign. Every dollar you contribute during this event will be doubled, making your gift go twice as far in supporting our mission. SAM25 has a goal of raising \$40,000!

We invite you to make a donation during the matching event, which will take place on December 3rd and run until December 17th. Donations can be made in person at SAM25, by mail to SAM25, any CoVantage branch, online through your MyCoVantage online banking, or online through our Qgiv donation portal that will go live once the campaign begins. Checks must be written out to CoVantage Cares Foundation with SAM25 listed in the memo. If making the donation online, just be sure to select SAM25 as the non-profit you would like to support. Other ways you can support SAM25 are volunteering, in-kind donations, sharing the word about SAM25, and keeping SAM25 in your prayers.

What's Happening at SAM25

SAM25 Shelter

Hello, My name is Sylvia Baird and I have been blessed this year to be Shelter Lead. I have worked at SAM's for the last ten year. It is not just a job, but a calling that God has put on my heart to try and help those in need. Working at SAM's has given me that opportunity, but we could not do what we are doing without the help from the community. Thank you all very much for supporting SAM25, it is very much appreciated. May God continued to bless you richly.

With Much Appreciation,
Sylvia Baird- Shelter Lead

SAM25 Emergency Shelter opened on November 1st for its tenth season! Shelter season runs from November 1st-April 30th. Guests can check in at 5pm and are given a warm dinner and a safe place to lay their heads at night. In the morning guests eat breakfast, are provided with a bag lunch, and then they exit by 8am. All shelter guests are assigned a mentor to work with during their stay at SAM25 to improve their circumstances with the goal of becoming self-sufficient. As of November 20th, we have already provided 202 bed nights and 586 meals for shelter guests. This could not be possible without your generosity!

SAM25 FREE HEALTH CLINIC

The Free Clinic continues to hold weekly medical clinics on Thursday evenings and monthly optometry clinics on the third Monday of every month. Both clinics are well received and patient visits have been steadily increasing. We have been blessed with several new nurse volunteers in the last few months. Recently, because of a grant, our computer system was upgraded to improve HIPAA compliance. We are thankful for our donors who help with the costs of providing basic care those in need.

Gratefully, Carol RN Clinic Manager



What's Happening at SAM25

SAM25 Resource Center

Between 9 and 2pm, Monday through Friday, SAM25's resource center has been averaging 47 folks per week through the yellow door for showers, meals, laundry, clothing, hygiene, housing & job help and referrals to other agencies, more specific to their needs. In addition to outreach guest help, our shelter guests are coming to the resource center during the day for help with applications, phone & computer use and making connections with those that can help improve their circumstances. We offered three Steps to Success presentations in November on: The work of Steps to Success, Housing, Job Help w/FSET. Our shelter guests are required to attend two presentations a month to be in compliance for shelter stays, but we open them to the public, the folks we help during the day also. We invite other agencies to present also. The FSET presentation was done by Julia Luna from Forward Service Corporation and she was successful in signing up two of our guests into their programs. Two difficult to place, resource guests we've been working with this past summer, secured jobs in the Appleton area this past month. The goal to succeed in improving circumstances often takes many conversations in goal setting & accountability, contacts and meals. Our resource center is a balance of providing resources and creating plans for what folks need to do to be self-sufficient and successful.

Our donations are very generous and much of what comes in during a week, goes out the same week. Those gift cards you provide, help with work clothes, steel-toed boots, things folks need that we may not have at SAM25 in a given moment. Thank you all for your generosity. Please contact Chris, 715-851-7252 for more information or to volunteer.

SAM25 Thrift Store

Welcome to SAM's Closet Thrift Store. We are open to the public on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 9am-2pm. We help those in need at no cost, thanks to generous donations from the public. The store is run strictly by volunteers, which we are always looking for more people to join our TEAM. We sell clothing sizes; infant to 4x and some miscellaneous items as well. All profits from SAM's closet benefit SAM25 programs for people in need. We have a monthly drawing and if your name is picked, you win \$20.00 worth of merchandise from the Thrift Store. We carry various name brand clothing which is reasonably priced. Come brown and see what we have to offer.

Deb Knope-Thrift Store Volunteer



By The Numbers

Shelter Guests

11/1/24 -11/15/2024

TOTAL # OF GUESTS: 26

Nights of Stay: 136

Age:

Adults (18+): 16

Children (0-17): 10

Gender:

Female: 10

Male: 18

Non-Binary: 0

Race/Ethnicity:

Caucasian/White: 5

Native American/American Indian,

Alaska Native or Indigenous: 10

Black, African American,
or African: -

Hispanic/Latina/e/o: -

Multi-Race: 11

Total Exits: 12

Exits to Permanent, Positive
Destinations: 3

Resource Center

7/1/24-11/15/2024

Individuals Served: 970

Resource Sessions Provided:
1,112

Free Health Clinic

7/1/2024-11/15/2024

Unique Medical Patients Served:
16

Total Medical Visits: 31

Optometry Patients Served: 9

Clinic Volunteer Hours: 182

Thrift Store & Clothes Closet

7/1/24 -11/15/2024

Persons Clothed At
No Charge: 311

Pre-tax \$ provided to
SAM25 Programs:
\$ 5,397

Meals & In-Kind Donations

7/1/23 - 11/15/2024

Total Meals Served: 772

Food, Shelter/Guest Supplies,
Gas/Restaurant vouchers
donated: \$6,202.52