



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

Spring, 2020

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS REPORT... We have raised 100% of the \$410,000 goal!!

The SAM25 Capital Campaign has been surpassed! Thank you! Over 300 individuals, churches, businesses, and grants helped Shawano Area Matthew 25, Inc. (SAM25) exceed its Capital Campaign goal of \$410,000! The money raised will be used to renovate the building SAM25 purchased at 105 E. Richmond Street and expand services for people in the Shawano area. We are excited to remodel the building to provide:

HOPE: Open a year-round Resource Center providing daytime assistance with housing and job searches, shower facilities, hygiene supplies, clothing, practical life skills classes and educational programs. We also plan to launch a clothing Thrift Store providing job access/training and a continual funding source for SAM25 programs, as well as a Professional Clothes Closet with job interview clothing.

HEALTH: Run a Community Clinic providing basic health care to uninsured patients and refer patients for health insurance assistance.

HOUSING: Provide a larger, more functional Emergency Shelter space for adults and families with children during the cold winter months and expansion of mentoring programs that guide guests to permanent housing and employment.

The roof on our future new home has been replaced (already costing more than budgeted, so thank you for keeping those donations coming) and old ceiling tiles and carpet have been removed. We are anxious to begin the renovations as soon as we hear the State of

Wisconsin has approved the plans. We will keep you updated on our progress as well as other news in monthly emails, "SAM25 Snippets" (replacing our monthly 4th Thursday General meetings for now due to low attendance), and quarterly SAM25 newsletters. We anticipate completing renovations, moving in, hosting a Community Open House and beginning the 2020-21 shelter season on November 1st in our new home. Very exciting!

Switching gears, SAM25 is staying informed on COVID-19. We are planning and preparing (and praying) with the goal to keep our staff, volunteers, and guests safe and well cared for.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for SAM25 and the adults and families with children who are served. We all need help in one way or another, at some time in our lives. We are blessed to live in a community that strives to make life better for everyone.

With many thanks,
Muffy Culhane
SAM25 Board President





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What's Happening

SAM25 Resource Days	Every Tuesday
SAM's House, 213 E Green Bay St.....12:00pm-2:00pm	
Sunday Funday (Jan-April)	Sundays
First Presbyterian Church 100 W Presbyterian St, Shawano 1:30pm - 4:30pm	
SAM25 Charlie's Red Barn Fundraiser	April 23-25
Charlie's County Market, Shawano	
SAM25 Annual Flower Sale	May-Date TBD
Sales begin soon – Stay tuned!	
Last Day of Shelter Season	Apr. 30

SAM25 Statistics: 2019-2020 Season (through 03/10/2020)

SAM's House Shelter:
 Nights of Stay: 1688
 Guests Served: 65
 Adults: 45 / Children: 20
 Meals Provided: 4609

Resource Day Statistics (July 1 – Present):
 Resource Sessions Provided: 224

Donor Highlights

SAM25 would like to thank all who donate in the form of funds, item donations, time and talents. We couldn't do what we do without your generous support. Below is a highlight of some of our recent donors:

- ThedaCare Employee Match Fund
- Mark and Marcia Sabin
- Zion Lutheran Church
- Hope Community Church
- Nilfisk
- Shawano Area Community Foundation: David and Jackie Paul Family Fund

- Holzmann Family Charitable Fund
- Brian and Ann Aune
- United Way of Shawano County
- Dane and Jennifer Kamke Black
- River Valley Church
- Jon and Sheila Aumann
- Nsighttel / Cellcom
- Zion Lutheran Church Women
- Adrian Fisher
- Doc's Harley Davidson
- Woodshack LLC
- City of Shawano Staff
- Toni Knope
- Ross Fugill
- Shawano Lake Lioness Club
- Shawano Area Community Foundation
- Twig's Tattoos – Give back Tats
- St. James Lutheran Church and School
- In Memory of Jon Hanchett
- Shawano Area Community Foundation: Augie and Lil Spitzberger Fund
- First Presbyterian Church
- Immanuel Lutheran Church
- Zion Lutheran Church Women
- Trinity New Hope Circle
- In Memory of Diane Pickett

SAM25 Snippets!

Due to low attendance at the monthly General Meeting (held on the 4th Thursday of each month), it was voted in January that we forgo the traditional meeting and replace information sharing with an "e-news" style format. As a result, we have decided to replace the monthly meeting with SAM25 "Snippets" – a monthly E-newsletter to send out to anyone who wishes to stay in the loop. We will share statistics, shelter needs, fundraiser updates and volunteer opportunities with this publication. If you did not receive this month's SAM25 Snippets, please send an email to executivedirector@sam25.org so we can add you to the list! We are hopeful this will be a more effective means of communication. Thanks for your continued support!



SHAWANO CITY OF THE WOLF PARKS AND RECREATION

Thursdayz @ Franklin

JUNE - AUGUST

SAM25 Food Tent Fundraiser at Thursdayz @ Franklin!

Stop by our Food Stand to help support SAM25!
We are also in need of volunteers for these events. If you or your group is interested in signing up to help, give us a call!

Executive Director's Note

By: Jen Bisterfeldt

Hello SAM25 Friends! Thank you for checking in and reading our newsletter! There is always so much going on within our organization and we are grateful for your continued support.

The shelter season is already going into it's last two months. Hard to believe...it always goes so quickly. So far, things have been great and we have had many wonderful people through our doors who have been working hard to find their way out of homelessness. Just this past week, we moved two households from shelter into permanent stable housing. That is the best part of this job...seeing people get back on their feet!

On top of helping our guests, as Muffy reported on Page 1, we have also finalized our Capital Campaign. We met our goal and we are so excited! Thanks to everyone who donated in any way. We have been humbled by your generosity! SAM25 is truly a community organization. When something needs to be done, we put a call out and there is often someone who steps up to take care of it. It's incredible! People are all so nice and our supporters and volunteers are what make this

possible. We really couldn't do any of this without you. SAM25 was built for our community, by our community...a guarantee that nobody should have to struggle alone. From shelter shifts, to resource day, to our maintenance and building crews to our fundraisers...this takes an enormous amount of people and energy to get it all done. But it always gets DONE!

We are excited for our future and expansion, but most of all, we are excited to continue it with all of you. We are doing this together, piece by piece. Thanks to you all for making this happen. Keep your eye out for our new location renovations. It's going to be an exciting year! - Jen

Charlie's Red Barn
April 23-25, 2020

SAM25 is looking for volunteers who would like to help out with Charlie's Red Barn this year! Let us know if you'd like to sign up!



EMPTY BOWLS CARING HEARTS
BOWL PAINTING

Bowl Painting will be starting in May this year at SAM's House Shelter. Official dates to be determined. Check our website and social media.
Signup will be listed on our website and social media after May 1st





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Getting Ahead Update

By: Chris Ciucci, Getting Ahead Facilitator

Hello friends & family of SAM25 and happy almost spring. We've certainly had a busy season to date. Much energy and success has gone into our Steps to Success program this season; with matching guests to mentors upon arrival, providing assistance as needs present, and our presentations on life skills and needs. Some are done in shelter and others are open to all. We've been expanding and improving our STS programs which is in perfect alignment with our new shelter location goals, resource growth and capabilities to help those in need improve their circumstances and become self-sufficient.

This season we've added more case management processes to the mentor program, providing ongoing, daily progress assistance to help meet the goals guests and mentors map out. I'm happy to report this is proving worthwhile; mountains are climbed and summited as we all work together toward guest goals.

That said, I'd like to take the opportunity to ask any of you rental property owners to consider reaching out to our guests in need of apartments. Often when an individual arrives at SAM25, there are unusual circumstances that bring them here. They get themselves back on their feet (I'm humming Frank Sinatra here,) and face housing issues which keep them trapped in homelessness. Affordable housing and "second chance" renters are issues nationwide. Working together, we can help ease this in Shawano. We have truly good rental candidates in need of homes.

We've added a few new presentations, including computer basics, and more computer related sessions as we assess needs. This is so invaluable as many are in need not only of access to equipment, but the help to navigate it. Thanks to a grant from the Shawano Area Community Foundation to provide equipment and the willingness of people to share their knowledge and expertise, folks are able to do on-line applications,

create resumes and link to places that previously were done on foot.

Getting Ahead Program is on the docket again now. It takes some doing to put together a group of 6 or more to commit to 16-18 sessions that live in "The Tyranny of the Moment". I think we're there and invite you to recommend this beautiful program to those you know who may want to create their future story. It is not limited to those in need, but in fact includes those who have and have been there before, or just want to be a part in successful life stories. Everyone is valued, respected and honored in this program. I am happy to report, from the photo in the last newsletter, all 6 Getting Ahead participants, plus babies, are out of shelter, on their own and carving out their future stories!

Bridges Out Of Poverty, designed to bring individuals, community, institutions and policy makers together to look through the triple lens at what exists in a community and can be improved on, developed for the good of all, continues to evolve. Next session goal, SAM25 Board & any other interested parties. This is a program that can integrate every aspect and all of the needs in our community.

The amazing thing is, we have a great, generous and willing community that steps up, gives and makes things happen. My goal, as a devotee of SAM25 is to bring it all home. Let's do this, friends and family! Please contact me at 715-851-7252 with any interest or involvement you wish to share, thoughts on existing or new programs, or just whatever you've got, because together, we've got a lot! - Chris

To Donate to SAM25:

- Online: via PayPal on our website at sam25.org.
- By Mail: Make checks payable to SAM25.

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