



Hope Restored

Spring, 2022

What's Happening

SAM25 Resource Center Open Year Round...Mon-Fri (9am-2pm) 105 E Richmond St. Shawano

SAM's House Shelter Closes for the Season... May 1

SAM's Closet Thrift Store...Thurs, Fri, & Sat 9a-3p

SAM25 Community Health Clinic.....Thursdays 4p to 8p

SAM25 @ Charlie's Red Barn...July 28th, 29th, & 30th

Thursdayz at Franklin Park.....June 2nd, 16th, 30th, July 14th, 28th, and August 11th.

Franklin Park, 235 S Washington St, Shawano

SAM25 Flower Sale
Fundraiser Orders Due.....May 5

SAM25 Flower Sale Pickup.....May 19

Shawano Farmers Market Non-Profit Booth...July 16th & Aug. 27th.
Franklin Park, 235 S Washington St, Shawano

SAM25 Shelter Statistics: 2021-2022 Season

SAM's House Shelter (11/1/21 to 3/15/22):
Nights of Stay: 1,452
Guests Served: 49
Adults: 40 / Children: 9
Meals Provided: 4,356

Resource Center Statistics (7/1/2021 – 3/14/22):
Number of People assisted in person and/or by phone: Provided:): 1,561

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 (\$500+):

Jennifer & Dane Black, Bleser Family Foundation, Inc., Lee Block, Peter & Mary Lisa Carenza Keenan, Robert & Tammy Cherney, Christus Lutheran Church, Jon Meyers, Shawano Area Community Foundation, CoVantage Credit Union, The Culhane Family Fund, Custom Classics Car Club, Mark Flunker, Ross Fugill, Peggy Gallagher, Green Bay Community Foundation, Gregory Thatcher, Harold E. Pevonka Family Trust, Jerry & Nancy Hentges, Hilgenberg Realty, LLC, James Meyer, Kathy & Robert Jeske, Dave & Cindy Jesse, Judy Wetzel, Alan & Carolyn Lamia, Little Rapids Corporation- Egan Family Foundation, Inc., Mama's House of Hope, Matty Mathison, Stephanie McCutchin, Mindy Frimodig & Daniel Krone, Michael and Ann Papendorf, Peace United Church of Christ, Peter & Lynn Daniels, Primal Eats, LLC., Peter Rebman, Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church of Shawano, Inc., River Valley Church-Shawano, Shawano County Job Center, Shawano Rotary Club, St. John's Episcopal Church, The Community Pantry of Pulaski, The Zelinger Family Fund, Thomas Krohlow, Mary Tree, Timothy Tumanic, Twig's Beverage, Inc., United Way of Shawano County, Inc., Susan Waelchli, Wealthplan, LLC., Barbara Wetzel, Carol Weyenberg.

SAM25 Snippets will be resuming in March. Please email: executivedirector@sam25.org to be added to the list.

Snippets are a great way for Volunteers stay connected to serving opportunities.

SAM25 Mission

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

A Note from the Board President

Greetings on behalf of the SAM25 Board of Directors!

As always, I begin with a huge THANK YOU for your continued support for SAM25 and its programs – all is made possible by you!

Every day at SAM25 love and caring are evident...help provided to those who come to the Resource Center for assistance...food made by community members for shelter guests, staff and volunteer dinners...mentoring and education for shelter guests by shelter staff to overcome struggles and exit shelter to positive, permanent housing...staff pitching in to cover when COVID hit shelter guests and SAM25 staff in January...volunteers working at the Thrift Store and in the SAM25 office...and now at the SAM25 Community Health Clinic located in the SAM25 building, volunteer healthcare providers improving the health of those in our area without health insurance and living in poverty. Thanks to what each of you does, your piece, when put together with all the others, provides Hope, Health, and Housing, along with love and caring to people in our area. Thank you!

As we head toward the end of Shelter Season 7, we are thinking/dreaming of spring!! Please support SAM25 and its programs while enjoying beautiful flowers all summer long by ordering flowers from our Annual Spring Flower Sale fundraiser! The flyer and order form will be available soon on our website at sam25.org.

Please know how much we appreciate your continued support.

Take care. Peace and many thanks, Muffy

SAM25 Flower Sale Fundraiser!
Orders due Thursday, May 5th, 2022.
Flower Order Pick-Ups Thursday, May 19th 4:30p—6:30p at Peace Church 208 E. Mauer St. Shawano

SAM25 Community Health Clinic Update

Our SAM25 Community Health Clinic opened Feb 24th. After extensive remodeling of the space and generous donations from our community, our free clinic is finally here! We will be seeing patients every Thursday from 4-8 pm and hope to expand hours depending on need.

The clinic will be open for individuals without insurance whose income is less than 2.5 times the federal poverty level (less than \$43,000 for a family of 2). Appointments can be arranged by calling 715-916-3036.

Our physical space includes 3 exam rooms, laboratory, and pharmacy along with a conference room. We have many local volunteer health care professionals signed up for shifts and will be utilizing the ThedaCare Benefit Specialist to help patients navigate qualifying for health insurance. Initially we will be providing basic primary health care for chronic conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and hypertension along with urgent issues.

Eventually we anticipate offering limited physical therapy, optometry, dental, and mental health services. Many individuals and groups have helped make this dream a reality. We are appreciative of the many hands that pitched in and believed in this project, from the volunteer painters to the clinic plan committee to local companies that donated supplies and equipment.

We are blessed to live in a community that supports our goal of everyone in the Shawano area having access to health care that they can afford.
-Kevin Culhane, MD Medical Director



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A Letter from the Executive Director

Hello SAM25 Friends! It is hard to believe that we are almost through our 7th Shelter Season.

It has been a very busy shelter season! The COVID surge in our county hit SAM25 hard in December and January, impacting staff and guests but, as the saying goes “tough times don’t last, tough people do” and I am so proud of our team and volunteers for the way they rose up to ensure that shifts were covered, meals were still being served, and that our homeless brothers and sisters all had safe and warm shelter.

We truly are blessed here at SAM25 and all the important work we do here in our community would not be possible without the generous gifts of your time, treasures, and talents. Every gift matters! From the \$500 plus gifts mentioned above, to the \$25 monthly support, to the little girl who emptied out her piggy bank and gave the last \$1.35 she had, to a middle school student with a HUGE heart who first reached out to me back in October with a desire to make a difference in her community, and a heart that wanted to know how she could help. As you can see in the picture, Leah accomplished a lot in a short amount of time, by rallying her school, her neighborhood, and her city around a common mission to help meet the needs of our homeless brothers and sisters.

Homelessness is a community crisis, and it requires an urgent community response, and we hear and see those stories daily about how individuals (regardless of age), families, churches, and other organizations are rising up together with an urgent community response. So, on behalf of myself, our incredible SAM25 staff and volunteers, and all our guests: Thank You for bringing your time, treasures, and talents to SAM25! Thank You for making the important work we do here in the Shawano and Menominee County areas possible!

As we continue to move forward in the last part of our Shelter season, we still have many opportunities available for you to bring your time, treasures, and talents to SAM25.

- If you enjoy shopping or preparing meals, we still have opportunities available for you to

Take our Guests a Meal. You can sign up here: <https://takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=BSRN3981>

- If you LOVE people and have a heart for meeting people where they are at and have a passion for making a positive impact in peoples lives. We have opportunities available for you to serve in each of our 4 programs: our Shelter, our Resource Center (open year round), our Clinic, and our Thrift Store. You can sign up here: <https://www.sam25.org/volunteer>
- If you enjoy working with Social Media and Websites or love coordinating teams we are also looking for a Social Media/Website Volunteer as well as a Volunteer Coordinator.
- If you love fundraising, and raising money for causes that have purpose as we approach the Spring, Summer, and Fall of 2022, and move into our busy months of fundraising, etc. we will have plenty of ways to get involved whether that's SAM25's Annual Flower Sale, Pizza Sales at Franklin Park, Farmer Market Saturday's, etc. You can call SAM25 at 715-851-7252 to explore any of those opportunities or sign up on the Volunteer tab on our website at sam25.org.

We look forward to continuing to do this important work in our community alongside of each one of you!

Stronger TOGETHER,

-Matt



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Resource Center Update

By: Chris Ciucci

Wow! I'm always amazed by how good begets good and how much better it gets, despite the Pandemic. SAM25 Resource Center is alive and thriving and rocking lives because of all of you-Donors, and givers of every kind, folks showing up and making things happen.

We have served over 1500 people in our resource center within the past 8 months.

Within the past 10 days, two resource guests came in, one brandishing a set of keys to an apartment, the other a lease. These are joyful success stories where SAM25 was able to help folks who were literally living in their cars, complete, submit and follow up with paperwork and the rental process to their own apartments and with the help of Habitat for Humanity, a warm bed.

In addition to all the generous support we receive, we have the benefit of partnering with other community agencies to provide resources at SAM25. Forward Services, DHS and Newcap all come in and utilize our building to meet with and provide services to folks. We work with Veterans services, schools and counselors, churches, our peace officers, and area businesses to connect and expand services.

With everyone's generous support, we can provide food, clothes, gas, transportation, showers, conversation, and council to guests and would be guests to find alternatives, solutions, and tools to improve their circumstances.

There's so much happening in doing what we set out to do, provide hope, health, and housing; with most engagements being a "Thank You God, so happy I was able to show up today" encounter. Please contact Chris, in our Resource Center for more information if you know someone in need, have ideas to share and for opportunities to Volunteer at our Resource Center. As always, THANKS for showing up in all the ways you do!

-Chris

SAM's Closet Thrift Store Update

By: Deb Knope

SAM's Closet, located at 105 E. Richmond St. in Shawano is **open to the public**, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9am to 3pm. Those in need have access to free clothing during Resource Center hours.

The store is run entirely by volunteers, and our hope is that as we add more volunteers, we will be able to open 6 days a week.

We appreciate all donations which are for the homeless and the entire community. All proceeds help support SAM25's programs. At this time, we are accepting spring and summer clothes in like new condition. We do not accept any non-clothing items. A special thanks to all the volunteers who help keep the store running.



SAM25 Food Tent Fundraiser at Thursdays @ Franklin!

SAM25 will be selling Luigi's pizza at Franklin Park this year! All proceeds support SAM25!

If you or your group is interested in signing up to help, give us a call! (715) 851-7252

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