



Are you a holiday sponsor or are you interested in becoming one? The Center distributed nearly 600 holiday meals thanks to community donations and many volunteers. Interested in adopting a child for Christmas? Nearly 300 children were paired with a community volunteer to have their most basic needs met for the holidays. If you are interested in helping with Thanksgiving or Christmas sponsorship, or volunteering at the Center, please note our timeline below and contact the Center to learn more!

2014 Holiday Timeline:

October 1: Thanksgiving food donations begins

October 31: Thanksgiving distribution to families begins

November 1: Christmas adoptions begins

December 3: Christmas distribution of gifts and food begins

NOVEMBER 2014 ISSUE

The Sharing



Center

25700 Wilmot Road

P.O. Box 172

Trevor, WI 53179

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If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please send an email to director@thesharingcenter.net with your name, address, and email address. If you would no longer like to receive this newsletter, please call the Center at 262.298.5535 to be removed from the mailing list.

HOW CAN I HELP?

The Sharing Center is in need of...

DONATIONS: Your tax deductible monetary donation makes a difference. If you can not donate monetarily, your time and talent are greatly appreciated!

FOOD: Peanut butter & jelly, tuna, beans (canned, dried, & baked); whole grain rice, cereal and pasta, soups/stews/chili, and canned fruit.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS: Baking supplies, cooking pots, plates, flat wear, small appliances, clean linens, blankets, sheets, egg cartons and paper grocery bags

TOILETRIES / HYGIENE: SHAMPOO, FEMININE HYGIENE, TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTHPASTE, deodorant, toilet paper, hand/dish soap, and laundry detergent

WINTER OUTERWEAR: Children and adult coats, boots, snowpants, heavy socks, hats, gloves, and mittens



Our Mission: The Sharing Center provides a helping-hand to those living in Western Kenosha County by providing food, household items, and education in an environment of respect and dignity.

Dear Friends and Family:

The excitement of the holidays is here! The inpouring of people wanting to help comes at a time when more families than ever are in need. We look forward to riding the wave of happiness that comes with this kind of compassion and selflessness!

We give thanks to the churches who continue to help families live and thrive. Thank you to the schools for their commitment to education and life. Thank you to the Scouts, 4H'ers, clubs, and service agencies for forever bolstering the lives of our children. Thank you to each and every volunteer both here at our agency, and those in service in the community, for their unending commitment to a better world.

Thank you to all who contribute: you are changing the lives of thousands of people right here, and on behalf of them I say: Thank You! We witness the impact of your generosity and caring every day.

Thank you to the Center's board, present and past, who's compassionate and progressive leadership, has made the Center a thriving hub in Kenosha County.

Thank you to Kathy & Rick Fors.

May the blessing of this holiday season infuse your day, your lives, and our hearts with peace and love for one another.

Sharon Pomaville
Executive Director



The Sharing



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The Sharing Center founder pays visit to agency in Trevor

Some 31 years ago, Rick and Kathy Fors started The Sharing Center in Wheatland, as a way to help people going through a rough patch get back on their feet.

Though the Fors have not been actively involved in the relief organization since the late 1990s, it continues to serve the purpose of its founders. And Rick Fors knows that for sure, because he visited the center's current headquarters in Trevor.

"I am so thrilled," Fors said of what he saw. "There's no way I can communicate how thrilled."



The Sharing Center provides an emergency food pantry, hygiene supplies, clothing, household items, winter outerwear, school supplies, employment resources, Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets and other services to in-need Western Kenosha County residents.

When he and Kathy decided to open the center, they thought they would just open a food pantry. An organization providing relief services in Kenosha heard about their efforts and leaders there expressed skepticism that they would be able to keep that narrow focus. And they were right. Within weeks, the Fors found that people who were in need of food were in need of other things too and the mission expanded. They provided clothing and other help, such as a lot of advice about dealing with landlords, even accompanying clients to court proceedings.

The Fors approach was always to try to give people a leg up so they could get their lives back in order. So along those lines, the center provided 10 days of food when other organizations often provided one at a time. But they limited those distributions to three a year, with an additional one at the discretion of the director.

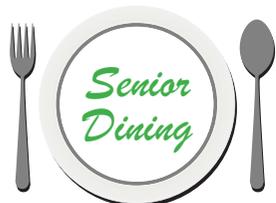
Fors reconnected with the center recently through indirect means. Fors, who now lives in Florida for the winter and back up north in New London for the summer, was passing through Trevor and looked for the center. He didn't see it in its new headquarters in the old Trevor fire station, but did look up the group on the internet.

"I felt I was behind on my tithe and so I made a donation," said Fors, who added that he defines tithe as not just for church but also for other good works.

Current Sharing Center executive director Sharon Pomaville recognized the name and reached out to Fors, wanting to meet the center's surviving founder. Saturday, the center hosted a brunch with current and past board of directors members and Fors, along with some Fors family members.

Many organizations don't seem to survive the point where the founders are no longer involved. But Fors said he is proud that The Sharing Center has bucked that trend and has carried on.

"It reaffirms to me that it was something God wanted," Fors said.



**MONDAY,
WEDNESDAY AND
FRIDAY
AT 12PM. FOR
RESERVATIONS
262-948-9890**