

SPRING 2024



Your Friendly Twice-a-Year Newsletter For Project Concern and Cudahy/St. Francis Interfaith Program for the Elderly

Our Future Is Bright

By now many of you know that Project Concern has been on the hunt for a new home for the past five years. We have called the basement of Nativity of the Lord church our home since our organization began in 1968, but the time has come for us to find a new, proper home.



The church previously used the school building next door for parish events, meals, meetings and more, but the school building has been closed off and needs to be taken down. This makes space for all their needs, and ours, a tight fit. They have been very generous to us while we search for our new home, and for that, we are very grateful to Fr. Carmelo and the good people of Nativity of the Lord Church.

Five years of searching for a building we could purchase and renovate here in Cudahy have resulted in precious few helpful leads. While we still hope to buy and renovate, we are currently researching a space in Cudahy where we could potentially build our new home from scratch, and hope to find out by mid summer if that location is workable or not.

We are a faith-based organization, and were created by the good people of what used to be Saint Frederick's church (now Nativity of the Lord). There remains some uncertainty as to where our future home will end up being, but one thing we at Project Concern are certain of, is that the Lord will provide for us. We continue to work with our building partner, VJS Construction, in researching and finding a suitable location to renovate or build a 7,000-10,000 square foot home for our community center, Project Concern.

We envision a bright, well-lit and warm place for families in need to come for help. The walls will be filled with vibrant color, no more carrying everything up and down a full flight of stairs, access for everyone with natural light and caring people to serve them. We can see it and envision it. It's coming, and it'll be even better than we are hoping for. God is good and we will continue our work of taking care of our neighbors in need in our existing space until such time as our new space is identified and ready for us. We thank all of you for your continued prayers and support. If you see us smiling here at the Pantry, it's because our future is bright!

PROJECT CONCERN OF CUDAHY-ST. FRANCIS

Our Mission: To compassionately provide a path to self-sufficiency by providing basic needs such as food, clothing and access to additional community resources.

Agency Director: Patrick Higgins
Phone: 414-744-0645
Fax: 414-744-0645
Email: info@projectconcerncudahy.org
Website: projectconcerncudahy.org
Facebook: ProjectConcernCSF

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 100093
Cudahy, WI 53110-0093

Location:
3672 E Plankinton Ave
Lower Level - Nativity of the Lord Parish
Cudahy, WI 53110

Hours of Operation:

Monday 9:00 am to Noon
3:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am to Noon
Friday 9:00 am to Noon
1st Saturday of the month
9:00am to 11:00 am

***By appointment Wed: Noon to 3:00pm*

Food Pantry Services:

- ◆ Emergency food in collaboration with Hunger Task Force and Feeding America
- ◆ Clothing, household items, toys, books and more
- ◆ Personal care products
- ◆ Information and referral services
- ◆ Birthday bag and gift for children
- ◆ Seasonal programs:
 - School Supplies for students
 - Holiday food baskets
 - Christmas gift program

All services are provided free of charge
Thank you to our many supporters!

Volunteer Spotlight: Meet Pat!



As the only former paid employee of Cudahy-St. Francis Interfaith Program (CSFI) and a current Project Concern and CSFI volunteer, Pat Mull has been able to use her healthcare and organizational experience and skills to benefit the organization and community at large.

Pat began working for CSFI ten years ago after retiring from her job as the Director of Employee and Health Services at Mount Carmel nursing home at 5700 W. Layton Ave. The facility has since closed down.

Getting involved with CSFI “was something fun to do,” Pat said. Her job duties included overseeing the medical lending program. Through this program, patrons can borrow medical equipment including canes, walkers, raised toilet seats, wheelchairs, and more free of charge for up to three months. To serve patrons more effectively, CSFI and Project Concern merged operations in 2011.

Although Pat is no longer a CSFI employee, she has continued to donate her time as a volunteer for both organizations, coordinating the medical lending program and helping out wherever she is needed. She wants the community to know that Project Concern offers many resources to those who need it. “You can get clothes, food and medical equipment,” she said.

In her spare time, Pat enjoys visiting her cabin in Suring, Wisconsin, hosting barbecues, hiking and kayaking. A fun fact about Pat? She is a former member of the U.S.S.A. traveling softball team. “I was the catcher and shortest player,” she added.

CUDAHY-ST. FRANCIS INTERFAITH PROGRAM FOR THE ELDERLY

Our Mission: To help our senior neighbors remain independent and safe in their homes.

Project Concern: A MyChoice Food Pantry

With this model, the pantry is set up like a grocery store. Patrons are able to select food items according to dietary or cultural/religious preferences. We offer a wide variety of non-perishable and fresh goods, including gluten-free and vegan options when able. This model helps cut down on food waste (vs pre-packed food) and allows patrons to feel more dignified in being able to choose the food items they prefer.

S.J. - "Being able to choose my own food at Project Concern allows my family to best make use of our monthly visit!"

SENIOR RESOURCE NUMBERS

- 211 - IMPACT 24 hour helpline
- Aging Resource Ctr of Milwaukee County - (414) 289-6874
- Kelly Senior Center (Cudahy)- (414) 481-9611
- SDC Senior Benefit Enrollment - (414) 906-2706

Recipe Corner : Perfect Pasta Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 box rotini pasta
- 1-1 and 1/4th cups of Italian salad dressing
- 3-5 strips of bacon, crumbled (or bacon bits)
- Parmesan cheese as desired
- 1 diced tomato
- 1-1/2 cups of cooked or steamed broccoli florets, cooled
- 1/2 cup black olives, cut in halves
- 1 cup small chunks of cheddar or mozzarella cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper (optional)

Directions:

Cook pasta according to the directions on the package, or until tender.

Drain and let cool. Add ingredients and mix together.

Refrigerate and enjoy!

- Recipe provided by Catherine Jozwik

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Services for Senior Neighbors:

- ◆ Information
- ◆ Referrals to other programs
- ◆ Resources on health, finances & more
- ◆ Help around the house
- ◆ Personal visits by phone or in person
- ◆ Lending library of durable medical equipment

Medical Lending Library

This free service is available to all Cudahy and St. Francis residents regardless of age.

Equipment includes:

- ◆ Canes
- ◆ Raised toilet seats
- ◆ Walkers
- ◆ Wheelchairs
- ◆ Knee scooters
- ◆ And more!

Equipment can be borrowed for 90 days and if necessary, may be renewed for an additional 90 days.



Project Concern and CSFI Program for the Elderly are equal opportunity providers and employers.

CLOSED DATES

Project Concern & CSFI Program for the Elderly will be closed on:

- Fri May 27 & Mon May 30
- Sat July 2 & Mon July 4
- Friday Aug 12
- Sat Sept 3 & Mon Sept 5
- Friday Nov 25

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WISH LIST



Project Concern does more than just provide emergency food. We provide a warm, welcoming place for those in need. Please help us by donating items from the wish list below so that we can provide our patrons with life’s necessities!

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Shampoo/Conditioner | Kleenex |
| Shaving Cream | New Can Openers |
| Laundry Soap | Dish Soap |
| Hand Soap | Feminine Hygiene |
| Toothpaste/Toothbrushes | Diapers |
| Body Wash | Baby Wipes |
| Lip Balm | New Socks |