

FALL 2024



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

## Warm Holiday Greetings To All



For many, the holidays are a time of family, food, faith, fun, and traditions. But nearly 10 percent of all Cudahy and St. Francis residents struggle with purchasing basic necessities, such as food, clothing and personal care items.

Project Concern's Thanksgiving food box and Christmas toy program for children ensure that families can make their holidays memorable with a hearty meal and gifts.

Project Concern volunteers pack approximately 85 food boxes, which contain Thanksgiving meal items including a turkey, stuffing mix, mashed potatoes, cornbread, vegetables and dessert! These boxes are then distributed to families that are in need.

Families with children 17 and under can sign up for the Christmas toy program to receive an age-appropriate gift.

Those interested in donating cash or gift cards to these programs, or sponsoring a child for Christmas, can visit the Project Concern website at [www.projectconcerncudahy.org](http://www.projectconcerncudahy.org) or call 414-744-0645 during pantry hours of operation.

### **Donations Needed!**

As the weather turns colder, many people in our communities, especially those who are food and housing-insecure or unhoused, find themselves without proper winter clothing, which can be dangerous to their health.

Project Concern is especially in need of men and women's new socks and underwear donations, along with winter coats of all types! These donations can be dropped off at the pantry during hours of operation. For more information, call the pantry at 414-744-0645.

## 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  
**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  
1<sup>st</sup> 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
- ◆ New books for kids program

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

## **Volunteer Spotlight: Meet Missie!**



Volunteer and Project Concern Marketing Director Missie Beaber first discovered Project Concern and its services after a friend recommended she try its medical lending library for equipment needed after undergoing surgery.

Volunteer Pat Mull, who oversees the lending library, helped her find what she needed. “She was phenomenal,” Missie recalled.

She felt a connection with the pantry as soon as she walked through its doors. “I thought, ‘I have to come back here.’ I felt that I could be a part of something and make a difference.”

Although the pantry had a waiting list for volunteers at the time, Missie was soon able to fill a front desk position, and now volunteers several shifts a week. “It’s the best,” she said. “We get to love like Jesus, one person at a time. I feel like we are just a big family--everyone is so kind and dedicated.”

Missie, a Kenosha native who has experience in nonprofit fund development and marketing, along with a degree in communications from Parkside University and a marketing degree from Gateway Technical College, was offered the position of Project Concern Marketing Director in July 2024. Her duties include social media management, community outreach, creating graphics, and more.

As someone whose own family visited food pantries when she was a child, Missie encourages community members to examine their assumptions about people who visit the Project Concern pantry. “They look just like us—they are our neighbors,” she added. “So many people don’t have the support system that we have—we get to be their community.”

## CUDAHY-ST. FRANCIS INTERFAITH PROGRAM FOR THE ELDERLY

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

### **ADRC—Supporting Seniors Year-Round**

Are you a senior who is struggling this holiday season? The Aging and Disability Resource Center, or ADRC of Milwaukee County, can help. Call 414-289-6874, email [adrc@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:adrc@milwaukeecountywi.gov), or visit [countymilwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/Older-Adults-Services](http://countymilwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/Older-Adults-Services) for information about Medicare, long-term care, area senior centers, and more.

### **A Project Concern Testimonial**

"Getting the Stockbox is like Christmas! I use all of the food items, and I've found many recipes that incorporate them, which makes the food stretch even further. The items are good and receiving them from the Project Concern Food Pantry really helps me out financially."

*Anonymous Project Concern Patron*

### **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

### **Classic Sweet Potato Casserole**

#### **Ingredients:**

- 3 cups mashed sweet potatoes
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 beaten eggs
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla
- Toppings:
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup flour
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1/3 cup butter, melted



#### **Directions:**

Mix sweet potatoes, sugar, eggs, butter, milk and vanilla. Pour into 9 inch square greased baking dish. Mix topping ingredients and sprinkle over potatoes. Bake at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes.

*Recipe provided by Marilyn Jozwik*

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#### **Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 100095

Cudahy, WI 53110-0095

#### **Location:**

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Lower Level - Nativity of the Lord Parish

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Friday 9:00 am to Noon

#### **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
- ◆ 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 Nov 29 - Mon Dec 25
- Wed Jan 1, 2025
- Fri Feb 14 - Fri Mar 21
- Fri Apr 18 - Mon May 26

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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        |