

BUILDING HOPE. TOGETHER.



Spring 2026

Setting a Seat at the Table: Hunger in Our Wisconsin Communities

In the Dairy State, where rolling hills and hardworking farms define our horizon, it is easy to assume that abundance is shared by all. But for many of our neighbors, the reality is that their dinner table looks very different.

As we look further into 2026, the need in our local communities remains a quiet but urgent call to action. Recent data shows that the “meal gap” in Wisconsin is widening, and the faces of those seeking help are often the ones we see every day at the post office, the library, or the school pick-up line.

The Reality in Our Backyard

Hunger doesn't always look the way we expect. It is often hidden behind closed doors, affecting families who are working hard but simply cannot keep pace with the rising costs of living.

- Currently, approximately **1 in 8 people** in Wisconsin face hunger. This isn't just a statistic; it represents nearly **700,000** of our friends, coworkers, and neighbors.
- The impact on the next generation is even more profound. About **1 in 6 children** in our state live in food-insecure households. In Cudahy and St. Francis, those numbers are even higher.
- The reality is that public assistance for food insecurity is often not enough.

A Community of Care

At Project Concern, we believe that food is a human right, but it is also a bridge. Every box of cereal or bag of fresh produce is a message to a struggling family that they are not alone. When you support your local food Pantry, you aren't just filling a shelf; you are providing the stability a parent needs to focus on work or the nutrition a child needs to focus on their math homework.

How You Can Help Today

If you have a little extra to give—whether it's time, resources, or advocacy—here is how you can make a direct impact:

1. **Donate Funds:** Financial gifts allow us to purchase fresh milk, meat, and produce at wholesale prices. Even a small gift goes a long way.
 2. **Share the Word:** Sometimes the best thing you can do is let a neighbor know we are here. If you know someone struggling, remind them that our doors are open and our hearts are ready to help.
 3. **Advocate:** Support local policies and budgets that prioritize food security. Staying informed helps us build a stronger safety net for everyone. If you would like more information on this, please e-mail Missie Beaber at missie.beaber@projectconcerncudahy.org, and she can connect you with actionable items that make a big impact.
- “Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.”** Thank you for being the heart of our community. Together, we can work to end hunger, one family at a time.

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

- 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

- Information
- Referrals to other programs
- Resources on health, finances and more
- Personal visits by phone or in person
- Lending library of durable medical equipment

Hours of Operation:

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



DECEMBER 416 <i>Families</i>	JANUARY 411 <i>Families</i>
FEBRUARY 404 <i>Families</i>	MARCH 412 <i>Families</i>

For Dick Buschmann, helping others is a way of life.

Dick has been a cornerstone of Project Concern since 2003, joining us shortly after retiring as the Administrator of the Economic Support Division for Milwaukee County. He first stepped onto our Board of Directors as the Pastor's designee for Sacred Heart of Jesus church, and in July 2006, he stepped up as our volunteer Pantry Director.

While you'll often find Dick handling the "heavy lifting" of administrative work—balancing budgets, managing payroll, and navigating government grants—he's the first to tell you he prefers staying out of the spotlight. "I'm more behind the scenes," he says with a smile.

But Dick's work isn't just about numbers and paperwork. To stay connected with the people we serve, he joins our delivery teams three times a month, bringing fresh groceries and non-perishable food directly to the doors of our homebound neighbors.

A longtime member of Sacred Heart of Jesus parish in St. Francis, Dick's dedication to the St. Francis and Cudahy communities haven't wavered in over two decades. He's



already looking forward to the future, too. "My goal is to make it to 25 years as the Pantry Director," he shares. We are so grateful for Dick's steady hand and big heart!

With Love

At Project Concern, we often talk about numbers: pounds of food distributed, dollars raised for our "Hunger into Hope" campaign, or the number of families served each month. But behind every statistic is a heartbeat, and behind every action we take is a simple, guiding principle: **Everything we do, we do with love.**

Love is in the way a volunteer remembers a neighbor's favorite cereal. It's in the extra care taken to ensure our fresh produce is crisp and inviting. It's in the warm smile at the intake desk and the shared laughter while a volunteer catches up with a family.

We believe that providing food is only part of our mission; providing **dignity** and **hope** is the other. When someone walks through our doors, we want them to feel like a guest in a home, not a number in a system. Whether we are helping carry groceries, writing grant applications for our new building, or simply listening to a neighbor's story, we strive to move with compassion and intentionality.

"With Love" isn't just a statement for us - it is the foundation of our future. As we work together to turn hunger into hope, thank you for being the heart of this mission.

With Love,
The Project Concern Team



Donation Drop-Off Details

Donation Drop-Off Details: If you're cleaning out your pantry or picking up a few extra items during your weekly grocery run, you can drop off non-perishable, non-expired donations at our Food Pantry:

3672 E Plankinton Ave, Cudahy

Mon, Wed, Fri, 9 AM - 12 PM, Mondays 3 PM - 6 PM
& the 1st Saturday of the Month 9 AM - 11 AM.

Supporters of Project Concern and CSFI Program

Individuals

Alex & Jason Phillips	Craig & Maureen Napierala	Gayle Brown	Judith Jessup
Alexander Durtka	Danette Stoner	George & Mary Haberman	Judith Mathews
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Carol White	Elizabeth Slattery	Jill Polglaze	Linda Bukowski
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Colleen Higgins	Gail Cruz	John Rosploch	Lonna Taylor
Constance Gaszak	Gail Kolvenbach	John Zajackowski	Loretta & Earl Niehusen
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	Gary Schlunz	Joyce Koenig	Luann M Nunn

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 Lynn Duppler
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 Margaret Dusek
 Margaret Tennessen
 Margaret Treutel
 Margaret Wiken
 Mark Schulz
 Marlene Magee
 Marlene Rausch
 Martin Orlando
 Marvin Paluszynski
 Mary Ann Kathrein
 Mary Cywinski
 Mary Drehfal
 Mary Ellen Mikulay
 Mary Keane
 Mary Klotz
 Mary McChesney
 Mary O'Connell
 Mary Schultz
 Mary Scuglik
 Mary Wessell
 Matilda Ratzmann
 Maureen Higgins
 Maureen Napierala
 Maureen Shebesta
 Maxine Lijewski
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 Patricia Elliott
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 Patricia Hurlbut
 Patricia Johnson
 Patrick Dempsey
 Patrick Koszuta
 Patti Wisniewski
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 Paul Radomski
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 Paulette Smith
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 Peggy Eilens
 Penelope Turk
 Philip Tomhave
 Phyllis Verhaalen
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 William Miller
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 William Zippel
 Yami Frey

Churches, Groups, Businesses

Advance Screw
 Alfred Benesch & Company
 Aurora Health Care
 Bert's Bar and Grill
 Bodner Properties
 Brownie Troop 37832
 Catholic Community Foundation
 Charities Aid Foundation America
 Charlies 5 Liquor & Tobacco Mart
 Congregation of the Sacred Heart
 of Jesus
 Copeland
 Cub Scout Pack 57
 Cudahy High School Success
 Academy
 Cudahy Historical Society
 Cudahy Lions Club
 Cudahy Senior Vagabonds
 Connects Learning Center
 Dairyland
 Discover Church - South Shore
 Divine Mercy Church
 Doctor Comfort Shoes
 Domascus Masonic Lodge #290
 Emil Ewald Family Foundation
 Galles LLC
 General Mitchell School
 Greater Milwaukee Association of
 Realtors Youth Foundation
 Groppi's Market
 Hunger Task Force

Izzy's Tap
 JJ Keller Foundation Inc.
 JE Jones Elementary School
 Juniper /Canticle Resident Jelly
 Drive
 King Santa Fun Party
 Ladies of the City of Cudahy
 La Finca Coffee House
 Law Offices Of Paul Maranan
 Layton Ave Fruit Market
 Lions Club of Cudahy
 Lovely Ladies Club of Cudahy
 Meijer Simply Give
 Memorial United Methodist
 Ceramics Class
 Milwaukee County Food Drive
 MKE Design Build
 Nativity of the Lord Congregation
 NOTL Ladies' Guild
 Nursing Home Volunteers
 Purolator
 Queen of Peace Post 672
 Radix Fermentation LLC
 RCMF
 Reggie's Amusement
 Reggie and Gerry's
 Reilly Insurance Services inc
 Ridge Community Church
 Sacred Heart of Jesus Church
 Saputo Cheese USA
 School District of Cudahy
 South Side Business Club of
 Milwaukee
 South Side Church of Christ
 St Francis Days
 St Francis Library
 St Francis Lions Club
 St Johns Ev Lutheran Church
 St Marks Ev Lutheran Church
 St Matthew Catholic School
 St Paul's Congregation
 The Mothership Bar
 Tiny's Sports Tavern
 Tiprint
 Trustone Financial
 VEGA Chapter 76
 VFW Post 2895
 Wand and Wheel Pottery
 X-Ray Arcade
 Zimmermann Printing Co

Gifts Made In Memorial Or In Honor

IN MEMORY OF RUDY PUGEL

From Pat O'Toole

IN MEMORY OF ROBIN WETHERBEE

From Jan and Tom Rach

IN MEMORY OF VINCENT & IRENE TRASKOWSKI

From Carl Traskowski

IN MEMORY OF CHARLOTTE RYAN

From Her Family

IN MEMORY OF JERRY & CEIL WENGLEWSKI

From Peggy and Brian Dlapa

IN MEMORY OF ROSE BRANNON

From Tom and Nancy Evans

IN MEMORY OF TERRY DUFFY

From Tom and Nancy Evans, Diana Duffey

IN MEMORY OF KEN & LUCIA TSCHOHL

From Kevin Tschohl

IN MEMORY OF JOE VODNIK

From Kevin Tschohl

IN MEMORY OF DOUG HAWKINS

From Kevin Tschohl

IN MEMORY OF MIKE SHIMETA DDS

From Kevin Tschohl

IN MEMORY OF JIM HOLTZ

From Patricia Holtz

IN MEMORY OF AL GASZAK & AL GASZAK JR

From Connie Gaszak

IN MEMORY OF TRISH WIMER

From Kathleen Wilke

IN HONOR OF DAVE'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

From Craig and Maureen Napierala, Robert and Edith Litkowiec

IN MEMORY OF JERRY FLISS

From Debbie and Kristi Fliss

IN MEMORY OF DEACON GERALD PONEC

From Jerry and Mary Ellen Mikulay, Brian & Peggy Dlapa

IN MEMORY OF CARL & JACQUELINE BARANEK

From Debbie Baranek Rose

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD & DOROTHY KRYSZEWSKI

From Gail & Len Cruz

IN MEMORY OF LINDA RIDER

From Jerry & Mary Ellen Mikulay

IN MEMORY OF JANE WARGIN

From Roger & Bonnie Timm, Robert & Edie Litkowiec

IN MEMORY OF JACK MICHL

From Friends

IN MEMORY OF WERNER SCHERR

From Michael Ryterski

IN HONOR OF DORIS O'LEARY

From David O'Leary

IN MEMORY OF JOHN MAY

From Bonnie & Donald Deavers, Gary Johnson, Christine Essex, Debbie & Barbara Cantillon Family, Sharon Kuharske Family, Dennis & Constance Lubbert, Vicki Stram Kipfmueller, Carol May, Judith Fojut, Wayne Stenglein, Laurie & Earl Niehusen,

IN MEMORY OF HELEN MAHSEM

From Terri & Ronald Mahsem

HEALING PRAYERS FOR KATHY ARNOLD'S KNEE SURGERY

From Jerry & Mary Ellen Mikulay

IN MEMORY OF DOLORES SPORS

From Mike Ryterski



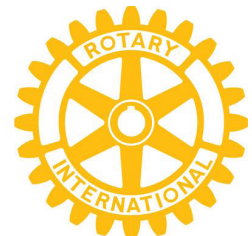
Your Donations Make The Difference

Our organization exists only through the generous giving and support of our many donors. Whether you support us through time, treasure, talent or prayer, you are giving of yourself to your neighbors in need. And while you, as supporters, may not get to see the smiles (and tears) of gratitude from those we are able to help, we see it everyday and thank YOU for making it possible.

If you wish to donate to us online, please visit our website:

www.projectconcerncudahy.org

You can quickly make a one-time donation, or sign-up for recurring donations, by utilizing the “DONATE NOW” button on our website.



Closed Dates

Memorial Day

Monday, May 25th

Cleaning/Inventory

Wednesday, June 17th

Independence Day

Friday, July 3rd

Saturday, July 4th

Cleaning/Inventory

Friday, August 21st

Labor Day Weekend

Saturday, September 5th

Monday, September 7th

Cleaning/Inventory

Friday, October 2nd

Thanksgiving

Friday, November 27th

Christmas

Friday, December 25th

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1st

*We close for bad
weather if Cudahy
School District closes*

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THANK YOU
SO MUCH

OUR COMMUNITY SHOWS UP WITH LOVE,
GENEROSITY AND KINDNESS EVERY TIME THERE IS
A NEED. WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT, MANY OF OUR
NEIGHBORS WOULD GO WITHOUT. THANK YOU FOR
ALL YOUR SUPPORT AND DONATIONS!
- THE PROJECT CONCERN PANTRY CREW