furnishing homes with a little help from our friends!

HOURS
Tuesdays & Thursdays
1:30-4:00pm
Occasional hours by appointment

theExchange
LA CROSSE AREA FURNITURE BANK

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www.theexchangelacrosse.org | theexchange@shelterdevelopment.org

theExchange Newsletter

February
2021

YEAR IN REVIEW 2020

OUR MISSION

Through the effective reuse of donated items, theExchange collaborates with local organizations to provide home essentials for community members in need.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Shelter Development Inc.

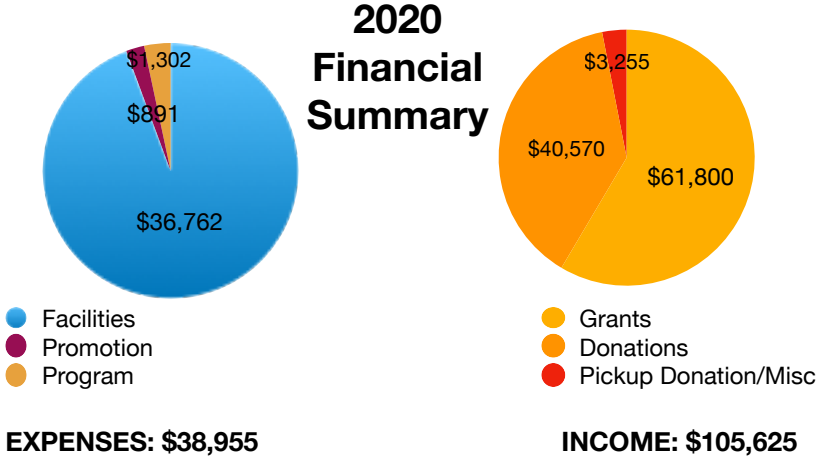
Chuck Berendes, Pres
Craig Sacia, Vice-Pres
Annie Berendes
Isaac Hoffman
Mary Ann Gerrard
Nancy Gerrard
Rebecca Naugler
Kelly Oliver
Sheila Riley
Andrew Sahlstrom
Thomas Schlesinger
S. Kathy Stuttgen
Tom Thibodeau

GRATITUDE
for Support

- Community Volunteers
- Financial Donors
- Advocates/Service Agencies
- Furniture/Household Donors
- Student Volunteers
- Board of Directors

With 2020 hindsight, we can safely say theExchange proudly served its mission throughout a year of pandemic challenge and welcome growing pains. While cautiously slowing down in late March and much of April, we were able to regroup and safely provide furniture and home goods to nearly 500 households in the Coulee Region. We saw an increase of donations and services from generous businesses, funds, and community members, and feel confident in moving ahead with our plan to hire an Executive Director. In this issue we are happy to share a year of Adaptation, Gratitude, Personal Impact, and Community Support and we are grateful to all of you. Cindy, Mary, Joan, Sheila—Volunteer Program Directors

2020 Financial Summary



EXPENSES: $38,955

INCOME: $105,625

Note from our Board President

I'm so proud of the incredibly good work that theExchange continues to do. In the span of a couple years the project has gone from its humble beginnings in a donated basement space to the operation you are all so familiar with today. Not only has theExchange continued to grow and serve more and more people, but it has done so with 100% volunteer labor and has safely and effectively kept serving those in need through the pandemic. Here's to an even bigger impact in 2021! Chuck Berendes

PERSONAL IMPACT

"Your work is life-changing! Seriously."(caseworker)

"I can't tell you how much this helped me and my daughter." (recipient)

"Volunteering here has been flexible, fun, and meaningful to me." (volunteer)

"Best people, top notch organization, best non-profit around! Bring your donations here because it is helping people directly with no middle man." (donor)

"It's great to see the smiles when a delivery is made to an empty apartment." (delivery driver)

ADAPTATION
to a Pandemic

- Ten months of following Safer-at-Home Covid19 Guidelines.
- Volunteers restricted to 3 in the building at one time, masked, and socially distanced.
- Seven weeks serving only the most urgent client needs.
- Contactless donation drop-off.
- Yet still sustaining our impact as shown by data in this issue!

Send Ideas or Feedback
ktyser@me.com
Kathie Tyser
Volunteer Editor

PROGRAM IMPACT
by the Numbers

467
Households Served

833
Donation Visits

438
Deliveries & Pickups

3,584
Volunteer Hours

110
Couches Provided

0
Paid Staff

THE REAL MAGIC…

For all our impact and statistics, the real magic happens in the daily exchange between donors, advocates, volunteers and the households we serve. Securing a crock pot for a pregnant mom living in a hotel room, having some bunk beds on hand for the family with 5 children and only 2 bedrooms—every bit helps. We've seen tears for a couch more than once! Thanks to the hard working advocates/agencies that go the extra mile for their clients, and to the many generous individual donors and businesses that routinely fill our warehouse so that by reusing, we may realize our vision that everyone lives in a furnished home.

Volunteer Program Directors:

Mary Mueller
Sheila Riley
Cindy Sahlstrom
Joan Waniger

Program Assistants, Warehouse Workers & Moving Team Volunteers:

Deb Anderson, Jim Bagniewski,Sue Batell, Bryce Dorff, Mary Jean Eisenbacher, Ted Eisenbacher, Ken Hanson, Jerry Hegenbarth, Pat Hogan, Ginger Horth, Annette Jarman, Karen Johnson, Mike Juran, Martha Keefe, Judy Klevan, Tom Link, Akshith Mandepally, Cathy Maringer, Mike Maringer, Maureen McDowell, Mary Monsoor, Bonnie Naber, Dave Nutter, Becky Prichett, Peter Riley, Ted Riley, Joy Rumball, Maria Runde, Laura Saxton, Diane Schumacher, Kelly Shannon, Denise Shedivy, Bruce Simones, Janel Sloan, Mike Sloan, Mark Spiess, Joan Swenson, Kathy Ticknor, Kathie Tyser, Lisa Valentini-Lilly, Ben Waniger, Rick Waniger, Bob Weeks, Joan Wolf, Ben Zielgelbein, Kelly Zielgelbein

In-Kind Supporters

Dan Walsh, PM Sleep Center, A-1 Vacuum, Kathy Knobloch, FSPA, Linda Schwartz, Stephanie Fraase, S. Karen Neuser, Boyer's Furniture, English Lutheran Church, Dairyland Power Company, Mary Mother of the Church, Side By Side, Jean Londergan, Maxwell-White Plumbing, Jerry Rockwell, Mark Nigogosyan, Kathie Tyser, Rick & Ben Waniger, Blessed Sacrament School, Abbie Loos/LaCrosse County Health, Viterbo University, Pat Hogan, Bruce Simones, Deb Anderson, Ben Bockenhauer

Furnishing Homes with a Little Help from our Friends

Thank You All!

Grants

La Crosse Community Foundation, Altra Credit Union/FHLBC, Women's Fund of Greater La Crosse, Marck Family Foundation, Green Bay Packer Foundation, Blahnik/Naugler Fund, FSPA Ministry grant

Organization Gifts

English Lutheran Church, La Crosse Professional Police, Association of Fundraising Professionals, Root Down Yoga, Our Redeemer Church

Donors

Mary Ann Gerrard, Rebecca Naugler, Maureen McDowell, Nancy Gerrard, S. Rochelle Potaracke & S. Kathy Stuttgen, Ben & Annette Jarman, Annie and Gabriel Berendes, S. Joan Hageman, S. MaryAnn Gschwind, Shari & Woody Godbold, Ted & Sheila Riley, Bryce Dorff, Stephen & Katie Webster, Isaac Hoffman, Diane & David Schumacher, S. Lorraine Forster, Jeffrey Muller-Hobson, Mark Spiess, Beth Foor, Elizabeth Ranger, Dan & Cindy Molstad, Sue Batell, Kathie Tyser, Greg & Becky Prichett, Barbara Cowgill, Tammy Selbo, Tom Schlesinger, Trista Treglowne & Dan Schraith, Lynn Kay

Young donors—Blessed Sacrament School