

Family Support Center



Fall Newsletter
August 2025

Mid-Year LAP Report

"Having a LAP program doesn't make domestic violence homicides happen, it sheds a light on how frequent it is."

~ Jeni

Jeni H.

Domestic Violence Program Director
WQOW interview, July 19, 2025

The Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) is a collaboration between Family Support Center (FSC) and local law enforcement to connect those most at risk of being killed by their partner with our services. If someone is a high-lethality risk, they are immediately connected to an FSC advocate. So far in 2025, 60 screeners were administered after a domestic incident. Just under half of those screened (47%) were at a high risk of being killed by their partner.

"This program is essential. An overwhelming majority of domestic violence homicide victims (94%) are never connected to services prior to being killed. The LAP program is proven to bridge the gap between people most at risk of being killed with services like FSC so together we can safety plan, address immediate needs, and plan to follow up.

One in six domestic violence-related deaths in the United States take place in Wisconsin. The LAP program aims to not only intervene when domestic violence takes place, but also to educate survivors about possible risks they face and options available. The level of collaboration between FSC advocates, the Chippewa Falls Police Department, and the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office to prevent domestic violence homicides in our community is commendable and inspiring."

~ Xander

Xander Bobolz

Resource Development Coordinator

A Tribute to Mark Hanson



Joanne and Mark Hanson (2022)

"We were all so saddened when Mark Hanson passed away in 2023. We decided that dedicating part of our Peace Garden to him would be a nice way to honor his legacy, commitment and work for Family Support Center (FSC). Mark was a

dedicated board member for 11 years, and board president for several of those. It seemed as if he became more dedicated every year, taking on various tasks like single handedly raising funds for specific projects and working two days straight each year at our Ladies Evening Extravaganza event. Mark was a true friend of FSC. He truly believed in us and the work we did. He often talked about how much he learned from us, and what we gave to him. I appreciate how much he gave to us. It was extremely empowering for me to know how much he believed in us and would support us.

Thank you Mark. We miss you."

~ Geri
Geri Segal

Executive Director

The plaque dedicated to Mark Hanson is installed on top of the picnic table in the Peace Garden. Take a peek at the garden on the last page!



DVAM Sneak Peek!

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) may not be until October, but Family Support Center is already gearing up to bring you another year of information, resources, and collaborations.

Be on the look out for more information surrounding this year's book club selection and locations, DVAM trivia on our Facebook page, and more!

Family Support Center Staff

Administrative

Executive Director – Geri

Accounting Manager – Amy

Office Manager – Glori

Resource Development Coordinator – Xander

Domestic Violence Program

Domestic Violence Program Director – Jeni

Domestic Violence Advocates – Cara and Erica

Domestic Violence Youth Advocate – Robin

Domestic Violence Program Intern – Kaiya

Sexual Assault Program

Sexual Assault Program Director – Amanda S.

EC Sexual Assault Advocate – Annette

Chp. Sexual Assault Advocate – Morgan

Human Trafficking Case Manager – Krista

UWEC CASA Victim Service Coordinator – Hannah

River Source Family Center

Parent Services Program Director – Beccie

Parent Educator – Amanda R.

Group Connections Facilitator – Cody

Family Connections Facilitator – Brenda

Offices Within the CF School District

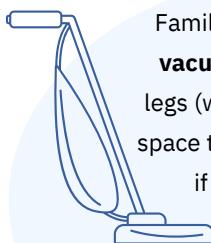
Family Support & Resource Coordinator – Ellen

Family Crisis Support Specialist - *Currently in the hiring process*

Wish List

Family Support Center is asking for these items for participants to help provide assistance, safety, and peace of mind. Donations can be brought to the purple building during open hours: Monday - Thursday from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

- StraightTalk Wireless Phone Cards
 - Can be purchased at Walmart. Straight Talk Wireless phone cards allow participants without a safe way of communicating the ability to.
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Body wash
- Cleaning supplies (including, but not limited to, disinfecting wipes, air freshener, dish soap)
- Gift cards (gas and groceries)
- Forever stamps
- Individually packaged snacks (for waiting room)
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Tampons
- Baby wipes
- Diapers (size 4 and 5)



Family Support Center is also in need of a **new vacuum** cleaner! Our current one is on its last legs (wheels) and we need your help to keep our space tidy. Please call the office at 715.723.1138 if you believe you can help. Thank you!

Board of Directors

Michael Strubel Kari Brehm-Geving

President

Vice President

Sheridan Welch

Sharon Peterson

Recording

Treasurer

Secretary

Ryan Douglas

Teresa Germain

Brit Heymans

Kristin Karnes-Fredrickson

Carolyn Strand

Ann Zenner

Theresa Zirbel

Thank
YOU
♥

Just Announced!

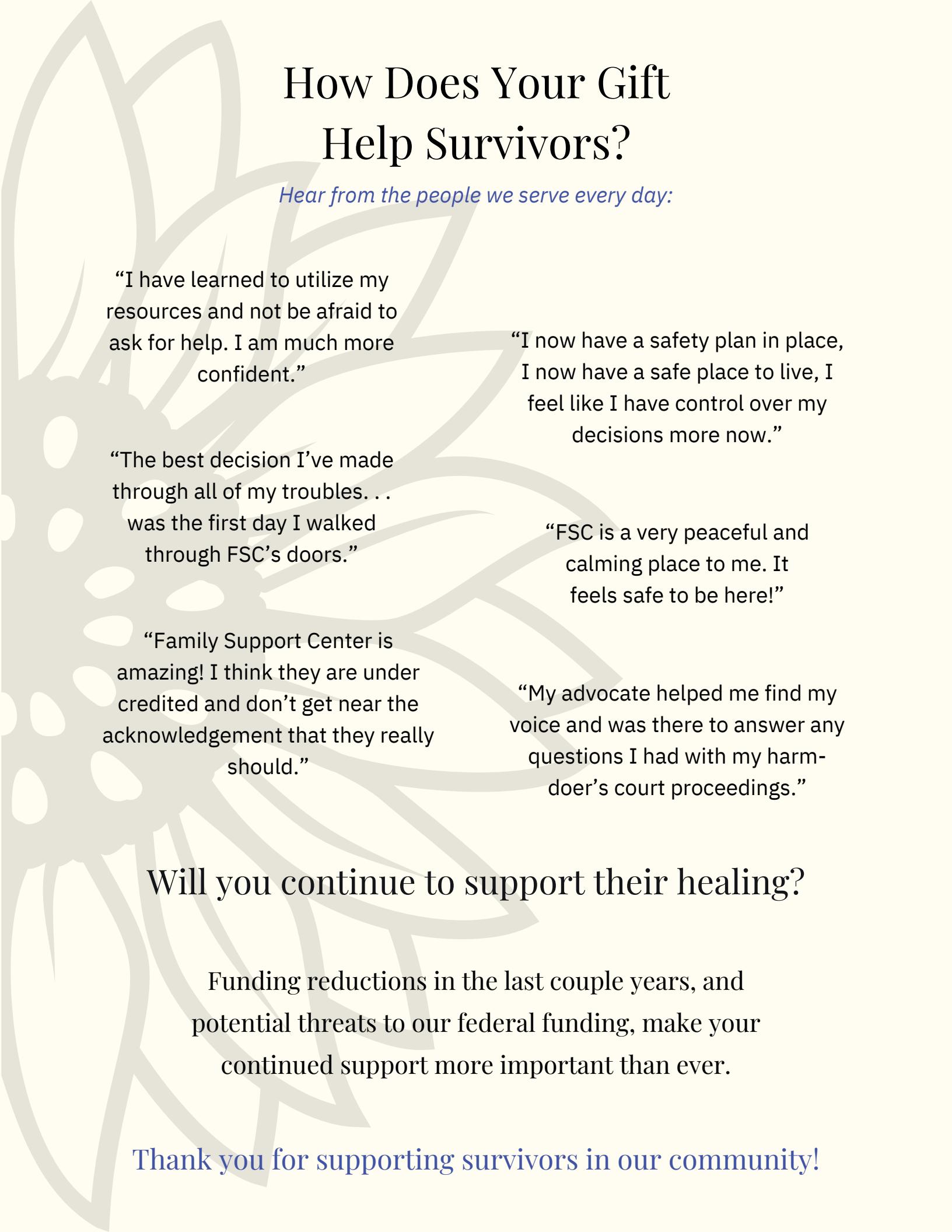
Do you want to learn how to make a concrete difference in survivors' lives? Join Family Support Center at the Chippewa Falls and L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Libraries to see if being an on-call advocate is right for you. Hear about the application process, common experiences and occurrences while on call, and be able to ask questions about being an on-call volunteer. No registration or previous experience required!

Wednesday, September 3, 2025 4:30pm AND 5:30pm

Chippewa Falls Public Library - Wissota Room
105 W. Central St. Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Thursday, September 4, 2025 4:30pm AND 5:30pm

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library - Carnegie Room (104)
400 Eau Claire St. Eau Claire, WI 54701



How Does Your Gift Help Survivors?

Hear from the people we serve every day:

“I have learned to utilize my resources and not be afraid to ask for help. I am much more confident.”

“The best decision I’ve made through all of my troubles... was the first day I walked through FSC’s doors.”

“Family Support Center is amazing! I think they are under credited and don’t get near the acknowledgement that they really should.”

“I now have a safety plan in place, I now have a safe place to live, I feel like I have control over my decisions more now.”

“FSC is a very peaceful and calming place to me. It feels safe to be here!”

“My advocate helped me find my voice and was there to answer any questions I had with my harm-doer’s court proceedings.”

Will you continue to support their healing?

Funding reductions in the last couple years, and potential threats to our federal funding, make your continued support more important than ever.

Thank you for supporting survivors in our community!

Thank You for Your Support!

Thank you to everyone who has continued to donate to the annual spring fundraising campaign:

Delores Albert
Mark & Diane Bassett
Barb Bowe
Claudia Cayo
Joe & Deb Coughlin
Karen & Dick Hebert
Terri Koca
Mary & Jerry Kuehl
Kim & Eric Lien
John Lubs
Diane Meyer
Donna Meyer-Klick
Randy & Jessica Roseen
Ruth & Rich Rosenow
Elizabeth & Mickey Spencer
Joe & Kayanna Spooner
Debra & Jonathan Stone
Ed & Debbie Voress
Sheridan Welch
Dick & Mary Rose Willi

Czech Law Office
The First Presbyterian Church Men's Group
Security Financial Bank

We are beyond appreciative of your time, goods, and services:

Kathryn Hanson - Paper and hygiene products
Laura Kasdorf & Timothy Wolter - Diapers and baby wipes
Suzy Murty - Cleaning supplies
Janet Nosal - Baby and toddler sleepers
Charlene Pagenkopf - Coloring books, crayons, and stickers
Women's Driftless Retreat - Hosted a hygiene item donation drive

On-Call Advocates Abby, Alex, Ayla, Brooke, Char, Cora, Elise, Leslie, Lisa, and Ty Sue, for all your help around the office and assembling newsletters

Thank you for your generous financial support to Family Support Center and River Source Family Center:

Edward Crise
For River Source Family Center in honor of Katie Crise
Robin & Thomas Fedie
In honor of the Michael and Tracy Strubel Family
Joann Hanson
In memory of Mark Hanson
Gina Moen
Terry Straavaldsen
In honor of Ellen Marie Dudley
Allyson and Michael Wisniewski
Kristin Wojtalewicz

Central Lutheran Church Titus Women
Chippewa County Tavern League
Chippewa Falls Lions Club
Eau Claire Marathon
English Lutheran Church of Bateman
First Presbyterian Church
Northwestern Bank
"Casual Day" employee donation
Quixote Internet Services & Consulting
from Robin & William Korb
TTM Technologies
WhirlyBird Coffee Co. LLC
Wisconsin Tavern League Foundation

Those who gave through the
United Way of Greater
Milwaukee and Waukesha County
Those who gave anonymously

From 5/13/2025 through
7/23/2025. Give
afterwards? Look for your
name in November!

What's Going On at River Source Family Center?

2025 Family Survey Results

River Source families complete an annual survey to examine programming strengths and weaknesses. Thank you to everyone who completed this survey, your insight is invaluable!

100%
of families
agree that:

- Staff are welcoming and respectful.
- Staff ask about concerns, priorities, and needs and provides/connects them with resources to address them.

- They have opportunities to build good relationships with other River Source families.
- River Source staff value their feedback and ideas about programming.

Q: Which program have you participated in most recently?

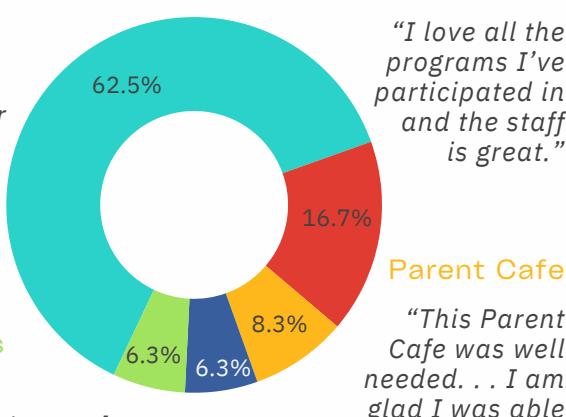
Play & Learn

"Great time to connect and play with other children."

"We love play and learn!"

Bright Starts S.M.I.L.E.

"[The parent educator] makes a positive impact and reassures us as parents. . . We will miss our visits with her!"



Movin' & Groovin'

"I love all the programs I've participated in and the staff is great."

Parent Cafe

"This Parent Cafe was well needed. . . I am glad I was able to attend."

"It was nice getting to know other parents."

River Source Wish List

River Source Family Center is in need of the following items for playgroups. Donations can be brought to the purple building during open hours, Monday through Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm. Thank you!

- Gallon and Quart size Ziploc bags
- Individually wrapped non-perishable snacks (such as crackers, veggie sticks, animal crackers, goldfish, applesauce pouches, or soft granola bars)

Amanda R. - New Parent Educator!

"Greetings! My name is Amanda, better known at River Source as Ms.

Amanda. I have been a part of the River Source team for almost six years. During that time, I have worked with children and caregivers in a variety of ways. I began my journey with River Source as a family connections facilitator in the communities of Stanley, Cornell, and Bloomer. Facilitating Rural Play and Learns was such a great opportunity for not only the families but for myself. As an educator and parent of two children, I understand the benefit of social connections for children and their caregivers. I have facilitated and participated in Parent Cafés and Calm Down Toolbox sessions - both of which focus on family strengths and protective factors.

Recently, River Source had to pause several of its programs due to funding cuts. Thankfully, we are able to continue providing parenting education and support. As I transition into my current role, I am excited to continue working with caregivers and their children. When providing parent education services, I utilize the Five for Families and Parents as Teachers curriculums which allow me to support families during home visits with our Bright Starts program, one-on-one parenting education, and parenting classes. Providing families with tools and the support they need to 'thrive and not just survive' is my goal!"

~ Amanda

Amanda R.
Parent Educator



Your Journey Together

Have you wondered how parenting can be easier and more effective? Join Ms. Amanda for *Your Journey Together* on Wednesdays from September 24 to November 12. For more information, or to register, please call 715.723.1138.



Family Support Center
P.O. Box 143
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
715.723.1138 or 1.800.400.7020

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*Family Support Center is an equal opportunity agency.
Family Support Center celebrates the diversity of all people and does not discriminate in any manner on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, ability, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation.*

*Family Support Center's programs are funded in part by
United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley.*



Find Family Support Center Online

FamilySupportChippewaValley

@familysupportcenter.wi

www.familysupportcentercf.org

Find River Source Family Center Online

RiverSourceFamilyCenterChippewaCounty

@riversourcefamilycenter

www.riversourcefamilycenter.com

Donate!

In-Kind

Donate an item from our wish list, organize a donation drive, or ask us how you can support Family Support Center!

Online



In-Person

403 N. High St
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

By Mail

Family Support Center
P.O. Box 143
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

