



When One Chapter Ends. . .

"Many of you know that I am retiring from the Executive Director position at Family Support Center (FSC) in June. My last official day as Executive Director is June 4th and after that, FSC will be in the exceptional hands of Jeni Haddad, who has been our Domestic Violence Program Director for the past 13 years. She is a compassionate, smart, and creative leader and I am excited about where she will take the agency! We are living in challenging times right now and I am confident in Jeni's ability to see our agency through.

Although my retirement and this transition have been in the works for a couple of years, I did not think about the level of emotion I would have until now. I began this job when I was 34, and it has left an indelible imprint on me. While I have guided Family Support Center in substantial growth during my 28-year tenure, the growth it has fostered in me is so much more. I have been so inspired by the participants we work with and my work family. FSC does indeed change lives; we get to be part of our participants' healing journeys and bear witness to their incredible strength and resilience. It has been a privilege to work with such incredible colleagues over the years, past and present. We have shared lots of laughs, successes, and challenges. They have been an inspiration to me, and I have learned so much from them.

Most people, including me, spend a lot of their waking hours at work, and I have always believed it is important to spend that time well, doing one's heart work. I feel so lucky that I have been able to do that. To say that my career has been fulfilling is an understatement! FSC improves our corner of the world here in the Chippewa Valley and I feel privileged and proud to have been part of that.

What comes next for me? I am looking forward to part time work at the Family Support Center - Jeni is hiring me part time as a Management and Outreach Specialist and I am super excited about it! One of my duties will be continuing to lead the process of buying our building, including our capital campaign (which you can learn more about on the next page). I am also looking forward to more time with my partner, family, friends, volunteering for other causes that are important to me, and more fun time in the outdoors!"

Geri Segal, Executive Director



Geri Segal and Jeni Haddad

. . . Another Chapter Begins!

"Moving into the Executive Director position has been bittersweet for me! I am incredibly grateful and excited to lead in this new-to-me role, and I feel very lucky to have been able to work so closely and learn so much from Geri throughout this past year. She truly is a phenomenal leader and is leaving quite a legacy.

I have been working in the anti-violence field for almost 20 years in some capacity and have been at Family Support Center for 13 years this June. It's been one of the major honors of my life to work directly with the extraordinary survivors of violence who are so resilient, inspiring, and who have welcomed me into their lives and experiences. Additionally, we have such an incredible team here, as well as amazing community support. FSC does this work in such an intentional, feminist, and survivor-centered way and I am looking forward to continuing to lead with these frameworks."

Jeni Haddad, (incoming) Executive Director

Thank you, Geri, for your years of service to Family Support Center, survivors, families, and the Chippewa Valley. We will miss you and are excited for your next adventures!

Family Support Center Staff

Administrative

Executive Directors: Geri & Jeni

Accounting Manager: Amy

Office Manager: Glori

Resource Development Administrator: Xander

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services

Chippewa Falls

Advocacy Coordinator - Chippewa: Erica

Advocacy Coordinator - On-Call: Cara

Domestic Violence Youth Advocate: Robin

Rapid Rehousing Support Advocate: Alex

Sexual Assault Advocate: Morgan

Human Trafficking Case Manager: Krista

Eau Claire

Advocacy Coordinator - Eau Claire: Amanda S.

Sexual Assault Advocate: Annette

UWEC CASA Advocate: Hannah

River Source Family Center

Parent Services Program Director: Becce

Parent Educator: Amanda R.

Group Connections Facilitator: Cody

Offices Within the CF School District

Family Support & Resource Coordinator: Ellen

Family & Behavior Support Specialist: Libby

Board of Directors

President

Michael Strubel

Ryan Douglas

Teresa Germain

Vice President

Kari Brehm-Geving

Brit Heymans

Kristin Karnes-Frederickson

Treasurer

Sharon Peterson

Carolyn Strand

Ann Zenner

Recording Secretary

Sheridan Welch

Theresa Zirbel

Family Support Center Volunteers

Thank you for your work as On-Call Advocates, Aeda, Ayla, Char D., Cora, Leslie, Lisa, and Sharon.

Thank you for volunteering in the front office, Lynn and Sue S.

Thank you for folding fundraising letters and newsletters, Char P. Cora, Lynn, Ruby, and Sue S.,

Thank you for volunteering with River Source, Aeda, Gina, John, Ruby, Sue E., Sue S., and Tenille.

Your compassion and generosity make our world a better place. Thank you!

Caring Calendars Raffle Winners



February Prize

Congratulations, Diane, for winning the one-year family membership to Beaver Creek Reserve & two tickets for Maple Syrup Saturday from Beaver Creek Reserve and one large metal lawn flower from Eevy Ivy Over!

Congratulations, JoAnna (on behalf of Scott), for winning the seasonal spices assortment from Denise Bender with Tastefully Simple!



February Prize



March Prize

Congratulations, Princia, for winning the *Tangled Up in Hue* gift basket from Tangled up in Hue!

Congratulations, Kristyn and Jason, for winning a "one free pizza per month for one year" gift certificate from Pizza Ranch!



March Prize



April Prize

Congratulations, Meghan, for winning a \$50 gift card to Collective Charm, a green purse from the Family Support Center Board, and a \$50 gift card to Whirlybird Coffee Co.!

Congratulations, Jerry, for winning a *Cunningham Realty Group* gift basket from Cunningham Realty Group!



April Prize

Thank you to everyone participating in this year's calendar raffle! Be on the lookout - information on how to enter the next raffle will come out in August.



Sustaining Hope Campaign

"The best decision I've made through all of my troubles. . . was the first day I walked through Family Support Center's doors"

For over forty years, Family Support Center has empowered individuals, families, and communities to live free from domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and interpersonal violence through education, prevention and intervention.

"The purple building," as our office has lovingly been called by participants and staff alike, has been a haven for survivors and families for the past twenty-nine of the forty-four years we've been in existence. Thousands of people have walked through our doors to better their lives and find safety and community. This summer, we are taking the opportunity to support future sustainability for Family Support Center and those we serve by **buying our building!**

We are excited to announce that the Edward & Hannah M. Rutledge Charities and the William J. & Gertrude R. Casper Foundation have kick-started our *Sustaining Hope* campaign with a **matching gift of \$200,000** - meaning your gift will have **double** the impact and help us reach our **goal of \$404,000**.

Donors will be recognized through our newsletter, website, social media, and press releases. In addition, donors giving at the "Supporter" level or higher will receive recognition with their name on a plaque on our building*. Recognition levels are:

- Friend – any level of giving
- Supporter - \$5,000+
- Partner - \$50,000+
- Advocate - \$100,000+
- Leader - \$200,000+

Donations can be made immediately or in three-year pledges. You may also dedicate your donation, such as in honor of:

- Geri's 28 years as Executive Director
- the anti-violence movement
- the memory of a loved one

Please, do not let this replace your regular giving. Your continued support sustains survivor services year-round and is vital to achieve our mission.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we begin this new chapter at Family Support Center!



Geri Segal
Executive Director



Jeni Haddad
(incoming) Executive Director



Michael Strubel
Board President

**Supporters, Partners, Advocates, and Leaders will be further contacted regarding recognition preferences.*



Thank You for Your Support!

Thank you for your generous financial support:

Mary Jo Adler	William & Robin Korb	James & Karen Tregoning
Barbara & David Ball	Mary & Jerry Kuehl	Ed & Debbie Voress
Mark & Diane Bassett	Tom & Joy La Martina	Otto & Mary Jean Wagner
Mary Ann Blake	Thomas & Laura Larson	Donna Wagner Backus
Kari Lin Brehm-Geving	Carrie Leis	Anne Welke
Dina Brennan*	<i>In memory of Mark Hanson</i>	Geraldine White-Marko
Teresa & Greg Burnett	Ashleigh Leitch	Barb and Karl Wise
Vicki & Avery Christianson	Diane Lesniewski	<i>In memory of Carol Gehl</i>
Micah Colvin	Kim & Eric Lien	Allyson and Michael Wisniewski
Jane & Roger Dale	Linda & Jim Lorentz	Eleanor Wolf
Michael & Delphine Diffendorfer	Evelyn Maloney	Jackie Young
Tom & Jan Drehmel	Dena & John Manier	
Daniel & Kathryn Eder	Mike & Sue Miller	Bill & Mary Lou Leinenkugel Endowment Fund
Dave & Evie Frasch	Phyllis & Donald Nielsen	CCF Bank
Diana Germain	Chris & Chuck Norseng	City of Chippewa Falls/ City Council
Richard & Kathy Gittus	Karen Pecka	Edward & Hannah M. Rutledge Charities
<i>In honor of Robin Hundt</i>	Carolyn Peloquin	Jake & Peggy Leinenkugel Family Endowment Fund
Rosemary Haley	Stephanie Peloquin	Keller Williams Advantage
Tim & Dale Heckert	Holly Reiter	<i>In memory of Carol Gehl</i>
Darrell & Cheryl Helms	<i>In memory of Carol Gehl</i>	Marvin and Rita Tanzer Family Endowment Fund
Jill & Steven Herriges	Cathy Rex	Northwestern Bank
Dorothy Huse	Dennis & Betty Rivers	Our Savior's Lutheran Church W/ELCA
Terri Hutson*	Connie Russell	Patti & Jeff Darley Family Endowment Fund
Gerald & Mary Jacobson	<i>In memory of Carol Gehl</i>	REX Systems Incorporated
Toni Janssen	Mary & Bernard Scherer	Sloane J. Brehmer Endowment Fund
Jill & Robert Joles	Joseph and Tami See	Titus Women of Central Lutheran Church
Laura Kasdorf & Timothy Wolter	Suzanne Sonnentag	WhirlyBird Coffee Co. LLC
Richard & Sarah Kopitzke	Bruce & Kathy Sorenson	Women of Faith - Faith Lutheran Church
Barb Koppes	Pauline Spiegel	Those who gave anonymously
	Marion Summers	Those who gave through Benevity Community Impact Fund & Charities Aid Foundation of America

*Correction from last newsletter

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

Mark & Diane Bassett - food, snacks, and cleaning & hygiene products	Dianne and Larry Marquardt - hygiene items
Betty Bialk - cleaning items	Gary Meier - Little Tykes table & chairs, Mr. & Mrs. Potato Head, and chunky children's books
Ray Clarke - items for River Source and hygiene items	Charlene Pagenkopf - paper towels, tissues, and hygiene & cleaning products
Diana Germain - hygiene & cleaning supplies, snacks, activity books, reading books and forever stamps	Pat Peloquin - candles, hygiene items, sweaters & towels
Dorothy Huse - handmade baby blankets, hats, & comfort scarfs, snacks, hygiene items, cleaning supplies and toilet paper	Karen Petrich - beautiful quilts
Linda Jackson - children's kitchen set	Karen Polzin - washable feminine kits
Mark and Dorothy Lehman - American Girl doll furniture and baby doll changing table and play set	Veda Reed - snacks & items for River Source, hygiene and cleaning items
	Mary & Bernard Scherer - toilet paper and cleaning & hygiene products
Circle K - feminine hygiene products and diapers	Suzanne Sonnentag - two \$25 gas cards
Mission Possible Group of Central Lutheran Church - blankets	Bill & Sheila Volker - hygiene items, airline travel kits, socks, pens, tissues & ear buds

*From 2/03/2025 through 4/23/2026.
Gave afterwards? Look for your name in August!*

What's Going On at River Source Family Center?

In April, River Source celebrated **Family Strengthening Month**. We offered lots of family fun programming, including:

- Chefs-in-training day with Joy, FoodWise Nutrition Educator (pictured)
- Family game day
- Calming and mindfulness tools during Play & Learn
- Family yoga with Kerry from The Yoga Plant
- Parent Café - *Bodies and Boundaries* series
- A sensory-friendly playgroup with Gina, Parent Leader



RSFC programs are supporting and building on each family's strengths. We would love to share how our family resource center supports, educates, and celebrates families throughout Chippewa County. Reach out to us at 715.720.1841 to learn more about programs!

Wish List

River Source 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!**

- Outdoor riding toys for 1-4 year-olds (new or gently used)
- Gallon size Ziploc bags
- Sturdy paper plates
- Washable markers
- Applesauce cups/pouches

Find Us Online!



RiverSourceFamilyCenterChippewaCounty



@riversourcefamilycenter



www.riversourcefamilycenter.com

It Takes A Village

River Source Family Center believes that supportive people are necessary in our lives. This belief shines through our programs as we bring together caring adults, families, volunteers, and community programs to provide new opportunities for families. One example is a new program, the Parent Café *Bodies and Boundaries* series.

The *Bodies and Boundaries* series consists of four two-hour cafés. It has brought families together and gives caregivers information and tools to teach their children about body awareness and development, body safety and empowerment, and consent. This program also gives caregivers information on minimizing risks and advocating for your child's safety by learning how to monitor situations where your child spends time, asking questions, and learning safety protocols. These Parent Café conversations have been a great connection, support program, and an amazing example of how a **village** of caring individuals made this program possible.

- **Chippewa Falls Rotary** provided a grant to support this program.
- Child Care volunteers **Aeda, Ruby, and Sue**, entertained and cared for the kids while their parents and caregivers were participating in supportive conversations.
- **Tenille and family** provided family-style meals in March and April.
- **Josephine's Pastaria** (Chef Brandon and Sara) provided a delicious family-style meal in May.
- **John**, Parent Leader, volunteered his time and talents to table host at all four Parent Cafés!
- Family Support Center staff **Robin** (Domestic Violence Youth Advocate) and **Morgan** (Sexual Assault Advocate), for being table hosts and providing participants with a safe space during the program.
- And of course, **Amanda**, River Source's Parent Educator, for facilitating this amazing program! She brought compassion, understanding, and connections to everyone who participated.

This is what a **caring community** looks like, what a **village** filled with supportive people looks like, and

What River Source Family Center is all about.

The last Parent Café of this series is on **Wednesday, June 10th from 5:00 - 7:00pm.**
Register by calling 715.720.1841.



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.



Wish List

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

Most Needed:

- Deodorant
- Shaving cream
- Laundry detergent
- Cleaning supplies (including, but not limited to, disinfectant wipes, toilet cleaner, sponges, rags, etc.)
- Gift cards (gas and groceries)
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- StraightTalk Wireless phone cards
- Forever stamps
- Phone chargers (lightning, USB-C, and micro USB cords, power adaptors/bricks/wall warts)
- Individually packaged snacks (for waiting room)
- Body wash
- Dish soap
- Face lotion
- Tampons

Donate!

Donate to Family Support Center and River Source Family Center (Please note donations for River Source):

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

Main Office:
 403 N. High St
 Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

By Mail

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

Find Family Support Center Online

FamilySupportChippewaValley

@familysupportcenter.wi



www.familysupportcentercf.org

THANK YOU!