



Congratulations to Carol C. for winning the *Banish Winter Blues* gift bundle from the Chippewa Area Chamber of Commerce!

And congratulations to Francis B. for winning the *Spa Day* gift basket from Menomonie Market Food Co-op and \$100 from Legacy Law Office!



February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM) aims to break the cycle of violence and prevent long-term harm in teens. It's an opportunity to start essential conversations about love, respect, and trust with the young people we love. Dating violence is a pattern of harmful actions by a current or former partner that exert power and control over a dating partner. This is done through physical, emotional, verbal, financial, or digital abuse and may include stalking. Young people experience violence at startling rates – one in three teens will experience dating violence from a partner before they are adults.

TDVAM highlights the importance of modeling healthy relationships. Children and teens learn about relationships from the people they are around – give them good models! The goal is that when a young person encounters red flags, they can rely on past conversations about boundaries and respect to identify red flags and progress in a healthy, self-sustaining way. To see what Family Support Center did during TDVAM, check out our social media posts!

~ Xander

Xander
Resource Development Coordinator

Lethality Assessments in Chippewa County

The Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) is an evidence-based, collaborative approach to connecting victims of violence most at risk of death with life-saving services. When officers from the Chippewa Falls Police Department, Chippewa County Sheriff's Office, and Lake Hallie Police Department respond to incidents of domestic violence, they administer a lethality screener. If the victim is at a high risk of being killed by their intimate partner, they are connected to FSC.

Thank you to the Chippewa Falls Police Department, Chippewa County Sheriff's Office, and Lake Hallie Police Department for their continued collaboration and to on-call advocates for answering after-hours calls.

"This multi-agency collaboration in our community literally saves lives and prevents homicides, as LAP connects survivors with life-saving services they may not have sought otherwise."

~ Jeni

Jeni

Domestic Violence Program Director

LAP Implementation in Chippewa County

- 2020 Chippewa Falls Police Department implements the Lethality Assessment Protocol.
- 2023 * **Yearly Report:** 59 LAP screeners, 36 (61%) were a high-lethality risk.
- 2024 Chippewa County Sheriff's Office implements the Lethality Assessment Protocol.
* **Yearly report:** 111 LAP screeners, 51 (46%) were a high-lethality risk.
- 2025 Lake Hallie Police Department implements the Lethality Assessment Protocol.
* **Yearly report:** 117 LAP screeners, 55 (47%) were a high-lethality risk.

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

Rapid Rehousing Support – Alex

Sexual Assault Program

Sexual Assault Program Director – Amanda S.

EC Sexual Assault Advocate – Annette

CF Sexual Assault Advocate – Morgan

Human Trafficking Case Manager – Krista

UWEC CASA Victim Service Coordinator – 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

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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

March is Women's History Month

DID YOU KNOW?

Ida B. Wells (1862–1931) was an investigative journalist and early civil rights leader. She co-founded the NAACP in 1909, was the first black woman to run for public office, and her work laid the groundwork for the National Domestic Violence Coalition.



Thank You for Your Support!

In November, we asked for your help. The DōTERRA Healing Hands Foundation would 100% match what we raised for the annual End of Year Fundraiser (up to \$10,000). Not only did we meet that goal – we flew right past it!

You gave over \$31,000 to benefit Chippewa Valley survivors. Thank you!

Combined with the \$10,000 match from the DōTERRA Healing Hands Foundation, **over \$41,000 will go towards survivor services** including safety planning, housing, counseling, and protective behaviors education for youth.

Thank you for your incredible generosity and to the DōTERRA Healing Hands Foundation for their matching gift.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to this fundraiser:

Phyllis Behlen

Burt & Alice Brovold

Margaret Cassidy

Carol & Jeff Christenson

Tammy & Anthony Christopher

Jane & Roger Dale

Jacque & Dan Daniel

Tom & Jan Drehmel

Bill & Nancy Febry

Mike Frank

Dave & Evie Frasch

Diana Germain

Karen & Ken Grothe

Dave Gunderson

Peggy Haddad

Nancy Haley

Rosemary Haley

Eugene & Mary Harnisch

Don Hauser & Kathy Cernohous

Nancy Hebert

Elizabeth Hedrington

Dorothy Huse

Pat & Sherry Jasper

Jill & Robert Joles

Laura Kasdorf & Timothy Wolter

Sue Kittelson & Doug Mell

Janet & Dave Klinger

Gayle Klitzke

Terri Koca

Richard & Sarah Kopitzke

Denise & Nick Krajewski

Eleanore & Vern Krupa

Evelyn Maloney

Robert & Christine Maslonkowski

Barbara McDermid

Mike & Mary McKee

Donna Meyer-Klick

Linda & Gary Misfeldt

Karen & Thomas Olson

Ruth & Donovan Olson

Stephanie Peloquin

Carol & Ray Peterson

Sharon & Todd Peterson

Dennis & Betty Rivers

Ted Rogers

Nancy Roshell

Christine & David Rush

Rose Smith

Elizabeth & Mickey Spencer

Connie Sprague

Anne Welke

Barb & Karl Wise

Thank You for Your Support!

Good luck to everyone participating in the *Caring Calendars* raffle:

Stephanie Abbe	Shirley Froelich	Terri Koca	Joseph and Tami See
Amy Ambelang	Brandi Fuchs	Jacqueline Larsen	Barbara Shorrel
Shannon Ambelang	Diana Germain	Barbara Lato	Mary Slaughter
Tom & Roz Anderson	Teresa Germain	Lois Luedtke	Mary Slobodnik
Laura Bauer	Jessica Gibson	Dianne & Larry Marquardt	Jerry Smith
Suzanne Becker	Grace Glor	Ann McKinley	Suzanne Sonnentag
Jill Bell	Jackie Greenwood	Darci Miland	Pauline Spiegel
Sara Bernier	Travis Hakes	Rebecca Miller	Mollie Steinmetz
JoAnna Bernklau	Nancy Haley	Valerie Mustard	Nancy Stippich
Kari Brehm-Geving	Stacey Hallman	Deb Navarre	Michael Strubel
Lindsey Breivogel	Joann Hanson	Ali Neinfeldt	Libby & John Stupak
Jennifer Caine	Brit Heymans	Trulena Nelson-Schneider	John Sundstrom
Hillary Campbell	Terri Hoepner	Wade Newell	Cheryl Thiede
Estella Clark	Betty Holler	Danica Nilsestuen	Barb Tzanakis
Naomi Cummings	Neil Hundt	Chris Norseng	Rusty Volk
Gretchen Cunningham	Dorothy Huse	Charlene Pagenkopf	Sherry Wallace
Sherrie Dachel	Allie Isaacson	Erin Pellett	Princia Weber
Jim Docksey	Gretchen Iverson	Becky Peterson	Sheridan Welch
Meghan Eisenbraun	Robert & Suzy Jackson	Darla Peterson	Andrew Wians
Roger Elliott	Corey Jepperson	Amy Ralph	Mary Rose & Dick Willi
Jodi Emerson	Kristin Karnes-Frederickson	Kim Renaud	Kristin Wojtalewicz
Susan Emerson	Laura Kasdorf & Timothy Wolter	Cathy Rex	Julie Woodruff
Nancy Fastner	Sue Kittelson & Doug Mell	Diane Sarauer	Ann Zenner
Jeanne Fox	Vanessa Klemish	Kyra Secraw	Kellsie Zwiefelhofer

Thank you for your generous financial support:

Ann & John Altmann <i>In memory of Joanne Oleson</i>	*Carole Frederick <i>In memory of Kent Sprague</i>	Shelly Pryse
Mark & Diane Bassett	Dominic Haddad	Alexis Raihle
Karen & David Behling	Joann Hanson	Doris Durst & Richard Mertens
Jennifer Bernal	<i>In memory of Mark Hanson</i>	Steve Roesler
Kathy Cernohous <i>In honor of Mikki, DV victim</i>	Beverly Hardy	Barbara Samuelson
Pastor Eddie Crise	Susan Houkom	Karen Schuler
Naomi Cummings <i>In honor of Jeni, DV Program Director</i>	Dorothy Huse	Libby & John Stupak
Tessa Dachel	Joyce Jacisin	Cathy Miller-Temme & Mark Temme <i>In honor of Jeni, DV Program Director</i>
Sherrie Dachel	Robert & Suzy Jackson	Cheryl Thiede
Jean Durch	Jenae Jongebloed	Bill & Sheila Volker
Nancy Field <i>In honor of Pat & Gary Gray</i>	Rev Julianne Lepp <i>In honor of Rev Betsy and Rev Bob Libbey</i>	Ed & Debbie Voress
Greg Field	Page Lyle Love	Marsha Wiley <i>In memory of Ruth Anne Gilbertson</i>
Dave & Evie Frasch <i>In memory of Kent Sprague</i>	Chris Norseng <i>In honor of Laura Kasdorf</i>	Mary Rose & Dick Willi
	David & Mary Olson	Sara Willi
	Chase Piper	Mary Rose & Dick Willi <i>In honor of Jerry Jacobson</i>
Zion United Methodist Women		Kristin Wojtalewicz
Those who gave anonymously	* Correction from last newsletter	Theresa Zirbel

Thank You for Your Support!

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

On-call advocates, Ayla, Brooke, Char, Cora, Leslie, and Lisa
Amy, Lynn, Sharon, and Sue, for all your help around the
office and assembling newsletters

We are excited for you to join the team as
on-call advocates, Sharon, Aeda, and Cady!

Amvets Ladies Auxiliary - winter
hats, mittens, scarves, clothing,
and activity sets

Mary Arntson, Kathy Boisvert, Jill
Hietpas, Laura Kasdorf &
Timothy Wolter, Gayle Klitzke,
Chris Norseng, Dawn Pearson,
and Wendy Sheasby - items
donated in honor of MLK day

Betty Bialk - electric toothbrush
and hygiene products

Lynn Blied - hygiene items, tote
bags, and person item bags

Barb Buker - snacks and personal
hygiene products

Jan Drehmel - children's socks

Diana Germain - gloves, mittens,
socks, & headband, board
games, books, body wash, bath
salts, & snacks

Carly & Nick Goeman - toothpaste
and mouthwash

Bryce Helms - Kwik Trip gift cards

Darrell & Cheryl Helms - Kwik Trip
gift cards

Thomas & Ramana Hlakilek-McGowan -
diapers and snacks for River Source

Vicki Holliday - magnetic building tiles,
body lotion, and coloring books for
Holiday Hope

Dorothy Huse - slippers, snacks,
hygiene items, and crocheted cloths
with soap

Mary Johnson - handmade dolls,
mittens & bracelets, book, & water
bottles

Laura Kasdorf & Timothy Wolter -
books, craft & play items, items for
Holiday Hope, & Kwik Trip gift cards

Gwen & Scott LaBine - Kwik Trip gift
cards

Barbara Lato - Holiday Hope items for
children and hygiene items

Renee Luedke - Kwik Trip gift cards

Dianne and Larry Marquardt - gift items
for Holiday Hope

Janet Nosal - new children's clothes,
infant sleepers, and toddler clothing

Charlene Pagenkopf - items for
Holiday Hope and hygiene products

Kathy & Charles Reed - Holiday Hope
and hygiene items

Veda Reed - hygiene & snack items

Linda Salow - baby sweaters and bibs

Dianne & Patrick Sullivan - bag of
snacks/candy, travel mug and
variety of socks

Betty & Dean White - blankets

Julie Wittrock - held a baby wipes
donation drive

Sarah Wittrock - phone card and
employee snacks

*From 10/24/2025 through 2/02/2026.
Gave afterwards? Look for your name in May!*

What's Going On at River Source Family Center?

We Are Back in Rural Communities!

In July last year, River Source made the difficult decision to pause a few of our important programs. The Rural Play & Learns in Bloomer, Cornell, and Stanley were some of these programs. With recent funding from small grant opportunities, our staff will be returning to these rural areas - we are back! Miss Amanda and Miss Cody will be participating monthly in existing story times in Bloomer, Cornell, and Stanley.

Stanley Story Time: March 9th • 10:30 - 11:00am

- Partnership with D. R. Moon Memorial Public Library
- Held at Stanley Fire Station
239 E. 1st Ave, Stanley, WI 54768

Bloomer Story Time: March 3rd • 10:00am-10:45am

- Partnership with G.E. Bleskacek Family Memorial Public Library
- Held at the G.E. Bleskacek Family Memorial Public Library
1519 17th Ave, Bloomer, WI 54724

Cornell Story Time: March 24th • 10:00am - 11:00am

- Partnership with Cornell Mom's Club and the Cornell Public Library in Cornell
- Held at New Hope Assembly of God
318 S. 7th St. Cornell, WI 54732

Funding for Rural Story Time comes from the Celebrate Children Foundation, WI Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board's Family Resource Center of Quality grant, Mayo Clinic Health Center's Hometown Health grant and United Way Greater Chippewa Valley's Small Acts grant.



Because of the support of these funders and program partners, River Source Family Center can provide monthly story time connections in rural Chippewa County communities, purchase books and snacks to give to participating families, and support additional staff hours, mileage, and supplies to provide these rural story times for the next year. We are SO EXCITED to be back in Bloomer, Cornell, and Stanley and cannot wait to see all the families!

Follow us on Facebook and visit our website to see upcoming Rural Story Time dates.



Coming Up This Spring. . .

Speech, Language, and Hearing Screeners

- Learn about your child's communication skills and receive recommendations based on their needs.
- Thursday, March 26th • 9:00 - 11:00am
- Registration is recommended, but not required.

Family Advisory Meeting (FAM)

- Talk with River Source staff and fellow parents about what you'd want to see at River Source!
- Thursday, March 5th • 10:00 - 10:30am
(during Play & Learn!)

Bodies and Boundaries Parent Café Series *

- Join fellow parents and discuss (age appropriate) strategies for talking with kids about body development, awareness, and empowerment.
- Wednesday, March 11th, April 8th, May 6th, and June 10th • 5:00 - 7:00pm
- Registration is **required**.

Sensory-Friendly Playgroups *

- A supportive space to enjoy a sensory-friendly time with your child and other families.
- March 3rd, April 7th, and May 5th • 9:30 - 11:00am
- Registration is **required** to keep playgroups small!

Register by phone or email:

715.720.1841 • riversource@fscf.org

Wish List

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



- Individually wrapped non-perishable snacks (crackers, veggie sticks, animal crackers, goldfish, applesauce pouches, or soft granola bars, etc.)

Find Us Online!



RiverSourceFamilyCenterChippewaCounty



@riversourcefamilycenter



www.riversourcefamilycenter.com



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:

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

THANK YOU!

Find Family Support Center Online

 FamilySupportChippewaValley

@familysupportcenter.wi 

 www.familysupportcentercf.org

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!

In-Person

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

Online



By Mail

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