

# THE CLOTHES LINE



Spring 2017

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## 2016 IN REVIEW

2016 was another busy year at the CCC, and 2017 is stacking up to be even busier. We have re-imagined our operations with a sharp focus on our true mission, and we've revamped many of our services to make best use of our resources while enhancing programming for the benefit of our clients. Last year, **we supported 13,458 client visits** and **gave away 271,446 clothing and basic household items** through our Shopping Floor and through the special programs we offer:

**New Start Boutique** dressed 93 individuals for job interviews. And once they got the job, the New Start Boutique 'Graduate' received a starter wardrobe to help transition them back into the workforce.

**Cool for School** dressed 957 students with a brand new back-to-school outfit that included jeans, tops, socks, underwear and shoe certificates. Young people are our future, so helping them start their school year on a positive note with self-confidence and enthusiasm is one of the greatest gifts we can give our community.

**Door to Door** made 50 deliveries to the elderly and disabled who are homebound. We delivered warm clothing, blankets and personal hygiene items to those who are unable to travel to the CCC to shop.

**Cinderella's Boutique** dressed 32 young ladies for prom. This year, we'll join forces with Operation Cinderella to serve even more girls for 2017. The program offers messages of empowerment, plus all the perks of being a princess for a day including new and like new prom dresses, shoes, purses, jewelry, hairstylists and photographers with each girl being guided by her own Fairy Godmother!

**Bundle of Joy** welcomed 45 new babies this year. Each new parent received a baby layette including growth and development information to help guide them through the transition into parenthood.

From newborns to the elderly, the Community Clothes Closet is here to serve our clients. But our clients are more than clients; they are our friends, our neighbors and our co-workers who just happen to need transitional assistance as they make their way through this thing we call life. Our clients are in need of a hand up, not a hand out. Help us help them get back on their feet. We are amazed and thankful for the outpouring of support from our donors, volunteers, staff and board of directors but more work needs to be done.

How can you get involved? We ask for financial contributions to support the high quality programming we offer. Another way to help? Clean out your closets, we need your vintage clothing to be used for the upcoming Vintage Fashion Show and finally, join our volunteer team. We could not do what we do without our dedicated volunteers!

*-Diane MacDonald*

# The Community Clothes Closet needs your vintage clothing!

## It's time to clean out your closet!

We are currently seeking donations of vintage dresses, skirts, pants, blouses, coats, jewelry, sunglasses, hats and shoes for the purpose of display and resale at our upcoming Vintage Fashion Show fundraiser and at a pop-up shop later this year. We seek items in excellent condition, vivid colors and attractive detailing so clean out your closets, attics and basements. 100% of proceeds will go towards serving our clients and to fulfilling our mission.

Please donate (with permission of course!) your grandmother's 50s dresses, your mom's 60s jackets and shirts or your 70s & 80s tops and jeans. It's a great way to serve those in need, breathe new life into recycled clothing and reduce landfill waste.

The Vintage Fashion Show is on the horizon! Many of you have contacted us to ask about our biennial Vintage Fashion Show fundraiser. We are re-imagining our Vintage Fashion Show and plan to announce our plans in the coming months. Thank you to those of you who've reached out to offer your support. Stayed tuned!



## Double Your Donation

An anonymous donor within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, Inc. has provided a grant to the Community Clothes Closet. This grant will match donations we receive up to \$6000!

That means your donation will be doubled. You'll make twice the impact with every dollar you give. Your donation may change two lives instead of one.

# TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE LIVES



## SUCCESS!

One way to better your situation is to find work. But how do you go to an interview without the proper clothing to wear?

The Community Clothes Closet's New Start Boutique is able to help our clients get the clothes for that life changing opportunity. We stock new and gently-used, professional clothing that can make a difference in how our clients feel going into a job interview. An outfit from New Start Boutique gives them confidence to make a good first impression. And when we hear or read comments like the postcard we recently received, we know that we're making a difference and fulfilling our mission.

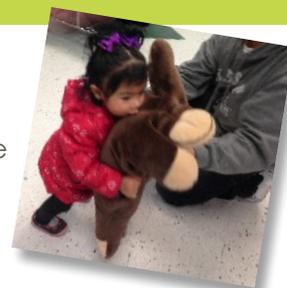


## DO YOU SHOP ONLINE? YOU CAN HELP THE CCC!

When you shop at Amazon, you can earn money for the CCC. Go to smile.amazon.com, sign in with your account, choose the CCC as the charity of your choice, and shop. Every time you make a purchase, a portion will come back to the CCC, a local, grass-roots non-profit. Every little bit counts!

## Make kids happy

Your donations can mean the world to a child like Sophia. She hugged her new "friend", and she didn't let go all the way out the door. She might still be tightly hugging her new friend now.



Kid-focused programs like PajamaRama, Cool for School, and Bundle of Joy can help children with self-esteem, education, and add a feeling of warmth and security in their hearts. The programs can also provide a small sense of relief to stressed parents who are trying to provide for the children they love.

## Board of Directors

Tim Vogelsang, **President**  
Kati Cunningham, **Vice President**  
Lisa Sequin, **Secretary**  
Amanda Larson, **Treasurer**

Jonathan Eiden  
Nanci Micke  
Mel McCarthy  
Paula McNiel

Tom Richmond  
Greg Stock  
Ann Vanevenhoven  
Mary Ann Wepfer

# THE LATEST

## PajamaRama 2017 Was a *Dreamy* Success!

We revamped PajamaRama and it was met with smiles and excitement due to our partners, donors and volunteers who supported this annual event.

St. Joseph's Food Program, Tri-Country Dental, Neenah Library and the UWGB Dietary interns set up interactive learning stations to teach kids about healthy bedtime routines. Children ages 2-12 learned about healthy snacks, the value of reading before bedtime and the importance of good oral hygiene. Once the CCC kids visited the stations they were ready to shop for their PJs! 162 children received a new pair of pajamas, stuffed animal, blanket and a book - all the necessary tools to encourage a healthy night's sleep!



## Our Newest Staff Member!

Hi, my name is AnnaClaire Sylvester, and I'm the new Office and Financial Assistant at the Community Clothes Closet. I was raised in Appleton and I'm a home schooled graduate. Currently, I'm going to Fox Valley Technical College for Accounting, and I'm excited to be working in my field. In my spare time, I enjoy doing sudoku puzzles and watching old game shows.

## New Software!

In December, we rolled out new software to help make client registering, check-ins, and checkouts easier for our clients and volunteers. We are now able to share information with St. Joseph's Food Program and other food programs in the area, and in the future, we will be connecting with other organizations to help make our referral process easier and to help our non-profit community get an understanding of how we can improve our services to those in need.



## Have time to volunteer?

"I love it, love it, love it! The volunteers are like family to me. I so look forward to volunteering on Mondays."

— *Ginny*

"I love it so much. I hate it when I have to miss my shift."

— *Jan*

## Join us at the CCC!

Would you like to give back to our community? Do you have a few hours a week to give? We can use your help.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at the CCC, contact us at 731-7834 or email our volunteer coordinator, Sandy, at [sandy@communityclothescloset.org](mailto:sandy@communityclothescloset.org).

## Collaboration Corner

Thank you to St Vincent De Paul of Appleton and International Children's Fund of Neenah.

Over the past few years, we have worked with both organizations to share resources and provide logistical support to help further all of our missions.





Free clothing for those in need.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 53  
MENASHA WI 54952

1465-B Opportunity Way  
Menasha, WI 54952

# DONATE

Donation Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00am - 1:00pm  
Monday: 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Visit our Facebook page to learn more and donate online:

 /communityclothescloset

Our location:

1465B Opportunity Way  
Menasha, WI 54952



## Wish List:

### ● Financial Donations

\_\_\_\$500.00 supports an entire family in need for the year with everyday clothing, shoes, winter boots, coats, socks, underwear, accessories and basic household items.

\_\_\_\$150.00 supports an individual seeking employment with interview appropriate business attire including shoes, accessories and a haircut coupon.

\_\_\_\$50.00 supports a new outfit and shoes for a student.

\_\_\_\$25.00 supports reading materials/books for clients of all ages.

### ● Men's and women's plus sizes

### ● Men's clothing

### ● Children's clothing

### ● Bedding and pillows

### ● Towels

