

COMMUNITY CLOTHESCLOSET



The Clothes Line

Winter 2020

DONATE

Clothing Donation Hours:
Monday-Friday: 9 AM-1PM
Monday: 6-8 PM

Visit us on Facebook to learn more and donate online!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Ali Court
- Kim Gehling
- Brandon Lepp**
- Aly Meunier
- Jon Meulemans
- Nanci Micke**
- Bryan Phillip
- Joe Roehl
- Jetta Salzer**
- Ann Vanevenhoven**

In this column there is usually a message from Diane MacDonald, our Executive Director. I am filling in for this issue to let our friends and supporters know that Diane has taken an opportunity to be the Executive Director of the Old Glory Honor Flight. As one of the founding members of that organization, it holds a very dear spot in Diane's heart.

All of us at the Community Clothes Closet are so happy for Diane to have this new opportunity, but we are also saddened to have to say good-bye. In the years of Diane's tenure at the Community Clothes Closet we

have had growth in the number of clients that we are able to serve. This year we will help nearly 7000 clients. That is an impressive expansion in our mission to serve those in need. Through Diane's leadership we are a strong nonprofit with a great staff team, dedicated volunteers, and a supportive board of directors.

We thank Diane for her efforts that have brought innovation to our signature programs like PajamaRama and Cool for School. We are providing resources for more children than ever, and we are rewarded with happy families, that appreciate the new shoes, clothes, books, stuffed animals, blankets and warm pajamas that are provided by these programs. We are excited to be able to offer steel toed work boots through a grant from United Way Fox Cities, and to roll out our new truck that will be used in many capacities including as a Pop Up shop. All of these accomplishments are examples of the leadership and vision that Diane has provided to the Community Clothes Closet.

The awareness of the Community Clothes Closet has grown because of Diane's efforts to partner and collaborate in our community. We will certainly miss her warm personality and genuine love of humanity. We wish Diane and her family all the best as she takes on her exciting new role with Old Glory Honor Flight.

The board of directors is in the process of interviewing candidates to become our next Executive Director. We will keep everyone updated in our next newsletter as to the progress of the search.

Nanci Micke

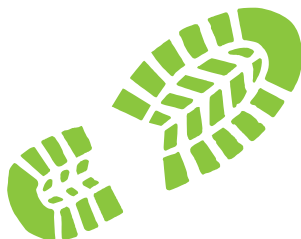
Community Clothes Closet Board Co-Chair



THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR WORKING...

The Community Clothes Closet received over 80 requests for steel toed work boots last year, but we didn't have near enough inventory to cover all of them. That got us thinking. What do people do when their job is dependent on them wearing steel toe work boots on day one of a new job? What would they do if they couldn't afford a pair and their new employer doesn't offer them?

Many of our clients are working in warehouses, construction, factories and other settings where steel toe boots and shoes are required on the first day of the job. That's where the Community Clothes Closet, once again, can help! Through a generous grant from United Way Fox Cities, we have steel toed boots and shoes to give to our clients through our New Start program. Supporting clients with programs like this not only helps our families become self-sufficient but it helps our entire community!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT OUR VOLUNTEERS HAVE HEART!

There are few things more rewarding than giving your time and effort towards a good cause. Our new volunteer Krista's story stands out as a reminder of that.

When clients John and Jane came to us, they were looking for help with warm clothes for the winter. John had a lot of trouble getting around since he recently had foot surgery and was on crutches. Here for the first time, they had mentioned to us that John had already slipped and fallen on the ice twice since the surgery and they were asking if there was something we could do to help. Unfortunately, we knew we didn't have a scooter on hand for them, but when discussing how we could find a partner agency to help, a volunteer overheard and piped in. Krista, a brand new CCC volunteer who had just started that morning, asked if someone needed a scooter. Ironically, she had just recently had surgery as well but was back to full health and no longer needed her scooter. Krista jumped at the chance to help and brought the scooter to our client. John was absolutely thrilled; he could once again help his wife Jane and could feel safe again on the snow and ice.

If you are interested in making a difference in the lives of people in your community, please consider filling out an application to volunteer here at Community Clothes Closet. You can fill out an application in person or on our website at www.communityclothescloset.org/volunteer.



COMMUNITY CLOTHES CLOSET TURNS 40!

This spring, the CCC will hit a milestone... we're turning 40!

Four decades ago, the CCC was started by a small group of women who saw the need to provide clothing to the poor within their church. The demand for clothing was great and steadily increased; what started out as a small project grew to serving the masses in our community.

In 1996 we moved into our permanent home, expanded, added staff, and added programs to help our clients with their basic needs. Now that's something to celebrate don't you think? This spring we'll host an open house and you're all invited. Watch for updates and details coming soon!



Got 4 hours a week to spare? Join our volunteer team by applying now at communityclothescloset.org. Work with clients, support our office staff or volunteer behind the scenes in our clothing donation area. Either way, you'll have fun and do good!

PAJAMARAMA WAS A DREAMY SUCCESS!

On December 7, staff and volunteers hosted 215 kids ages 2-12 at our annual PajamaRama event. Our partners taught the kids and their families about healthy bedtime routines through our Education Stations. Once the kids learned about healthy bedtime snacks, the importance of teeth brushing and reading before bedtime, the kids got to pick out brand new jammies, a reading buddy, a blanket and new books! They also got to fill a stocking full of toys and other goodies thanks to a program called Operation Homefront. The kids were thrilled. Sadly, for many, these were the only Christmas gifts they received and thanks to you, they received new, quality items!

Want to help a child this year? You can sponsor a PajamaRama child for \$25.00, donate NEW PJ's, NEW books, NEW stuffed animals or NEW tie blankets. We are also collecting NEW pillows and NEW pillowcases throughout the year to be distributed at this year's event.





1465-B Opportunity Way | Menasha, WI 54952

OUR MISSION: Provide free clothing to all people in need.

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MENASHA, WI 54952

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

With a little help from our friends, your donation of \$10 turns into \$20, \$50 turns into \$100 and \$250 turns into \$500 thanks to an anonymous donor within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, Inc. This special donor is matching donations up to \$6,500.00! Please consider a financial gift to keep our doors open and our clients supported this spring. Remember, every dollar counts!

