INCOURAGING ACTION

A semi-annual report of community programs & services needing support

Incourage Community Foundation

715-423-3863 | hello@incouragecf.org | incouragecf.org



BE A FRIEND, GIVE TO INCOURAGE

Incourage Community Foundation runs on the generosity of community members just like you. Because only 4% of our funds are unrestricted and can be used for operational expenses as well as unrestricted grant opportunities, your gift to the Friends of Incourage Fund is greatly needed and appreciated.

When you give to this fund, you support the work of our team - ensuring resources are managed responsibly, invested strategically, and connected to the causes you care about.

Your gifts also help us to promote, facilitate, and host local programs and events like summer zoo events and Speak Your Peace.

It's because of your generosity our work continues to thrive in our community. Thank you!

Visit incouragecf.org/givenow/ and choose 'Friends of Incourage Unrestricted' from the dropdown to support our work today.

FOR DONOR ADVISED FUND ADVISORS

1. Suggest grants through your donor advised fund for specific or unrestricted needs.
2. Provide additional contributions to support specific needs.
3. Provide additional unrestricted contributions for community needs as they arise.

FOR ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

1. Give an unrestricted contribution to support needs such as these as they arise.
2. Give to an Incourage designated fund to support a specific organization or purpose.
3. Give to create a fund that aligns with your charitable goals.

*For privacy, you may choose to give anonymously to any of the programs or services on the following pages. By giving through Incourage, the number of organizations soliciting you directly may be reduced.

What's a Donor Advised Fund?

Learn more by visiting our website incouragecf.org or give us a call at 715-423-3863.



Please consider supporting some of the community opportunities on the following pages.

Merry Matchmas

Every dollar will be matched
up to $25,000
when you give to the
Friends of Incourage Fund

made possible by the generosity of an anonymous donor.

Making a difference doesn't require wealth, just a caring heart and a willingness to give.

Give before December 31
to double your impact!

Three easy ways to make your Merry Matchmas gift

Give by Check or Online

Mail your donation to the address below or scan the QR code to give securely online.

Let's Talk About Smart Giving

We can help with Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs), gifts of stock,o r other creative ways to give.

Multiply Your Impact

Ask if your employer matches gifts and triple your impact. You may also inquire about payroll deduction.

Your support strengthens our ability to serve, adapt, and grow with our community

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incourage community foundation®



THANKSGIVING MEAL FOR RESIDENTS IN NEED

A group of volunteers through St. Paul's Church prepares Thanksgiving meals to those who can't provide a meal for themselves. Food prices have increased dramatically, making the need for support even greater than before. Provide some holiday cheer on Thanksgiving Day and help raise the remaining $2,500 to make this year's event possible.







COMMUNITY ELVES PROVIDE HOLIDAY GIFTS TO CHILDREN IN NEED

The Community Elves program, run by Wood County Human Services workers, has been helping countless families for over 21 years. They provide Christmas gifts to children with ties to Wood County Human Services and baskets of essentials to their families. Last year, the Elves provided gifts to 789 children from 344 families. Become part of the magic and support the holiday wishes of children and families in need today.

MATCH $1:$1 AND FEED WISCONSIN RAPIDS STUDENTS

The WRPS Angel fund provides support to children and families in need by filling the gaps in student meal accounts. Currently, Incourage, with support from an anonymous donor, is offering a dollar-for-dollar match up to $10,000. So far, about $3,000 has been raised. Ensure every student has balanced nutrition for their school days by helping raise the remaining $7,000.



FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES PROVIDES BASIC NEEDS FOR STUDENTS IN NEKOOSA, PORT EDWARDS, AND WISCONSIN RAPIDS

The Families Helping Families Program (FHF) provides low-income families with one-time monetary support for unexpected expenses like eyeglasses, dental care, and prescription medication. It may also provide financial assistance for temporary shelter or other basic needs for students when all other funding sources have been exhausted. Help keep children housed, healthy, and taken care of by supporting Families Helping Families today.



FOCUS ON FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES

FOCUS (Feeding our Communities with United Services) runs our local food pantry and serves hot meals to anyone in need every Thursday from 4:30-5:45. There are no eligibility requirements, so people of all experiences can come enjoy a meal. Your support will impact these meals, help stock the food pantry, and provide backpacks filled with food items to WRPS students in need.



FOOD SERVICE FUNDS HELP FEED STUDENTS IN SOUTH WOOD COUNTY

Food service funds help cover outstanding food balances that accrue over time when families are unable to pay. These balances can become very burdensome to low-income families and may also prevent high school seniors from graduating. Choose to support one or more of these funds, so every student can receive breakfast and lunch at school without the financial stress that often comes with it, while ensuring students facing financial difficulties can graduate on time.

Assumption Catholic Schools: Feed My Sheep

Nekoosa Public Schools: Lunch Account Fund

Pittsville Public Schools: Lunch Account Fund

Port Edwards Public Schools: Families Help Families Fund

Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools: WRPS Food Service Angel Fund

UNITED WAY
South Wood & Adams Counties

UNITED WAY SUPPORTS OUR COMMUNITY IN MANY WAYS

United Way is a partner organization with widespread impact on our local community through a variety of programs and opportunities. They help feed local families, provide opportunities for children to learn and grow, and help local residents maintain safe housing. Supporting after school programs at the Boys & Girls club and shelter services for survivors of domestic abuse through the Family Center, and facilitating Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in our community are just a few of the many examples of the work they do locally. Visit www.uwswac.org to learn more about their programs and local impact.

You can also donate to grow the United Way endowed fund at Incourage to provide ongoing annual support for years to come.



RAISE FUNDS FOR WISCONSIN RAPIDS FAMILY CENTER, SUPPORT CHEFS FOR CHANGE

The Wisconsin Rapids Family Center provided emergency shelter to 112 individuals and delivered more than 13,450 services to 577 survivors of domestic violence in the past year. Without local support, these services would not be possible.

Chefs for Change is Wisconsin Rapids Family Center's biggest annual fundraiser, and they need help raising $6,000 to bring in a keynote speaker who will share their own story of survivorship. In addition to raising critical funds for their organization, WR Family Center hopes this event will inspire and remind people of the lasting impact a supportive community can have on a domestic abuse survivor's journey.



THREE BRIDGES RECOVERY

LOCAL KNITTING GROUP PROVIDES SUPPORT AND CONNECTION TO INDIVIDUALS IN RECOVERY

Unraveled & Renewed is a program run by Three Bridges Recovery, where individuals in recovery can learn and develop a skill while benefiting from connection, growth, and support. Peer support meetings are combined with knitting, a hands-on, skill-building activity to offer a healthy coping outlet. The activity can help reduce stress, improve focus, and foster a sense of purpose, which are all key elements in recovery. Support Unraveled & Renewed and help people build stronger connections and experience a renewed sense of belonging in their recovery journey.



BRIDGE THE GAP TO HEALING FOR VETERANS

Bridge to Healing Foundation is a veteran-operated nonprofit in Wisconsin Rapids dedicated to removing financial and systemic barriers to mental health and substance use care through community-funded support programs. The cost of care can make accessing mental health treatment difficult, even for those ready to seek help. 1 in 3 veterans needing this care say cost stops them from getting it. Delaying care doesn't just delay healing, it can deepen the wounds. Bridge the gap to healing and help veterans get the care they need, when they need it, today.



WEEKEND RETREATS FOR VETERANS, FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS

Giving Back, Inc.'s latest mission is to revamp a school bus into an RV that can take veterans, firefighters and police officers on weekend retreats to get away from the everyday stresses they carry. The bus has been donated, as well as some necessary services and materials, but Giving Back, Inc. still needs to raise about $45,000 to make this a reality. Help support the mental and emotional well-being of our public service members and veterans by making this retreat bus a reality.



VETERANS MEMORIAL PRESERVES MEMORIES IN WOOD COUNTY

The Wood County Veterans Memorial reflects more than 400 names of veterans who have passed, dating back to the Civil War. There are also 1,000 more names on legacy stones around the memorial honoring those that have served in the military. There are also areas to honor specific groups, like the Hmong soldiers who fought alongside the Americans in the Secret Army. Remembering those who served is an important part of honoring those who fight for our freedom and honoring our history as a Nation. Support the ongoing additions to and maintenance of this memorial by giving today. Learn more at www.woodcountyveteransmemorial.org.



OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTERS, INC. (ODC) SUPPORT INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

ODC's Independent Living Skills Program supports individuals to live within their community, increase their independence and become self-sufficient. The support and services provided center around the individuals unique needs to maximize their independence and increase their confidence. Their approach is to "teach and support" rather than "do" for the individuals what they may be able to do for themselves.

Housing Counseling - assists individuals to obtain housing within their community. Individuals are assisted with identifying housing options, determining affordability, budgeting, completing applications, signing leases, moving in and identifying accessibility and modification needs.

Daily Living Skills (DLS)/Community Supportive Living (CSL) - supports skill development in independent living. Individuals are supported to develop skills in cleaning/laundry, shopping/meal planning/cooking, money management/budgeting, personal hygiene/health and wellness and developing community connections.

Because most of ODC's funding comes from Medicaid-funded programs, philanthropic support plays a critical role in helping to bridge funding gaps and aligns with their mission: to empower individuals with disabilities to achieve their work and life goals.

PARENT CAFÉ SUPPORTS LOCAL FAMILIES WITH RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY



Parent Café, held monthly at Mead Elementary school, offers a free meal and helpful resources to families that may need a helping hand. Each session is unique, covering topics like how to address mealtime struggles with picky eaters and children with sensory challenges or how to create meaningful memories without pressure and stress during the holidays. These sessions build confidence and connections while educating parents with helpful tips and information. Help support food and material costs for the Parent Café so families of all backgrounds can particpate, learn, and grow.



KEEP THE MUSIC PLAYING: SUPPORT CWSO'S 2026-2027 CONCERT SERIES

The Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra has provided musical services and education for Central Wisconsin residents for 78 years! This year, as a result of the Sentry Theater construction project, CWSO has faced several unexpected expenses. Being displaced from their normal venue has drastically increased operating and concert expenses (one performance can cost ~ $15,000). Keep the music playing and support this year's concert series today.



NEXUS PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER COMING TO CENTRAL WISCONSIN

The Nexus Public Safety Center is a transformational, multi-phase investment in public safety training for central Wisconsin. It will bring together Mid-State Technical College, the City of Stevens Point and public safety partners in one shared training environment, where future first responders will be prepared, current professionals will strengthen their skills, and realistic, hands-on training will be made accessible close to home. Support the well-being of our local communities by supporting the Nexus Public Safety Center capital campaign efforts today.

For questions, email hello@incouragecf.org or call us at 715-423-3863

Thank you for giving today!

Visit incouragecf.org/givenow to give online today or mail a check to Incourage Community Foundation at 478 East Grand Ave, Ste 200; Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494.

incourage community foundation®

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