

# South Milwaukee Human Concerns

Serving our community since 1973



[smhumanconcerns.org](http://smhumanconcerns.org)

Winter 2017-18

## From the Board President

### Help us Continue to Make a Difference for Neighbors in Need

Dear South Milwaukee Friends and Neighbors:

The appeals for our time, money and other contributions are constant and year-round, especially with the recent hurricanes in the south and Puerto Rico, and the earthquake in Mexico. Many are in need. With the holiday season approaching, I ask that you do not forget your friends and neighbors in South Milwaukee who require assistance.

For 44 years, South Milwaukee Human Concerns (SMHC) has been providing aid to the residents of our community. We exist solely because of the generosity of our donors. If you have given to us previously, thank you; if not, please consider a donation. Giving to SMHC is the most direct and sure way to provide temporary assistance to South Milwaukee residents who need help.

The number of people in South Milwaukee living at or below the poverty level has increased. We assist 900 – 1,000 individuals monthly with emergency food, clothing, school supplies, household items and more. We receive no government funding and are completely supported by donations. Any gift you provide is greatly needed and appreciated. For more information about SMHC, the services we offer, and how to donate or volunteer, please visit [smhumanconcerns.org](http://smhumanconcerns.org), or stop by our center.

On behalf of the SMHC Board of Directors and volunteers, thank you and have a blessed and safe holiday season.

Tim Schafer  
President, SMHC Board of Directors

### Our Mission of Help and Hope Reaches Thousands in South Milwaukee

Receiving no taxpayer funding, South Milwaukee Human Concerns (SMHC) delivers vital services to thousands of low income South Milwaukee residents because of the support we receive from area individuals and businesses. In 2016 we served more than 9,000 South Milwaukee residents – about 40% of those who live in the city. SMHC relies on volunteers and donations.

Over the last five years, the number of South Milwaukee residents who receive our essential services has grown. In 2012, we helped 2,266 residents; 2013, 2,502; 2014, 2,931; 2015, 6,160; 2016, 9,729. These unduplicated/unique clients represent many children. This year, we are on track to eclipse 2016's record-breaking numbers.

We are an emergency food pantry that provides help and hope to all who come to us; no one in need is turned away. We also offer adult and children's clothing, household items, and school supply and holiday gift giving programs for South Milwaukee children. All that we provide is given at no-cost.

Help SMHC to keep offering our critical and much-needed services in 2018 and beyond through a tax deductible donation.

Help by:

- Going to [smhumanconcerns.org](http://smhumanconcerns.org) and click on the "Donate Now" button.
- Mailing your donation in the enclosed return envelope.
- Drop off your contribution at the center during our open hours.

Be assured that every penny of your support goes directly to help your South Milwaukee neighbors in need. Thank You!



## Big Thanks to Eaton's Cooper Power System

This summer officials from Eaton's Cooper Power System in South Milwaukee presented South Milwaukee Human Concerns with \$13,000 donation as part of the company's community support and outreach efforts.

Joining in the ceremony are (from left) George Becker, SMHC vice president; Steve Mezera (Eaton), Denise Arnold (Eaton), Debra DeBoer, SMHC director; Julie Schramm, SMHC assistant; Craig Wahlgren (Eaton), Tim Schafer, SMHC, president; Dustin Hoekstra (Eaton). Not pictured from Eaton: Jonathan Wells.



## Personal Grooming Items in Short Supply, Please Donate



Donations of personal hygiene items are especially needed to assist our thousands of clients, which include many school-age children. South Milwaukee Human Concerns (SMHC) core mission is to provide emergency food and clothing; however many of our clients also need basic items for daily living that help ensure a clean and healthy start for work or school. Particularly needed are:

- Bar soap and body wash
- Shave cream and disposable razors
- Deodorant
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Feminine hygiene products

"We try and serve our clients holistically and that includes meeting their food, clothing and personal grooming needs," said Deb DeBoer, SMHC director. DeBoer said too often hygiene items are in short supply, which can force families living at or near poverty to make difficult purchasing decisions. "What families need to get through the day encompasses a wide range of needs," DeBoer said. Bring your donated personal grooming items to SMHC during open hours.

## Changes in Center Open Hours Starts December 4

Starting Monday, December 4, open hours for South Milwaukee Human Concerns (SMHC) will change.

**New hours:** Monday, noon – 3 p.m. • Wednesday, 4 – 6 p.m. • Thursday, 9 – 11 a.m. and 1 – 3 p.m.  
Friday, 9 a.m. – noon • Last Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. – noon

Note that the center will be closed on Tuesdays; the Thursday and last Saturday of the month hours will be unchanged from current open times. With the new hours, the center remains open the same number of hours per week. The change is being made to better ensure adequate volunteer staffing and to have a dedicated day (Tuesdays) to more fully address center restocking and administrative functions.

## Transition to 'MyPlate' Model Promotes Healthier Food Choices

Under the guidance of Hunger Task Force, the major food donor partner of South Milwaukee Human Concerns, a transition has been made to "MyPlate," a teaching model that encourages healthy eating by those who rely on food pantries.

Hunger Task Force representatives completed detailed presentations to SMHC staff and volunteers about the initiative. Hunger Task Force then assisted SMHC in the transition to the adoption of the new nutritional operation policy, which included a client education program, promotion of fresh food options and more. MyPlate is a healthy eating program emphasizing fruits, vegetables, grains, proteins and dairy as the component parts of a more nutritional healthy lifestyle.

## Memorialize, Honor That Special Person in Your Life



To honor the memory of a family member, friend, colleague or other person in your life that has made a difference, donate to South Milwaukee Human Concerns (SMHC) through a memorial or honorarium in their name.

Memorials honor the memory of those close in your life; honorariums recognize an event such as a birthday, graduation, anniversary, retirement or other life event. The honored individual/event along with the person, family or group initiating the dedication will be featured on special pages at [smhumanconcerns.org](http://smhumanconcerns.org).

To initiate a memorial or honorarium, contact SMHC director Debra DeBoer at 414-764-5340 or [debrahcsomilw@gmail.com](mailto:debrahcsomilw@gmail.com)



## Area Businesses Generously Help Us to Meet Community Needs

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South Milwaukee Human Concerns thanks local businesses/food store partners/donors who generously work with us to help keep our food pantry stocked and/or provide needed monetary support.

### BIG THANKS TO:

- Avenue Wine and Liquor
- Azteca Mexican Restaurant
- Barbieri's Italian Restaurant
- Beef Jerky Outlet
- BMO Harris Bank (SM)
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- C3 Designs
- Caterpillar Global Mining
- Cousins Subs (SM)
- Cummins Sales and Service
- Divine Mercy Parish
- Dollar General
- Eaton Corporation
- Emerald City Catering
- First Congregational Church
- Gordon Food Service (GFS)
- Green Bay Packers
- Jane's Popcorn
- Klements Sausage
- Knights Popcorn
- Kwik Trip
- McDonald's (SM)
- Meijer
- Milwaukee Brewers
- Milwaukee Bucks
- Molten Bell Funeral Home
- Mulligan's Irish Pub
- Parkway Floral
- Pick n' Save
- Piggly Wiggly
- Planet Fitness
- PPG Industries, Inc.
- SM Lions & Leos
- South Milwaukee United Methodist Church
- Spirit's Bar & Grill
- St. Luke's United Church of Christ
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church
- St. Matthews Parish
- Topper's Pizza (SM)
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Walmart (SM)

## Take Note of Center Closings During the Holidays

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During the upcoming holiday season, South Milwaukee Human Concerns will be closed:

- Thursday, November 23 (Thanksgiving Day)
- Friday, November 24
- Saturday, November 25 (the last Saturday of the month is usually an open day)
- Monday, December 25 (Christmas Day)
- Tuesday, December 26 (Tuesday is a normal closed day, per the new schedule)
- Saturday, December 30



## Another Way to Support Human Concerns: Through Workplace Giving

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If you participate in workplace giving through the United Way of Southeast Wisconsin, please consider writing in South Milwaukee Human Concerns (SMHC) on your paper or online form. Those funds will be directed to SMHC.

Another good workplace donation option is the Hunger Relief Fund of Wisconsin, a federation of more than 20 anti-hunger organizations in southeast Wisconsin that are committed to providing healthy food to area communities. Hunger Task Force, an important partner with SMHC, administers 100% of these funds to the local food pantries, including SMHC.

## Amazon Purchases and Christmas Market Donations Benefit Human Concerns

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South Milwaukee Human Concerns can receive 0.5% of your purchase price for items you buy via AmazonSmile, an Amazon purchase site that aids charitable organizations selected by customers. Start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). Select South Milwaukee Human Concerns as the benefit recipient of your next eligible purchases by using: [smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7217934](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7217934).

Another way to support SMHC: Stop by our information table at the annual Christmas Market, Saturday, December 2, at South Milwaukee High School, 801 15th Avenue, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Non-perishable food items and monetary donations are needed.

## We Hope to Assist 600 Children in Need This Holiday

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South Milwaukee Human Concerns (SMHC) will help make the holiday season a bit brighter for South Milwaukee families who cannot afford to provide their children with Christmas gifts. Through residents like you, SMHC has a goal of providing 600 children with modest gifts this season. Sponsoring a family or child for Christmas is easy and you get a "gift" of giving to an appreciative family and/or child.

This program is also in need of gift cards in any amount. Popular gift cards are from Game Stop, iTunes, Kohl's, Target, Walmart, and Marcus Theaters. Bring your gift cards to SMHC during open hours. Contact Debra DeBoer, 414-764-5340 or [debrahcsomilw@gmail.com](mailto:debrahcsomilw@gmail.com), with questions.



## South Milwaukee Human Concerns

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South Milwaukee, WI 53172

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### MISSION...

South Milwaukee Human Concerns is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization receiving no taxpayer funds that delivers critical help and hope to needs-based residents through emergency food, clothing and other essential services.

  
HUNGER TASK FORCE  
FREE & LOCAL

*South Milwaukee Human Concerns  
is proud to be supported by  
Hunger Task Force.*



### Help Commemorate 45-Year Anniversary of Human Concerns

On June 5, 1973, South Milwaukee Human Concerns gained non-profit, 501(c)3 status. Help us celebrate 45 years of providing help and hope to needs-based South Milwaukee residents through a tax deductible monetary donation. Any gift amount is appreciated and needed.



Your donations are appreciated, but please **DO NOT** leave them outside the door. We cannot accept donations that are not brought into the center during open hours.

*South Milwaukee Human Concerns is an equal opportunity provider.*

**Memorials and honorariums are recognized on  
dedicated pages at: [smhumanconcerns.org](http://smhumanconcerns.org)**

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