



Remaining Open During the Pandemic to Serve Many in Need

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic has adversely impacted virtually all parts of life. The health and safety of our loved ones is a priority. A priority for South Milwaukee Human Concerns (SMHC) is continuing to serve our clients during the pandemic, an especially challenging time. Even while other Milwaukee County food pantries temporarily closed, SMHC remained open, providing essential nutrition to the thousands of South Milwaukee residents, including many children.

SMHC changed its protocols to provide its vital services in the safest possible way.

"Myself and the SMHC Board feel that when clients need us the most, we must be there for them," said Debra DeBoer, director.

You can help SMHC continue to offer its critical and much needed services in 2021 and beyond:

- Go to smhumanconcerns.org and click on the "Donate Now" button.
- Mail your donation in the enclosed return envelope.
- Drop off your contribution at the center during our open hours.

Every penny of your support goes directly to help your South Milwaukee neighbors in need!



From the Board President

We Are South Milwaukee's Lifeline for Almost Five Decades

Dear South Milwaukee Friends and Neighbors:

It seems each day we are faced with appeals for our time, money and other contributions from charitable organizations across the country. With the holidays approaching please remember that, for various reasons, there are many South Milwaukee residents living at or below the poverty level. I ask that you not forget our friends and neighbors right here in South Milwaukee who are also in need of assistance, including hundreds of children. Since 1973 South Milwaukee Human Concerns has been a lifeline for those facing difficult financial circumstances. We assist about 1,000 individuals monthly with emergency food, clothing, hygiene products and household items. During the pandemic and its economic fallout, our services have been needed more than ever. While our recent focus has been on our core mission of providing emergency food, we hope to slowly and safely open our clothing area for our thousands of clients. Please check our website – smhumanconcerns.org – for the latest information. Among our other vital services: We provide children's school supplies and modest birthday and Christmas gifts upon individual request.

For 47 years, SMHC has provided aid to the residents of our community. We receive no taxpayer/government funding and are completely supported by donations. We exist solely because of the generosity of our donors and volunteers. Giving to SMHC is the most direct and sure way to provide assistance to South Milwaukee residents who need help.

Any monetary 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 or stop at our facility at 1029 Milwaukee Avenue during open hours.

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



Eaton's Generous Grant to SMHC Will 'Touch the Lives of So Many'

South Milwaukee Human Concerns (SMHC) received a \$30,000 grant from the Eaton Corporation Charitable Fund in late summer. It was the largest grant awarded by the Eaton Corporation Charitable Fund. The grant will help fund many operating expenses. Eaton has a manufacturing and administrative division in South Milwaukee.

"A huge thank you to Eaton Corporation," said Deb DeBoer, SMHC director. "This extremely generous grant will touch the lives of so many people in need in South Milwaukee."



In a related news, SMHC Board member and Eaton South Milwaukee employee Denise Arnold received Eaton's prestigious Stover award. This award is presented to only eight employees worldwide, recognizing employees who are active volunteers, making a difference in their communities.

Officials from Eaton Corporation joined SMHC and city leaders recently for a check presentation. Eaton awarded SMHC a \$30,000 unrestricted grant. From left are George Becker, SMHC Board; Adam Vannieuwenhoven, Eaton Product Sales Manager; Craig Wahlgren, Eaton Manager; Denise Arnold, SMHC Board and Eaton Product Specialist; Deb DeBoer, SMHC Director; Paul Koester, Eaton Product Line Manager; SM Police Chief William Jessup; and SM Fire Chief Joseph Knitter.

Businesses, Churches, Organizations Help Us Meet Community Needs

South Milwaukee Human Concerns thanks these vital partners who generously work with us to help keep our food pantry stocked and/or provide needed monetary and in-kind support in 2020:

- Aldi's (SM)
- Aurora Healthcare
- Azteca Mexican Restaurant
- Barbieri's Italian Restaurant
- Bucyrus Erie Foundation
- Carlisle Technologies
- Caterpillar Mining Corporation
- City of South Milwaukee
- Cousins Subs (SM)
- CR Electric
- Cummin's Power
- Divine Mercy Parish
- Dollar Tree
- Eaton Corporation
- First Congregational Church
- Gordon Food Service
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation
- Hampton Inn
- Hearts for Families
- Hunger Relief Fund
- Knights of Columbus
- Kwik Trip (27th and College)
- Lucas Milhaupt
- MetalCut Products
- Molten Bell Funeral Home
- Panera Bread
- Pick n' Save
- Piggly Wiggly
- PPG Industries, Inc.
- Ridge Community Church
- Rotary Club of Mitchell Field
- SM Lion's
- SM Fire Department
- SM Police Department
- SM United Methodist Church
- South Shore Chiropractic
- Spirit's Bar & Grill
- St. Luke's United Church of Christ
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church
- St. Matthew's Church
- State Farm Insurance (SM)
- Tap Room
- Tony G's Grant Park Garage
- Tracey's Sewer & Drain Cleaning
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Walmart (SM)

(Note: A number of donors who provide items for SMHC raffles, in-kind and monetary donations were unable to contribute in 2020 due to the pandemic. Their past support is most appreciated.)

Children to Receive Modest Holiday Gifts; You Can Help Us

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 will provide a limited number of children with modest gifts.

This program is also in need of gift cards in any amount. Popular gift cards are from Amazon, iTunes, Kohl's, Target, Walmart, and Marcus Theaters. Bring your gift cards to SMHC during open hours.

This Family is One of Hundreds Who Use Human Concerns

Growing up on a family farm in Illinois, Tiffany Malcolm has always been about hard work and self-sufficiency. Moving to South Milwaukee 28 years ago, eventually starting a family, and working as a child care teacher, only enhanced those early life lessons. She often worked two jobs, knowing it would be important to her family, which includes two school age boys.

Working long hours and helping to raise a family that values faith is a perpetual challenge, Malcolm said, but she also said they always managed a way forward.

About two years ago ongoing expenses and bills became more of a concern. Already austere finances were affecting the family grocery budget. A friend suggested South Milwaukee Human Concerns as a helpful option.

"Asking for help is not easy for me," said Tiffany, who hoped she would be able to get a few essential items from SMHC, such as milk, bread, and maybe a few canned goods.

"I was anticipating a modest bag of a few items, which I would have been eternally grateful for," she said.

Instead she was allowed a cart full of healthy food items that would cover three meals a day for several days.

"It has helped our family in so many ways," said Tiffany.

She said she uses the critical SMHC services only as-needed, saying, "We don't like to use it too much; others need it, too."

In 2020, SMHC will serve about 7,000 unduplicated, unique clients, about one-third of the city's population. Tiffany said those who support SMHC help make South Milwaukee a more caring place.

"When you give monetarily to Human Concerns, you are helping your neighbors and your friends," she said. "They often don't want to admit it, but many need help."



Memorials and Honorariums Honors Special People 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. They are recognized at smhumanconcerns.org.

To initiate a memorial or honorarium, contact SMHC director Debra DeBoer at debrahcsomilw@gmail.com



Your Amazon Purchases Can Benefit Human Concerns

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. Select South Milwaukee Human Concerns as the benefit recipient of your next eligible

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South Milwaukee Human Concerns

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South Milwaukee Human Concerns is proud to be supported by Hunger Task Force and Feeding America.



During the holidays,

South Milwaukee Human Concerns will be closed:

Thursday and Friday, November 26, 27

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 24, 25, 26

Thursday and Friday, December 31 and January 1



*May the Spirit of Christmas
be with you throughout the New Year.*



SMHC Open Hours:

Monday, noon – 3 p.m.

Wednesday, 4 – 6 p.m.

Friday, 9 a.m. – noon

Board of Directors

Tim Schafer, President

George Becker, Vice President

Michelle Adamec, Treasurer

Glen McCoy, Secretary

Denise Arnold

Peggy Bartlet

Jill Kallay

Dan Reszel

Staff

Debra DeBoer, Director

Part-Time Assistants: Robin Eskridge, Julie Schramm