



# Hope Restored

February, 2019

## What's Happening

SAM25 Resource Days	Every Tuesday (Year round)
SAM's House, 213 E Green Bay St.....12:00pm-2:00pm	
St. Patty's Day Raffle	Mar 16
Big Time Sports Bar (Old Symbas)..... 5:00pm W6014 Lake Dr. Shawano	
SAM's House Closes for Season	May 1
Motorcycle Group Benefit for SAM25	May 18
Rivers Edge Campground, Shiocton	
SAM25 General Meeting	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of each Month
Angie's Cafe, Main St (Great Perks Room)..... 5:30pm	

### SAM25 Shelter Statistics: 2018-2019 Season

#### SAM's House Shelter:

Nights of Stay: 1210  
 Guests Served: 68  
     Adults: 48  
     Children: 20  
 Meals Provided: 3,234

#### Resource Day:

Individuals Served: 170



SAM25 is in need of volunteers for our Fundraising and Capital Campaign Committees! If you or someone you know is interested in helping on any of these committees please contact us at 715-851-7252 or send an email requesting to be added to the email lists to [executivedirector@sam25.org](mailto:executivedirector@sam25.org)

### Donor Highlights

SAM25 would like to thank all who donate in the form of funds, item donations, time and talents. We couldn't do what we do without your generous support. Below is a highlight of some of our recent donors:

- Thedacare Family of Foundations
- Mark and Marcia Sabin
- Hope Community Church
- Capital Credit Union
- Larry and Luanne Laude
- Brian and Anne Aune
- Davita Northwoods
- Robert and Kathy Jeske
- River Valley Church
- Immanuel Lutheran Church
- Wayne and Cindy Van Deltey
- Mary Claire Lueck
- Scott and Edna Grosskopf
- Sacred Heart Catholic Women
- Shawano Area Community Foundation
- Alan and Carol Lamia
- Zion Lutheran Church Women
- The Ruth and Pat Crawford Family Foundation
- Linda Bleser
- The Kuehl/Daun Family
- Bethel Lutheran Church
- Gillett Suring Clergy
- Christus Lutheran Church
- First Presbyterian Church
- The Culhane Family

### How You Can Help...

- Volunteer at shelter or a fundraiser
- Attend our Fundraisers
- Make a monetary donation via mail (See donation form on Page 4) at or via PayPal on our website ([sam25.org](http://sam25.org))
- Donate items from wish list on our website
- Sign up to bring a meal on our website
- Advocate for SAM25 and those in need

## SAM25 Mission

We help those affected by poverty improve their circumstances and become self-sufficient.

### Board President Note

By: Muffy Culhane

Hello SAM25 Friends/Supporters!

With only days left in February we continue to trudge through the cold and snow of another Wisconsin winter. I am thankful (over and over) for the gift of SAM25 and SAM's House Emergency Shelter, and grateful for each of you who make both possible. THANK YOU.

The shelter has been busy. Jen, staff and volunteers continue to make it a place of hope, kindness and respect. The community continues to provide delicious meals, supplies and funding to keep it going. Volunteer mentors with the Steps to Success program guide adult guests as they explore job and housing options. This program expanded in December to include classes taught by community members on topics such as employment, landlord/tenant relationships, budgeting, parenting, healthy eating. The second session of "Getting Ahead in a Just-Getting-By World" is in full swing providing education and empowerment to get ahead of the cycle of poverty (See Chris Ciucci's article below for details of Getting Ahead and STS). Weekly Tuesday Resource Days continue to provide anyone in our community assistance with housing and job searches, shower facilities, hygiene supplies and clothing. This proactive approach provides assistance before homelessness occurs. SAM25 is working hard to further its vision that our community works together to meet the needs of those living in poverty and offers a structured opportunity to gain self-sufficiency and to have hope for a better future.

The newest news is that SAM25 is in the process of purchasing a larger building! We are so thankful to the City of Shawano and Shawano Municipal Utilities for the lease of our current building. It has given us a great start these last four years. It is a temporary lease so we have been keeping an eye out for our future home and we found it! It will take some time and significant renovation to provide our community with

expanded shelter space, a larger Resource Center, a new Thrift Store to help generate funds for SAM25 projects as well as work experience for guests, and space for a future Community Medical/Dental clinic.

The building will be purchased debt-free with SAM25 savings and funding from the 2015 Shawano Area Community Foundation matching grant. However, we will need your help, above and beyond your usual giving, to fund the building renovation, maintenance, and upkeep, so please stay tuned for our upcoming Capital Campaign.

With your help we can continue to provide people in the Shawano area with resources, education, and empowerment to become self-sufficient. The SAM25 family wholeheartedly thanks you in advance for your continued generosity and support.

With many thanks, Muffy.

**Special Thanks to  
Shawano County Historical Society**  
for hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Christmas at  
Heritage Park and the "Longest Night"  
Homeless Memorial Service. It was beautiful  
and much appreciated.



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### Executive Director Note

By: Jennifer Laude Bisterfeldt

Hello Friends! I can hardly believe it, but we are already two-thirds of the way through our fourth shelter season. Thanks to everyone who continues to work hard to ensure SAM25 programs are a success. We couldn't do this without you!

As you know, SAM25 is in the process of purchasing a new building to continue its operations. This is very exciting and we will be able to do so much more with this larger space. Our goals include not only the continuation of SAM's House Emergency Shelter, but also a much needed daytime Resource Center, a Thrift Store and Clinic. This will literally be a one-stop resource for anyone in need. Many people do not realize the amount of people who are served through our weekly Resource Day program. It is very busy and people need help in many different ways, even if they are not homeless. Additionally, the new programs have made it apparent that there is a need for more space; specifically resource and educational space. A new building will open so many possibilities for our programs.

We have had several success stories this season already and this is a direct result of these programs. Just this week, we had two people in shelter exit to apartments of their own. Our programs and support provided have helped to change the lives of many. The elements of education and empowerment are vital to making lasting changes in helping those who are struggling with poverty. SAM25 is helping to rebuild lives inside our shelter and in our community as well.

We are helping people to avoid homelessness before it starts. We are providing a family for many and giving them the tools to become successful. We are offering basic needs when people have nowhere else to turn. More than anything, we are giving people hope. SAM25 will continue to do all of this into the future in a new

space that will allow us to expand upon these services. We are excited to look ahead and would like to thank our many supporters for being on this journey with us. It hasn't been always easy, but it has been worth it.

Thanks to our community for continuing to make this possible and thanks to the SAM25 family for making this possible for our community. – Jen



Recent Acts of Kindness around SAM25: Pictured above (top) Samantha and Jessica Trevarthen made Valentines for our guests; (middle) Rich Montour and Connie Sommer with the Bonduel Bears Basketball Team, taking a break for a quick photo after serving a meal; (bottom) Volunteer Connie Sommer with one of the tallest members of the Bonduel Bears Basketball Team.

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### Getting Ahead Update

By: Christine Ciucci

The "Getting Ahead in a Just Getting By World" Program started up January 15<sup>th</sup> and by the end of February, investigators will have met for 13 sessions. Investigators commit to a total of 18 sessions: no small feat for those that live one day at a time in the "Tyranny of the Moment." The Program is based on curriculum developed by Phil DeVol, and was born of the "Bridges Out of Poverty" program developed by he and Ruby Payne in 1999. Bridges' focus lies with intuitions, social services and community development. Getting Ahead arose out of meeting with people in poverty and unstable living conditions. Everyone in the group is an investigator, including the facilitator. Through the materials provided in our workbooks, combined with conversations between investigators, problem solving and developing a "Future Story" becomes the focus.

Investigators honestly share their stories and aspirations; examining where they've been, their present circumstances and create a picture of what their Future Story looks like. They do self and community assessments, identify causes of poverty, examine "rules" of class & power, as well

as identify and seek out resources for changing their circumstances. Empowered, they garner more self-esteem and confidence in identifying action steps and plans in taking responsibility for their future. This program is chock full of life changing information for those that are able to make the commitment and it dove-tails nicely with our Steps to Success (STS) program.

This year in STS, we've been doing weekly presentations for all interested guests of the shelter. To date we've covered topics including: Getting a Job, Keeping a Job, Human Resources, Housing Availability, Rental Relationships, Parenting and Budgeting. Banking and Identity Theft are upcoming presentations. We welcome your ideas for future presentations and invite you to present on a topic in which you can share your experience and/or expertise. Please contact the shelter at 715-851-7252 if you have an idea for a course that may be helpful for our guests. - Chris

Contact Us!



Shawano Area Matthew 25, Inc.  
P.O. Box 147  
Shawano, WI 54166  
Phone: 715-851-7252  
Website: [www.sam25.org](http://www.sam25.org)

### Help Make Winter a Little Warmer - Donate Today to Shawano Area Matthew 25!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish for my gift to remain anonymous

Check here if you would like to receive our newsletter by email

I am making a donation to Shawano Area Matthew 25 in the amount of:

\$25  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  Other \_\_\_\_\_

To sign up through PayPal for our Friends of SAM25 Sustaining Membership, Please visit: <https://www.sam25.org/sustaining-membership>

Please make checks payable to: Shawano Area Matthew 25, P.O. Box 147, Shawano, WI 54166.

Credit Card donations can be made through our  PayPal Account on our website at [www.sam25.org](http://www.sam25.org).

Please use the following name(s) in all acknowledgements: \_\_\_\_\_

Your donations help SAM25 to ensure that our guests have food, clothing and shelter. All donations are tax-deductible. If you would like more information, please contact us at 715-851-7252 or email [executivedirector@sam25.org](mailto:executivedirector@sam25.org).