

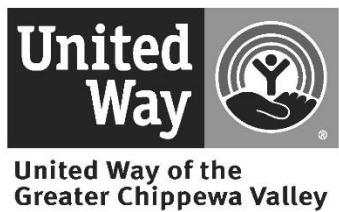
2015

ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION:

The Eau Claire Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc. will advocate for and support families who are homeless in our community by providing temporary housing and support services, and by fostering independence.



Introduction

Eau Claire Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc. (ECIHN) began serving area homeless families in 1995. Founded by a dedicated group of community members, the organization became a local affiliate of the National Interfaith Hospitality Network now known as Family Promise. The premise was churches hosting homeless families by providing meals and shelter each week. With the vision of providing more stability to families and especially the children, the staff, Board of Trustees, volunteers and concerned citizens established a permanent shelter, Beacon House, in 2001. 2010 saw the expansion of the agency again as a Transitional Housing duplex was opened providing safe, affordable housing for families, giving them extra time to become stable. The Eau Claire Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc. truly is a team effort requiring the combined talents of the staff, volunteers, congregations and Board of Trustees.

The average length of stay at the Beacon House increased from 37 days in 2014 to 43 days in 2015. After seeing a decrease for two years, the increase is being attributed to changes in the ESG Rapid Rehousing Standards and switching our COC Supportive Services Only Project to a Rapid Rehousing Project. The Standards and the program change both occurred on July 1, 2015. This required some adjustment for the staff to function within the new expectations. Families continue to find employment quickly but housing is often the biggest barrier. Household income is such that many families are paying 50% or more towards housing. Low vacancy rates in Eau Claire along with new development are thus driving up the prices of apartments. Although 43 families received shelter, another 595 individuals were turned away due to lack of space.

Also occurring on July 1, 2015 was a 50% reduction in United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley funding. Although appreciative of what was received, this added with a change in HUD funding priorities, the agency saw an approximately \$50,000 (one sixth of the total budget) reduction in funding specifically for staff salaries. In 2016 ECIHN will be focused on increasing revenues so that necessary services can continue to be provided.

We are thankful for the support of the Eau Claire community and will continue to maximize its resources to provide quality services in 2016 through the use of volunteers as well as partnering with other agencies.

2015 Board of Trustees **(December 31, 2015)**

Jerilyn Kinderman, President
Katie Zook, Vice President
Tom Gillett, Treasurer
Ellen Higley, Secretary
Jennifer Brantner
Jen Conaway
Tom Hanko
Ellen Jacobs
Tim Kaiser
LeAnn Pfremmer
Amy Ripley
Jessie Weber
Haley Wright

2015 Administrative Staff

(December 31, 2015)

Kelly Christianson, Executive Director
Betsy Patchet, Administrative Assistant

2015 Congregations

Christ Church Cathedral
Faith Lutheran Mission
First Congregational UCC
First Presbyterian
Grace Lutheran
Hope Lutheran
Hope United Methodist
Immaculate Conception
Immanuel Lutheran
Lake Street UMC

Newman Parish
Peace Lutheran
Sacred Heart of Jesus-St. Patrick's
St. James the Greater
St. Olaf Catholic
Saving Grace Lutheran
Spirit Lutheran
Trinity Lutheran
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
University Lutheran

2015 Partners

City of Eau Claire Housing Authority
Eau Claire Area School District
Eau Claire County-Dept. of Human Services
Job Center
Eau Claire County Housing Authority
Eau Claire County Probation & Parole
City/County Health Department
Career Development Center
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
WestCap
Western Dairyland, EOC
Workforce Resources
LSS Women's Way
LSS Intensive in Home
LSS Positive Avenues
Aging and Disability Resource Center
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Bolton Refuge House
Boys & Girls Club
Catholic Charities

Central WI Community Action Council, Inc.
Chippewa Valley Free Clinic
Chippewa Valley Technical College
Community Table
Eau Claire Children's Museum
Family Resource Center
Feed My People
Goodwill Industries
Hope Gospel Mission Bargain Center
King's Closet
Literacy Volunteers
McKinley Charter School
Paws & Claws
St. Francis Food Pantry
Salvation Army
Sojourner House
Stepping Stones Shelter - Menomonie
University of WI-Eau Claire and Stout
UW Extension
YMCA

2015 Financial Support

United Way of Greater Chippewa Valley
FEMA-Emergency Food and Shelter Program
Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Contributions
Individuals
Churches
Corporate
Groups/Organizations

City of Eau Claire
Eau Claire County
Wisconsin Department of Administration-
Department of Energy, Housing, and
Community Resources

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM

With the incredible volunteer efforts of over 20 area faith based organizations, emergency shelter, meals, and hospitality are provided to families and single pregnant women for up to 30 days. Extensions beyond 30 days are granted if families are working on their goals and need extra time. Families are accepted from all counties although priority is given to current county residents and those showing a strong intent to remain in the area.

Funding Sources

United Way of Greater Chippewa Valley
Emergency Food and Shelter Program

State of Wisconsin Department of Administration-Department of Energy, Housing, and

Community Resources

Housing and Urban Development-HUD

Donations

Staff

Case Managers (12/31/15)

Ryan Graham

Kendra Mai

Lisa Wilson

During 2015

43 families received shelter (48 adults and 70 children)

48 adults received shelter

70 children received shelter

5,387 nights of shelter were provided at Beacon House

7,133 volunteer hours were provided

15,395 meals were served

595 individuals turned away

**Zero dollars were spent on food to feed 6 families, three meals a day for the entire year
thanks to our volunteers!!**

2015 Targets and Outcomes

2015 Actual

90% of eligible families stay at the shelter for up to 30 days until housing is in place. **79%**

Transition Program

The Transition Program assists families as they secure housing and employment through case management, rental assistance, and transportation assistance. Families review goals and accomplishments at least twice each week. HUD's focus has shifted to Housing First, get people into housing, shorten their length of homelessness then wrap services around them.

Funding Sources

United Way of Greater Chippewa Valley
Eau Claire County Department of Human Services
State of Wisconsin Department of Administration-Department of Energy, Housing, and
Community Resources
Housing and Urban Development-HUD
Donations

Staff

Case Managers (12/31/2015)

*Ryan Graham
Kendra Mai
Lisa Wilson*

During 2015

Assisted families with 10 bus passes/tokens

Assisted families with 27 gas vouchers

108 bags of food were distributed

13 families received rental assistance

8 families received security deposit assistance

22 rental application fees paid

46 vouchers for clothing at Goodwill and Hope Gospel Mission store distributed

25 families received donated furniture after securing housing

11 adults pursued their GED/HSED

32 educational info sessions provided at the Beacon House

2015 Targets and Outcomes

2015 Actual

70% of families will have stable housing after leaving Beacon House.

79%

70% of families will have stable employment/income after leaving Beacon House.

89%

Support Program

The Support Program assists families for 3-12 months after they leave Beacon House. Case management, including home visits, is key to breaking the cycle of homelessness. Short and longer term rental assistance is available. On July 1, 2015 the focus shifted to shorten the length of time that families are homeless and provide support services once they are in their home.

Funding Sources

United Way of Greater Chippewa Valley
Eau Claire County Department of Human Services
State of Wisconsin Department of Administration-Department of Energy, Housing, and
Community Resources
Housing and Urban Development-HUD
Donations

Staff

Case Manager (12/31/2015)
Amy Giani

During 2015

34 families were served
118 individuals were served (51 adults and 67 children)
11 families received public housing assistance
131 gas vouchers were issued
2 bus passes were issued
12 families received assistance with employment needs
138 families were sponsored at Christmas
3 adults were assisted in continuing their education
5 families received transitional housing through ECIHN

2015 Targets and Outcomes

60% of families remain in stable housing upon exiting the Support Program.
60% of adults will maintain income upon exiting the Support Program
70% of families in Transitional Housing will obtain permanent housing

2015 Actual
78%
80%
100%

Financial Report (unaudited)

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