



[www.hopefromthebottomup.com](http://www.hopefromthebottomup.com)

## Hope Newsletter April 2024

**Hope-Filled Organization:** In Wisconsin, it doesn't get any better for a Hope-Filled Organization than to have the support of The **Green Bay Packers**:



**Green Bay Packers Players  
and Management will be  
joining us as part of their  
Tailgate Tour!**



We invite you to be a part of our Annual Celebration on April 9, 2024, 5:30pm–8:00pm at Strawberry Creek. We are excited to announce that Green Bay Packers Players and Management will be joining us as part of their Tailgate Tour! Let's "Celebrate Hope" with the Packers. Help us meet our goal of raising \$50,000 to fight Hunger and Homelessness. This enjoyable and exciting evening will include:

- Meet & Greet Packers Players & Management
- Heavy hors d'oeuvres & Cocktails
- Raffle and Silent Auction
- Live Music by The John Crawford Jazz Band

Call 262-658-1713 for more information.



**About the Center**

Shalom Center is a 501(C)3 in Kenosha County serving as the only homeless shelter, largest food pantry, and longest running nightly meal program. Shalom Center is a community resource that provides housing, food, guidance, and support to individuals and families in need across our community. Our mission is simple: serve the community through food, shelter and supportive ways. We believe that this mission will help realize a greater vision: self-sufficiency by maximizing the potential of people we serve. To learn more about the Shalom Center and its programs, click on this link: <https://www.shalomcenter.org/>

**A new addition to the Shalom Center is Hope Hub Community Center.**



The 10,500-square foot addition will serve as a community center plus provide a much-needed warming and cooling shelter. Case management along with washers, dryers, showers, and food will be onsite. For those in need, the new facility will have housing and homeless diversion professionals to help connect them with vital services.

“HOPE HUB Community Center will enable people to get the services, the case management, the wrap-around services that they need to continue to make a better life for themselves,” said Wendy Cross, Community Center Director. “Individuals and families in our community often just do not know where to go to get help. The new center will function as a one-stop shop.”

The opening of HOPE HUB is another exciting and historic event for Shalom Center. An anonymous donor underwrote the \$2.4 million addition. “That is a person who believes in our mission, vision and goals,” stated Tamarra Coleman, executive director of Shalom Center. “We can’t thank that anonymous donor enough. Because of that commitment we are going to be able to help so many more people.” The addition was designed by Kueny Architects and built by Bane-Nelson.

To learn more about the HOPE HUB, watch a 2 minute video by clicking on this link: [Shalom Center unveils new Hope Hub with ribbon cutting ceremony \(tmj4.com\)](https://www.tmj4.com)

#### **The Arts:**

### **SPRING IS THE SEASON OF HOPE AND JOY**

**Though all of us experience ups and downs in our lives,  
I frequently remember the song “April Showers” which was very popular  
When I was a kid. It has always helped me accept and cope with the negatives of life,  
and then be ready to enjoy the many good things in my life.**

### **Though April Showers May Come Your Way**

**... Life is not a highway strewn with flowers  
Still, it holds a goodly share of bliss  
When the sun gives way to April showers  
Here's the point you should never miss**

**... Though April showers may come your way  
They bring the flowers that bloom in May  
So if it's raining, have no regrets  
Because it isn't raining rain, you know  
It's raining violets**

**... And when you see clouds upon the hills  
You soon will see crowds of daffodils**

So keep on looking for a bluebird, and listening for his song  
Whenever April showers come along

*Written by Louis Silvers*

**Hope-Filled Organization:**



## **Our Mission: Nourish. Connect. Thrive.**

West Suburban Community Pantry (WSCP) creates opportunities for our neighbors to thrive by providing nourishing food and access to supportive resources.

Together with our community of supporters, partners, and volunteers, we are a place of nourishment and stability that our neighbors can count on.

Serving over 110,000 individuals in FY2023, WSCP is integral to helping people in DuPage and Will Counties receive the nutrition they need to lead full lives. We work to break down barriers to food assistance, implement new services to best help people in our community, encourage volunteerism, and educate about existing needs.



*West Suburban Community Pantry is working with several food distributors to rescue quality produce from being thrown away and redirecting it to its customers and other area food pantries. (photo provided by West Suburban Community Pantry)*

### **A History of Helping Hands**

In 1970, Roger and Barbara Schmith transformed a small pantry in the closet of a local church into a community supported organization.

As it gained support, grew in size, and finally earned 501(c)(3) status as the Woodridge Community Pantry in 1992, so too did the recognition of the need across the surrounding counties. In 2010, we became the West Suburban Community Food Pantry to serve all of DuPage County, and we now offer aid to Will County too.

Many things have changed in 50 years, from instituting school breakfast programs, to partnering with organizations who offer classes but, one thing has stayed the same: no one is turned away. For we're all just a crisis away from the same circumstance.

To view and listen to a 3 minute video about the West Suburban Community Pantry, click on this link:

<https://wscpantry.org/about/#mission>

## Stories of Hope:



Our mission is to use storytelling and social media to bring about a more connected, compassionate, and engaged Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Humanities believes stories can break down barriers between us, inspire us to get involved, and help us recognize that we're more alike than we are different.

We want this platform to connect to a wide range of Wisconsin residents.

Here are stories of 4 Wisconsinites most recently added to the Love Wisconsin website.



"I was raised like the community was family."

CABEATRICE HART | MILWAUKEE, WI



"All humans should be proud of who they are and where they come from. Nobody's better than anybody."

BRIAN JACKSON | LAC DU FLAMBEAU, WI



"I believe that treating other people with kindness shouldn't be controversial."

EMELIA THELEMANN | PLATTEVILLE, WI



"Cooking food is a sign of love."

ANN VANG | STEVENS POINT, WI

You can read stories about each of these Wisconsinites by clicking on this link: [Stories - Love Wisconsin](#) When you get to this page, click on the picture of the person you want to find out more about their stories.

To have access to many more stories, click on this link:

[https://www.lovewi.com/stories/?utm\\_source=Email+Newsletter&utm\\_medium=civic+health+heroes+tag&utm\\_campaign=civic+health+heroes+tag&utm\\_term=civic+health+heroes+tag](https://www.lovewi.com/stories/?utm_source=Email+Newsletter&utm_medium=civic+health+heroes+tag&utm_campaign=civic+health+heroes+tag&utm_term=civic+health+heroes+tag) At the bottom of this page, you can get on the Love Wisconsin monthly newsletter email list.



## Share this Newsletter!

If you find this Newsletter to be a positive contribution to promote Hope and positive changes for now and in the future, please forward this Newsletter to people you think would enjoy it and who may want to share their hopeful stories and programs for future Newsletters. They can sign up for the monthly Newsletters by doing the following:



Hope From the Bottom Up website link: <https://hopefromthebottomup.com/>  
Or send me an email ([robert@robertbeezat.com](mailto:robert@robertbeezat.com) ) with the name and email address  
of the person you think would be interested. I will then contact them.

**Thank You**