



FOUNDATIONS FOR **LIVING**

Annual Impact Report

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As I reflect on the past year, I am amazed and humbled by many people contributing so much to ensure Foundations For Living (FFL) has such a positive impact on our rural community.

People, who give from the heart. People who give of their time, talents, funds, and prayers. People with focus on others and meeting needs locally. I want to say thank you! I am honored to be associated with each of you as our organization strides forward with our mission in 2024.

We are grateful for each of you who make this work possible, especially-

- ♥ **Volunteers**, who fill so many truly essential roles, serving others with graciousness and sincere care
- ♥ **Local businesses** and partner organizations that recognize the importance of our work and come alongside FFL in many different ways with the utmost generosity
- ♥ Our **board of directors and our community committee members** whose faith, vision, and tenacity are invaluable
- ♥ Our **incredible dedicated staff**- Bob Adams, Val Smith, Jill Amos-Polifka, and Jane Thompson!

Together, as we move forward in 2024, I am excited for the continued provision of services already in place as well as the anticipated expanded services offered through the Middleton House.

We will move forward together. There is no crystal ball to foresee the future, but we know there will be challenges that cry for resolution, successes that call for celebration, and that we will continue to be blessed with people who make rising to greet each of these possible on behalf of our community.

To all the amazing people who are Foundations For Living, we humbly say,
THANK YOU!

Rand Swenson,
Chairman of the Board



Meet the Middleton House!



Programming Update

Foundations For Living (FFL) orchestrates impactful initiatives, including a warming center, crisis center, and additional support programs tailored to address specific needs within our community—all supported in part by our thriving thrift store!

This year, our collaboration with the **Salvation Army** has been an additional standout blessing, providing vouchers to FFL clients in need. FFL has also had the opportunity to support the **Little Free Pantry at the Waupaca Public Library** by contributing surplus items and excess food, furthering our commitment to community welfare and easing the burden many face when trying to access support.

Additional assistance, including hygiene packs, housing and utility vouchers, and, this year through collaboration with **Community Clothes Closet**, easy access to free quality clothing.

Most importantly, the FFL-hosted food pantry, made possible thanks to the generous support and partnership of **Feeding America**, continues to address the critical nutritional needs of individuals and families in our community through free grocery and pantry essentials.

01

Warming Center

An important community resource for providing refuge during the coldest months, with a total of **925 nights** slept in 2023 by **26 clients**. We are proud to have offered not only shelter but also sustenance, with 925 meals provided, a significant portion facilitated through the generous support of the community Meal Train initiative. The Warming Center continues to offer warmth and care and helps to ensure that everyone in the Waupaca area has access to a safe haven from the harshest of elements.

02

Crisis Center

Our dedicated teams have assessed and addressed various crises, providing vital support to individuals facing challenging circumstances. From offering a compassionate ear to coordinating resources, the Crisis Center has been a cornerstone in our mission. Through **strategic intervention and personalized care**, we have made substantial strides in assisting those in crisis, reinforcing our commitment to fostering resilience and recovery in the Waupaca area.

03

Thrift Store

The FFL Thrift Store continues to be not only an asset to the community as a place to shop and sometimes find hidden treasures, but also clients from both the Crisis Center and the Warming Center were able to use vouchers to purchase **necessary clothing and houseware items** to cover their needs. In 2023 FFL was able to give vouchers to multiple families that had the unfortunate event of a house fire.



297

Households
Served

\$86,019.26

of support poured
into the Community
through FFL!

5,122

Assistance Calls
Answered



Community Events Recap

In 2023, our events stood as dual-purpose occasions—celebratory gatherings and essential opportunities for fundraising and awareness. These impactful gatherings not only celebrated our mission but also played a crucial role in supporting our programs and initiatives. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the generous sponsors who made these events possible. If you or your company are interested in joining us as sponsors or contributing in-kind donations for our 2024 events, please reach out to our team!

Sound of Hope (Spring Fundraiser)

Sound of Hope, our major yearly fundraiser held on May 12, 2023, brought **134** attendees together for an evening featuring a meal, live music, inspiring speakers, and engaging activities like live and silent auctions, a 50/50 raffle, and soda and coffee pulls. The event successfully raised **\$13,729** before expenses.

Foundations Fest (Community Outreach & Engagement)

Hosted on August 19, 2023, Foundations Fest was a community-driven event that provided free school supplies, lunch, and entertainment like a bounce house for kids. Serving **44 families (151 people)**, this event aimed not only to support education but also to foster community engagement.

Fall Gala (Fall Fundraiser)

The Fall Gala, a formal event held as a mini-fundraiser, brought together **107** attendees. Beyond its celebratory nature, the gala collected hygiene and food items to support both Foundations For Living and **Living The Waupaca Way** community holiday meals. The event successfully raised **\$3,200** before expenses.



Save the Date(s)!

Join us at our upcoming 2024 fundraising and community engagement events- to learn more about event locations and details, follow us on social media or visit our website!

Journey of Compassion
(Spring Fundraiser)
May 10

Cornhole Tournament
August 10

Fall Gala
November 9

Foundations Fest 2024
August 3

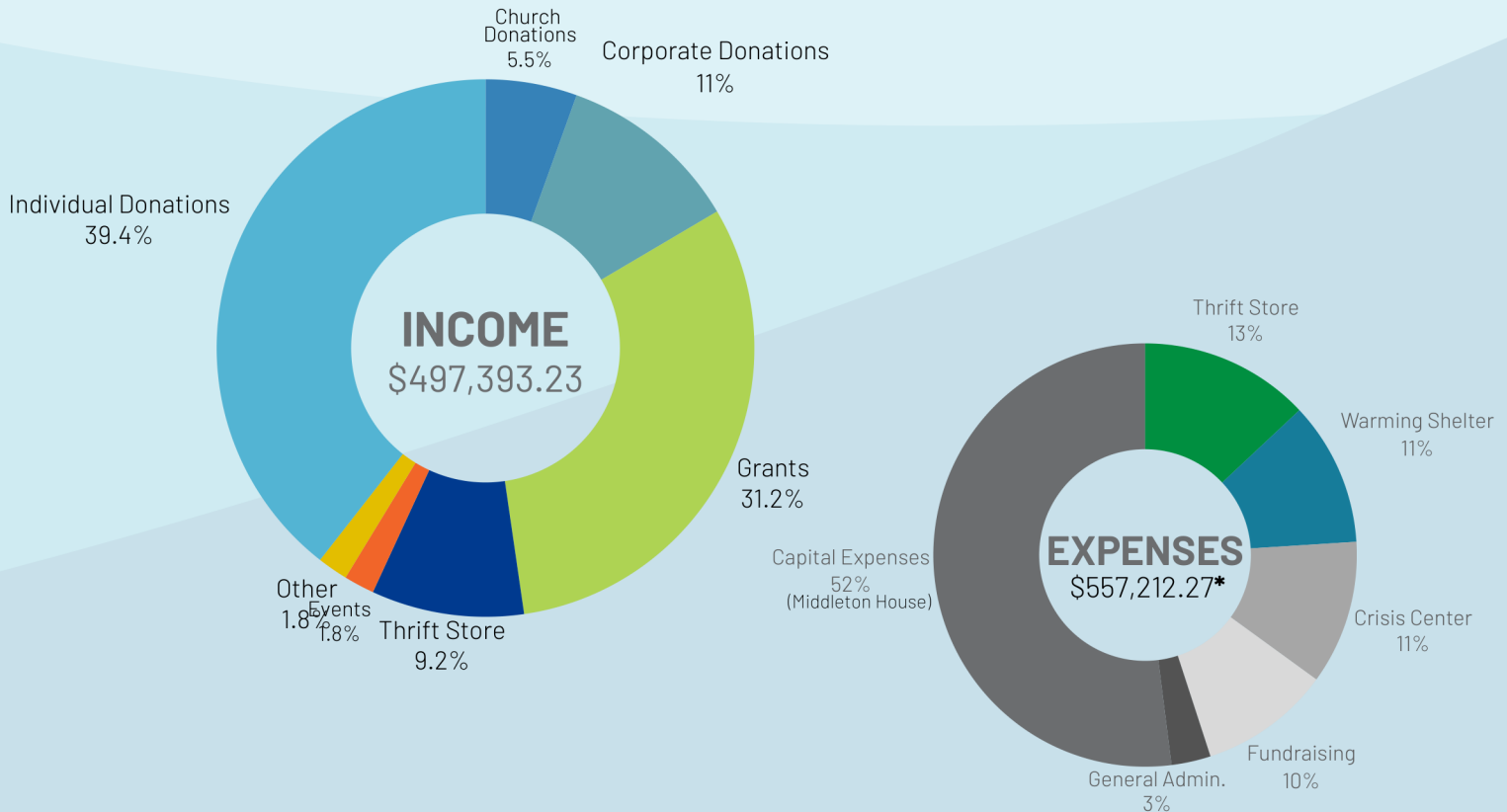


Our greatest joy of the year! Join us for this **FREE** community event that includes school supply giveaways, lunch, a bounce house, and more!

Financial Overview

In 2023, Foundations For Living executed a planned and intentional spend-down of restricted capital funding received in 2022 for the Middleton House project. Despite remarkable fundraising success and generous community support, a variance* is observed in the financial overview below, where expenses surpassed income during the fiscal year.

It is also essential to underscore that these statements do not account for the substantial contribution of approximately **3,425 hours** volunteered by 44 dedicated individuals, valued at an estimated **\$109,110!**



Connect with Our Team

For more information about Foundations For Living services, volunteer opportunities, partnership or donation needs, please contact:

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