# 2014 Annual Report







## Highlights

- Record breaking attendance at the 7th Annual Empty Bowls event to raise funds and awareness about the fight for food security
- Successful launch of My Neighbor's Keeper, an event to celebrate our community and share our neighbors' stories with supporters
- Began building renovations to increase our capacity to serve clients and energy efficiency thanks to support from our 2008 Capital Campaign



# Our Programs





#### **Furniture & Basic Needs Bank**

To help our neighbors make their house a home we recycle donated, gently used furniture & basic household items to families transitioning out of shelters, poverty, homelessness, and other severe life challenges. This program also includes Wheels Again, a bicycle program that helps people obtain and maintain their jobs by providing them with a means of transportation. Access to furniture and bicycles is gained by referrals from our community partners or worked with one-on-one to determine the items needed.



#### **Community Learning Center**

Knowledge is power and education is the key to overcoming many challenges in our lives. We offer one-on-one tutoring as well as classes and workshops on a variety of topics including health, language, literacy, computer skills, and more. We also offer assistance in resume-building and applying for jobs. This program includes "Kids on the Grow," a Youth Education Program in elementary schools designed to keep kids safely supervised in those critical after-school hours before parents return home from work. We also a provide an on-site Computer Lab with free Wi-Fi and printing.



#### **TNP Gardens**

This growing program (no pun intended) helps increase food security in Marathon County by creating access to nutritious, locally grown produce. Each season we offer families the opportunity to supplement their diet (and income) by planting & harvesting their own produce in 40x40 plots on land just north of Wausau. At least 10% of the harvest is donated back to area pantries. The Neighbors' Place also has a small on-site garden that yields produce for the pantry and cooking workshops.



#### Food Bank & Food Pantry

As the largest Food Bank in Marathon County, we help collect, store, and distribute food to more than 20 pantries throughout the county. A large walk-in refrigerator and freezer allow us to store perishable food in addition to non-perishable food. Our own Food Pantry operates 5-days a week. Clients are only able to take a certain number of items (based on family size) and can return every 2 or 3 weeks, depending on how much we have to give.



#### **Neighborhood Outreach**

We provide information and referrals for additional resources to those who need them. In partnership with other agencies, we coordinate the distribution of school supplies and holiday food and presents. Our organization also serves as a Community Center that welcomes people of all ages, ethnicities, religions, and backgrounds. Groups, such as the East Towne neighborhood group, are welcome to utilize our building for meetings.

# Our Impact





Want To Get Involved?

Call 715-845-1966. Your help will make all the difference to our neighbors!

## Our Mission









## The Neighbors' Place has a simple mission: to be "People Helping People."

The Neighbors' Place is a grassroots non-profit organization founded in Wausau, Wisconsin with a simple mission: to be "People Helping People." The organization has a strong multi-faith and multi-cultural heritage, and was initially started as a community center for people transitioning into the community or struggling to overcome a variety of hardships.

In 1989, after a decade of thinking and planning, The Neighbors' Place became a legally recognized non-profit organization. It was designed to be an incredibly flexible, evolving social service agency that works with each individual who comes through the doors, helping them access the resources and services they need to stay on their feet.

"It is always enjoyable to donate food to help those in need, and I have been able on many occasions to do just that.

Now I find myself in changed circumstances, and I have been coming to receive help for my family...It is a humbling position in which to find oneself, and I was unsure of how you would receive me. I am glad to say that I was received with graciousness and kindness by all who work or volunteer at The Neighbors' Place."

-Anonymous Client Letter

Want to learn more? Visit www.neighborsplace org.

You can also like us on Facebook.com/theneighborsplace and follow @tnptweet on Twitter!

#### Thank you to our key programming sponsors:















