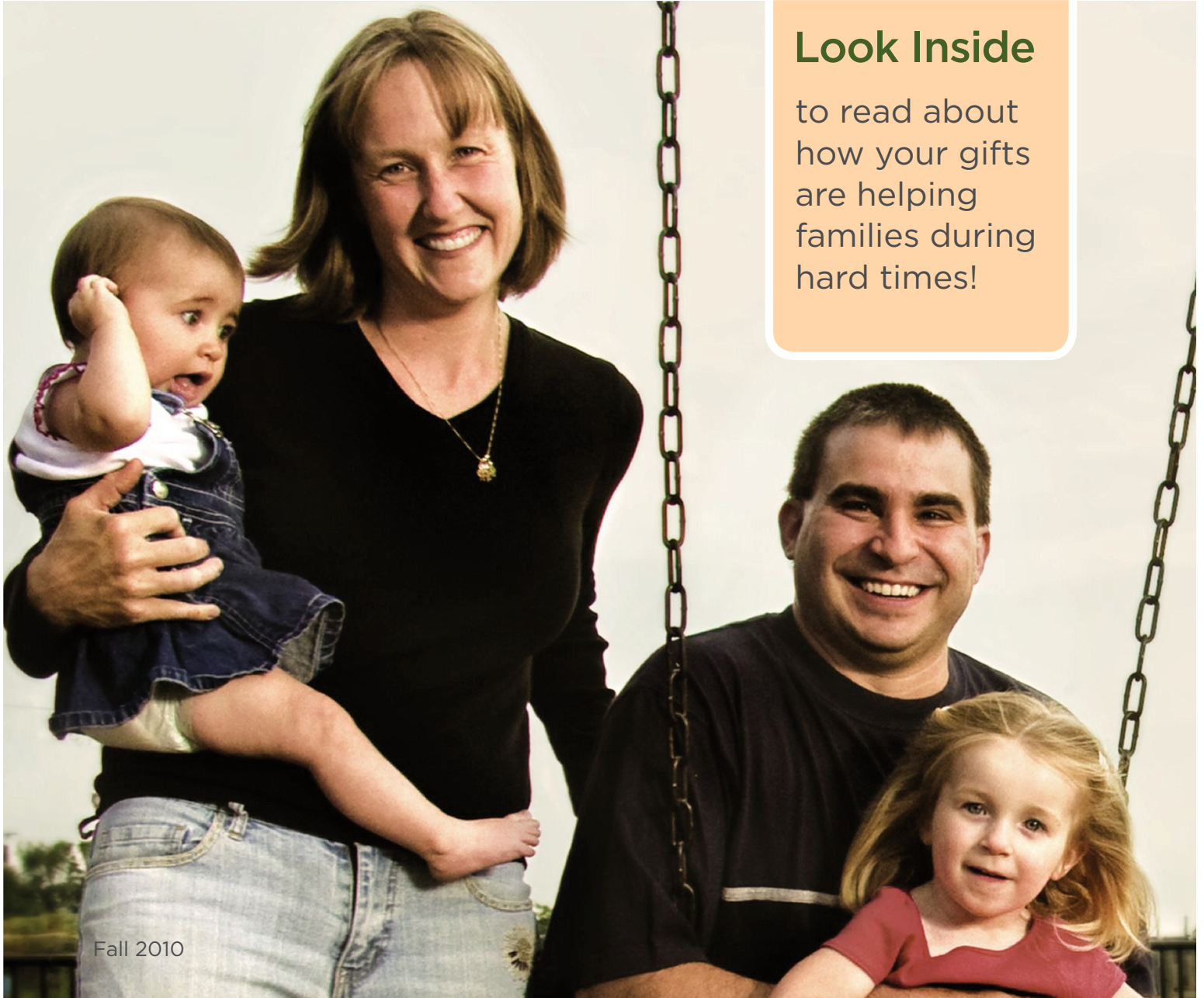


# Around the Table

You're Feeding the Hungry  
in Eastern Wisconsin!

Help us go green!  
Sign up for our e-newsletter  
at [www.feedingamericawi.org](http://www.feedingamericawi.org)



## Look Inside

to read about  
how your gifts  
are helping  
families during  
hard times!

Fall 2010

  
**FEEDING  
AMERICA**  
Eastern Wisconsin

Formerly named  
America's Second Harvest of Wisconsin

# Your Donations Encourage Others to Help Their Community



Gary Jepson, client and board member of the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry.



Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin's Fresh Rescue Program provides non-perishable items and produce for the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry.



As Gary Jepson walks past the produce aisle in the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry (OACP) he remembers when he was working at the local grocery store before being downsized. Now instead of stocking the shelves of a grocery store, he's selecting donated items off of the pantry shelves to supplement his food supply.

"You get to pick what you need and what works for your family – whatever size it is," said Jepson of his experiences at the OACP. Even though he's been unemployed for over a year and a half, the grey-haired Jepson is still upbeat and optimistic about life and his situation.

**"You get to pick what you need and what works for your family."**

*Gary Jepson, client and board member of OACP*

Since turning to the food pantry for help over a year ago, Jepson has become a regular and has found a way he can give back to the community that is helping him. Jepson is a board member for the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry. Since November 2009, Jepson has given the board a unique view of the pantry. "I can tell them things that they would have no idea about; things from a client's point of view," said Jepson. He sees clients from the food pantry around Oshkosh and they're never at a loss for comments about OACP. "They tell me things they might not share while they're at the pantry," said Jepson.

Jepson and the board agree on a number of different areas including the importance of treating clients with kindness and offering healthy suggestions and alternatives at the food pantry.

"The point system is trying to nudge people in a more nutritional direction," said Jepson. The point system helps

the OACP gently direct people toward more nutritious choices by the point value of the items. For example, two cans of vegetables are one point, while most fresh produce items are zero points; whole wheat products are a lower point value than their less nutritious counterparts.

Like a lot of the pantry clientele, Jepson loves that most produce is available free during the summer. The produce at OACP comes from Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin's Fresh Rescue program which collects produce, dairy and meat products that are close to their expiration date from grocery stores throughout eastern Wisconsin.

While no two weeks ever feature the same items on the shelves, the pantry is able to help their clients learn how to prepare the variety of food and produce they receive. Through a partnership with UW-Extension, OACP hosts cooking classes. During the summer UW-Extension taught classes on making fresh salsa and canning.

These classes and Feeding America's Fresh Rescue Program couldn't have come at a better time. In January of 2010, OACP experienced an increase in demand of over 240% from the previous January. The organization has gone from serving over 1,300 people in January 2009 to serving over 4,600 in January of 2010.

Gary Jepson is just one of the many people who have turned to the OACP for help in the last year. Even though he receives food and housing assistance, Jepson always has a smile on his face and is willing to share what he has with others. To all of the donors who support OACP and Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, Jepson would like to say, "Thanks for sharing." •

# SNAP Outreach Helping Families



SNAP outreach helps families get the extra support they need.

A Cudahy family of five has been relying on Project Concern for help putting food on the table for some time. The dad had been working three jobs to support his family, including three children who have special needs. When the mom was diagnosed with cancer, they realized they needed more help.

They asked Project Concern where they could receive more help and were directed to the Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin SNAP outreach coordinator who visits the pantry weekly.

SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, is the new name for the federal Food Stamp Program. The SNAP program still provides food assistance to those in need, but the focus is on nutrition and increased benefits.

“It’s helpful to have someone walk them through the SNAP application process. Some of our clients have low literacy or low computer skills or are apprehensive about the process,” said Debby Tizur, Co-Director at Project Concern. The pantry is located in the lower level of a church in Cudahy and serves between 900 and 1,400 people a month. Having a Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin SNAP outreach person at Project Concern once a week has been very helpful for the food pantry patrons.

“It’s nice to be able to tell our patrons you can sign up right here. We’re already booking SNAP appointments into next month.” said Tizur. “Families, individuals and seniors don’t have to travel somewhere they don’t know in order to sign up for SNAP.”

After all they’ve been through, the family of five is still hopeful. “They were able to sign up for food stamps right here at Project Concern and will be getting the assistance they need,” said Tizur. •

## Stuff the Bus



Take a few minutes the day before Thanksgiving to help us stuff the bus to feed the hungry in eastern Wisconsin. Stop by the Pick ‘n Save at 111th and Greenfield Avenue to pick up your last minute ingredients and a few extra nonperishable items for the hungry. Kidd O’Shea and Elizabeth Kay from 99.1 WMYX will be broadcasting live to help stuff Milwaukee County Transit System buses for the hungry.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, November 24  
5 am - 6 pm

**WHERE:** Pick ‘n Save  
1111 W. Greenfield Avenue, West Allis

## Social Media



Looking for the most up-to-date information on Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin? Visit our social media and web pages.

**WEBSITE:** [www.FeedingAmericaWI.org](http://www.FeedingAmericaWI.org)

**FACEBOOK:** [FeedingAmericaEasternWisconsin](https://www.facebook.com/FeedingAmericaEasternWisconsin)

**TWITTER:** [FeedAmericaWI](https://twitter.com/FeedAmericaWI)

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FEED  
YOUR  
SOUL

The seventh annual Feed Your Soul includes a silent auction of one-of-a-kind bowls and other artwork, food, libations and live music. To date, Feed Your Soul has raised over \$250,000 to help feed the hungry.

# Feed Your Soul

Feed Your Soul is an opportunity to enrich lives with art while helping to raise money to feed the hungry in our community. Wooden bowls are transformed into works of art by members of Milwaukee's design community. The artwork is auctioned off with proceeds benefiting Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin.

**WHEN:** Friday, November 5  
7 - 11 pm

**WHERE:** Flux Design  
811 E. Vienna Avenue

**TICKETS:** \$25 in advance; \$35 at the door  
[www.feedyoursoul.us](http://www.feedyoursoul.us)

**CONTACT:** Jenny Mendenhall at 414-831-6345  
[jmendenhall@feedingamericawi.org](mailto:jmendenhall@feedingamericawi.org)

## New Name, Same Mission

While our name has officially changed to Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, our mission remains the same — feeding the hungry. Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin continues to supply food to 1,100 food pantries, shelters and meal programs who feed nearly 330,000 people in eastern Wisconsin. Please join us in Feeding America.

Visit our website, [www.FeedingAmericaWI.org](http://www.FeedingAmericaWI.org) to learn more.

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