The Women’s Center’s mission is to provide safety, shelter, and support to empower all impacted by domestic abuse, sexual violence, child abuse, and trafficking.

Pictured above: the Peace Garden at The Women’s Center.

Summer 2018
The Women’s Center’s mission is to provide safety, shelter, and support to empower all impacted by domestic abuse, sexual violence, child abuse, and trafficking.

Victory for Aly Raisman: One Step Closer to Safer Sports

On April 25, we welcomed Aly Raisman to our Anniversary Luncheon. She spoke about her dedication to enacting change in gymnastics, so the abuse she experienced will not happen to anyone else. Thanks to the advocacy of her and others, legislators moved the Olympics and other sports organizations a step closer to being safer, explained in this article (originally written by Carmen Rios for Ms. Magazine on March 12, 2018).

In February 2017, Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) talked with eight survivors of sports-related sexual abuse during what she later described as “one of the most disturbing, emotional meetings I’ve held in 25 years in the Senate.”

One month later, she introduced the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act with Senators Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) and Susan Collins (R-Maine)—and less than one year later, it passed with broad bipartisan support through both the Senate and the House. On Feb. 14, President Donald Trump signed the bill into law.

The Safe Sport Act amends the Victims of Child Abuse Act as well as the Ted Stevens Amateur and Olympic Sports Act to make everyone within the Olympic movement and other sports organizations mandatory reporters for child sexual abuse, provide monetary damages to victims, extend the statute of limitations on child sex abuse cases and mandate abuse prevention education by the U.S. Center for SafeSport, which opened last year. Though the law’s success comes on the heels of the trials of Larry Nassar, the now-convicted Olympic doctor accused of sexually assaulting more than 265 girls over a span of 20 years, advocates, athletes and sporting organizations know that such legislation is long overdue.

A Washington Post report in November 2017 found that more than 290 officials and coaches connected to Olympic sports organizations in the U.S. had been publicly accused of sexual misconduct in the preceding 36 years; more than 175 had been convicted. Since 1991, nearly 150 coaches have been officially banned for life by USA Swimming, mostly for charges of sexual misconduct. And just last year, the executive director of USA Taekwondo, Keith Ferguson, ended his tenure after three stories in USA Today revealed a pattern of ignoring and (continued inside)
The Women's Center operates the only confidential 24-Hour Hotline in Waukesha County dedicated to serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault/abuse, child abuse, and trafficking, and family members and friends concerned about the welfare of loved ones victimized by these crimes. This specialized crisis intervention is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by staff who are trained in the dynamics of domestic violence and sexual assault, crisis intervention, and advocacy skills. Callers receive information and support, and we connect them with programs and services offered by The Women's Center, as well as provide referrals to services at other community agencies. The 24/7 nature of our Hotline (including weekends and holidays) means that when a victim is ready to talk to someone about the abuse, a staff person is always available.

Additionally, our Hotline is the access point for Law Enforcement and Healthcare workers. As part of the Waukesha County Coordinated Community Response to domestic violence and sexual assault, police officers contact The Women’s Center’s 24-Hour Hotline when responding to a domestic violence incident, providing the needed information for shelter staff to follow up with the victim.

When a sexual assault victim seeks medical attention at Waukesha Memorial Hospital, Moorland Reserve or Community Memorial Hospital, the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner calls our Hotline and requests an advocate. One of our staff or On Call Advocates goes to the hospital to provide crisis intervention, advocacy, information, and emotional support, which allows hospital staff to concentrate on the forensic medical exam.

Over the past three years, from 2015 to 2017, calls have increased 40%, illustrating both the increased need for our free programs and services and the critical nature of our confidential 24-Hour Hotline. Thanks to the support of individuals like you, both through donations and volunteering on the Hotline, we can continue to meet this rising need and help thousands that call each year.

24-Hour Hotline Offers Immense Value

July:
Advocate Training, a free, four-part educational series for new volunteers, will be held July 20, 21, 27, and 28.

August:
Futures Free From Violence: Games & Grooves After Hours. Win some games and get your groove on with us on Aug. 23 as Bartolotta hosts our 6th annual Futures Free From Violence event at the newly-renovated Italian Community Center.

September:
Look for us at the Milwaukee Film Festival. Details to follow!

October:
October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Check our website for special awareness and prevention activities throughout the month.

November:
A Noteworthy Evening will feature a “round the world” wine tasting with other notable flavors, sights, and sounds on Sat., Nov. 3 at The Seven Seas in Hartland.

More event details at twcwaukesha.org.

If you or someone you know needs emergency shelter, counseling, or other services, call our 24-Hour Hotline at 262.542.3828 or toll-free at 888.542.3828.

covering up sexual misconduct allegations.

“I want to thank each and every survivor who continues to shine the light on these horrific crimes,” Feinstein said in a recent statement. “It's time we hold to account not just the abusers but also the institutions who continue to protect them. Their time is up.”

Nearly two decades ago, USA Gymnastics knew they had a problem. Then-president Bob Colarossi wrote a letter to the U.S. Olympic Committee, warning members to take the threat of child sexual abuse more seriously. “This is not an issue that can be wished away,” he wrote. “The USOC can either position itself as a leader in the protection of young athletes or it can wait until it is forced to deal with the problem under much more difficult circumstances.”

Almost 20 years later, this new legislation will finally force the USOC to do something about it.
Your Voice Has Power. Anniversary Luncheon Success!

Each year we are overwhelmed by the immense support we receive for our Anniversary Luncheon, and this year was no exception. It was another record-breaking event, bringing in a full house of over 825 guests and raising more than $198,000 through sponsorships, ticket sales, silent auction, and donations. This success is great progress toward our annual fundraising goal of $1.3 million this year.

The day was made truly exceptional because of the remarkable dedication of those involved. Special thanks to Toya Washington from WISN for her enthusiasm as our wonderful emcee and we appreciate the remarks by Mike Thurston, Assistant District Attorney Sensitive Crimes, Waukesha County.

And having Aly Raisman join us in the middle of her fight to bring about change and accountability was truly special. Aly is, through her courage and advocacy, and that of her teammates, making changes that will be felt by future generations.

Like Aly Raisman today and our Founding Mothers over forty years ago, it is important to remember that your voice has power and to continue using it. As Angela Mancuso emphasized in her remarks, “believe survivors, as this sets the tone for other survivors to find their voice and speak up without fear. Correct someone who is using victim blaming language. Make sure children understand boundaries and consent. Change happens when we come together, when we have honest conversations, when we take time to listen, and when we aren’t afraid to challenge perceptions.”

Thank you for using your voice to stand with survivors and helping to end violence.

Save the date: April 24, 2019, Denim Day, for next year’s Anniversary Luncheon at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino!

Special Thanks to our Anniversary Luncheon Sponsors!

CHAMPIONSHIP SPONSOR:
Nancy Lindenberg

PREMIER SPONSORS:
Aurora Health Care
Bonnie Birk & Dave Helling

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Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin
Alison and Dan Holub
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One highlight of the event came when we presented Aly with cards handmade by some of the children staying with us. It was exciting for them to find out that Aly was coming, so they wanted to make something special for her.

We were honored to be able to present these thoughtful gifts to Aly!
Dave Helling’s commitment to and passion for the mission of The Women’s Center has been enormous and endless. We join his wife, Bonnie Birk, and countless friends and relatives in celebrating his life.

Since our inception, Dave has been a strong advocate for our work. Much of our agency’s core philosophy has Dave and Bonnie’s imprint on it, especially our shared commitment to ensuring all are treated with dignity and respect. They will always serve as our role models for social justice, and their living example of what’s good and right in the world has long kept us motivated and inspired.

Together, Dave and Bonnie have made numerous tangible and intangible contributions to The Women’s Center. One of the most notable was their leadership as co-chairs of our $3.2 million Tell the Story, Build the Dream capital campaign that resulted in our current 26,400 square-foot multi-purpose building, which includes the first “public” shelter for abuse victims in southeastern Wisconsin. Through their efforts, the campaign exceeded its goal with pledges totaling $3.5 million.

He nor Bonnie ever sought accolades and public commendations for their contributions. We never felt like simply saying “thank you” was enough. But it was for Dave. He wanted us to put our energy toward supporting our clients. In fact, HE thanked US by organizing staff appreciation events and ensuring others recognized the importance of our work by nominating The Women’s Center for community recognition awards.

Dave has been such a committed friend, mentor, and advisor to us, and we are dedicated to upholding his deep-rooted passion of ensuring that there is a safe, supportive place for the vulnerable and abused to turn to in times of need. Our dedication to our clients is his living legacy, and one of the greatest ways we can show our appreciation to Dave is to persevere until our programs are no longer a necessity and we can close our doors.

Everyone at The Women’s Center feels a tremendous sense of loss, but also, a sense of profound gratitude. His vision of a peaceful, loving community where no one was left behind or overlooked has resulted in the transformation of countless lives, which is something we all can celebrate.
Dear friends,

As we reflect on 2017, our 40th Anniversary, and the wonderful support from our community, we especially remember our Founding Mothers who started it all.

When Kathryn Bemmann, Anne Beyers, Kathie Kueht, Gerry Pas, and Jeri Phillips established The Women’s Center in 1977, they did so at a time in history when women were coming together to push for equal employment, financial liberation and other advances to equality.

Founding Mother Dr. Kathie Kueht, reflected, “We knew and dreamed that life could be different if we had faith and conviction. So we put our purposes together and found our voices.” Those purposes and voices worked together, engaged and evolved over the years, and continue today to empower all those impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse and trafficking.

Just over forty years later, we have found ourselves at another global crossroads in history. The “Me Too” movement has helped bring these conversations into the mainstream and through increased awareness, we have, together, reached new heights of progress. This movement still has a long way to go however, and has placed a spotlight squarely on the important work that is still left to be done. Work we continue here at The Women’s Center.

As we look ahead to that work, we thank you for your partnership and invite you to continue with us in this mission in 2018.

Peacefully,

Angela Mancuso    Sarah Grooms
Executive Director   Board President

2017 Board of Directors

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Executive Director
Angela Mancuso
The free programs we provide at The Women’s Center have been consistent for most of our history, yet delivery evolves based on the needs and requests of those we serve. Our holistic, wrap-around services provide trauma-informed care and skill building workshops to support and empower survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and trafficking. These services include:

- Emergency Shelter
- 24-Hour Hotline
- Transitional Living
- Individual and Group Counseling
- Child Abuse Prevention
- Legal Advocacy
- Employment Readiness and Life Skills Development
- Community Education and Violence Prevention
- Rape Crisis Response
- AODA and Mental Health Support

We also provide translation and/or interpretation in any language and free on-site child care.

In 2017, we provided direct services to **1,215** unduplicated adults and children. The true scope of our reach totals **15,657 individuals served**, which includes prevention programming, calls to our 24-Hour Hotline and referral calls, and community education presentations.

Here’s just a sampling of our 2017 programming successes:

**Emergency Shelter**
- 8,926 nights of care and 26,778 healthy meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) to 311 adults and their children.
- 83% of shelter clients developed strategies to enhance their safety.

**24-Hour Hotline**
- 9,762 calls requesting emergency shelter and crisis counseling; from area police departments to report domestic violence incidents; or seeking referrals and information.

**Employment and Life Skills**
- 170 individuals participated.
- 93% learned helpful skills for job searching.
- 78% applied for at least two jobs.
- 56% learned how to use the internet.

**Sexual Assault and Abuse Counseling**
- 250 adults and children participated.
- 93% of sexual assault and abuse clients increased their coping skills.
- 86% of child survivors learned that the abuse was not their fault.

**Domestic Violence Counseling**
- 827 adults and children participated.
- 92% outlined plans to increase their safety.

**Community Education and Violence Prevention**
- 186 presentations to 4,136 individuals.

This is the impact of your support - THANK YOU!
2017 Financial Position

At The Women’s Center, we practice sound fiscal management and take our obligation very seriously to our donors to use contributions wisely. In conjunction with the Board, our Finance Committee carefully prepares the budget and reviews it monthly.

We are proud of our diligent work in ensuring our continued financial health, allowing us to provide our vital services to all impacted by domestic abuse, sexual violence, child abuse, and trafficking.

Total Public Support & Revenue $2,445,974

Contributions...............$676,361
Special Events..............$283,620
Rent & Contracted Services.....$86,620
Government Grants..........$765,683
United Way..................$281,501
Foundations & Corp. Grants...$267,867
Investment Income...........$84,322
TOTAL.........................$2,445,974

Total Operating Expenses $2,295,884

Shelter..........................$1,075,568
Counseling.....................$202,396
Employment & Life Skills......$107,081
Community Education..........$41,781
Family Support..................$90,534
Transitional Living............$192,678
Management & General........$169,360
Fund Raising....................$416,486
TOTAL..........................$2,295,884
Thank You to All Our Generous Donors!

**Pathway to Peace**

New in 2017, *Pathway to Peace* began with 26 dedicated supporters contributing a monthly gift of $5 or more. To show our gratitude for this consistent, dependable support, these founding members of *Pathway to Peace* received a brick in our entry walkway and are noted in bold font below.

By the end of the year, the program had grown to include 34 donors contributing a total of $988 each month. New members who give $50+ per month will also receive a brick, and all *Pathway to Peace* members receive special perks in appreciation for their support.

Learn more and sign up at www.twcwaukesha.org/pathwaytopeace.

### 2017 Pathway to Peace Members

- **FOUNDER'S CIRCLE** ($25,000 or more)
  - AptarGroup Charitable Foundation
  - Charles E. Benidt Foundation, Inc.
  - Four-Four Foundation, Inc.
  - Greater Milwaukee Foundation
  - Estate of Joan Haupert
  - Dr. Dave Helling and Dr. Bonnie Birk
  - Lannon Stone Foundation
  - Meier Family Foundation
  - Nancy Lindenberg

- **VISIONARY CIRCLE** ($24,999 – $10,000)
  - American Family Insurance Dreams Foundation
  - Elizabeth Elser Doolittle Charitable Trusts
  - Forest County Potawatomi Foundation
  - Hearts for Families
  - Nicholas Family Foundation
  - Orthopaedic Associates of Wisconsin
  - ProHealth Care, Inc.
  - Roehl Foundation, Inc.
  - The Leibowitz and Greenway Family Charitable Foundation
  - Verizon
  - Anonymous Donors (1)

- **LEADERSHIP CIRCLE** ($9,999 – $5,000)
  - American Transmission Company
  - Dr. Ann Bartos Merkow and Dr. Steve Merkow
  - Brewers Community Foundation, Inc.
  - Charles & Elenore Ashley Foundation
  - Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Charitable Foundation
  - Debbink Family Foundation, Inc.
  - Delta Rho Upsilon Fraternity
  - Elm Grove Junior Guild Community Service Committee
  - Elmbrook Rotary Club
  - Greater Milwaukee Foundation
  - Catherine and Walter Lindsay Foundation
  - A. William and Joanne B. Huelsman Fund
  - Diane and John Gruber
  - Alison and Daniel Holub
  - Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation
  - Kolaga Family Charitable Trust
  - Ladish Company Foundation
  - Mallinger Family Foundation
  - National Exchange Bank Foundation, Inc.
  - Pacific Life Foundation
  - Mary and John Poblocki Power Test Inc.
  - Quad/Graphics
  - R.A. Stevens Family Foundation
  - Rapco Inc.
  - Stackner Family Foundation
  - The Allstate Foundation
  - The Catholic Community Foundation
  - The Kroger Foundation - The Roundy’s Fund
  - The Legend Clubs
  - The Priebre Family Foundation
  - The Windhover Foundation
  - Town Bank of Hartland
  - WaterStone Bank Foundation
  - Waukesha County Community Foundation, Inc.
  - Waukesha County Community Foundation
  - Women and Girls Fund of Waukesha County
  - Thompson Family Foundation Fund
  - Sharon and Richard Wood
  - 3M Foundation
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  - Barbara Applegate
  - Aurora Health Care, Inc. - Associate General Counsel
  - Theresa Barry and Aly El-Ghatit
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  - Sandra Bechta
  - Ron and Mary Beckman
  - Michael Beebe
  - Kathleen Berndt
  - Susan and Arthur Blazek
  - BMO Harris Bank
  - Kathleen Boemer
  - Dr. John and Sandy Bolger
  - Boucher Auto Group
  - Randy and Pamela Brzezinski
  - Elaine Burke
  - CAPPs, Inc.
  - Carroll University
  - Catholic Financial Life
  - CDW - Milwaukee Branch
  - Century Fence Company
  - Craig and Megan Cerbins
  - Lillian and William Thiel
  - Clare M. Peters Charitable Trust

**BENEFACTOR** ($4,999 – $1,000)

- 3M Foundation
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- Barbara Applegate
- Aurora Health Care, Inc. - Associate General Counsel
- Theresa Barry and Aly El-Ghatit
- Dr. Eugene and Marilyn Baus
- Sandra Bechta
- Ron and Mary Beckman
- Michael Beebe
- Kathleen Berndt
- Susan and Arthur Blazek
- BMO Harris Bank
- Kathleen Boemer
- Dr. John and Sandy Bolger
- Boucher Auto Group
- Randy and Pamela Brzezinski
- Elaine Burke
- CAPPs, Inc.
- Carroll University
- Catholic Financial Life
- CDW - Milwaukee Branch
- Century Fence Company
- Craig and Megan Cerbins
- Lillian and William Thiel
- Clare M. Peters Charitable Trust
Board President Sarah Grooms at our 2017 Anniversary Luncheon with Elizabeth Smart, Dawn Helmrich, and Executive Director Angela Mancuso.
Willow Creek Apartments
Brian and Kathryn Olson Wismar
Kevin Wood
Dr. Christine Wynveen
Anonymous (11)

ADVOCATE ($499 ~ $100)
The Honorable Shirley Abrahamson
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Ann Dee Allen
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Sharon D'Acquisto
Katherine Dallay
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Kelley Daugherty
Dr. Chris Davies and Jennifer Thompson
Dr. William and Chantal Davies
Corinne Davis
Catherine and Ed DeGroot
Bill and Joan Dehnel
Fawn Delaney
Mildred and Frank Dentice
DeRosa Corporation
Kathi Dietrich
Virginia Dietzler
Kathy Dillott
John and Sheila Dillott
Lauraine Dixon
Cindy Dobberke
Ruth and Chris Dolney
Anne Dougherty
Patty and Bill Downham
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First Congregational
Church of Waukesha
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Maralyn Geason
Katherine Gehl
Ken Genin and Linda Rounseville
Raman Ghei
Toni Gillette
Kate Gilson
Girl Scout Troop #8648

Executive Director Angela Mancuso gets competitive at our 2017 Futures Free From Violence event.

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Werner Zahn
Joanne and Michael Riordan
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Hyunseog Ryu
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Maureen Schuerman
Dian and Mark Selby
Sikich
Richard and Carol Snook
Spring City Garden Club
St. James Congregation
St. William Catholic Church
Carlton Stansbury
Christine Stippich
Paul and David Strelitz
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Richard and Anna Teerlink
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Towers Watson Delaware Inc.
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- CANIF Fund
Waukesha County Executive's Office
Waukesha Floral and
Greenhouses, Inc.
Waukesha Noon Lioness Club

Auctioneer Steve "Homer" True and Emcee
Toya Washington announce the raffle winners
at our 2017 fall gala event, A Noteworthy
Evening.
Theresa and David Phillips
Jessica Phipps
Elmer and Patricia Pire
Constance and Thomas Pire
Brad and Marilee Potter
Karen Potter
Mary Ann and Daniel Prager
Kathi and Mike Preboske
Lynn Preston
Diana and Phillip Price
Sandra Prieb
Karla and Jeffery Priest
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Vivian and Tom Probst
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The Honorable Ralph and Renee Ramirez
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Janet Reesman
Jane Reid
Nancy Rice
Christine and Dennis Richards
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Melissa Ringwall
Jean Ripple
Jerry Ritchie
River Glen Christian Church
Jeanne Rivers
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Judith Rotter Pelt
Christine Rozinski
Mary Ruetten
Christina Ruud
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Jacqueline Salava
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Jean and Leonard Schultz
Mary Beth Schultz
Jaclyn Schulz
Lyn and Jeffrey Schulz
Rosemary Schwantes
Suzanne Schwartz
Ralph and Shirley Schwartz
Rozanne Schwartz
Sally Schweitzer
Lana Scott
Screaming Tuna Asian Bistro and Sushi Bar
Gary Seeling
Gordon Seibert
Joseph and Susan Sevenz
Sheraton Lawns Garden Club
April Short
Gregory Sieckert
Karen Siepmann and Giles Colahan
Chellee Siewert
Johannah Siragusa
Doris Small
Jennene Smarslik
Patrisha Smith
Kathy Smith
Patricia Smith
Susan Sorge
Soul Fire Art Studio
Coleen Southwell
Spano Pratt
Marlyn and Neal Spear
Catherine Spelshaus
James and Mary Spayers-Duran
Joe and Vicky St. George
St. James United Methodist Church
St. Joseph’s Catholic Church
St. Joseph’s Congregation
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Daniel and Shubhangi Stalder
Suzanne Staniszewski
John Starzyk
Jean and Gary Staven
Joyce Steffan
James and Catherine Stein
Megan Steiner
Cynthia Steinert
Julie Steinhafel
Danielle Steinhorst
Laurie Stencel and Terrance Loose
Carrie Stobba
Kimberly and David Stormo
Sandy and Larry Stover
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Sussex Lioness Club
Terry Sutter
Marjorie Sutton
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Systemic Perspectives, Inc.
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Jennifer and Marc Tarkowski
TE Connectivity Corporate
Tenuta’s Italian Restaurant
Mari and Jon Teraoka
Barry and Lisa Tessmann
The Practical Club
The Richards Group
Mark and Cheri Theisen
Linda Thompson
Thrivent
Deborah Tillich
Tops WI 9461 Brookfield
Shelly and Mike Tosh
Jessie Trauth
Karen Trepton
Russ and Karen Trimble
Steve True
Eric and Kim Matrise Tweeden
Mary Ulrich and Mark Nissen
United Methodist Women of CUMC
Van Bier Salon
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Call Riley at 262.522.3813 with questions or to arrange a time to drop off your donation.

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New and unopened in-kind donations help keep our household running! Below are items that are currently most needed.

- Diapers - sizes 4 & 5
- Non-perishable food
- Textured hair products

You can find our full Wish List and additional information on our website, twcwaukesha.org.

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This free four part series provides education on the realities of domestic and sexual violence, and explains The Women's Center's programs and advocacy model.

The next sessions of Advocate Training will be held at The Women's Center on:
• Fri. July 20 from 6pm – 9pm
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Visit www.twcwaukesha.org/volunteer to learn more. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator with any questions at 262.522.3845.
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