

FAMILY PATHWAYS CONNECTIONS



Family Pathways Staff Newsletter

DECEMBER 2020

Connecting with Leadership:

Hello Everyone,

My name is Tony Buttacavoli, and I'm very excited and feel fortunate to be the next executive director at Family Pathways! My passion for helping others comes from personal experiences, and professionally from working in the health and safety field the past 20 years, most recently as director for Isanti County Public Health.

I live in Cambridge with my wife (Laurie) and our four kids: Austin, Allison, Emilia, and Olivia. The kids keep us busy between school, sports, band, and thrifting! We all like to help and participate in community activities in many ways, my grandma Marge even still volunteers at the Chisago City Food Shelf.

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I have had a great relationship with Family Pathways as a professional partner and personally as a community member and cannot wait to directly contribute, collaborate, and lead the vision of "Every Voice, Every Possibility, Every Day".



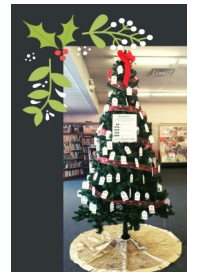
The community and Family Pathways will continue to be uniquely and even increasingly challenged with our mission during these times of greater exposed inequities and injustices during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will continue the great strategies, programs and services that have made Family Pathways so effective and continue to create opportunities to provide them in the community.

Thank you for the wonderful work you do every day!
Happy Holidays,
Tony Buttacavoli

(p.s. my last name isn't as scary as it looks! 'Butt-ah-ka-vo-lee')

Mission Moment

2020 marks the second year of Family Pathways Thrift Stores' Giving Trees, which includes tags encouraging shoppers to donate \$5-\$25 to help families during the holiday season. This year, John B., a shopper at our Forest Lake Thrift Store purchased every tag from the Giving Tree, providing a donation of \$225!



Staff Spotlight:

Caregiver Consulting Services is a personalized service, equipping caregivers with knowledge, skills, and tools to achieve a balanced lifestyle while caring for another person. Caregiver Consultant Jayne Mund has been with caregivers for 6 years through Family Pathways' Aging Program. Jayne was recently nominated as the Employee of the Year Award via North 65 Chamber of Commerce. Recognizing the value of caregiver support work, Manager, Lise Arseneau Lee nominated Jayne: "Caregiving consulting is Jayne's strength. She shines in her work by being a caring empathic community member. Jayne has pivoted in ways to continue to support caregivers as they journey through this new experience of providing care during a pandemic."

Connecting with Staff:

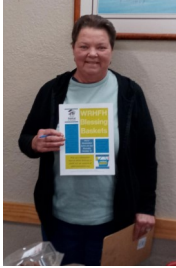
Our Thrift Store leadership team would like to shine a light on our amazing store managers. To say that we appreciate their flexibility and dedication is an understatement. When we reopened our stores, our managers kept the safety and wellbeing of their staff, volunteers and customers top of mind, and they have been exemplary leaders within their stores. They have pivoted with each procedural change, update in hours, staff absences and new challenges Covid had to dish out with a professional and positive attitude. Our Thrift Store operations are vital to Family Pathways, and we simply could not have rebounded as well as we have if it weren't for the amazing leaders we have in each of the stores.

Updates and Information

New hires: Welcome to Joleen Olson (Lindstrom Thrift Store), Jenna Ruschmeie and Livie Huhta (Princeton Thrift Store), Lorena Klassen and Robyn Cran (St Croix Falls Thrift Store), Crystal Schneider (Pine City Thrift Store), Gabrielle Quigley (Forest Lake Thrift Store), Kendal Grant (Ham Lake Thrift Store), and Isaiah Lanrain (North Branch Thrift Store.) We're glad you're here!

Work Anniversaries: Congratulations to Kira Erickson, Maggie Fure, Heather Johnson, Cassandra Klein, Carolann Lamberth, Nicole Ochoa, Mariah Perich, Christina Steiner, Grace Tieden, Debra Vaughan, and Kathy Wills on their December work anniversaries!

Connecting with Volunteers:



- St Croix Falls nominated volunteer Sharon Wakefield from the St. Croix Food Shelf for the Blessing Basket award. The award is through the Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity. Her dedication to her family, community and the food shelf is phenomenal! Sharon has been volunteering for the food shelf since 2012 with 4,290 total hours of service to Family Pathways. We also appreciate everything Sharon has done for us all these years!

- At the Forest Lake Thrift Store we want to recognize volunteer Wanda Fuller (left), and Ellie Metz the Sales Associate. They both have helped out the busy store and go above and beyond!



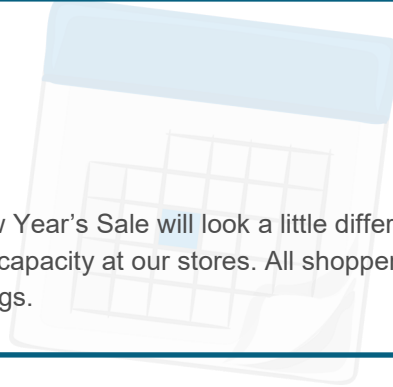
- *From a volunteer:* "I didn't realize how many resources Family Pathways had to offer. Going and volunteering I was able to get some extra help for my friend that was struggling and didn't have enough food. Volunteering makes me feel happier during hard times."

Connect Your Calendar:

Upcoming Events

Thrift Stores:

Family Pathways Thrift Store annual New Year's Sale will look a little different this year. We're scaling back the sale event in an effort to maintain a safe capacity at our stores. All shoppers will save 20% off their purchase, and email subscribers will receive extra savings.



**Connecting with Yourself:
Wellness Tips**

Getting all the zzzzzzzs

Balancing a brand new routine (especially if you have kids) is challenging – no doubt about it. Did you know that sleep affects most of your activities when you're awake? And when you don't wake feeling rested it can impact your well-being? Without enough sleep, we disrupt our body's natural cycle to repair and rejuvenate. Here are some tips to ensure a good night's sleep:

- Create a bedtime routine – even for the adults in your home. A routine helps your mind wind down and helps you recognize when it's time to go to bed.
- Use your bedroom for only sleep (avoid screen time).
- Wake up at the same time every day, even if you go to bed late.

- HealthPartners.com

Open Positions:

- Full-Time Sales Associate - Forest Lake, MN
- Full-Time Sales Associate - North Branch, MN
- Full-Time Sales Associate - St. Croix Falls, WI
- Full-Time Sales Associate - Wyoming, MN
- Part-Time Sales Associate - Princeton,
- Part-Time Sales Associate -Hinckley, MN
- Part-time Sales Associate - Forest Lake, MN
- Part-time Sales Associate- North Branch, MN
- Part-time Sales Associate- St. Croix Falls, WI
- Part-time Sales Associate- Wyoming, MN
- Part-Time Sales Associate-Cambridge, MN
- Part-Time Sales Associate-Pine City, MN
- Shelter Advocate - Cambridge, MN



Do you have a mission moment, photo, announcement, staff person or volunteer you want to celebrate? Email jenniferb@familypathways.org to have it included in the next Connections Newsletter!