

FAMILY PATHWAYS CONNECTIONS



Family Pathways Staff Newsletter

JUNE 2022

Connecting with Leadership:

Thank you to everyone that helped plan, support, donate, work, and join us for Barn Bash! It was great to be back in person with employees, volunteers, donors, and the community who support what we do at Family Pathways. It was an awesome night to eat, socialize, and have some fun with live music, an auctioneer, and local native Ben Dery from KARE11 news. Of course we also shared the stories and need of the people we work alongside with in fulfilling our mission and vision. One thing that made me proud was speaking about how our staff handled the last couple of years of adversity with civil unrest, racial injustice and a 100 year pandemic (to name a few) and approached and responded to each challenge as an opportunity and not just a barrier. You looked for ways to serve differently and better versus reducing or even stopping services. Each department can list many ways this happened: some examples include the creation of Doorstep, so that seniors could still get food even if they couldn't go out; Domestic violence advocates meeting with, advocating for, and attending court with victims virtually over zoom; Food shelves moving to a 'drive up' process for clients and mass distributions; and everyone moving forward to not only "look to see who is around the table" when we plan, implement, and evaluate services but "better prepare the table" to be inclusive so we support our vision of "Every voice. Every possibility. Every Day." Barn Bash is a great venue to see all of this come together and recognize the great work each of you contribute. Thank you and I hope to see you at next year's event! *There was a prop photo booth at Barn Bash, here is a photo of me and most of the Directors having some fun



FAMILY PATHWAYS BARN BASH

MAY 25, 2022

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Tony B.

Mission Moment

A client came into Forest Lake Food Shelf one day and said she was relocating to live with her daughter. She opened up that her husband had been jailed (something she never shared with us before) and the only bright spot for the last year was that Family Pathways was there for her. We were her constant, giving her food and answering her questions, and helping to direct her for other assistance. We looked up where the closest food shelf was for her new address and she laughed and said we were still helping her out. Everyone hugged and cried.

Connecting with Staff Updates and Information

New hires: Welcome to Takoda Cooley, Raven McDaniel (Cambridge Thrift Store), Lily Johnson, Elaine Ragan (Ham Lake Thrift Store), Elizabeth Jansen (Princeton Thrift Store), Austin Boe (Hinckley Thrift Store), Lily Hefty (Pine City Thrift Store), Morgan Stephan (Community Advocate), and Elizabeth Gladitsch (Wyoming Thrift Store.) We're glad you're here!

Work Anniversaries: Congratulations to Jennifer Baker, Magdalene Brostrom, Denise Brown (15 years!), Sandra Dorseth, Christina Gustafson Flanders, Leandra Huisman, Dixon Larson, Laura Martin-Vouk, Ann Michals, Marissa Rossow, April Rudek, Sharon Runberg, and Hannah Van Dyke on their June work anniversaries!

Connecting with Community

SAVE THE DATES:

- **Women's Empowerment Luncheon**— October 22, 2022 11:30 AM @ Maranatha Church, Forest Lake
Also back in person this year is this inspiring event to benefit our Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services

SPREAD THE WORD!

Thrift Store Updates

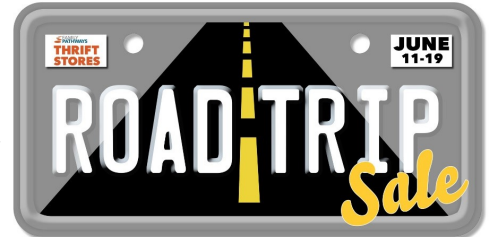
Donation Pickups Available

Family Pathways' partnership with ReSupply is now live, and several donors have taken advantage of the new program. We've had three donors donate furniture and other large quantities of donations in May. Those donations were delivered to the Cambridge store, but all donations are brought to the Family Pathways location nearest the driver's last pick up. The cost is often lower than furniture movers and junk hauler fees, and all items are picked up. Items that are not accepted for donation by Family Pathways is disposed of ethically. Book your pick-up today by clicking on the "Donation Pickup" button on



Road Trip Sale

Load up the car and hit the road. Our most popular sale is back! Family Pathways Thrift Stores' Road Trip Sale is June 11-19. Shoppers can save up to 50%. The more stores you visit, the more you'll save! Learn more at www.familypathways.org/thrift-stores/sales/summer-road-trip/



Share the love on Google and Facebook

We love the love our shoppers are showing us on Google and Facebook. Positive Google reviews help Family Pathways Thrift Stores' Google rankings. If you're a happy shopper, share the love! Each of our 10 locations have their own Google listing that you can visit to review the store or post comments on our Facebook and Instagram pages @familypathwaysthriftstores.

Christie Ann shared her experience at the Ham Lake store via Facebook: "Yesterday I was in Ham Lake for an event, saw your store, and decided to stop in. It was our first visit to a Family Pathways store, I was very impressed by how clean and well organized, not only the store was, but also the items being sold. The displays were set so nicely, it felt more like a small-town boutique than a thrift store. To top everything off, the team member managing the counter was professional and well trained, even when confronted by a difficult customer she stayed calm and friendly. Whatever you are doing keep it up!!!"

Connecting with Volunteers

The Cub Scouts Pack #144 helped volunteer at the Lindstrom Thrift Store

Volunteer Opportunities

Onamia Food Shelf/Store
Doorstep Delivery & Sunshine Calls
Cambridge Mobile Truck
Forest Lake Thrift Store

With the summer months approaching we are looking for extra support at our Thrift Stores. Please fill out the application at www.familypathways.org/volunteer



Connecting with Yourself: Wellness

A Mindfulness Practice for Connecting with Compassion for the World

1. **Turn your attention inward.** See if the breath can flow right through the heart as we hold ourselves like we would hold anyone we love.

Open Positions: Please Share!

Director of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services
Director of Finance and Administration
Full-Time Community Advocate-Pine City, MN
Full-Time Community Advocate-Chisago City, MN
Full-Time Sales Associate - Hinckley MN
Full-Time Sales Associate- Princeton, MN
Full-Time Shelter Advocate-Cambridge, MN
Part-Time Sales Associate -Hinckley, MN
Part-Time Sales Associate- Princeton, MN
Part-Time Sales Associate-Ham Lake, MN
Part-Time Sales Associate-Pine City, MN
Part-Time Supervised Visitation Monitor-Chisago County
Part-Time Supervised Visitation Monitor -Isanti County
Part-Time Supervised Visitation Monitor -Kanabec County
Strategic Initiatives Manager

2. **Bring your awareness to the sensations around the heart.** All the children of the world, just like you, have their own struggles and pain. Offer them these phrases: *I care about your difficulties. May you be held in compassion. May your heart be at peace.*

3. **Connect with tenderness.** Now include the adults too: *I care about your difficulties. May you be held in compassion. May your heart be at peace.*

4. **Now radiate boundless compassion to all beings without exception.** The suffering of the world is vast. And so is the heart that can hold it. *I care about your suffering. I care about your difficulties. May you be held in compassion. May we all be held in compassion. May our hearts be at peace.*

Coming home to this moment, how does your heart feel? Allow whatever's happening in your heart to be there. May we continue to plant the seeds of compassion and kindness.

Do you have a **mission moment**, photo, announcement, wellness tip, staff person or volunteer you want to celebrate? Email [jen-niferb@familypathways.org](mailto:jenniferb@familypathways.org) to have it included in the next Connections Newsletter!



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