



Working Together to Make a Difference

CHIPPEWA OUTREACH OFFICE HELPING INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

EAU CLAIRE, WI., August 16, 2017- The L.E. Phillips Career Development Center started the Outreach Office in 2015 in Chippewa Falls to help individuals experiencing homelessness. It is the only physical building in Chippewa Falls to help those in crisis.

The Outreach Office has many resources to help all individuals and families. When a family is in crisis, they will provide them with food, clothing or housing items they need from the Community Cupboard which are items donated from community members. The Outreach Office collaborates with 18 different companies, county agencies, nonprofits and community members to ensure individuals experiencing homelessness can receive as much help as they need.

The phone number “211” provides individuals with the location of the nearest homeless shelter to stay in at night in case they do not know where one is located. If someone comes into the office and does not have housing for the night, the Outreach Office will ensure they do not have family or friends to stay with first, then they will provide them with a safe and secure place to sleep for the night. In 2016, the Outreach Office helped find homes for 555 individuals.

The Outreach Office has been fortunate enough to partner with the Chippewa Falls Police Department. When the office is closed for the night and police officers come across families or individuals who need help, the officers will help provide a safe place for them to stay for the night with the expectation that they will meet with case management at the Outreach Office the next day.

When a family is about to be evicted, the Outreach Office will help with eviction prevention for the family to get back on track. They also will provide means to help with transportation for individuals to get to their jobs. The Outreach Office does not function without the help of the community members and donated funds to keep the office open.

Every day the Outreach Office has an average of eight new people walk in or call to get help and the resources they need. One of the women who has received help said, “The Outreach Office is an excellent, excellent place to have. There needs to be more places like this and Becky (the Homeless Services Coordinator) is awesome and manages the Outreach Office very well.”

The Outreach Office is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:00AM to 4:00 PM or by appointment. If you would like to donate or are in need of services from the Outreach Office, please call Becky at 715-861-5002.