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May 2026

Thank You to the 2025-2026 Winter Warming Location Partners

MCHH would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the 2025–2026 Milwaukee Winter Warming Locations that opened their doors, and their hearts, throughout this winter season. While Milwaukee experienced a few spring-like days, many nights remained dangerously cold, windy, and snowy. The dedication and compassion of these warming locations ensured that community members had a safe, warm place to go when they needed it most.

Because of these efforts, countless individuals were able to stay warm, safe, and supported throughout the winter months. We are sincerely grateful for the perseverance and commitment of the Guest House of Milwaukee, Joy House, Milwaukee Rescue Mission, Repairers of the Breach, St. Ben's, and Unity Lutheran Church. Thank you for the critical role you played in protecting our community this season.

We also extend a heartfelt thank-you to the partners and funders who made this year's Winter Warming program such a meaningful success. Your collaboration, advocacy, and financial support made a real difference in the lives of Milwaukee residents experiencing homelessness and housing instability. Special thanks to Milwaukee County Housing Services, Institute for Community Alliance (ICA), the City of Milwaukee Health Department, Street Angels, St. Vincent de Paul, and funders including the City of Milwaukee, Greater Milwaukee Foundation, and Milwaukee County.

The 2025–2026 warming season highlighted both the ongoing demand on Milwaukee's homeless response system and the continued progress being made to strengthen coordinated community services. Below are a few key highlights from this season's warming shelter efforts:

- 1,278 individuals were served through warming shelters
- 125 individuals transitioned directly from warming shelters to emergency shelters
- The top racial groups served included Black or African American (834 individuals), White (277), and multiracial individuals (140)
- Adults ages 25–44 represented the largest age group served, totaling 545 individuals
- Single adults represented the largest population served, with 1,099 individuals

Thank you again to everyone who contributed to this season's Winter Warming program. Together, we continue building a stronger, safer, and more compassionate Milwaukee community.



Introducing Wendy Weckler and Gregg Higgins

We are excited to welcome Wendy Weckler as the new Continuum of Care (CoC) Director and Gregg Higgins as the new CoC Compliance Manager for the United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County.

Wendy brings with her decades of experience, leadership, and dedication to serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Before joining United Way, Wendy spent 25 years at Hope House of Milwaukee, where she began her career as a Community Liaison, organizing meetings and engaging directly with community members. Over the years, she advanced into leadership roles, serving as Program Director before becoming Executive Director in 2014.



During her time at Hope House, Wendy led and supported numerous impactful initiatives, including:

- Strengthening and expanding Hope House's efforts to end family homelessness, including the growth of community-based housing and supportive services programs that now serve more than 200 families annually, with more than 94% of participants maintaining stable housing after completing programming.
- Leading the acquisition of St. Catherine's Residence in 2021, preserving 164 units of affordable housing while expanding services for women and families transitioning out of homelessness.
- Overseeing the distribution of more than \$6 million in rental and utility assistance during the pandemic and recovery period, helping more than 1,500 individuals maintain stable housing.

As Compliance Manager, Gregg will continue the grant management and compliance work he previously led at the City of Milwaukee. Gregg brings more than 15 years of experience managing, evaluating, and strengthening homeless service programs across Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.



During his time with the City of Milwaukee, Gregg played a key role in advancing funding and support for Milwaukee's homeless response system, including:

- Securing \$16.2 million for Milwaukee's homeless programs during the most recent grant cycle by spearheading the

collaborative workgroup and authoring the Milwaukee Coalition on Housing & Homelessness's HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) grant application.

- Helping increase Continuum of Care (CoC) NOFO funding by 25% since 2022 through technical assistance, training initiatives, strategic partnerships, and coalition-building efforts.

Wendy and Gregg's longstanding commitment to housing stability and community collaboration will be an incredible asset in their new roles. We wish them continued success in their new roles.

Seasonal Resource Guide Now Available

With spring underway and summer approaching, a variety of resources are available across Milwaukee to support individuals during the warmer months. The MCHH Resource Guide is now available and includes information on where to find assistance. Click the button below to view the guide.

MCHH Resource Guide

Help Shape the Future of Milwaukee



Looking to make a meaningful impact in the Milwaukee community? MCHH member organizations are hiring for a variety of roles that support individuals and families experiencing homelessness and housing instability. Current opportunities include positions with organizations such as The Guest House, Sirona Recovery, The Cathedral Center, Pathfinders, Hope House, and more.

A few current openings include:

- *Shelter Support Staff* – The Cathedral Center
- *Recovery Support Coordinator* – Sirona Recovery
- *Youth & Family Advocate* – Pathfinders
- *Executive Director* – Hope House
- Intake Specialist – The Guest House
- AND MORE!

Join a team that is making a difference every day while helping build a stronger, more compassionate Milwaukee community.

Learn More!

The Milwaukee Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (MCHH) brings together housing providers, emergency shelters, and supportive service organizations united by a shared goal—to prevent and end homelessness in Milwaukee.



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