



***Together we can enrich the quality of life in our community***

The current state of the global economy is posing many challenges to us as a nation, and to us locally as a community. Soup or Socks has seen an increase in the people who have needed help with putting food on their tables and clothes on their backs. Social Services report that more people need help to pay to heat their homes this winter. The School District of Marshfield documents 17 homeless children during this school year and an increase in students receiving free and reduced lunch numbers by 13.7% at area schools. The Marshfield Area Habitat for Humanity saw an increase in applicants for housing last year. The Personal Development Center has seen more women and children needing assistance last month than from the previous nine months combined, as the stresses of the tightened economy rise. The list of need right here in our community continues to increase daily.

Marshfield and the surrounding area have a reputation for being a caring community that is very generous in helping those who have need. It is in these economic times when our community needs to come together to serve the greater good. The mission of the Marshfield Area Community Foundation is to *“connect people who care with causes that matter to enrich the quality of life in the Marshfield area.”* We believe this to be even truer when our community, families, and the world are in greater need than ever.

***You can help us help others.*** Please consider a donation to the Marshfield Area Community Foundation during this holiday season. In giving, you enrich your own life while helping our work of addressing critical and emerging needs from non-profits that feed the hungry, help a family, extend a hand to the needy or provide heat in the cold. We respond to the needs in our community through our Community Grants, Senior Grants, and the Women’s Giving Circle. We provide professional management of all funds to make sure we maximize what your gift can achieve. Please consider donating to the Marshfield Area Community Foundation at PO Box 456 Marshfield, WI 54449.



Amber Kiggins-Leifheit is the Executive Director of the Marshfield Area Community Foundation. Her column appears monthly in the News-Herald.