



CHRISTMAS NOTES

October 2023

We hope you are enjoying the beautiful fall season in Wisconsin. For us, it is time to ratchet up preparations for Christmas. At CCC, making plans for Christmas 2024 began as soon as Christmas 2023 was over. Like most nonprofits, we continue to strive to do better. We are constantly reaching out to find families who need our help to make Christmas a special time for their children. We are expanding partnerships with those who help by volunteering, donating, sponsoring, and spreading the word about our mission. We look forward to working with you this year to share the magic of Christmas.



Ron Weber
CCC Board President

For many of us, planning for the holidays is an exciting time. For others, including parents facing significant financial struggles, Christmas adds to an already full plate of daily stress, anxiety and challenges. Christmas Clearing Council aims to make Christmas a wonderful time for all children, but also strives to ease the burden many parents feel at this time of year. We hope your generosity will provide parents special memories as their children experience a magical Christmas morning.



Sarah Hein
Executive Director



STEPPING INTO THE CHRISTMAS SEASON



On July 16, nearly 180 runners and walkers gathered at The Ingleside Hotel for our second annual Jingle Bell Jog, a 5K run, 2 mile walk and children's fun run. The oldest participant was 83, the youngest just 2. Runners and walkers enjoyed a route along the Lake Country Trail and on the hotel grounds. After crossing the finish line, participants enjoyed food and beverages provided by The Ingleside Hotel, and music by local musician Tony Inzio.

Nearly \$8,000 was raised to support our 2023 Toy Shop and teen gift card programs.

Many thanks to Silver Circle Events, The Ingleside Hotel and our many generous sponsors. (See full list of sponsors on back page.)





THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN SHARE THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



- Sponsor a child/children:** Sign up to sponsor on our website. Deadline is Dec. 3 at 11:59 p.m.
- Donate gift cards:** Children ages 12-18 who are not sponsored receive gift cards. Most requested cards are for Target and Walmart in \$10, \$15 or \$25 denominations. You can:
 - Buy Target gift cards online through our registry and they will be shipped directly to us. Visit www.christmasclearingcouncil.org/donate for registry link
 - Mail cards to CCC, P.O. Box 791, Pewaukee, WI 53072.
 - Drop off gift cards at any Waukesha State Bank drive-through or lobby Nov. 1-Dec. 15.
 - Contact us at info@christmasclearingcouncil.org to arrange for a board or staff member to pick them up.
- Donate money:** Send a check to CCC, P.O. Box 791, Pewaukee, WI, 53072, or donate online by credit card, PayPal or Venmo.
- Volunteer:** Check for volunteer opportunities on our website starting in mid-October.
- Spread the word:** Tell your extended family, friends, co-workers, church members, neighbors, and others about CCC and our mission to help children in low-income families.
- Organize an event:** Try a casual day, a holiday cookie baking or sweater contest, or a project you choose to raise awareness and funds for CCC.
- Refer families:** Do you know a family that is struggling? Encourage them to fill out an application on our website before Nov. 13.

MEET OUR 2023 ANGEL AWARD WINNERS

The Christmas Clearing Council established the annual Angel Awards in 2006 to recognize those in our community who, through special acts of generosity, further the CCC mission of helping families celebrate a more joyful Christmas. We are proud to announce the 2023 recipients.



YOUTH: Oconomowoc High School

For the last five years, Spanish National Honor Society students have raised money for CCC through sales of Colectivo coffee – donating an astonishing \$13,780. In addition, 2019 Society members volunteered at our fundraiser during The Ingleside Hotel’s Country Christmas walk. The students are also valued volunteer guides for our Spanish-speaking clients during our annual one-day Toy Shop.

2022-23 Spanish National Honor Society members.



BUSINESS: Blain’s Farm and Fleet

Blain’s Farm & Fleet in Waukesha has been a valued CCC partner for more than 20 years. In 2001, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2010, the company donated gift cards that were used to buy toys, including popular ride-on toys for toddlers, to help stock our Toy Shop. For several years beginning in 2015, Farm & Fleet also donated pallets of toys, including an extraordinary 13 pallets in 2022.

Store Manager Brian Menne and employees.



INDIVIDUAL AWARD: Lisa Nasinnyk

For more than 16 years, Lisa has donated American Girl dolls and accessories – incredibly special treats for children whose parents struggle to make ends meet. We are also grateful for her work as an office volunteer and her generous efforts as a donor, a sponsor and coordinator of a work-related service project.



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION: School District of Waukesha

Together, these women are consistent advocates for CCC, help families qualify for our services, and provide guidance to many families applying to CCC for Christmas help. In addition, they are a valued resource for our questions related to the Hispanic clients we mutually serve.

Leticia Campos, Jess Huinker, Maria Pieters



ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: Lake Denoon Middle School

We celebrate the industrious students who, under the guidance of technology education teacher Todd Sobczyk, put their newfound skills to use making Hook and Howl games. We are so grateful for their determination to sell the games, and their decision to donate their profit of \$500 to Christmas Clearing Council.

Teacher Todd Sobczyk and Principal Chad Krupar



Christmas Clearing Council
of Waukesha County

Christmas Clearing Council of Waukesha County
P.O. Box 791
Pewaukee, WI 53072

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

- Oct. 9** CCC office opens, family sponsorship matching begins
- Nov.1-Dec. 13** Drop off gift cards at any Waukesha State Bank and toys at any of our drop-off locations
- Nov. 15** Client application deadline
- Nov. 17-19** Ingleside Hotel County Christmas Walk
See <https://www.thecountrychristmas.com/buy-tickets-2/>
- Dec. 3** Last day to apply to sponsor a family
- Dec. 13** Last day for sponsors to deliver gifts
- Dec. 16** Toy Shop

LET'S CONNECT!

christmasclearingcouncil.org

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Instagram: @christmasclearingcouncil

info@christmasclearingcouncil.org

262.771.0909

