Celebrating Our Past - Envisioning The Future

Report to the Community
Dear Friends of We Care:

2017 marked a significant change for We Care with the retirement of long-time executive director Linda Olsen. In May, we hosted a community celebration to honor the 30+ years of Linda's service, to thank her for the tremendous impact she had on our community, and to wish her well in her retirement.

In June, we welcomed Susan Trabucchi as interim executive director. A seasoned nonprofit executive and consultant, Susan is working closely with the board of directors to lead We Care I.N.C. through this important and intentional period of transition and planning.

The full scope of the work is laid out over the course of two years and broken into four distinct phases (see chart on facing page) - though each phase, of course, overlaps and informs the others. Throughout the entire process, however, We Care will not waver from its core commitment to connecting our neighbors in need with resources and help - serving them through our church pantries and ministries, as well as our special seasonal programs.

We are pleased that Susan already has helped us make a number of important changes to prepare us for a strong and vibrant future (see highlights on the facing page). While much of the work of recent months has tended to have an internal focus, we are now turning outward with the launch of our Community Listening Project - an effort to interview, listen to, and engage with a wide array of people, particularly those we serve. The input we gather will give us a clearer picture of evolving community needs and help us envision We Care’s next chapter.

We Care I.N.C. is funded entirely by private donations from churches, community groups, businesses, foundations and individuals; and we are deeply grateful for the generous support of so many. In fact, that support is more important than ever. With your continued help, the end result of this exciting moment in We Care’s history will be an organization that is clear in its purpose, has a strong vision for its future, and is well-positioned to welcome a permanent executive director to lead us there.

Joe Guiltinan
President, Board of Directors

Thank You!

A remarkable group of volunteers devoted countless hours and showed extraordinary commitment to We Care by serving on the Leadership Transition Team. Appointed by the board of directors, these individuals conducted a series of interviews with staff, ministry coordinators, church leaders, donors, and other stakeholders to help identify the most pressing needs for the leadership transition. Based on what they learned, the group recommended the creation of an interim period and managed the search for the interim executive director.

Frank Cunningham, chair
Rev. Jeffrey Dick
Rev. Steve Smalley
Sheryl Postema
Kate Schrank
Jeanne Van Zoeren
Lyn Winkel

Joe Guiltinan
Steve Mackey
(board representatives on the transition team)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Guiltinan, president
Anne Gossman, vice president
Don Hallock, secretary
Paul Layendecker
Steve Mackey
Rev. Dave Meister
Susan Murphey

Ex officio
Susan Trabucchi
Interim Executive Director

Loving and Serving Our Neighbors Since 1982
We Care is in the midst of a two-year, intentional, transition & planning period following the departure of an executive director who had served for most of the organization's 36-year history. Led by interim executive director Susan Trabucchi, the work of this interim period is broken into four distinct phases. The goal? An organization that is clear in its purpose, has a strong vision for its future, and is well-positioned to welcome a permanent executive director to lead us into an exciting new chapter.

Throughout, We Care continues its core missional work to connect our neighbors in need with church ministries and pantries, local programs, and other resources.

A few highlights from the work to date

- **Keeping a sharp focus on our central mission.** Served 600+ families in need. No interruptions in We Care's core work - our clearinghouse role and emergency assistance.

- **Updated** and simplified We Care's mission statement. Revised visual identity and marketing materials to correspond.

- **Reaffirmed** We Care's commitment to its office in Bangor. Expanded number of days office is open, increased staff coverage, and promoted change widely.

- **Made critical investments** in technology and cloud-based software to better serve clients, seamlessly connect South Haven and Bangor offices & reduce costs.

- **Launched** a new website that works on any device, is fully integrated with a new fundraising database, and allows for easy online giving.

- **Expanded** our Christmas meal basket program - our church and community partners made and delivered a record 450 baskets to families in need. No one was turned away!

- **Rejuvenated, strengthened and expanded** relationships with partners, churches, donors and volunteers in Bangor and Covert - and held successful fundraising events and pantry drives in each community.

- **Retooled** the Warm Your Heart campaign to help us raise much-need funds for all We Care ministries - in addition to the heat assistance fund.

- **Concluded** another successful Heat Assistance program in 2018, and helped more than 90 families stay warm this winter.

- **Celebrated** our volunteers and ministry leaders with first annual thank-you event.
Launched in 1982 as an ecumenical project of area churches, We Care I.N.C. is an independent, nonprofit with a simple mission: to serve as a central resource - or clearinghouse - for anyone in our area who needs a helping hand.

We do this by supporting and connecting our neighbors in need with 30+ pantries and ministries run by our member churches; we also direct visitors to a wide variety of human-service agencies, community organizations, support groups, and other resources in our area. We manage our own seasonal assistance funds and short-term programs, and we now serve as a designated site for enrollment in the MI Bridges program offered through Michigan’s Department of Health & Human Services.

Funded entirely by private donations from churches, community groups, businesses, foundations and individuals, We Care I.N.C. is comprised of a small professional staff, more than two dozen volunteer caseworkers, and a network of church-based pantry and ministry coordinators who, in turn, are supported by hundreds of volunteers. We are deeply grateful for every financial gift, no matter the size, as well as every gift of time and talent that we receive.

As a faith-based organization that facilitates ecumenical work among area churches, we take seriously Christ's command to love our neighbors. We strive daily to offer welcome, compassion and help to any neighbor in need, and we gladly collaborate with others who are doing the same. Though we continue to be fueled by our faith tradition, We Care I.N.C. is an independent nonprofit that serves all people - period.
### Beyond the Numbers: Stories of Those We Serve

**Donna**, like so many of our neighbors, works hard, lives paycheck-to-paycheck, and usually keeps up with her monthly bills. She was diagnosed recently with a chronic illness, and though she is grateful that the disease is treatable, Donna ended up missing a full week of work – and the hourly paycheck that went along with it. She fell behind on her bills and arrived in our office in a bit of a panic: her heat was about to be turned off! Thanks to the availability of the We Care Heat Assistance Fund, we paid her bill and helped her avoid the shut off. We Care also connected her to our church-based food and personal care pantries to help ease her financial burden. Donna is now back on her feet and grateful to those who support We Care.

**Joan** came into the We Care office asking for help – she was in an abusive relationship and wanted out. Our caring volunteers offered her a warm and compassionate welcome and helped get Joan into a nearby domestic violence shelter. Two months later, Joan was moving into her own apartment in South Haven. Since she had been forced to flee the relationship, she hadn’t been able to take her belongings with her, and now she was in need of furniture, clothing and housewares. We Care connected her with our ministry partner at Lakeshore Rescue Mission, and Joan took home items she needed in exchange for volunteer time at the store. Joan was thrilled to help others at the store - and now has her own safe space that she can call home.
Income

INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Contributions</td>
<td>$36,129</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church Contributions</td>
<td>$24,028</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$31,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Contributions</td>
<td>$54,924</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organization Contributions</td>
<td>$15,237</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$2,590</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$164,009</strong></td>
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EXPENSES

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff Compensation</td>
<td>$62,689</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payroll Taxes</td>
<td>$4,796</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Aid &amp; Heat Assistance</td>
<td>$19,980</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work Ministry</td>
<td>$3,529</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pantry Support</td>
<td>$21,490</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Service Charges</td>
<td>$55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising Expenses</td>
<td>$615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration (rent, internet, website hosting, office supplies, printing, copying, mailing)</td>
<td>$13,933</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>$2,254</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance - Liability,W/C, D&amp;O</td>
<td>$1,680</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Fees</td>
<td>$1,434</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licenses &amp; Fees</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings, Training &amp; Events</td>
<td>$1,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs &amp; Maintenance (ethernet wiring for both offices)</td>
<td>$3,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subcontract Labor</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telecom &amp; Technology</td>
<td>$8,227</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expense</strong></td>
<td><strong>$181,395</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$181,395</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Operating Income</td>
<td>$-17386</td>
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OTHER INCOME/EXPENSES

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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>$13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dividend Income</td>
<td>$3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrealized Gain</td>
<td>$10,518</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,533</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Other Income</td>
<td>$10,533</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NET INCOME</strong></td>
<td>$-6853</td>
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</table>

My husband passed away this year, and I was embarrassed that I lost track of the finances he used to handle. The people at We Care were so kind - and helped me pay the bill that kept my heat on this winter.

-Lorraine
Financial Report 2017

Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2017

**EXPENSES**
$183,395

- Heat & Emergency Assistance 16%
- Pantry Support 8%
- Program Support & Administration 14%
- Clearinghouse Ministry 62%

**CURRENT ASSETS**
- Checking/Savings Accounts
  - Heat Account - Honor $7,569
  - Checking - Honor CU $54,382
  - Honor-Savings $28,172
  - Honor-TIMM $5
- Total Checking/Savings $90,129
- Petty Cash $50
- Total Current Assets $90,179

**FIXED ASSETS**
- Equipment $45,784
- AID Equipment -$38,541
- Leasehold Improvement $1,983
- AID Leasehold improvement -$1,983
- Total Fixed Assets $7,243

**OTHER ASSETS**
- Edward Jones Investment Account $106,451
- Total Other Assets $106,451
- TOTAL ASSETS $203,873

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**
- Current Liabilities
  - Payroll Liabilities $1,323
- Total Payroll Liabilities $1,323
- Total Other Current Liabilities $1,323
- Total Liabilities $1,323
- EQUITY
  - Capital $2,985
  - Total Designated Funds $47,562
  - Unrestricted Net Assets $158,856
  - Net Income -$6,853
- Total Equity $202,550
- TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY $203,873

It wasn't easy to ask for support when my kids and I were facing hard times. We Care was there for me, and I am so grateful. It feels wonderful now that I can help give back. I loved helping our church this year with Christmas meal baskets!

- Rachel

wecare-inc.org
Thank you to our partner churches!

_Covenant Churches_  
(those who make annual financial contributions in addition to other forms of support)

**South Haven Area**  
Casco United Methodist Church  
Church of the Epiphany  
Emmanuel Community Church  
First Assembly of God  
First Baptist Church  
First Congregational Church  
First United Methodist Church  
Greater Faith Community Church  
Holy Trinity Anglican Church  
Hope Reformed Church  
Kibbie Christian Reformed Church  
Lacota United Methodist Church  
LifeBridge Church  
Peace Lutheran Church  
Principe De Paz  
Solomon's Temple  
St. Basil Catholic Church  
Trinity Baptist Church

**Bangor**  
Church of Christ, Bangor  
First Congregational Church  
of Grand Junction  
Free Methodist Church, Bangor  
Simpson United Methodist Church

**Covert**  
Lily of the Valley Church  
Covert Community Church  
Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church

**Participating Churches**  
(those who offer non-monetary support)

**South Haven Area**  
Church of Christ  
First Pentecostal Church  
Saint Paul Lutheran Church  
South Haven Community Church  
Spiritual Church of Christ  
Unity Church of the Lakeshore

**Bangor**  
First Congregational Church

**Covert**  
First Congregational Church

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### South Haven Office
06321 Blue Star Highway  
South Haven, MI 49090  
Phone: 269-637-4342  
Fax: 269-639-8263

_Open: Monday-Friday_  
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

_Housed at Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, the South Haven office serves the communities of South Haven, Covert, Lacota & Glenn._

### Bangor Office
214 North Walnut Street  
Bangor, MI 49013  
Phone: 269-427-9581  
Fax: 269-427-5891

_Open: Tues, Wed & Thurs_  
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

_Housed at Church of Christ, the Bangor office serves the communities of Bangor, Breedsville & Grand Junction._

wecare-inc.org