

SHARE

SELF HELP AND RESOURCE EXCHANGE



Serving More People... Better

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2008-09



SHARE

Bringing Us Together For Food And Community

MISSION

SHARE brings people together to build and strengthen community through volunteer service. SHARE enables communities to respond to basic needs and provides access to good, nutritious food at reduced cost through a self-help distribution system. SHARE fosters the dignity and self-worth of each person and acts from a commitment to serve the common good.



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LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

In a time of rapidly increasing need, SHARE's main focus during this past fiscal year was to serve more people and do it better. By bringing on new Classic SHARE food pick-up locations, expanding the Mobile Market in underserved areas of Metro Milwaukee, and launching a new online ordering system, SHARE strengthened its presence in the community as a lifeline for families to stretch their budgets in an extremely difficult economy.

These tough economic times remind me of when SHARE started in the 1980s. Back then, a deep economic downturn brought stark new economic realities for thousands of families. Now, a historic recession coupled with corporate downsizing, lay-offs and a foreclosure crisis are having a huge impact on families and communities. In the last fiscal year alone participation in SHARE grew by 28% compared to the previous year, and members of our volunteer-run food buying club saved a total of nearly \$1.5 million on groceries.

My involvement with SHARE began in the mid-80s when a core group of volunteers came together to make a difference. The fledgling organization's first food distributions utilized a donated loading dock in downtown Milwaukee to serve around 1,400 families in southeastern Wisconsin. I remember helping bag produce and purchasing food packages for families in need.

Now SHARE serves over 8,800 families every month in nearly 200 communities throughout the entire state of Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, northern Illinois and northeastern Minnesota. By the end of our fiscal year the

Mobile Market, initiated in 2008, served nearly 300 families every month in more than a dozen Milwaukee-area neighborhoods with increased access to nutritious, affordable foods.

The beauty of SHARE is its focus on building communities' volunteer capacity to serve their own needs. Because SHARE is rooted in a self-help model that invites volunteerism, in this time of increased need we have seen a parallel increase in volunteers stepping forward to help their communities. In addition to new volunteers pitching in at existing pick-up sites, 20 new volunteer teams started bringing the Classic SHARE program's savings on food to new communities.

One extraordinary example of this occurred in early 2008 when a newspaper ran a story about the already existing SHARE site in Superior, Wisconsin. The Superior SHARE site quickly grew from around 60 families every month to nearly 600! Since then, area volunteer groups have stepped forward to create seven new pick-up locations in the area of northeastern Minnesota surrounding Duluth.

Without over 1,000 volunteers who give their time to SHARE every month, none of this would be possible. I would like to especially thank the Classic SHARE and Mobile Market site coordinators for their extraordinary commitment to serving their communities. The board of directors and staff should also be commended for their hard work to lead the organization through this time of increased need. And I invite you to help us create the future for SHARE while we strive to continue serving more people, better.



John Wilberding
SHARE Board President

A Time Of Unprecedented Need



In late 2008 and 2009, the national economy entered the worst recession since the 1930s, dealing a staggering blow to the local economies of the Upper Midwest. Mass layoffs, vanishing retirement funds, reduced home values and widespread home foreclosures created difficult new economic realities for thousands of families. Meanwhile, the economic struggles intensified for those with limited incomes. As family budgets tightened or collapsed, parents began skipping meals so their children could eat and the lines at food pantries stretched to historic lengths. Limited or uncertain access to nutritionally adequate and safe foods, known as food insecurity, increased to record levels.

	Residents Living In Poverty	Food Insecurity	Very Low Food Security
Wisconsin	10.4%	10.1%	3.7%
Michigan	14.4%	12%	4.4%
Illinois	12.2%	11.1%	4.1%
Minnesota	9.6%	10.3%	4.1%
Milwaukee	23.4%	not available	not available

#11

Milwaukee's rank among the nation's poorest cities, 2008

8.9%

Increase of Milwaukee residents living in poverty, 2000-2008

#1

Rank of food assistance requests to Milwaukee 2-1-1 referral service

37%

Increase in Wisconsin SNAP (food stamp) caseload, September 2009

27%

Increase in demand to Milwaukee-area food pantries

11%

National increase in food insecurity 2007-2008, highest ever recorded

"About a year and a half ago, I lost my job and had to accept a new job at a reduced salary. SHARE's savings, great quality food and wonderful service we get from the Lake Superior SHARE site have really made our lives better. Thanks, SHARE!"

DEE WESTERMANN SHARE MEMBER
LAKE SUPERIOR, SUPERIOR, WI

Sources: US Census Bureau: "American Community Survey, 2007 and 2008", USDA Economic Research Service: "Household Food Security in the United States, 2008", Hunger Task Force: "February 2010 QuickFacts" and October 9, 2009 Press Release, Wisconsin Department of Health Services: "FoodShare Wisconsin Program at a Glance"

SHARE Steps Up Its Response

In a time of heightened need, SHARE strengthened its role as an essential resource for an increasing number of families. Everyone is welcome to save 30-50% on food through SHARE's community-based distribution systems. As a primarily self-funded 501-C-3 nonprofit, there are no eligibility requirements or income limits. SHARE relies on a volunteer workforce to provide savings on food, so there are thousands of opportunities for volunteer involvement for people of all ability levels.

A monthly selection of fresh fruits and vegetables, frozen meats, canned and dry goods, organic produce and convenience items are offered through SHARE. The Classic SHARE program works much like a food co-op: members order food early in the month and pick up toward the end of the month. Assorted food packages are available or members can select items a la carte.

As the need in the community increased, Classic SHARE responded by both serving more people and increasing volunteerism. Twenty new Classic SHARE host sites opened this year, including seven in northeastern Minnesota. Participation overall was up 28% over the previous year.

SHARE's Mobile Market program established monthly sales at twelve new partner organizations in Milwaukee-area neighborhoods where conventional grocery stores are scarce. See page 6 for more details on this exciting new initiative.

Increasingly, the community recognizes SHARE as a leader in food security. TV stations, radio stations and newspapers ran over 20 stories on SHARE. The organization was invited to participate in nearly two dozen community events where staff and volunteers spread the word about SHARE as a resource for families.

BY THE NUMBERS

30-50%

SHARE savings compared to grocery store prices

16

Mobile Market locations

0

Eligibility requirements to purchase food through SHARE

212,161

Total hours given by SHARE volunteers

8,833

Families SHARE serves in an average month

\$3,182,415

Estimated value of SHARE volunteers' time

28%

Increase in participation over last fiscal year

10,643

Total hours given by main office/warehouse volunteers

\$3,712,817

Cost of food to SHARE members

14,612

Holiday dinner packages distributed

\$5,197,944

Cost of that same food in supermarkets

\$7,815

Value of excess food SHARE donated to food pantries

\$1,485,127

Savings obtained by SHARE members

64%

Increase over prior year in Quest/Link/Bridge card (food stamp) purchases

185

Total SHARE host site pick-up locations

\$74,100

Value of SHARE warehouse space utilized by Milwaukee-area food pantries, social service providers and local food networks

20

New communities served by Classic SHARE

HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS



MOBILE MARKET

Mobile Market

SHARE started Mobile Market in the summer of 2008 to combat areas known as food deserts in Metro Milwaukee. Food deserts are geographic areas where traditional supermarkets are scarce. In these neighborhoods, the only convenient food retail sources are corner stores where typically the selection of

healthier foods is limited while prices are high. Lack of access to fresh fruits, vegetables and other healthy products in food deserts has been linked to higher rates of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, cancer and premature death. Research at Mobile Market sites has found that a high number of customers had eaten less than they felt they should due to limited budgets. By the end of this fiscal year, Mobile Market's sixteen sites served an average of nearly 300 families per month with an affordable selection of good, nutritious foods.

By eliminating the pre-order requirements of the Classic SHARE model, Mobile Market lets customers shop just like in a grocery store. They can also see and touch the food as they make their selections. All sales are held at community organizations that have partnered with SHARE to better serve their clients and the surrounding communities. Nutrition education has also been offered to Mobile Market customers through a partnership with the Milwaukee County UW-Extension Nutrition Education Program. In addition, SHARE has worked with Badgerland Produce Co-Op Auction to increase the amounts of local produce offered in these communities.

Online Ordering

The fall of 2008 brought the debut of online ordering for SHARE, and by the end of the fiscal year over 1,200 families were using it to shop for SHARE food every month. Not only has this increased the accessibility and ease of ordering food for members, it has streamlined paperwork and payment processes for SHARE volunteers. An added benefit is that members can quickly identify their closest pick-up site online.

SHARE The Season

During the holidays, SHARE offers complete and affordable holiday dinner packages through its distribution networks. Each of these packages serves a family of six with a complete and festive holiday meal for just \$25. In 2008, SHARE distributed 10,612 Thanksgiving Dinner Packages and 4,000 Christmas Dinner Packages. Many SHARE host sites, other community organizations and church groups also raised money to distribute SHARE holiday packages to families in need. In addition, SHARE's staff and board raised funds to purchase holiday dinner packages for 69 families through a Christmas Challenge campaign.

FEMA Food Pantry Purchasing Program

SHARE also puts its bulk purchasing power to work for Milwaukee-area food pantries. Hunger Task Force, a local administrator for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Food and Shelter Program, has designated SHARE as a vendor to help food pantries stock their shelves. During the 2008-09 fiscal year, eight food pantries stretched the value of over \$28,000 by purchasing food through SHARE. In addition, SHARE donated storage space valued at \$74,100 to pantries and other community organizations.

Mitten Plus Project

A group of volunteers meet at SHARE's main office once a month to create beautiful handmade blankets, hats, mittens and scarves. Volunteers of the Mitten Plus Project exchange knowledge and techniques as they knit for a good cause. Finished goods were donated to organizations such as St. Vincent de Paul, Joy House, Hope House and Rescue Mission, providing not only warmth from the cold but for the heart as well.



FINANCIALS

Financial Position as of September 30, 2009

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 204,779
Accounts Receivable	114,597
Inventory	104,211
Prepaid Expenses	10,649
Total Current Assets	434,236

Investments	536,490
Property and Equipment	43,673
Other Assets	0

Total Assets \$ 1,014,399

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$ 264,284
Accrued Liabilities	34,167
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	11,313
Total Current Liabilities	309,764

LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

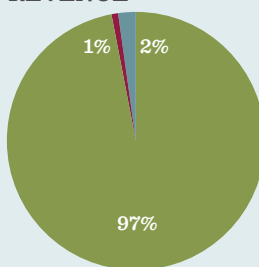
Long-Term Debt	0
Total Liabilities	0

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	704,635
Temporarily Restricted	0
Total Net Assets	704,635

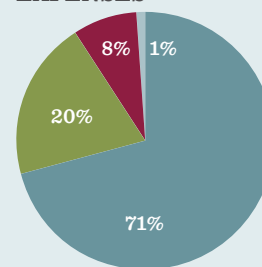
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS \$ 1,014,399

REVENUE



■ Food Revenue
■ Other Income
■ Grants & Donations

EXPENSES



■ Food Purchases
■ Other Programs
■ Management & General
■ Fundraising

Thank you to our donors

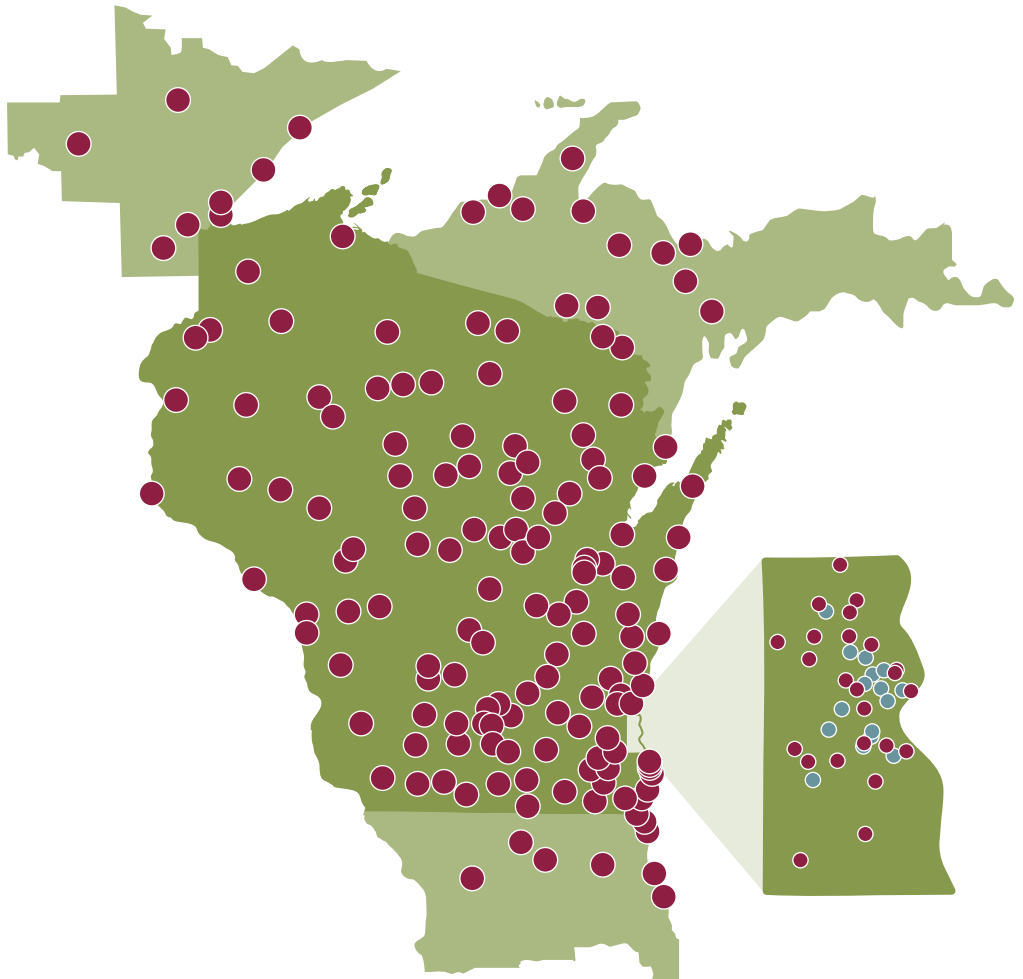
- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
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| <i>Augustine Financial</i> | <i>Paula Homuth</i> | <i>Bonnie Stollenwerk</i> |
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| <i>Darryl D. Davidson</i> | <i>Jericho Resources</i> | <i>Cameron Yazdani</i> |
| <i>Lawrence R. Earll</i> | <i>Thomas G. McGinnity</i> | |
| <i>Paulette Flynn</i> | <i>Deanna Metzger</i> | In-Kind: |
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| <i>Penelope Groth</i> | <i>Roger E. Springman</i> | |
| <i>Henneman Engineering</i> | <i>J. A. Steinberg</i> | |



SHARE LOCATIONS

● Classic SHARE

● Mobile Market



SHARE

PO Box 403
13111 W. Silver Spring Drive
Butler, Wisconsin 53007

800-548-2124 *toll-free*
262-783-2500 *phone*
262-783-2515 *fax*

www.sharewi.org
info@sharewi.org