



SHARE

SELF HELP AND RESOURCE EXCHANGE

Bringing Us Together For Food And Community

Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2006-07



SHARE



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

What is it like not to have enough food, or visit a grocery store and not be able to afford all that you and your family need? For over 500,000 Wisconsinites and thousands of families in northern Illinois and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, affording enough food is a very real challenge on a regular basis.

In light of recent record high prices for food, fuel and other necessities, the number of families who need to stretch their budgets is growing. That is why SHARE is such an important community resource. During the 2006–07 fiscal year, SHARE helped over 7,000 families purchase food at a fraction of the cost of traditional options.

In fact, for over 22 years SHARE has been open to all who are interested in saving money on food and giving back to their communities. The organization has no eligibility requirements; people of every background are welcome.

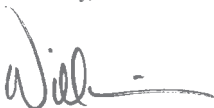
SHARE is not only about making nutritious, low-cost food available. SHARE also provides a way for people to reach out and care for each other. It is about addressing the critical need for reasonably priced, quality food while creating a sense of community among people who might not otherwise ever come in contact with one another. Every month, volunteers of all walks of life gather at churches and community centers in nearly 200 communities to offer neighbors a smile, a cup of coffee, a reassuring handshake and, of course, some good food.

And while SHARE's traditional distribution model works wonders for thousands of families every month, we know we can do more—especially for urban areas known as “food deserts” which lack convenient access to affordable, nutritious food. To address this critical need, SHARE is exploring new food distribution alternatives that will bring good food at great prices to Milwaukee-area neighborhoods that are not currently well served by conventional grocery stores.

SHARE operates without any government grants. It is only successful because of the generosity of people who volunteer and organizations that financially support this nonprofit's unique mission.

To everyone who has been a part of helping SHARE strengthen individuals, families and communities, I am honored to extend heartfelt thanks on behalf of the Board of Directors and staff. To those who have not yet been involved, we thank you for taking the time to learn more about the organization and look forward to the possibility of working with you in the future.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Martin", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

William Martin
SHARE Board President

THE NEED

With costs for food, fuel, healthcare and utilities climbing ever higher, people with limited and fixed incomes are finding a greater and greater need to stretch their budgets.

11%

Wisconsin residents (580,000) living in poverty (2006 Census)

9%

Wisconsin population lacking sufficient food—1 out of 11 households (USDA Economic Research Service)

12%

Food insecurity among Michigan residents (USDA ERS)

10%

Illinois population without sufficient food (USDA ERS)

26%

Milwaukee residents living in poverty (2006 Census)

#7

Milwaukee's ranking among the nation's poorest cities (2006 Census)

15%

Median household income decrease in Milwaukee from 2000–2006 (2006 Census)

70%

Increase in Wisconsin FoodShare (food stamp) caseload 2002–2007 (Wisconsin Dept. of Health & Family Services)

#1

Rank of “food assistance” among reasons people called 2-1-1 in Milwaukee in 2006 (IMPACT)



HELPING FAMILIES SAVE ON FOOD

Throughout Wisconsin, northern Illinois and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, every month hundreds of SHARE volunteers get an early start on a Saturday morning—often before dawn—so that they can serve their communities with savings on food. The SHARE teams gather with family, friends and neighbors at a local church, senior center or fire hall. They greet each other with smiles and warm cups of coffee as they wait for the truck to arrive—and for the magic of SHARE Day to begin.

Over the next several hours, nearly two hundred SHARE volunteer teams unload food from trucks, organize the paperwork, assemble food packages, help members get food to their vehicles and clean up. They do all of this out of the kindness of their hearts—because they know they are helping families in their community save money on food.

But this is just the culmination of the month's activities. In preparation for SHARE Day, volunteers have been promoting the program by distributing flyers and talking up the program at resource fairs and community events. They have been

taking and tracking orders, doing the bookkeeping and recruiting volunteers.

All of this demonstrates not only SHARE's work to help people save money on food, but also our mission to build and strengthen community through volunteer service. When volunteers come together, something amazing happens. People who might never cross paths create new bonds, strengthening communities that in so many instances are becoming more and more isolated.

The holidays are an especially important time to bring people together for food and community. Our annual *SHARE The Season* campaign offers complete Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner Packages to not only SHARE members, but also to families in need. Partner organizations such as churches, social service organizations and unions purchase holiday dinner packages and donate them to families in need. Regular SHARE host site volunteers also solicit donations from the community for the purchase of dinners for local families.

2006-07 By The Numbers

30-50%	Amount SHARE members save compared to grocery store prices
0	Eligibility requirements to purchase food through SHARE
7,000	Families SHARE serves in an average month
\$2,545,003	Cost of food to SHARE members
\$3,563,004	Cost of that same food had SHARE members bought it in supermarkets
\$1,018,001	Savings obtained by SHARE members
186	SHARE host site pick-up locations
169,667	Total hours given by SHARE volunteers at host sites
\$1,700,000	Conservative estimate of the value of SHARE volunteers' time
8,356	Total hours given by volunteers at SHARE's main office/warehouse
124	Average number of monthly volunteers at main office/warehouse
15,276	Holiday Dinner Packages distributed through SHARE
\$6,194	Value of food SHARE donated to local food pantries
15%	Increase in Quest/Link card (food stamp) purchases through SHARE over previous year
\$11,960	Value of SHARE warehouse space used by Milwaukee-area food pantries, social service providers and local food networks

OTHER PROGRAMS

Leadership Development Program

Funded by the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Ernest and Florence Weitzer Fund, this program engaged SHARE's volunteer leaders to empower their visions for their communities. The process has taken SHARE's mission of building community one step further by creating opportunities for grassroots leaders to take innovative action in response to critical human needs. 157 host site leaders participated in workshops that allowed them to find their voices to speak up about issues and problems as well as their hopes for their communities. In the process, they expressed their own experiences of leadership, validating each other and learning in peer-based exchange. They also focused their vision for the work of their host sites: to meet the basic food needs of low-income people. Another result is SHARE's exploration of new food distribution models, focusing on the Metro Milwaukee area. In this fiscal year, SHARE initiated feasibility studies on the concepts of mobile food sales and a community-based grocery store.

Mitten Plus Project

Every month, a team of volunteers meets at SHARE's main office to share knitting knowledge and techniques as they create beautiful handmade clothing and blankets. These items are then donated to people in need. During the 2006–07 fiscal year, the Mitten Plus Project crafted and donated hundreds of items to dozens of organizations such as Hope House, St. Vincent De Paul, Froedert Hospital and The Rescue Mission. The articles not only provide physical warmth; they bring joy into the lives of the recipients as well.

FEMA Food Pantry Purchasing Program

In 2006, SHARE was approved as a vendor for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Food and Shelter Program. The program grants funds to food pantries for the purchase of food to stock their shelves. During SHARE's 2006–07 fiscal year, a total of seven Milwaukee-area food pantries purchased over \$36,000 of food through the organization, capitalizing on SHARE's purchasing power. SHARE sees this work as an important service to the area's food security provider network.



Developing Community Leaders

“All people have the seeds of leadership within them. SHARE provides fertile ground and sprinkles some water. But it is the volunteers of all ages and ability levels who do the work of growing and blossoming into people who can lead and be led with dignity. We support our volunteer leaders and cheer them along the way. But just like the food works as a tool to bring people together, SHARE, just by its nature, cultivates peoples' natural leadership skills.”

—Rosie Loser, SHARE Director of Community Leadership

Bits & Bites Computer Club

Along with technology partner Digital Campfires Foundation, SHARE has built on the successes of a volunteer-run computer refurbishing project initiated in 2006. In FY 2006-07, over 40 refurbished computer systems were distributed to key SHARE volunteers, who are now taking their first steps in the digital world. To support these new computer users, in 2007 the Bits and Bites Computer Club began providing monthly software tutorials, question and answer sessions and guest speakers. As SHARE volunteers continue to broaden their computer literacy, they are learning to track SHARE orders and explore electronic communities.

Learning for Life Food & Nutrition Workshops

Funded through a generous grant from the Cornerstone Foundation in Green Bay, SHARE offered a series of workshops that included hands-on cooking classes from Personal Chef Tony Lison, as well as information on saving money on food through SHARE. The workshop series was designed for clients of Salvation Army and St. Vincent de Paul House of Hope transitional living programs, in collaboration with Catholic Charities, the Salvation Army and the SHARE host site in Ashwaubenon. The series helped prepare 14 women to take charge of their food budgets, with information on meal planning, cooking, nutrition, budgeting and how to shop for food. Besides practical skills, the series also taught the women skills for building better relationships.

Support from the Philanthropic Community

“The Greater Milwaukee Foundation has been pleased to support SHARE’s efforts to provide food and develop leadership in our community. We believe that our investment in their work has been money well spent and look forward to other opportunities to partner with them in the future.”

—Jim Marks, Greater Milwaukee Foundation

Financial Position As Of September 30, 2007

Assets

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 65,897
Accounts receivable	38,650
Inventory	46,130
Prepaid expenses	15,430
Total Current Assets	166,107

INVESTMENTS	647,778
PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT	39,880
OTHER ASSETS	0

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 853,765

Liabilities & Equity

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$ 92,978
Accrued liabilities	19,966
Current maturities of long-term debt	2,736
Total Current Liabilities	115,680

LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

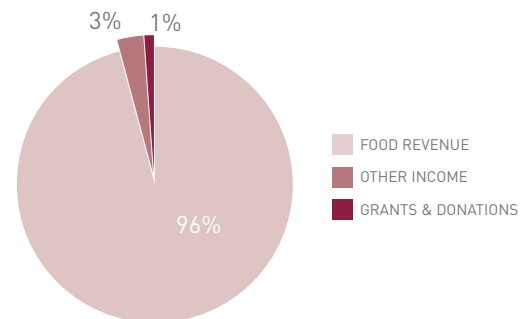
Long-term debt	\$ 0
Total Liabilities	115,680

NET ASSETS

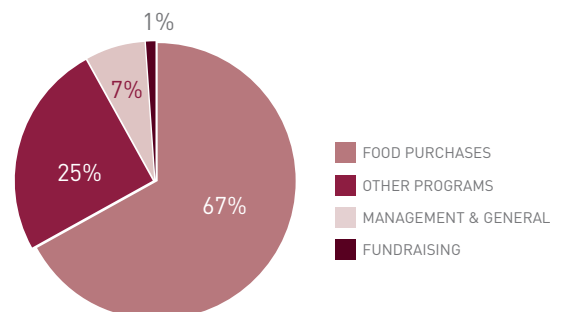
Unrestricted	\$ 738,085
Temporarily restricted	0
Total Net Assets	738,085

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS \$ 853,765

REVENUE FY 2006-07

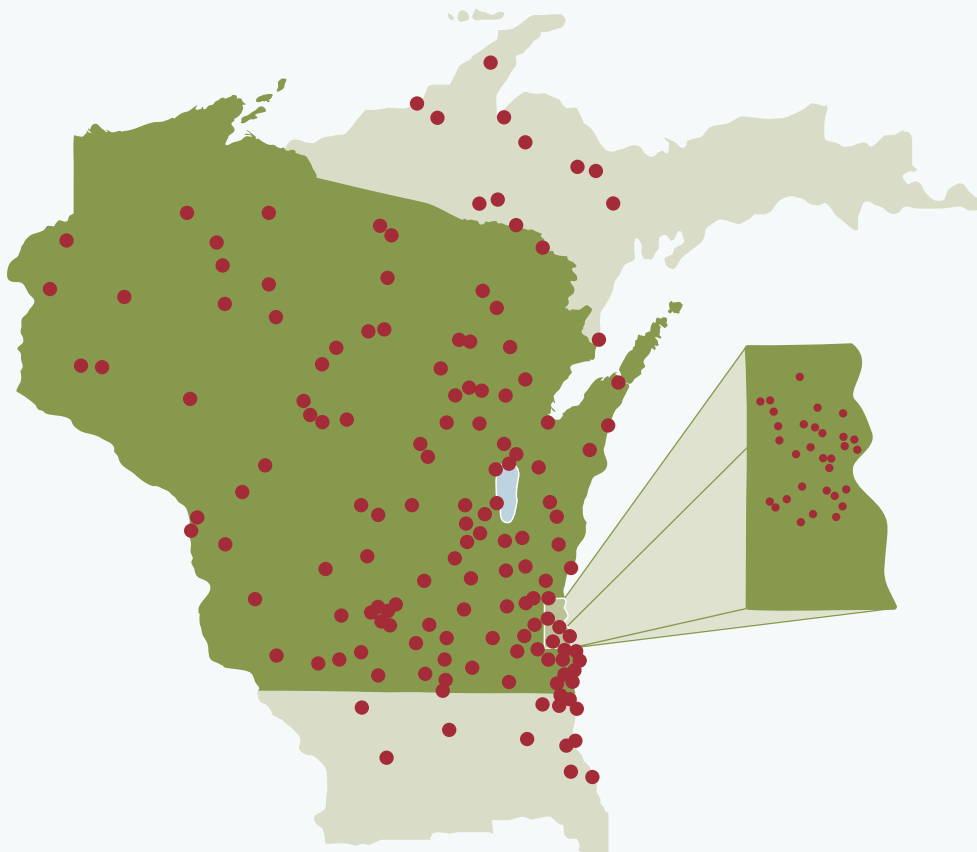


EXPENSES FY 2006-07





SHARE Host Site Locations



SHARE

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

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