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Mission Blossoms into a Place of Hope

Cooperating Congregations of Waukesha County Becomes 'Hope Center'

Waukesha, WI – November 15, 2009 - What started in 1987 as a small group of pastors from the Waukesha area has grown into a mission supported by more than 100 area congregations. Cooperating Congregations of Waukesha County (CCWC) has been serving the basic needs of financial assistance, food, clothing and child care in the area for more than twenty years.

According to Rev. Ted Romberg, President of Hope Center, the new name embodies the organization's faith-based roots and, at the same time, shouts out what the organization provides to the community. The organization doesn't want to appear exclusive either. The new name will be more welcoming to the many supporters and volunteers who are not part of a congregation and Hope Center is available to anyone in the community with a need. The organization has clearly moved beyond congregational service to the community as a whole.

But according to Ralph Zick, Executive Director of Hope Center, changing the name is just the beginning. With the rise of unemployment, more and more people are in need of help and what they need is changing as well. Hope Center plans to continue to evolve and provide new and better solutions to handle the growing needs of the community.

Hope Center is a non-profit organization that is committed to serving people in need in Waukesha County. In 2008, Hope Center provided over 30,000 direct units of service with its eight different programs and is continually the number one referral source from 211/First Call for Help.

For more information on Hope Center and how you can give or receive help, please call 262.549.8726 or visit their web site at www.hopecenterwi.org.

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