



Winter /Spring 2024
Volume 1, Issue 2

Welcome to our second edition of the Seneca County House of Concern Newsletter. We hope you enjoy looking through the photos of the changes we have made and the actions we have taken.

Here at the House of Concern, our mission is simple and profound: to feed minds with knowledge, stomachs with food, and hearts with hope.

We are committed to helping our neighbors navigate the toughest times in their lives. From ensuring that no resident goes to bed hungry, to making sure they have the basic necessities of life like furniture and clothing, we are here to help.

Thrift Shop Hours

M,W,F - 10-4

T, Th - 10-6

1st Sat of the month - 10-2

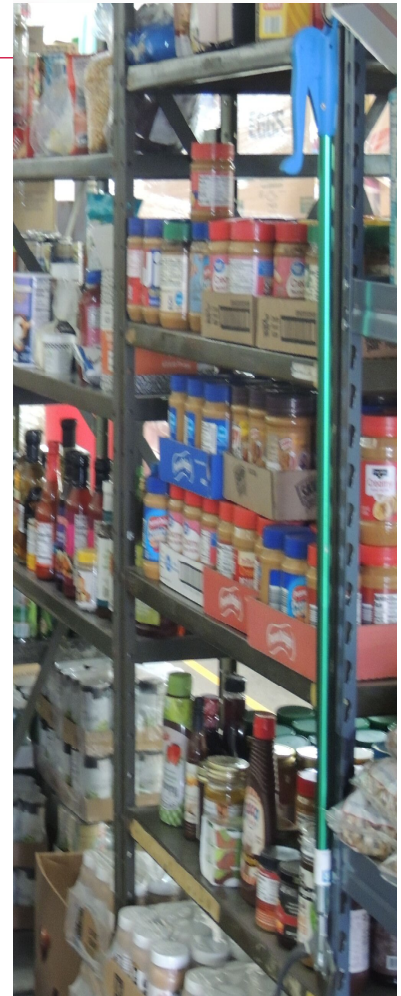
Pantry Hours

M,W,F - 10:30 - 3:30

T, Th - 10:30 - 5:30

By appointment only!

We are not able to accept any exercise equipment, older box TVs, computers, and computer monitors or printers. Also, we can no longer accept beds or bed frames and headboards or foot boards. Please do not leave them outside in front of our building.



THE BOARD

Mike Bellone, President

Cheryl Bonetti, Vice Pres.

Linda Knight, Treasurer

Brad Benson, Secretary

Elizabeth Becht

Virginia Konz

Molly Lahr

Johanna Macdonald

Sharon Morehouse

Kathy Sigrist

Kathy Sinkiewicz

Debbie Swenson



MEET OUR STAFF

Delores Morgan

Executive Director (started 8/15/13)

Delores was raised in Romulus NY. As she came from a big family with seven siblings, she describes her childhood experience as one of “being without”. Delores believes this helps her identify with many of our HOC customers. She now lives in Seneca Falls with husband, Harry, who is head custodian at Mynderse Academy. Harry and Delores have been married for 36 years and they have two sons (Richard, 35 & Allan, 30). They have been blessed with four grandchildren (Riley, Reese, Michael and Colton). Delores started at the House of Concern in 2013 as a Food Pantry associate. She then moved swiftly up the line as she was made Store Manager and then was elevated to Director in 2019. She says she “simply just loves to help people”.



Jordan Colegrove

Administrative Assistant (started 9/6/23)

Jordan is the newest employee at the House of Concern taking on the role of Administrative Assistant to the director. Jordan was born and raised in Waterloo and made it her goal to give back to her own community.

In previous years, Jordan has worked in the restaurant industry, and as Administrative assistant at a utility company. Jordan is 21 years old and looking to have her own real estate properties in her future. She loves helping her community and appreciates the “family dynamic” that the House of Concern has. She is motivated to do her best and learn along the way!



Andrew Luffman

Floater (started 1/3/23)

Andrew is back at the House after a seven-year stint (2011-2018) when he was a cashier and front-end employee. He was born and raised in Seneca Falls and lives there still with his folks. He has had a variety of jobs over the years from dishwasher to cleaning service employment. Andrew helps out with almost anything including sorting donations, register, garbage runs, and anything else the HOC needs. He says he is very happy to be back!



Mike Penta Floater (started 10/23/23)

Mike was born in South Korea and was adopted by American parents at birth. Originally from Phelps NY, Mike and his parents moved to Geneva over thirty years ago and he still lives there. Mike has a passion for animation and drawing and has had a book of his drawings published. Mike worked at a food packaging company before coming to the House. He has a

2 four-year-old son and really enjoys helping people. He's very happy to be on board again and is part-time.



Gina Pierce Floating (started 4/11/22)

Gina was born in Geneva. Although raised in Las Vegas, Gina made her way back to Seneca Falls for the past 24 years. She has 20 years of experience in the restaurant industry, is married, and has three daughters. Her job at the House of Concern is not limited, as she does many tasks; no two days are alike. She likes to help people and make sure all is taken care of. As a child, Gina’s dream was to be a drill sergeant.

Kelly Von Bergen Pantry (started 5/6/23)

Kelly is Seneca Falls born and raised. She has been a machinist--with three years at the Seneca Knitting Mill where she oversaw twenty-four machines, and at Parker Hanson Hydraulics. She is married with one daughter and she enjoys being a stay-at-home mom when she can. Her principle focus at the House is the Pantry. She began here part-time to help Mike Penta as he transitioned to part-time and then she went full-time when he left. She does intake for the pantry clients and looks forward to computerizing all that that entails. She believes she has joined “a great team.”



In memory.....

Cyndi Wing was a proud member of the Seneca County House of Concern for 20 years. Throughout her 20 years she has made an abundance of friends and acquaintances through customers and employees. While any customer who has passed through has shared their kind and touching moments with Cyndi, the employees have a plethora of moments and kinds thoughts to share.



While interviewing the employees for moments between them and our loving friend these are some things that were expressed...

Cyndi was a kind, sweet, funny and dedicated individual. She always put herself before anyone else and would take the shirt off her back to help anyone in their times of need. She always knew when someone was having a rough time and just needed someone to listen (although advice was given when asked).

Cyndi gave her heart and soul to the House of Concern but would never leave her family and children behind. She was always a reliable friend, employee, wife, and mother. While she will be truly missed, she was always the light in the dark room, she did anything she could to keep customers as well as employees happy and smiling.

Everyone at the House of Concern stated that she was a great person to work with as she had a great sense of humor and was a great friend. One employee even stated they “Loved that women to death”.

As we all can tell Cyndi was (and is still) a very important part of the House of Concern, She will be truly missed but will always stay in our minds and hearts. The world was truly a better place with Cyndi Wing in it.

Behind the scenes at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner

A Joint Project between

SC House of Concern

SC United Way

Seneca Falls Elks

Spotted locally at several parades! Our very own House of Concern float built by staff members

The 2023 Community Thanksgiving was dedicated to Dan Taber (of Dan's Design Landscape Construction LLC):

- 1200 meals provided including nearly 1000 pick up/deliveries covering all of Seneca County and many workers/first responders (law enforcement, dispatch, ambulance, etc) working on Thanksgiving Day
- More than 100 volunteers covering 1000+ hours over 6 days
- 100 turkeys, 30 cases of stuffing, 9 bushels of apples, 1400 rolls, 350 pounds of potatoes, literally gallons of gravy
- Cooking support from Dewey's Third Ward Tavern & Party House, The Gould, del Lago Resort & Casino, Simply Homemade and the Seneca Falls School District to help cook the 100 turkeys



"We are, once again, so excited to have been able to partner with the Seneca County House of Concern and Elks Lodge #992 for another successful Community Thanksgiving! Being able to see our community come together in real time – individuals, families, businesses all at once – to provide for our own makes this one of my favorite events of the year. See you in 2024!"

Rhonda Jasper,
Executive Director United Way



Love the Waterloo Memorial Day Parade!



It is a Wonderful Life in Seneca County!



Strike Out Hunger



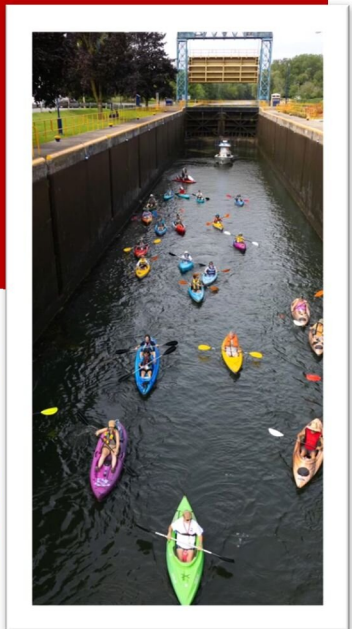
The Little Black Dress Fashion Show



Canal Crawl 2023

SUCH A GREAT TIME AT OUR FUND-RAISERS

Please join us again this year!



Just the Facts.....

Stop in to shop and see the new changes.

Don't forget, sales from our thrift store help to support the pantry.

Monetary donations: checks in the mail; PayPal donations online to www.houseofconcern.org; stocks (contact the Executive Director)

In-kind donations: Gently used, clean clothing; children's toys; household items and small appliances; furniture in good shape

Food Items—canned and/or sealed, and fresh items.

If in doubt, please call us at 315-568-2433.

Donations can be left INSIDE the House in provided bins DURING OPEN HOURS.

We are also in need of volunteers to help sort, fill the racks and shelves. Please contact us if you can spare an hour or two. We can be reached at 315-568-2433.

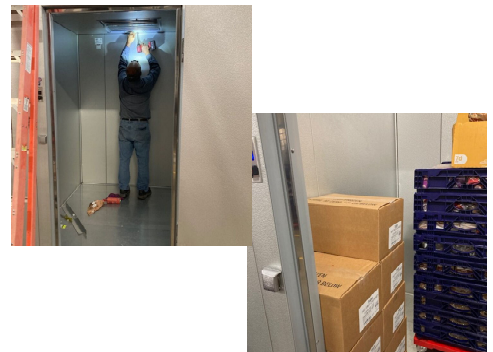
Did you Know???

- The Seneca county HOC Food Pantry gives boxes of food to an average of 248 families per month.
- In addition, the mobile food pantry which is held once a month at the Waterloo Fire Department gives out boxes of food to an average of 243 families.
- These numbers are a significant increase from previous years.
- The cost of food for the pantry has increased a little over 13% since 2022
- All purchases made in the thrift shop help to fund the HOC

GREAT NEWS!

The HOC was the lucky recipient of a \$16,000 grant from Foodlink to purchase a much needed small walk-in freezer.

It is pictured below.....



Seneca County House of Concern
Reusable Shopping Bags
\$1.25 per bag



We are switching to reusable shopping bags. These will be our new "Bag Sale" bags. Please purchase as many as you need for the bag sales & regular shopping.



New Breakroom and Kitchen for cooking classes...



STRIKEOUT HUNGER! FUN WITH A PURPOSE!

CALL THE SENECA COUNTY HOUSE OF CONCERN FOR DETAILS OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS..... GET A TEAM TO TOGETHER AND HELP TO STRIKE OUT HUNGER

**SATURDAY
FEB 10**

11 AM

ENTRY

*\$25 per
persom*

**PIZZA & SODA
AND SHOE
RENTAL
INCLUDED**

Upcoming Events

**3 wonderful
opportunities
to help those
in need while
having a
GREAT time!**

Little Black Dress
Fashion Show & Luncheon
Fundraiser
Friday & Saturday
April 12th and 13th

Save the Date

Save the Date
 Saturday, August 10th, 2024

Canal Crawl

Seneca County House of Concern

PADDLING POVERTY

Call
**315- 568-
 2433 for
 more
 information**

Have you ever wondered how to Help our local community?

Donate to the Need to Feed Challenge!

Remember, the money donated to the SC House of Concern is used to help the residents in need in Seneca County.



SENECA COUNTY HOUSE OF CONCERN NEED TO FEED CHALLENGE

Our generous community donors are **MATCHING** donations between now and June 30th! More than 11% of residents in Seneca County face food insecurity. You can help change that! Every dollar you donate will be **MATCHED** by our community donors, so there is no better time to donate than during this challenge. Go to WWW.HOUSEOFCONCERN.ORG/NEEDTOFEED for more information.



The **NEED TO FEED CHALLENGE** runs from May 1st to May 31st for sponsors and from June 1st to June 30th for community matching donations. Please plan to become a sponsor or “matcher”!!

Seneca County House of Concern
22 Locust Street
Waterloo NY 13165

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

