Cornerstone
Community Center
Serving DeForest, Windsor & Vienna

2025 Annual Report

Year in Review

- 1,218 unduplicated individuals used the Center
- 30,600 total participation
- 4,577 events and activities offered
- 540 individuals used Case Management services 20,019 times
- 144 individuals volunteered for 7,199 hours
- 4,315 rides provided for shopping, errands, meals, activities and medical appointments
- 15,091 meals served or delivered
- 228 food boxes delivered
- 3,566 particpants in the My Meal My Way program

VISION

We shall serve as a common hearth around which individuals come together for common purposes within a culture of caring to improve the quality of life for area residents.

MISSION

We are a cooperative inter-municipal Community and Senior Center providing area residents a welcoming place to meet, participate and volunteer while promoting independence, self-reliance and well-being for older adults and their families.

505 North Main Street
DeForest, WI 53532

608-846-9469
www.deforestcenter.org

Story of Resiliency

There are many stories that exemplify what Cornerstone means to people. The following story is true, while having some details changed and a false name used to protect privacy.

"Camille" is a person who visited the Center occasionally. She seemed to be a shy, private person. She is in her 70's and lives on her own. The last couple of years she has connected with staff and started to come for lunch daily. "Camille" has made friends here and now participates in activities at the Center, particularly coming for entertainment! She also enjoys going to the DeForest Family Restaurant on Wednesdays for My Meal My Way, a part of the Nutrition Program. As her comfort grew she began to share concerns with her Case Manager. Strained family relationships and significant health issues were topics often talked about. Therefore, if she did not show up for lunch, staff was concerned. The Case Manager would reach out by phone to check in. If "Camille" did not answer, then they would follow up with a well check visit. On more than one occasion, the visit resulted in contacting her doctor or calling 911. In cases like this, the attentiveness of staff and the genuine care given by the Case Manager, saved her from a much worse scenario. Being home alone, does not mean not having support. The role that Cornerstone Community Center plays in peoples lives can often go beyond card playing and book club. The socialization, regular meals and home visits changed "Camille's" path for aging and created the environment for her to live her best life in her later years.

TO ACHIEVE OUR MISSION

We will advocate for older adults to provide services and access to resources in order to address the needs of individuals and their families. Our staff will facilitate events, forums, and activities to enrich the cultural, educational, and recreational opportunities for area residents. The Center will provide a safe, comfortable, and inviting atmosphere to create a sense of belonging, to promote social interaction, and to foster service to the community.

Cornerstone Community Center

is owned by the DeForest Half Century Club, Inc. and is operated by the DeForest Area Joint Community Center Commission. The Cornerstone Community Center is a registered trademark of the DeForest Half Century Club, Inc. and is licensed for use to the DeForest Area Joint Community Center Commission. The Center is governed by Commissioners/ Board of Directors consisting of nine community members.

Officers & Executive Committee

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Jan Steffenhagen-Hahn, *HCC President*
Amanda Nickel, *Secretary/Treasurer*

Commissioners & Directors

Randy Hanson
Anna Lezotte
Denise Powell
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Jacob Vehring

Staff

Executive Director:
Natalie Raemisch

Assistant Director:
Cheryl Ksobiech

Case Manager:
Mary Ann Forbes

Case Manager:
Crystal Morrison

Program Coordinator:
Brittney Behrendt

Nutrition Coordinator:
Deni Dobson

Volunteer Coordinator:
Andrea Brandt

Assistant Coordinator:
Mary Herschleb

Case Management Program

Case Management services are confidential and available to those eligible who are aged 60+. Case Managers are highly trained in assessing needs and are experienced in collaborating within a broad network of care providers, agencies and community resources. Our goal is to establish a trusting relationship to discern needs and offer support.

Information and Assistance:
- Hospice qualifications and referral
- Housing
- Long-term care
- Legal resources
- Medicare and Medical Assistance

Advocacy and referral:
- Elder abuse/neglect concerns
- Mental health support
- Veterans benefits
- Navigating forms and paperwork

Community Connections:
- Transportation options
- Grief Support Group
- Caregiver Support Group
- Social connections at the Center

Maintaining Independence:
- Bill paying, budget help
- Home delivered meal assessment
- Lending closet; wheelchairs, walkers, etc.
- Medication assistance
- Personal care options

The Center is a safe place for when life gets complicated. In the early stages of dementia or memory loss, a person spending time here can be independent, have a meal with friends, play cards and exercise. They can check in with their case manager who can monitor for changes, assess for risk and be a support if their condition worsens.

"I just wanted to send you an email to say thank you so much for meeting with my Mom & Dad last week. They both had so many positive things to say about not only the Center but you as an individual. You handled things so perfectly and I'm so grateful thank you."

2025 Family Member

Nutrition Program

Our program is guided by three core goals:

1. Reducing Hunger and Food Insecurity

We are committed to ensuring that no older adult in our community goes without access to nutritious meals—a basic human need.

2. Promoting Socialization

Loneliness and isolation can have serious health consequences. We provide opportunities for older adults to connect in welcoming, supportive environments.

3. Supporting Health and Wellbeing

Through nutritious meals and access to preventive health services, we aim to delay or prevent health issues related to poor nutrition and inactivity.

Lunch Bunch (Eat at the Center)

- When: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 11:30 AM.
- Menu: Includes a meatless option daily.

My Meal My Way (Eat out)

- When: Wednesdays, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Where: DeForest Family Restaurant.
- Details: Participants choose from six breakfast and six lunch options, offering flexibility and variety in a comfortable setting.

Home-Delivered Meals

- Who: For older adults who are homebound due to health or mobility challenges.
- Process: A case manager will schedule a home visit to explain the program and confirm eligibility.
- Delivery: Monday through Friday by dedicated volunteers.

Nutrition Standards

All meals are designed to meet one-third of the daily recommended intake for adults aged 70 and older. Menus are reviewed by a registered dietitian to ensure quality and balance.

Food Support

Qualifying participants can request a 35-pound box of non-perishable food items monthly, provided by Community Action Coalition.

Nutrition Counseling

Adults aged 60 and older residing in Dane County can request 1:1 counseling with a Dane County registered dietitian.

Heart warming story...

There are two ladies who met at lunch and have become really great friends. They each asked their daughters to schedule them to come to the center and go the restaurant on the same days. They even ride the bus together.

From a participant...

"The lunch program is very important! The food is so good and I gained 10 pounds from coming here!"

Volunteer Program

Our volunteers are loyal, generous and kind. They serve in a variety of roles that help to create a welcoming supportive environment.

Kitchen Helpers: Volunteers help package meals for home delivery, set and clear dining room, serve the noon meal and clean up.

Home Delivered Meal Drivers: volunteers deliver meals to local homebound people.

Escort Drivers: volunteers transport individuals for medical appointments locally and in the Madison area.

Program Support: volunteers support activities, events and programming at the Center.

Building and Grounds: volunteers support indoor projects, plant care and/or outdoor gardens and landscape etc.

Outreach: volunteering that involves representing or volunteering on behalf of the Center at area community events, fundraising and special events:

- Concessions at the Kwik Trip Athletic Complex
- Chamber Business Expo
- DeForest Public Safety & Family Fun Night
- 4th of July Bingo
- Windsor Open House
- Windsorfest
- Windsor Trunk or Treat

The LINK-ages Committee creates opportunities for area youth to interact with and serve the older generation. The Committee offers these intergenerational events:
Fall Festival
Family Bingo
Annual Senior Breakfast
55+ Prom
Representatives from the Library, School District, Cornerstone and students make up the Committee.

From a volunteer

"I forgot to tell you how grateful everyone is that I deliver a meal to! They always say thank you and how much they appreciate me bringing their lunch. It feels really good!"

2025 Financial Overview

Operating Revenues

$611,100	Contributions from local governmental units-operations
$159,967	Grant revenue - Dane County and United Way
$221,811	Other contributions - donations and bequests
$14,683	Cost share revenue
$34,366	Miscellaneous
$1,041,927	Total Operating Revenues

Operating Expenses

$566,079	Programs and services
$77,734	Administration and support activities
$106,485	Operating and miscellaneous
$78,115	Utilities and maintenance
$828,413	Total Operating Expenses
$213,514	Operating Income

Non-operating Revenues (Expense)

$64,956	Investment income (loss)
$(12,922)	Loss on disposal of assets
$52,034	Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)
$265,548	**Change in Net Position**
$2,805,472	**Net Position - Beginning, restated**
$3,071,020	**Net Position - End**

Contributions from the Village of DeForest, Village of Windsor and Town of Vienna, are the primary source of funding for the Center. Individuals, groups, and businesses regularly make donations to support the Center, its work and its programing. Funding from Dane County supports Case Management and the Nutrition Program. Grants are regularly applied for (and received) for specific projects or goals. Revenue generated by facility cost shares is used to offset operational expenses. Fundraising efforts through Center events and profit-sharing opportunities are another source of income for the Center.

2025 Donations

Cornerstone is grateful for grants recived in 2025 from:
DeForest Area Foundation,
Home Energy Guides Communication grant, Dane County
Paul H Kusuda grant, Dane County

Agrace Hospice	Iverson Properties	Right At Home
American Legion Post 348	JNRs Rose Cottage	Segues Senior Move Specialist
Bay Harbor of DeForest	Kwik Trip	Sky Ridge Apartments
Brookdale	Anita Cornell Massage	St Olaf's Catholic Church
Caring 4 You LLC	Moments Hospice	Talamore Senior Living
Christ Lutheran Church	Mousehouse Cheesehaus Inc	Tesar Law Group
DIDD Inc	Norske Nook	The Legacy/DeForest
Drake Living Trust	Our House Senior Living - Lodi	The Terraces at Windsor Crossing
Element Insurance Agency	Parkside Assisted Living	Village Caregiving
Fleet Farm	Parkside Senior Living	Windsor Breads Bakery &
Inner Light and Balance	Paulson and Associates, LLC	Coffee House
Interim Healthcare	Prado Hospice LLC	Woollys Snack Hut

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Bert Willis
Eileen Zeier
Dawn Zentner
MacKenzie Zirk
Kathleen & Duane Zweifel

Quotes worth sharing

"It is invaluable to come to a place where people know my name. This place has saved me after my spouse died."

"I had the good fortune of attending a birthday celebration at your beautiful center this past weekend. I was eager to share my thanks and congratulations. The Center is beautiful and so accessible for all. It was a very welcoming place and the man working at the reception center was so kind. He gave me the newsletter and it was very informative."

Keeping active and staying involved at Cornerstone!

The Center offers activities and programs that provide older adults with opportunities for fitness, education, socialization and more.

- **Cards & games**
- **Social groups & activities**
- **Creative opportunities**
- **Education & presentations**
- **Entertainment & performances**
- **Instructor led classes**
- **Fitness groups**
- **Fitness room**
- **Pool tables**
- **Dvd classes**