

## From the Executive Director

If I were to write a headline for 2009 at the Samaritan Counseling Center it would read: **"Mission shines while economy tanks."** It was quite a year.

The need for our low-income services skyrocketed, and with help from our gracious donors, supporting congregations and community foundations, we were able to meet that need. Of the 770 unduplicated clients we served in 2009, nearly 300 needed a subsidy. That's 38 percent — a significant increase over previous years. Some months, low-income clients constituted 45 percent of our caseload.

Following our mission, we said yes to nearly everyone who called for help "regardless of their financial status or faith background." A \$34,000 bridge grant from the Community Foundation of the Fox Valley Region was crucial in helping us remain strong in our mission in such a weak economy.

Our mission was also shining as our Treatment Foster Care (TFC) program took off! We now support seven homes serving children and adolescents who need the specialized

THE MISSION of the Samaritan Counseling Center of the Fox Valley is to be an expression of God's love, facilitating emotional healing and growth for women, men and youth — regardless of financial status or faith background — so that they may develop more fully their relationships with self, others and God.

love, training and structure TFC offers. This is a new and wonderful way to "facilitate emotional healing and growth" beyond our traditional faith-based counseling program.

Finally, our emerging Clergy and Congregational Care program upheld our mission "to be an expression of God's love" through workshops, programs, consultation, counseling and coaching with congregations and their leaders.

It was quite a year — filled with needs, support, healing and transformations. Thank you for making it all possible.

*Amy Butschauer*

## It Just Takes 40

As the Samaritan Counseling Center of the Fox Valley observes its 40th anniversary in 2010, we invite you to celebrate with us the hope and healing the Center has offered thousands of people over the years.

It Just Takes 40 calls you to give small gifts that can make a big difference to those who seek counseling to cope with life's challenges.



Here are just a few ways you can help:

- Donate \$40 to the Samaritan Fund to assist low-income clients.
- Volunteer 40 hours of your time to Samaritan Counseling Center.
- Invite a Samaritan representative to speak for 40 minutes to your church group.
- Help bring the Center's endowment fund to \$40,000. (We need \$13,000 to reach that goal.)
- Pray for 40 days for the work of the Center.

Please contact the Samaritan Center at 920-886-9319 if you would like to help in one of these ways, or to learn about other ways you can participate in It Just Takes 40.

## From the Board President

*Jayne Latreille gives thanks for the Center's gifts.*

When I think about the people associated with the Samaritan Counseling Center, I am filled with gratitude.

I am grateful for **our past board president, Jan Stanton**, who served with grace and determination from 2007 to 2009. Jan was also a previous board member. Her dedication had a tremendous impact on the Center and those we serve. Because of her work, the Center has grown and flourished.

I am grateful for **our executive director, the Rev. Amy Bertschausen**. She inspires us with her creativity, vision, compassion and humor. We are so blessed to have her strong leadership at the Center.

I am grateful for **our wonderful staff**, who are truly making a difference. Our recent client survey included many positive comments filled with sincere appreciation for the help that our counselors provide.

I am so grateful for **our donors**. You are the ones who help those who come to the Center without the resources to pay the full cost of counseling. You may never know the huge impact your generosity has on another person.

I am grateful for **our past and current board members**. In this, our 40th anniversary year, we have many events and celebrations scheduled, and I know they will all work hard to make this year a grand success.

We would like to add to our board, specifically legal or medical professionals. If you feel called to serve, please contact me at [jlatreille@new.rr.com](mailto:jlatreille@new.rr.com) or 920-725-2459. Trust me, working on the board will fill you with gratitude, too.



## Grants Provide Invaluable Support in Tough Economy

*Funds buoy the Center in providing more low-income counseling sessions.*

Grants from several organizations helped the Samaritan Center keep pace with increased demand for counseling subsidies in 2009:

Doug and Carla Salmon Foundation, Inc.  
Menasha Corporation Foundation  
United Way Fox Cities  
United Way New London  
St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation  
J.J. Keller Foundation, Inc.  
Oshkosh Area Community Foundation  
Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region

## Samaritan Center's Service Pleases Clients

*Counseling clients value the Center's speedy response and heartfelt respect.*

Results of the Samaritan Center's annual client survey are in, and the news is good! Of 547 clients contacted, 115 returned completed surveys. The vast majority report highly favorable experiences with the Samaritan Center.

**99 percent** "The Center was prompt in responding to my request for help."

**98 percent** "My concerns for seeking counseling were respected and addressed."

**95 percent** "I would recommend the Center to others."

**92 percent** "I would return to the Center for new or additional needs."

A hearty congratulations to our staff members who are the face of Samaritan Counseling Center's service, and a big thank you to our donors whose generous gifts make healing possible.

## I Can

*By Samaritan Center counselor Megan Burdick-Grade*

I am here because I can...

I can serve all people — even those without monetary resources.

I can acknowledge the whole self.

I can facilitate connection — to self, to loved ones, to faith.

I can explore faith-based concepts such as forgiveness, hope, compassion and justice — and connect them to their source.

I can engage in prayer with my colleagues and with my clients.

I can support the use of spiritual disciplines as resources for healing and transformation.

I can dream of a day when this agency can provide this sacred space without fear or doubt and with full support and acceptance from the community it is here to serve.

# Donors

Debra Andrews  
Frances Bachman  
Jeri Barry  
James & Alice Baumbach  
Karen & Michael Bendel  
Anne Bennett  
Amy & Roger Bertschausen  
Patricia Bezella  
Eloise Blair  
RoseAnn Blair  
Charles Boesen  
Linda Boldt  
O.C. & Patricia Boldt  
Thomas & Renee Boldt  
Karen Bruno  
Bonnie Buchanan  
Megan Burdick-Grade  
Lee Boeke Burke  
Ellen Braatz  
Denise & Jeffery Burkett  
Liane Butitta  
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Linda Jelinski  
Barent Johnson  
Susan Johnson  
Beverly Johnston  
Jane Jonscher  
Jody Kacer  
Harvey Kandler  
Lynne Keller  
Shannon Kennedy  
Barbara Klamm  
Steve Klein  
Laura Kleist  
Shelby Knetzel  
Marjorie Koepke  
Marilyn Kostrzak  
Kaye Krueger  
Vicki LaFountain  
Jayne Latreille  
Connie Lee  
Anne Leonard  
Gordon & Deborah Lind  
Rita Long  
JoAnn Luedke  
June Luett  
Kathy Mahoney  
Mark & Suzanne Marnocha  
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Kandy Werner  
Mark Werner  
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Gary Wilner  
Pam Winek  
Nancy Winslow  
Deb Woerpel-Larson  
Thomas Wood  
Kathleen Woolf  
William & Susan Wresch  
Robert & Marjorie Young  
Judith Zaretske  
Bonita & Jeff Zdrale

## Supporting Churches

First Congregational United  
Church of Christ, Appleton  
First Presbyterian Church,  
Neenah  
First Presbyterian Church,  
Oshkosh  
Congregational United Church  
of Christ, Neenah-Menasha  
Presbytery of Winnebago  
St. Paul's United Church  
of Christ, Oshkosh  
St. John United Church  
of Christ, Appleton  
United Methodist Church,  
New London  
Whiting Community Church  
Velte Memorial Fund

## Supporting Businesses

A Cut Above Salon  
Ameriprint Graphics  
Apple Blossom Books  
Aspen Coffee & Tea  
Avenue Art  
Botanical Indulgence  
Breadsmith  
Cellars Wine & Spirits  
Century 21, New London  
Chocolate Elegance  
Community First Credit Union  
Cranky Pat's Pizza  
Gallery On Hair

Gear'N Up  
Great Harvest Bread Company  
Hair Connection  
Hang Up  
Harmony Wellness  
Holt's Jewelry  
Jackie Schubbe  
Kapreli Salon  
Krueger's True Value  
Learning Shop  
Lee Smith & Vicki Moen  
Lemon Grass An Asian Bistro  
Mark Peerenboom  
McKnight & Carlson  
Menasha Corporation  
Morton Pharmacy  
MPC Beady Ladies  
Pansies  
Pitney Bowes  
Radisson Paper Valley  
Red Radish  
Scatter Joy  
Scheels  
St. John's Thrift Store, New London  
Starbucks  
The Boldt Company  
The Seasons An American Bistro  
Wheel & Sprocket  
Wilmar Chocolates  
YMCA of the Fox Cities  
Zuppas

## Matching Gifts

Kimberly-Clark  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

*"Love truth but pardon error." –Voltaire*

We strive to be accurate and comprehensive, yet errors may occur. We appreciate your assistance in bringing any inaccuracies to our attention.

## A Pastor's Perspective

*Tom Willadsen shares the Center's impact on his congregation — and him.*

As a pastor I benefit enormously from the work that the Samaritan Center does in my community. The church I serve, First Presbyterian in Oshkosh, has been a satellite location for the Samaritan Center for more than 30 years. We see offering space to the Samaritan Center as a tangible extension of our ministry to hurting people. We are especially pleased to see the work that Project Open Door, the Center's Oshkosh-based children's counseling program, is doing with families and young people.

The Samaritan Center supports me personally in two ways. I am part of a Presbyterian Colleague Group hosted by the Center. I also benefit from talking informally to the four Samaritan Center staffers who spend time in our building

each week. Often I find myself seeking their support, experience and wisdom. These professionals help me keep my perspective.

I cannot say how many of my congregation's members have received support and encouragement from counseling the Samaritan Center provides. Many have literally gotten their lives back thanks to the Samaritan Center. When people come to me seeking counseling I refer them to the Samaritan Center with great confidence and enthusiasm, because I see — and experience — the good the Center does every day.

**Services available to churches and the community through the Clergy and Congregational Care Program include:**

### **Education**

Retreats  
Parenting  
Marriage preparation/enrichment  
Bulletin and newsletter articles/inserts  
Healthy congregation training

### **Consultation**

Visioning  
Team development  
Change/conflict management  
Judicatory support  
Personnel concerns

### **Clergy Renewal and Support**

Coaching  
Spiritual direction  
Colleague support groups  
Sabbatical planning  
Transition support

## Giving Couples a Meaningful Night Out

*Clergy and Congregational Care programs help couples have fun and reconnect.*

Couples at Trinity Episcopal Church in Oshkosh look forward to an enjoyable Friday evening once a month — and often, Samaritan Center counselors are there to facilitate the fun.

Trinity education director Julie Keifer initiated Couples' Night Out to support relationships at every stage. "I wanted something affordable to get couples to reconnect and have fun," she says.

They did so last fall with "I Want to Dance with You: Tango in a Couples' Enrichment Workshop," led by counselor John Peterson. In January, counselor Dee Savides presented "The Seven Habits of a Healthy Marriage" to the group.

Savides' talk covered typical relationship troubles and, more importantly, how to address them. The group took her lessons to heart.

"Talking afterwards to the other couples that were there, we agreed that there were lots of things she said that we could easily fix," Keifer said.

They also hoped for an encore, according to Keifer. "Everyone said, 'She needs to come back.'"

## A Smorgasbord of Programs

Here are just a few of the presentations Samaritan Center counselors have shared with churches and other organizations:

- Dream Work, Soul Work
- Stress Reduction
- Care for the Caregiver of Parents
- Preventing Exploitation and Harrassment
- Family Systems Workshop: Systems and Healthy Congregations

The Center also provides workshops and expertise on many other topics and can create sessions to suit your needs. Please contact Clergy and Congregational Care coordinator Cathy Wille at 920-886-9319 with inquiries.

## Balance Sheet

### Assets

Cash	\$44,363
Accounts Receivable	\$68,145
Other Current Assets	\$4,625
Fixed Assets (net of depreciation)	\$15,033
Long Term Investments	\$26,034

**Total Assets** **\$158,200**

### Liabilities and Fund Balances

Accounts Payable	\$26,055
Restricted Funds	\$15,463
Unrestricted Funds	\$116,682

**Total Liabilities and Fund Balances** **\$158,200**

## Statement of Income and Expenses

### Income

Service Fees	\$428,166
Investments and Other	\$4,989
Fundraising	\$150,332
In-Kind Contributions	\$6,600

**Total Income** **\$590,087**

### Expenses

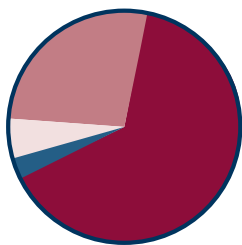
Payroll & Related Expenses	\$418,461
Administrative Expenses	\$158,273

**Total Expenses** **\$576,734**

**Net Income** **\$13,353**

*“All the staff of Samaritan was kind and helpful. I was able to get well faster with my counselor’s help than I would have with medicine alone.”*

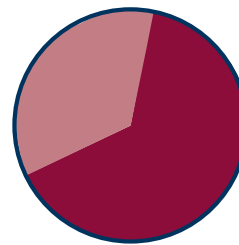
## 2009 Statistics



### Clients By Payer Source

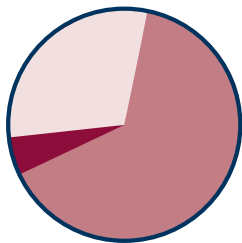
- 62% Commercial insurance
- 24% Public insurance (medical assistance)
- 9% Samaritan Fund (uninsured)
- 5% Project Open Door (uninsured children in Oshkosh)

(38% of clients require fee subsidies.)



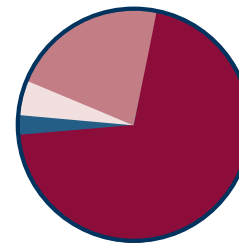
### Sessions by Gender

- 65% Female
- 35% Male



### Sessions by Age

- 2% 65 or older
- 70% 19-64
- 28% 18 or younger



### Sessions by Location

- 72% Fox Cities
- 18% Oshkosh
- 7% New London
- 3% UW-Fox Valley

*“Thank you so much. I’m really glad there is an affordable mental health service available in the area.”*

# Current Happenings

## Helping a Child in Need

*Treatment Foster Care providers share their home — and their love.*

Cheryl Tibbs of Green Bay was halfway through a pregnancy last October when she and her husband, Lance, were asked to add another member to their family. The couple recently had been licensed as Samaritan Center Treatment Foster Care (TFC) providers, and a troubled adolescent needed a home.

Even in light of the imminent birth, they happily said yes.

"We're really strong in our faith, and we wanted to have the opportunity to enrich the life of a child," Cheryl says.

It takes a special family like the Tibbses to provide TFC. The Center has seven families licensed to take in children up to 17 years old who need 24-hour supervision and in-home therapy to cope with behavioral and emotional issues.

Cheryl and Lance overcame many challenges as parents of a spirited son, now 18. "As my faith grew and I started to think about God giving us talents and skills, I thought that parenting a difficult child was a skill we had," Cheryl says.

She and Lance put that skill to use every day, offering security and stability to a child who desperately needs them. Their foster child participates in a teen program at their church, visits weekly with TFC coordinator Amy Plettner, and meets monthly with a social worker, all under the watchful eye of loving foster parents also tending to their 3-month-old son.

"You have to really want to open your home and be open to the idea of a blended family situation," Cheryl says. "If you're open to the benefits that can come with it, they are going to outweigh the vulnerability that you have in a program like this."

*For information on becoming a licensed TFC provider, please contact Amy Plettner at 920-886-9319.*

## A Bad Bet

*When gambling becomes a problem, mental health care can help.*

For most of us, gambling is limited to the occasional lottery ticket or the office March Madness pool. However, an estimated 2 million U.S. adults meet the criteria for pathological gambling, and another 4 to 6 million adults are considered problem gamblers, according to the National Council on Gambling.

Gambling is more than a financial problem; it's an emotional problem with financial consequences. A problem gambler's relationships often suffer along with his or her bank account.

Unfortunately, a gambling addiction is easily hidden from loved ones — maybe even from yourself. Here are a few warning signs of gambling addiction, according to the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling:

- Sudden or intense interest in sports or gambling material
- Arguments with family and friends about gambling
- A change in friends or social habits
- Unexplained money or possessions
- Selling of possessions

If you suspect you or someone you love has a gambling problem, consulting a mental health professional can help. Samaritan Center counselors John Peterson and Cathy Wille are nationally certified to treat gambling addiction and can assist problem gamblers in the healing process.



## Save the Date to Celebrate!

*Please mark your calendars for the following 40th anniversary events:*

### September 24

Music for the Soul Gala with John Harmon and Janet Planet  
Grand Meridian, Appleton

### October 10

40th Anniversary Celebration  
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Appleton

### November 7

40th Anniversary Celebration  
First Presbyterian Church, Oshkosh

### December 3

"The Search for the Sacred: Spirituality and Psychotherapy"  
Workshop for Pastors and Therapists  
with psychologist Kenneth Pargament  
Liberty Hall, Kimberly

## Silent Samaritan Campaign Raises More Than \$10,000 for Women's Counseling

*Sixth annual event celebrated women of strength helping women in need.*

On May 6, 2010, more than 60 women gathered at First Presbyterian Church in Neenah for the sixth annual Silent Samaritan Luncheon. The event celebrated the \$10,000 given by attendees and 60 other women to the Center's Samaritan Fund to subsidize counseling for women who could not afford it on their own.

Jill Rasmussen, director of the Apple Creek YMCA, addressed those in attendance about becoming a woman of strength through physical fitness. She told the crowd her personal story of strength, sharing how a strong body helped her survive multiple pulmonary emboli.

To conclude the luncheon, the 2010 Connie Steele Award, honoring a woman who lives out the Center's healing mission as late board member Steele herself did, was presented to RoseAnn Blair. She has served on the Center's board of directors for seven years.

Blair says, "I am passionate about the work of the Center, and I am deeply honored to be recognized in this way."

## Samaritan Center Grows with Two New Staff Members

*Dede Harris and Jackie Burton grace the Center with unique gifts.*

Two new staffers are enhancing the Samaritan Center's ability to provide help and healing. Dede Harris joins the staff as a full-time counselor, and social worker Jackie Burton starts as a part-time Treatment Foster Care team manager.

Harris comes to the Center from the Women's Recovery Journey, a program of Green Bay's Family Services. She is certified to treat alcohol and other drug abuse issues and offers mental health assessment and treatment to kids, teens and adults. "I am really excited to provide services to people in the Fox Valley and New London area," Harris says.

Burton received her master's in social work from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in May. She worked most recently with a Madison-based Treatment Foster Care program and as a case manager at UW Hospital. "I have a passion for the good that Treatment Foster Care can do, and I'm thrilled to partner with Amy Plettner to further expand the Center's already growing program," Burton says.

## Wish List

Please call the Center at 920-886-9319 if you wish to donate the following:

- Computer projector
- Ceiling-mount projection screen



## Staff

### Executive Director:

Amy Bertschausen, M.Div., BCC

### Counselors:

Rosangela Bacciotti Berbert, MSE, LPC  
Megan Burdick-Grade, MA, LMFT, ATR-BC  
Ammie Ebben, RN, MSE  
Anne Fons, MPM, MA, LPC  
Dede Harris, MSE, LPC, HCC, SAC-T  
John Peterson, M.Div., MS, LMFT, CSAC  
Dee Savides, MSW, LCSW  
Cathy Starck Wille, MA, MSE, LPC  
Dee Verkuilen, MSE, NCC

### Treatment Foster Care:

Amy Plettner, MSW, coordinator  
Jackie Burton, MSW

### Administrative Staff:

Jennifer Fox  
Mary Hoffman-Mueller  
Deb Woerpel-Larson

### Consultants:

Jeffery T. Junig, MD, Ph.D.  
Steven Klein, Ph.D., MS, LPC

### Board of Directors:

Jayne Latreille, President (Neenah)  
Violet Tews, Vice President (Oshkosh)  
Jack Fry, Secretary (Menasha)  
Diane Lightfield, Treasurer (Appleton)  
Sarah Bassing (Appleton)  
Karen Bendel (Appleton)  
RoseAnn Blair (Neenah)  
The Rev. Richard Moore (Neenah)  
Jone Oman (Oshkosh)  
Dave Peperkorn (Neenah)

**Formerly the Fox Valley  
Pastoral Counseling Center**



1478 Kenwood Dr., Suite 1  
Menasha, WI 54952



*We're on the Web! Visit us at [www.samaritan-counseling.com](http://www.samaritan-counseling.com)*

**Fox Cities**

1478 Kenwood Dr., Ste. 1  
Menasha, WI 54952  
920-886-9319

**Oshkosh**

110 Church Ave  
Oshkosh, WI 54901  
920-235-1678

**New London**

709 W. Pine St  
New London, WI 54961  
920-982-7863

## Help people heal — donate to Samaritan Counseling Center today.

The Samaritan Counseling Center of the Fox Valley served 770 different clients in the Fox Cities, Oshkosh and New London in 2009. Among them, **294 individuals — or 38 percent of our clientele — needed financial assistance to afford counseling.**

By helping meet the region's dire need for reduced-cost mental health services, we are living our mission:

**To be an expression of God's love to all people regardless of faith background or financial status.**

You can help us provide healing and love to individuals and families who need it through your tax-deductible financial gift. **Consider a gift of \$100** to cover the cost of one of the more than 600 counseling sessions we will provide to uninsured clients this year.

- Monetary gifts can be made by check, credit card and debit card.
- Donations of stock or mutual funds are welcome.
- Bequests can be made by calling the Center at 920-886-9319.