



SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2026

Motivated by Mission

Our mission is more than words, it's what motivates us every day at Compassionate Connections Center! Recently, our team refreshed our mission statement to more clearly reflect the heart of who we are and the work we do: **"Rooted in dignity, hope, compassion and collaboration, striving to empower our community."**

Each day, we meet people where they are, provide essential resources, and offer hope during times of need. This mission inspires us to listen, identify needs, find solutions and continually strengthen and expand our programs. This year has brought exciting growth, new partnerships and new ways to move our mission forward. We couldn't be more excited about what's ahead!

HIGHLIGHTS

- FARMERS MARKET
- HONORING A LEGACY
- BACK TO SCHOOL
- TRIVIA NIGHT
- NUTRITION MISSION LAUNCH



@THECOMPASSIONATECONNECTCENTER



FARMERS MARKET



When the opportunity arose to become the market's new organizer, the Compassionate Connections Center embraced the responsibility with enthusiasm. Our goal was never simply to coordinate a weekly market. We wanted to create an experience that celebrates local agriculture, supports small businesses, strengthens community relationships and provides a place where people can gather, connect and enjoy everything our community has to offer.

One of the greatest contributors to the market's success this season has been our partnership with the Clintonville Public Library. From the earliest conversations, library leadership embraced the vision of utilizing the library's beautiful green space as a gathering place for the community. Their willingness to collaborate, share resources and think creatively, helped transform an exciting idea into a vibrant weekly event that has exceeded expectations.

Each Sunday, the market comes alive with colorful displays of locally grown produce, fresh baked goods, flowers, handcrafted items, specialty foods, and artisan products. More importantly, it comes alive with smiling faces, friendly conversations, and a welcoming atmosphere that reflects the very best of Clintonville.

The Clintonville Farmers Market is held every Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., June 7 through October 4, on the beautiful grounds of the Clintonville Public Library. Whether you're searching for farm-fresh produce, delicious baked goods, handcrafted gifts, or simply looking for a welcoming place to spend a Sunday afternoon, there's something for everyone to enjoy.



HONORING A LEGACY OF SERVICE: *REMEMBERING DAVE SCHMIDT*

There are certain people whose influence reaches far beyond the work they do. They shape organizations, inspire those around them, and make their communities better simply through the way they live their lives. For the Clintonville community, Dave Schmidt was one of those special people.

In June of 2026, we experienced the profound loss of not only a valued community leader, but also a trusted friend and mentor. Dave's kindness, humility, generosity, and unwavering commitment to feeding others left a lasting impression on everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. He believed deeply in the power of community and understood that meaningful change happens when people come together to help one another.

Although Dave's passing left an immeasurable void, it also inspired our community to come together in an extraordinary way. Earlier this year, the Clintonville Area Food Pantry was proudly renamed **Dave's Pantry**, ensuring that his legacy of service will continue to inspire future generations. The new name is more than a change in signage, it is a lasting tribute to a man whose life was defined by generosity, humility, and an unwavering commitment to helping others.

The renaming represents a commitment to carrying forward the values Dave lived every day. His belief in treating every person with kindness, respect, and compassion remains at the heart of the Pantry's mission and continues to guide the work being done there.



*Dave's influence on
Compassionate Connections
will continue to live on through
the work we do and the people
we serve. His example reminds
us to lead with kindness, treat
every person with dignity, and
always look for ways to make
our community stronger.*



BACK TO SCHOOL FAMILY EVENT

We are so grateful for the incredible community support that made our Summer 2026 Back to School Event such a success!

This year, more than 250 local students received support to start the school year feeling prepared, confident, and cared for. Each student received a brand-new outfit, undergarments, socks, a shoe voucher, and school supplies, made possible because our community came together.

-  200+ students supported
-  Backpacks and school supplies provided
-  B&H Shoe vouchers for local students
-  Community partners sharing valuable resources
-  Countless volunteers, donors, & supporters making it happen.

We are incredibly grateful for our amazing partners at The **Community Clothes Closet**, who generously provided clothing for each student at our Back to School Event. Their kindness helped make the experience special, meaningful and exciting for so many children.

We are also thankful for our partners at **B&H Footwear**, whose generous support allows us to provide each student with a shoe voucher to help families purchase a new pair of shoes for the school year.

We are also incredibly grateful to the many community organizations and partners who joined us to share resources and connect families with valuable services. And to every volunteer, donor, business and individual who gave their time, resources, or support; THANK YOU!



*This is what happens
when we all work
together to support our
kids and strengthen our
community.*



TRIVIA NIGHT 2026

Our 2026 Trivia Night was an incredible evening of fun, laughter and community support! Just days after a historic 38-inch snowstorm, our community came together at Crossways at Imago Dei Village for an evening of friendly competition and a shared commitment to helping local families. The new venue provided a warm and welcoming setting, while Pearl Street Band kept the energy high with an amazing live performance.

While the trivia competition was certainly fun, the true purpose of the evening was making a difference. Thanks to our participants, sponsors, volunteers, donors, and raffle supporters, funds were raised to support our Personal Hygiene Pantry, helping provide essential items such as diapers, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, laundry detergent and more to local families throughout the coming year.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who helped make this year's Trivia Night one of our most successful fundraisers yet. Your generosity demonstrates what happens when a community comes together with a shared purpose—neighbors supporting neighbors and making sure local families are met with compassion, dignity, and support.



SAVE THE DATE.:
TRIVIA NIGHT APRIL 16 2027:



THE NUTRITION MISSION IS BACK....

A new school year means The Nutrition Mission is kicking off another year of serving local students! Through our weekend food backpack program, we provide nutritious, kid-friendly food to students in the Clintonville School District to help bridge the gap when school meals aren't available. Each week, volunteers pack bags with breakfast, lunch, and snack items to help make sure local children have food to enjoy throughout the weekend.

The Nutrition Mission wouldn't be possible without our amazing volunteers! Volunteers help us pack weekend food bags, organize donations, and prepare items for distribution. No special experience is needed—just a willingness to lend a hand and make a difference. Whether you can volunteer once, monthly, or throughout the school year, your time makes an impact!

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER- www.compassionateconnect.com/the-nutrition-mission

Our Amazon Wishlist makes it easy to support The Nutrition Mission from wherever you are! Our wishlist includes kid-friendly favorites such as popcorn, fruit cups, meat sticks, granola bites, and more.

SHOP OUR WISHLIST- <https://www.compassionateconnect.com/the-nutrition-mission>

Every donation and every volunteer hour helps us keep our shelves stocked and our weekend food bags filled. Volunteer. Donate. Make an Impact. Together, we can nourish our community—one backpack at a time!



GIVE TODAY!

We are deeply grateful to our community of donors, volunteers, and supporters. With rising needs and growing participation in our programs, continued support is critical.

To donate or learn more about how your tax deductible gift can change lives, scan the QR code or visit:

143 South Main Street Clintonville, WI 54929

<https://www.compassionateconnect.com>

