

# **WAFER, Inc.**

# **Annual Report**

**January 1-December 31, 2009**



Dear Friends,

I am please to share this 2009 annual report with you. The year was challenging, but rewarding in that, while demand increased significantly, your food and monetary donations kept pace.

Our supply and demand were both tested in 2009, but you helped us rise to the occasion. Costs for food , transportation, and energy increased, but we were still able to distribute close to 700,000 pounds of food to hungry households. In addition, we started a joint program with Great Rivers Boys and Girls Clubs to provide a very hearty late afternoon snack to children at the club who might not otherwise have an evening meal.

While demand for our services increased 18% from the previous year, we nearly always provided a full food package. Thanks to our donors and volunteers, every client who came through our doors walked away with 3-5 days worth of groceries. A new partnership through Feeding America and Walmart enabled us to increase the variety of our offerings.

Our main challenge in 2010 will be to continue to meet a demand that, while slowing slightly, is still increasing. Staff and volunteers alike work diligently to assure every cent donated is wisely spent and that all donated food moves quickly to the pantry shelves.

I know how fortunate we, at WAFER, are to have friends like you. Where some food pantries across the country have had to limit amounts or even close their doors, WAFER has headed in the opposite direction. We not only increased our open hours, but put even more food into the packages that help hungry people .

On behalf of the WAFER Board of Directors and the staff, thank you for helping make sure our pantry remains stocked and able to feed over 3,400 La Crosse County households.

Sincerely,

Heidi Griminger Blanke  
Executive Director

## OUR MISSION

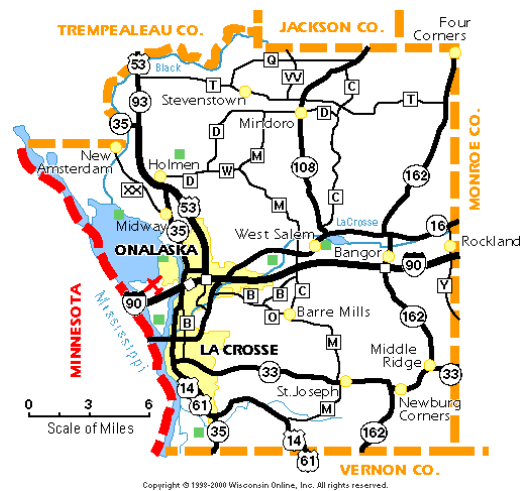
Responding to God's love, WAFER provides food and works to eliminate hunger.

### 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Margaret Herlitzka	President
Mark Solyst	Vice-president
Don Smith	Secretary
Lee Bluske	Treasurer

Peter Grabow  
Taylor Haley  
Barb Kruse  
Jerry Saterbak  
Judy Siefert

Dedicated to fighting hunger  
in La Crosse County  
for more than 20 years



## OUR VISION

WAFER is committed to addressing hunger related needs in La Crosse County, while treating each person with personalized service and dignity. We will procure food, develop resources, and collaborate with other programs, organizations, and businesses to alleviate hunger and food insecurity in our area. We will strive for effective stewardship of resources in order to provide successful food assistance programs.

Over the course of the next five years, WAFER will be working to reach those in our population most at risk, children and seniors. Our strategic directives include:



Expanding and developing food procurement and food distribution procedures



Educating clients on nutrition and food preparation



## WHO DOES WAFER HELP?

In 2009, WAFER provided groceries to about 1 of every 14 households in our county, over triple the number of households we assisted ten years ago. Over 10,700 people came to us for help, including 4,100 children and 560 senior citizens. Families who came to WAFER had an average of four members.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

WAFER receives most of its financial support from personal and business donations, the United Way, and FEMA.

### ASSETS

Current Assets	2009
Checking	\$ 41,426.32
Certificates of Deposit	329,652.52
Prepaid Insurance	3,064.50
Total Current Assets	408,473.42

### Other Assets

Property and Equipment	245,475.99
Cash Funds	111,036.02
Total Assets	764,985.43

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	6,450.41
Total Liabilities	6,450.41

#### Net Assets

Unrestricted	751,572.02
Current Earnings	6,963.00
Total Net Assets	758,535.02
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$764,985.43

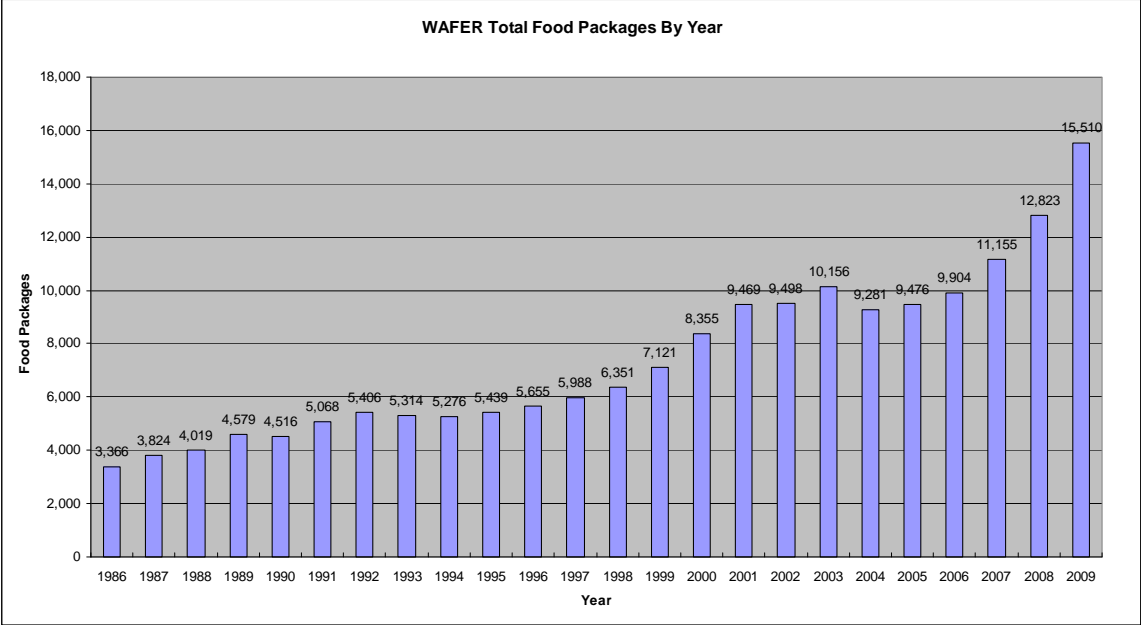


## 2009 DONATING ORGANIZATIONS

AARP  
Ace Hardware  
Aldi  
Aquinas Schools  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
Associated Bank  
Avalanche Hockey  
Badger State Sportsman's Club  
Bentz Chiropractic  
Bethany Evangelical Free Church  
Bethany St. Joseph  
Blesses Sacrament Catholic School  
Bronston Chiropractic Clinics  
Business Objects  
Carpenters and Joiners Local 1143  
Cashton FFA/Cashton High School  
CBS Graphics  
Central High School  
Chamber of Commerce Leaders  
Chartwells  
Christ Episcopal Church  
Cindy Gerke & Associates Realtors  
City of La Crosse  
City Wear  
Community Care & Share Pantry  
Congregation Sons of Abraham  
Coulee Progressives  
Coulee Region Kiwanis Club  
Coulee Region Volunteer Coordinators  
Crescent Printing  
Cub Scout Pack 247  
Culvers  
Curves for Women  
Dahl Automotive  
DeCapo Band  
Dollar Tree Store  
Dura-Tech Screen Printing  
English Lutheran Church  
Erickson Swimming Pool  
Family Resources  
Feed the Children  
Festival Foods  
First Baptist Church  
First Congregational Church  
First Logic  
First Presbyterian Church  
Fishes and Loaves  
Francis Green Memorial Open  
Franciscan Skemp Healthcare  
Frito Lay  
Gateway Area Boy Scouts  
Girl Scouts of Riverland Council  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Goodwill Industries  
Grendha Shoe Corporation  
Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center  
High Roller Skating  
Hillview Greenhouse Life Center  
Holsum Bakery Thrift Store  
Holy Trinity Catholic Church  
Insurance Center  
IQ Academy  
J.C. Penny Company  
Kwik Trip  
La Crosse Bar Association  
La Crosse Chamber Chorale  
La Crosse Community Foundation  
La Crosse Flyers Club  
La Crosse Jaycees  
La Crosse Lions Club  
La Crosse Public Library  
Leithold Music  
Logan High School  
Longfellow Middle School  
Luxemburg/American Descendents Society  
Main Street Ingredients  
Midwest Security Insurance  
Mississippi Valley Chiropractic  
Mississippi Valley Mayhem  
Mutual of Omaha Golf Tournament  
National Association of Letter Carriers  
Neighbor for Neighbor Food Pantry  
New Horizons  
North Country Steak Buffet  
North Presbyterian Church  
Oktoberfest Festival  
Olivet Lutheran Church  
Onalaska Emergency Food Basket  
Options Clinic



# FOOD PACKAGE DISTRIBUTION 1986-2009



# TOTAL POUNDAGE DISTRIBUTED 2001-2009

