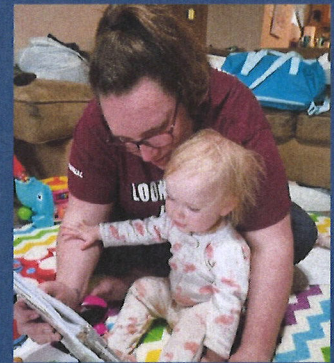


Pine River-Backus Family Center 2022 Annual Report



prbfamilycenter.org

ABOUT US

The Pine River-Backus Family Center has been providing needed services and quality programs directly to local families for 26 years. Our desire to strengthen our community brings new life and hope into the homes of our neighbors. Together we work to ensure all families have what they need to reach their full potential and make positive contributions to their community.

In 2022, the Pine River Area Food Shelf partnered with Lakes Area Food Shelf, CommUnity Meals and Brakstad Farms. The idea was sourcing fresh produce from local growers and offering it to our neighbors who visit the Food Shelf and receive prepared meals from Chef Brian.

A pilot program funded by a Community Impact Grant from Sourcewell became a huge success. Our neighbors who visited both food shelves were appreciative that they were able to provide fresh healthy produce on a regular basis for their families. Because this project is a pilot program, we are taking our lessons learned with another request for phase 2023.

In order to implement this project, a walk-in cooler/freezer was installed to accommodate produce. We are grateful for the many partners who provided funding support to bring the installation to fruition.

I would also like to thank the many partners behind the scenes who support our work by serving on Advisory Boards, Leadership Committees and our wonderful volunteers who build our capacity to serve neighbors in our community.

Finally, we could not do this work without a team of committed staff. Each and every one of you makes a difference every day!

OUR TEAM



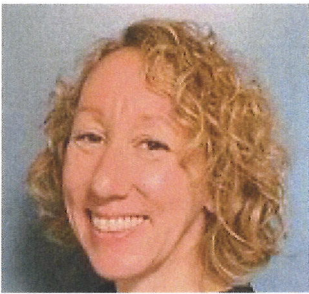
Leslie Bouchonville
Executive Director



LuAnn Gravelle
Office Manager
Food Shelf Coordinator



Jodi Perry
Food Shelf Coordinator



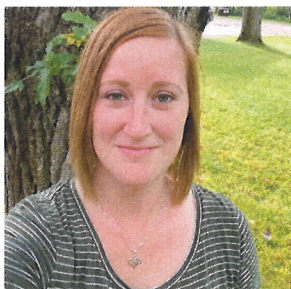
Nicki Linsten-Lodge
Regional Prevention
Coordinator



**Alex Raiden
Ritter**
Web Designer, Editor,
Social Media
Manager



Amy Gordon
Family Support
Specialist



Ashley Hesse
Parent Child+ Program
Home Visitor



Andi Streng
Parent Child+ Program
Home Visitor

FAMILY CENTER HOME VISITING PINE RIVER SITE

"Hand in hand for early success"

Working together to build a secure foundation for newborn babies and their parents, Family Support Specialists work with families to determine what they want for their children and their families; then support them in planning how to reach those goals. A family in our program will receive research based information on what to expect at certain stages in their child's life. They'll learn how they can support their child to become the happy healthy person every parent wants their child to be. Family Center Home Visiting has been serving our community for 16 years!

In 2022, 366 visits were completed with 14 families. We are proud to share that our program had a 91% retention rate in 2022.

Family Center Home Visiting



- Working together to build a secure foundation for newborn babies and their parents
- Family home visiting provides voluntary stabilizing support for families, experiencing high-risk factors where they are most comfortable – at home and in their community.

In 2022, the Family Center Home Visiting
provided 583 visits to 22 families

Serving the communities of Northland, Pillager and Pine River-Backus

ParentChild+

Equal Possibilities From The Start

Parent Child+ is a program of the Northland Area Family Service Center and Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis. Our service area covers the Northland and Pine River-Backus school districts.

Staff: Ashley Hesse, Renee Bettenberg, and Andria Streng - Early Learning Specialists

ParentChild+ is a free home-visiting program that works to strengthen families and empower parents by providing them with the skills and resources they need to prepare their children for school success. The program is built around an intensive two-year home-visiting model that builds school readiness, child development and parenting skills. ParentChild+ helps the whole family address challenges and prepare for the future.

- Participating families receive free educational books and toys.
- Families begin the program when their child is 18 months to 2.5 years old.
- Trained early learning specialists work with families in their homes two times a week for two years.

Our Early Learning Specialists model engaging and educational activities for parents and children together and then support parents as they take on the role of their children's first teachers. Children who participated in ParentChild+ are 50% more likely to be ready for kindergarten and graduated high school at a rate of 30% higher than their socio-economic peers.

In 2022, 717 visits were completed with 27 families. In May of 2022, 8 children graduated from the 2-year program. This 2-year program runs September to the end of May.

ParentChild+ 2022 graduating children



Pine River Area Food Shelf

Pine River Area Food Shelf is a SuperShelf food program meaning we strive to offer a wide variety of produce, proteins, staple foods, and hygiene items in a welcoming environment for neighbors. We use a "client choice" model which allows neighbors to pick items which their family will use. During 2022, the Food Shelf distributed 80,412 pounds of food with a total of 3,010 neighbor visits. We assisted 45 new households. Our volunteers generously served 1,906 hours of their time working shifts in the Food Shelf, unloading trucks and serving on the Food Shelf Advisory Board. All of these hours were spent making sure no one in our community goes hungry! We started a collaborative pilot program with Lakes Area Food Shelf and CommUnity Meals, (with support from a Sourcewell Community Impact Grant), to provide fresh produce sourced locally from Brakstad Farms and a few other local growers. Lastly, we said goodbye to our beloved Food Shelf Coordinator, Jodi Perry, as she retired. We are grateful for her years of dedication to our Food Shelf and our neighbors.



Brakstad Farms Farm to Food Shelf 2022



**We are grateful for our Volunteers and
their dedication to helping our neighbors!**



Family Support

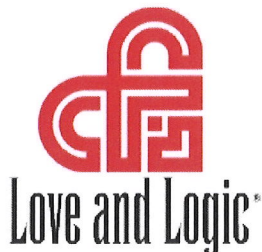
The Family Center works to meet the changing needs of families and children. We believe these supports help to strengthen our community. In 2022, the Family Center Family Support Staff served a total of 1407 neighbors. Those services included Salvation Army vouchers, MNsure Navigator assistance, faxing, printing and referrals to other outside resources such as needed.

Love and Logic - 3 sessions of parenting classes were held in Spring of 2022 with 8 families completing the class.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program/NAPS for seniors moved to a "client choice" in 2022. With "client choice" neighbors are able to chose foods they like and meet their dietary needs.

In 2021, the Family Center partnered with the Reach Justice MN project. We have two Legal Kiosks at the Family Center for community use. Appointments can be scheduled online or by telephone or in-person. Minnesota Courts have begun to refer individuals to their nearest Legal Kiosk as an option to attend court hearings via Zoom. Neighbors can also access the Legal Kiosk for other valuable information. A few individuals were able to make good use of the Legal Kiosk in 2022. We look forward to continuing to find ways to help our communities with easy access to support services.

For more than two decades, Christmas for Kids has helped area children ages birth to eighteen have a brighter Christmas. This gift giving program is made possible by the generous donations of local businesses and community members. This program was started by the Smith family and the Pine River-Backus Family Center is honored to carry on this long-standing tradition of supporting our local children and their families. To participate in this program the child(ren) must live in the Pine River-Backus School District or attend the Pine River-Backus Schools, qualify for free or reduced lunch and live full-time in the home. Business and community members continue to support this program. This year students from Pine River-Backus High School National Honor Society helped prepare gifts for distribution. With the donations and help from students we were able to support 74 families and 206 children.



Collaborative Services

REGIONAL PREVENTION COORDINATOR

The Family Center holds a contract with the State of Minnesota to serve as an employer and home base for the Region 3 Prevention Coordinator. The Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC) for the West Central Region is engaged with 12 formal coalitions to address youth substance use and/or mental health. Offering support in a wide variety of avenues including Vaping curriculums, trainings for prevention professionals, Responsible Beverage Server Training and creating Positive Community Norms messaging. Goals for Region 3 work include: networking and connecting with those who do direct service with youth, providing needed support to all communities interested in addressing youth substance use prevention and breaking down barriers that make it difficult for communities to work on youth mental health and youth substance abuse simultaneously.

CHILD AND TEEN CHECKUPS

Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) are provided through Cass County Public Health monthly at the Family Center. This is a great opportunity for you to receive a Well-Child Checkup for your child between the ages of 6 months and 12 years old. C&TC Clinics are on hold until further notice from Cass County Public Health. However, we have continued to do outreach via mail and telephone calls with families who are eligible for C&TC.

Women Infant Children (WIC)

During the pandemic Cass County has provided WIC via telephone.

Family Planning Clinics were offered during 2022.

Child and Teen
Checkups 



Collaborative Services

CommUnity Meals

CommUnity Meals began in 2019 as a way to rescue food and in turn provide free meals to our community. This program is funded by public rescued/donated food along with donations from individuals and businesses. Volunteers help to serve meals to our neighbors. This collaborative effort continues today serving two meals weekly, Pine River (Riverview Church) on Monday and Backus (Pine Mountaineer Senior Center) on Thursday.

Curbside pickup and delivery by volunteers is available. CommUnity Meals served over 12,500 meals between these locations in 2022. Also in 2022, CommUnity Meals, Pine River Area Food Shelf, and Lakes Area Food Shelf started a collaborative pilot program with support from a Sourcewell Community Impact Grant to provide fresh produce sourced locally from Brakstad Farms and a few other local growers. With this effort, we were able to provide fresh produce in meals for our neighbors.



Board of Directors

Gina Dabill

Carol Lovro

Ardis Anderberg

Kathleen Stephan

Mari Shackelford

Karen Goodenough

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for investing in the important work we do in Cass County Communities. Your donations are used to improve and often change lives of children and adults in our community. Without your support we could not do our work. If you or someone you know wishes to continue to support our work, please have them call the PR-B Family Center at 218-587-4292. You may also find links to donate on our website.

www.prbfamilycenter.org



Pine River-Backus Family Center
Summary Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2022

	<u>Dec 31, 22</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	390,956.84
Accounts Receivable	29,821.94
Other Current Assets	6,646.25
Total Current Assets	<u>427,425.03</u>
Fixed Assets	<u>137,261.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>564,686.03</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	5,061.71
Other Current Liabilities	81,329.75
Total Current Liabilities	<u>86,391.46</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>86,391.46</u>
Equity	<u>478,294.57</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>564,686.03</u>