



**PINE RIVER - BACKUS**  
**Family Center**  
"Strengthening Families and  
Building a Strong Community"  
[www.prbfamilycenter.org](http://www.prbfamilycenter.org)  
218-587-4292

The logo features a blue square background. At the top, there is a white silhouette of a family (two adults and a child) holding hands and reaching up towards three stars. Below the illustration, the text "PINE RIVER - BACKUS Family Center" is written in a serif font. Underneath that, the mission statement "Strengthening Families and Building a Strong Community" is enclosed in quotes. At the bottom, the website URL and phone number are listed.

# Annual Report 2024

# Board of Directors

Gina Dabill ~ Chair

Carol Lovro ~ Vice-Chair

Ardis Anderberg ~ Secretary

Kathleen Stephan ~ Financial Officer

Karen Goodenough ~ Board Member

## Staff

Leslie Bouchonville ~ Executive Director

LuAnn Gravelle ~ Office Manager, Food Shelf Coordinator

Amy Gordon ~Family Support Specialist

Nicki Linsten-Lodge ~ Regional Prevention Coordinator

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

The Pine River-Backus Family Center has been providing quality support and programs to our community's families for 29 years. With a passion for helping, we will continue to strive to ensure all families' needs are met through the programs and support we offer and partner with.

We greatly appreciate our partners who support our work by serving on Advisory Boards, Leadership Committees, and our phenomenal volunteers who increase our ability to serve neighbors in our community.

Our committed staff come together daily here at the Family Center to make a difference in our community. We thank them all for their dedication to their work and the compassion they show towards everyone.

We are fortunate to collaborate with several agencies and programs to continue strengthening our community. In 2024, Family Support Staff served 1,800 neighbors, including Salvation Army vouchers, MNsure Navigator assistance, faxing, printing, form assistance, and resource connection as needed. A job counselor from the employment program, Rural Minnesota CEP, provided face-to-face support to community members enrolled in their program. The Family Center mentored an intern from the Rural Minnesota CEP program who worked 567.75 hours.



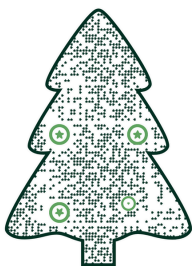
Legal Resources - The Justice Bus for 60+ and Justice North visit the Food Shelf alternating months on the 3rd Tuesday of each month providing neighbors with answers to legal questions. We also have two Legal Kiosks available to the community by appointment or drop-in for accessing forms or remotely attending court hearings.

Find answers about these topics and more at a nearby Legal Kiosk :



Our Family Support Specialist served 13 families, including 13 children and 1 prenatal in 304 visits in our community. Some goals these families reported achieving in 2024 include therapy, creating family routine, applying for housing assistance, getting their permit/license, and getting their AA degree.

Offered through the Northland Family Center, the Parent Child Plus Program has served 11 families in our community throughout the 2023/2024 school year, encouraging healthy development in children and preparing them for school.



Christmas for Kids is a giving program that is made possible by generous donations from our local businesses and community members to help provide a joy filled Christmas for all families. In 2024, we were able to support 80 families in the Pine River-Backus School district, helping 217 kids have a Merry Christmas.



In 2024, we served 405 unduplicated households (1,138 individuals), 2,612 duplicated households (6,153 individuals), 184 of those households being new (537 individuals) - distributing 123,495 pounds of food. Volunteers generously donated 2,057 hours of their time working shifts, unloading trucks, and serving on our Food Shelf advisory board, aiding in our fight to end hunger for our neighbors.



**FARMS 2 FOOD SHELF**

We finished our 3rd year with our Farms 2 Food Shelf program, purchasing 8,884 pounds of fresh produce, farm fresh eggs, wild rice, and honey from local growers to provide more healthy and sustainable options in our Food Shelf for neighbors.

In partnership with Second Harvest - Northland, Family Center staff and volunteers helped with 524 pickups of the Commodity Supplemental Food Program for Seniors.



In 2024 we served 16,270 meals with the help of 590 outstanding volunteers

**Pine River - Backus Community Meals**

**Mondays:**  
**Riverview Church**  
**310 Norway Ave.**  
**Pine River, MN 56474**

**Thursdays:**  
**Pine Mountaineer Senior Center**  
**131 Front St. N.**  
**Backus, MN 56435**

**Curbside Pickup**  
**4pm - 5pm**

The Family Center has held a contract with the state of Minnesota for 10 plus years to serve as a host site for the Region 3 Prevention Coordinator.



Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) are Provided through Cass County Public Health. 2-day monthly clinics returned to the Family Center in 2024

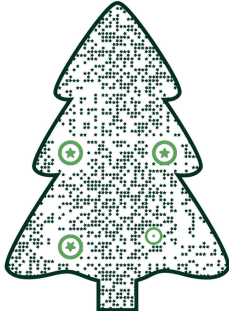
Women Infant Children (WIC) 2-day clinics are held monthly.

Family Planning Clinics offered by appointment in 2024

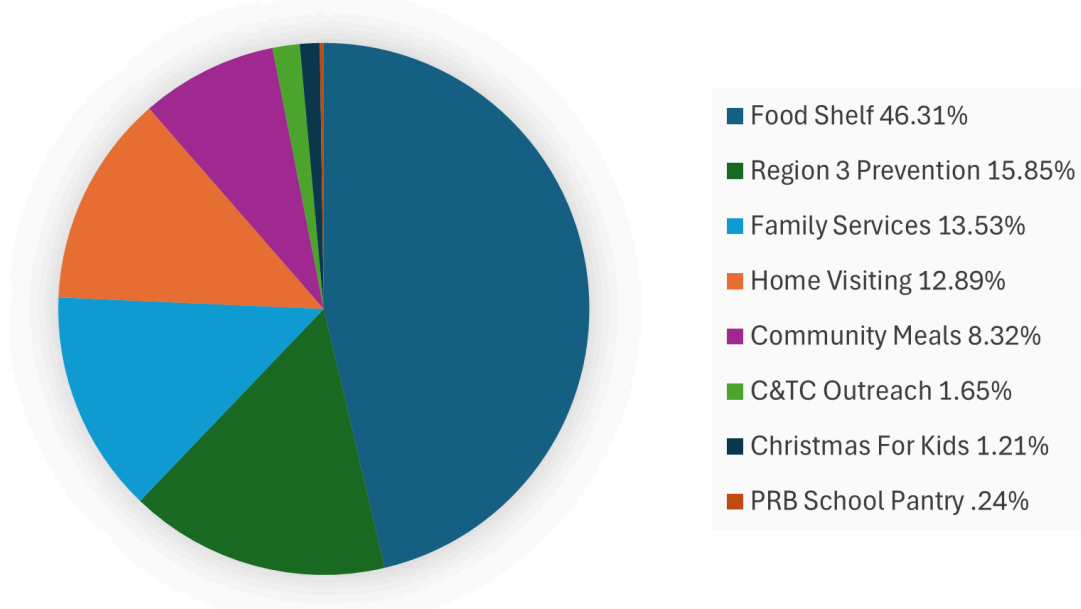


Everyone here at the Family Center would like to take this opportunity to thank you for investing in the crucial work we do in our local communities! Your donations and support help us to continue to invest in our community to positively impact the lives of its members. We would not be able to do this work without your support.

If you, or someone you know, wishes to continue to support our work, please reach out to us at 218-587-4292. You may also find links to donate on our website ~ prbfamilycenter.org



## Program-Income Summary



## Program-Expense Summary

