President’s Message
Good Job. Now Get Back to Work
By Rick Mueller

Maybe I am oversharing, but do any of you have a little voice in your head that talks
to you like I have? No, mine isn’t evil creepy sounding, trying to get me to do bad
things. Mine sounds like my own voice, and it helps me analyze thoughts and things
that are happening in my life. It gets mad when I make a mistake or forget something,
like the rolls on Christmas day (sorry, Fran), and it is happy when things go well.
It helps me evaluate and plan to make things in my life better. A couple of weeks ago,
I was able to take almost a whole day and do nothing but listen to my voice. Like it
has done for most of the last year, it talked to me about ECHO.

My voice told me that last year was ECHO’s most challenging year. The need for ECHO services has never been
greater. More families were hungry, lived in unstable housing, lacked dependable transportation, and needed help
to make it to the next month. ECHO staff worked in a construction zone for more than six months, stepping over
building materials, moving and removing their things. They were constantly adapting to continue providing
essential service to clients. ECHO was also stretched to its financial limits.

As I contemplated all of these challenges, my voice brought me back from the depths of despair. It reminded me
of all the great things ECHO has going for it. ECHO now has an incredible facility that enables it to better serve
the needs of the community, thanks to an anonymous donor. The new receiving area allows us to move and store
food and other needed products much faster, so that we can accept more food donations than before. The social
services wing has been reconfigured, so that our caseworkers can provide ECHO’s most important services.

My voice reminded me how dedicated the ECHO staff is. One night last summer, I woke up in the middle of the
night in a panic, thinking that I had left the laminator on at my shop. I jumped in my car and sped to my office
and of course, the laminator was off, but on the way home I drove by the ECHO building. I saw Karen’s lone car
in the parking lot. As I passed Karen’s office, I saw the light was on and she was sitting at her desk working, maybe
finishing a report, working on a grant, or maybe just figuring out how she was going (continued on Page 3)

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In ECHO’s March 1999 newsletter, ECHO Charity Central, I introduced you to Sue McCrone, who I hired 1-20-99 to be on our professional social services staff. We have grown tremendously since then, and several years ago, I wanted to share the load of administering ECHO’s Housing Services. Sue became the supervisor of our Rent and Lodging assistance, still seeing clients for all of our many services. Sue has left us at the end of the day on January 15, after 17 years of doing an awesome job at ECHO. Sue is leaving to begin a different adventure, hoping to help people in a different way. The ECHO staff will miss her immensely.

Our clients will miss her also. I feel that the articles in that newsletter are pertinent today and the majority of my column will be from it.

Rev. Percy Smerek, ECHO Board President and Pastor started his column: The Test. Yes, there is always a test...The test comes every day as you wake up and face the work, the people and the surprises of the day. Are you ready for the challenges you will face? Are you prepared, trained and equipped to take on the opportunities given you? This is the real test of life...The test for ECHO is: Are we able to serve those in need better this year than last? Are we equipped to handle the increased numbers of food requests...and the constant calls for housing and lodging that have been increasing all of 1998 and do not seem to be stopping...Are there donors willing to write one more check, churches willing to make more regular appeals to people who have already given much and often?...The test will come to ECHO every day. So far we are passing the test...So far we can have pride in the people, the donations and the service that has been given...Tomorrow will be another test.

Sister Katie Kelter, who was President when I was hired in January 1995, wrote a column: Money Doesn’t Grow on Trees. She said: It has often been said that “Money is the root of all evil” but try telling that to the Executive Director, the staff and all the volunteers and others connected with ECHO! Without this evil root, ECHO would not be able to accomplish its mission of direct ministry to the people of the Janesville area who are in need. Sr. Katie details our revenue for 1998, after which she continues: At this point, many may be scratching their heads, saying, “That seems like a sizable amount of money.” Yet, when we review the flip side of the financial picture—ECHO disbursements—these figures pale! She details that. She also states that disbursements for 1998 increased $58,000 over 1997...This is certainly cause for commendation!

This was a 12-page newsletter, chock full of articles. One of the nice things about this newsletter is that many Board members and others in the community wrote articles. Jessica would love that. A couple of them included: Paula Hellenbrand, who wrote about what it was like for her church to adopt in ECHO’s Christmas Adopt-a-Family. She indicated that for her family, it created a worthwhile and exciting Christmas memory...consider creating a similar memory for your family next year. Ruth Ann Potts wrote about Why Do People Give? Ruth Ann wrote: ECHO has been the recipient of the generosity of individuals and churches in the community since 1969. Have you ever wondered why people give? For most of us, we give to help others, sometimes it makes us feel good, sometimes we like the recognition, and sometimes we would like to control where our money goes. Social capital is a new phrase that describes the income we work for, that may go out in tax payment. Many people are becoming more thoughtful about their social capital and taking a greater charitable tax deduction, by making gifts to local charities they are familiar with and know are doing a good job. They can see the effect of their contributions in the community.

My column was about Homelessness. I still say: There is not a day that goes by that someone in Janesville won’t go without food or a reasonable place to lay their head down at night... In 1998, ECHO provided 4,874 shelter nights...We try to prevent homelessness by offering emergency rent assistance...provided rent help to 312 families in 1998...

Unemployment is down...Why are people needing more help from ECHO?...the majority of our clients are struggling to support themselves on low wages, part-time or temporary jobs. The working poor have always been ECHO's primary client base. They lack education, skills, transportation, and other resources to get jobs where they can earn a livable wage and benefits, yet have the added expenses and pressures that any of us who work outside the home have. Janesville has experienced steady population growth, including a significant increase in the low-income population. But this is only a part of the answer to this complex question...here’s another aspect to think about. Since the early 1980s, popular and political rhetoric essentially blames the person who is homeless for his or her homelessness....blaming individuals and families (yes, children also) for their homeless plight ignores another part of the picture...The availability of low-income housing and job opportunities for low-skilled workers have decreased in relation to a growing working poor population. People are competing for the same low-skilled jobs, especially those that pay a livable wage...

(Continued on next page)
Services that ECHO provides do not eliminate poverty, or make the poor less poor. They help people already in poverty to survive. Hopefully, we can help fill in the gaps or provide in emergencies... But, what would happen if ECHO didn’t exist, or didn’t have enough resources to help people? I believe that crime would increase: theft; domestic violence; child abuse and neglect, and also children being placed in foster care; increased alcohol and drug problems, etc.

Comparing just three of our 30 services, in 1998, ECHO provided 4,874 shelter nights, rent help to 312 families, and a week’s supply of groceries to 4,783 families/13,552 people. In 2010 we provided 4,253 shelter nights and rent help to 693 families. We provided a week’s supply of groceries to 8,316 families/26,039 people in 2010. That year, we had to take out a loan and cut transportation services for one month in fall due to funding shortfalls. In 2014, we provided 4,881 shelter nights and rent help to 434 families, and a week’s supply of groceries to 9,098 families/26,991 people. We operated on a loan and had cutbacks in place for two months in fall.

My 21st year at ECHO – 2015 – was both the best and worst year I have experienced at ECHO. It was the Best, thanks to one donor who understood our need; we were able to add two additions to our building so that we could better serve our clients. We have better space for serving clients, better and safer food receiving, and increased storage capacity for both perishable and non-perishable food. That money could only be used for the Building Project, not client services. We would love to have you come for a tour any time during our business day, or by appointment after-hours, so you can see what was done and have a better understanding of why it was needed.

It was the Worst, because of the funding shortfall. Donations from churches were down 14%, from Other Contributors combined down 11%, Overall down 11%, Grants earmarked for rent help up 2%. We operated on a loan for 8 of 12 months, cut transportation services for 11 months, cut lodging for six months and significantly decreased rent assistance for three months. It is a miracle that the staff was able to keep ECHO in operation. Our loan didn’t get fully paid off until the end of December. We were only able to provide 1,404 shelter nights, a 71% decrease compared to 2014. We provided rent help to 383 families, down 12% from 2014, but for five months, these were only partial months’ rent, even though the families owed much more. This increases the risk of homelessness, at a time when we couldn’t provide lodging.

ECHO is a grassroots organization, started by the churches in this area, because they saw the need. We are not part of a national organization. Local support is our lifeblood. ECHO needs to stay afloat to help the vulnerable in our community. Having stable housing, food and other basics gives people hope that they can tackle obstacles in their path toward achieving self-sufficiency. Your actions make a difference at ECHO, in this community, and in your lives and hearts. If you need more information, contact me. Thank you for your support!

President’s Message

(continued from Page 1) to juggle things to keep ECHO operating. Her leadership and dedication have kept ECHO going through the last year. When things were darkest for ECHO, some staff donated their paychecks back to ECHO. Through all the challenges, they never complained about the conditions or the hours. They just asked, what else can I do?

ECHO volunteers also stepped up last year. Whether it was leading ECHO by serving on the Board of Directors, packaging food orders, participating in one of our many fundraisers, bundling up and walking through a foot of snow in the middle of a blizzard to make sure everyone had food for Thanksgiving, or serving dinner on Christmas day, ECHO volunteers continued to show there is no obstacle they could not overcome. Thanks to all the donors, grocery stores, restaurants and food companies that donate food to ECHO, we never had to say “I’m sorry, we don’t have any food.”

I was feeling pretty good by this time, so my voice had to bring me back down to Earth. It said: “Good job on what was done last year, but 2016 is a new year with new obstacles and new challenges, so quit goofing off and get back to work.” The need for ECHO services will be even greater this year, so we will have to work harder, be more efficient, and find new solutions to meet the needs of our community. Karen always says that we have to have faith and believe that things will work out. I believe in ECHO, the staff and volunteers. I know we will continue to serve our community this year and for many years to come.

We Are ECHO.
2016 Janesville CROP Hunger Walk  
April 24, 2016 at 1:00 pm

We received the final report from Church World Service for the results of our 2015 Walk. You raised $45,024.95 to provide food for the hungry locally and globally and to provide clean/safe drinking water for the millions who do not have access to it. Thank you! Church World Service also reported in 2015 we were the largest Walk in Wisconsin. Historically we have been third behind Madison and Milwaukee. That changed in 2015.

Our Bible verse for 2016 comes at the end of the parable of the Good Samaritan when Jesus says to the gathered crowd: “Go and do likewise.” Luke 10:37. You embodied the spirit of that verse last year as you worked hard to raise funds for the one Jesus called “neighbor”. You defined neighbor as the ones in Janesville living at or below the poverty line who rely heavily on ECHO for enough food to feed their families. You defined neighbor as the ones in Africa, Central America, Asia who do not have access to clean/safe drinking water and the thousands who get desperately ill as a consequence. Many children die as a direct consequence of drinking water that is neither clean nor safe. You had a sweeping definition of neighbor and you heeded Jesus’ words to “Go and do likewise.” Thank you for your incredible generosity.

The 2015 Walk is officially completed so it is time to begin thinking about 2016. There are two very important dates to remember.

- **Saturday, March 5th 8:30 am** breakfast at the Citrus Café for all Recruiters and Pastors. This is our gift to you as an expression of our gratitude for your hard work. You will also get to meet the new Church World Service staff member, Jon Skogen.

- **Sunday, April 24th 1:00 pm** the 39th Janesville CROP Hunger Walk will gather at Cargill United Methodist Church at 2000 Wesley in Janesville.

The 2015 Walk is officially completed so it is time to begin thinking about 2016. There are two very important dates to remember.

Deb Fisher
Chair, Janesville CROP Hunger Walk

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**Sentry Slips for ECHO**

A huge thank you to all who have shopped at Sentry, asked for a Sentry sticker, saved the receipts and delivered them to the Sentry folder inside the back door at ECHO. The grand total combining both Sentry stores in Janesville for 2015 was $1,690.00. Congratulations for your wonderful effort and success.

A reminder is in order for the Sentry rules which we need to follow: The receipts must have a sticker, cannot be over one year old, must have the date at the bottom of the receipt and can only be from the two Sentry stores in Janesville. We have been receiving receipts from several stores other than Sentry, receipts with the date cut off and many over a year old from the current month. Please keep track of the rules so we don’t have to discard piles of unusable receipts. Many thanks!

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**ECHO Mailbag**

*Thank you so much for teaming up with WJJO for Sonic Boom! Can’t wait to do it again next year!*  
Bonnie O from WJJO

*Once again, I want to tell you how much I appreciate everything you do for me and I am truly grateful.*  
ECHO Client

*To ECHO Staff and Sponsors, my family truly appreciate all the support and presents for Christmas. You helped make it a memorable holiday. Thank you so much.*  
ECHO Client
Things I Have Learned During My Time at ECHO

As I am leaving ECHO, I have a few things I would like to share with you. There have been many benefits to working here. Things I hope I never forget or have to relearn. Things that shaped the way I’ve lived and looked at life.

The people I have gotten to serve have been amazing…insightful, caring, faith filled, sad, troubled, dirty, worried, scared, insecure, happy, beautiful, friendly, angry. Just like all of us. I have shed many tears here…tears of sadness, tears of joy, tears of frustration. There is no other place I know of where you can see the incredible strength of the human spirit. The amount of hardships that one person can handle has exceeded my comprehension. I thank all of those who have allowed me to serve them. You have helped me in more ways than you will ever know.

The volunteers are the backbone of ECHO, which couldn’t exist without them. They give tirelessly of their time, talent and friendship. This backbone also extends to all the churches, organizations, companies, and individuals/families who generously donate to ECHO, trusting us to provide for those in need. A big responsibility but one my co-workers work diligently to find the best practices to administer services that show compassion and accountability. Karen Lisser, who has a huge heart, works endless hours promoting, serving, and supporting ECHO. I don’t have the words to express how much I’ve enjoyed working with all of you and how much I will miss you. I thank you for your immeasurable service.

A few things you may not know. 98% of ECHO’s funding is for direct assistance and 2% is for administration. More than 70% of those we serve work. (40 hours at $7.50 grosses roughly $1200/month, doesn’t go very far for any size family.) We’ve gotten complaints that people take advantage of the system. I’m pretty sure 0.1% take advantage. They are there and unfortunately the human spirit tends to focus only on the negative and not the positive. We tend to talk about the one bad thing that happened in our day instead of all of the good. We aren’t perfect, but as Sister Katie would advise, “Err on giving too much instead of not enough.” Good words to live by. We don’t target the “deserving”. I’ve never been sure who that is, but have heard it a lot. We help without discrimination. Again, we have rules and policies in place to guide us but remember it isn’t easy to ask for help, which could entail waiting in a line in all kinds of weather, divulging your personal and financial situation, and never knowing what you might receive. Lastly, things are never as they seem. It’s hard not to judge. For example, just because someone might drive a decent car to ECHO, doesn’t mean it is theirs. I would guess 25% of the people who come to ECHO don’t own a vehicle.

Finally, what I have learned. I have learned everything I have is on loan to me and can be taken away by one or any number of catastrophes. I have learned to live a simple life. It’s hard to go out and buy things when you’ve seen people without the basic necessities. I have learned everybody needs a little help every now and then. Help can come in many forms; getting food from ECHO, talking to a troubled friend, or visiting someone who is sick. They are all gifts to share. I’ve been blessed to give out the gifts provided by this community. A task I never took lightly, a task I will miss.

Please give to ECHO. You will be blessed in ways you’ll never imagine. Ways I hope I never forget.

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” –Winston Churchill

Sue McCrone, Client Advocate
Name: Joanne Anderson

How long have you volunteered at ECHO? *As long as the current building has been in operation (2002).*

How did you get involved at ECHO? *When ECHO’s current building was completed, there was an open house. My husband, John, and I toured the facility. I was impressed and looked for a way to volunteer.*

What do you do at ECHO? *I work one morning a week in the food pantry, selecting and packing groceries and staples for families. How much depends on what is currently available and the size and needs of the families.*

What is your favorite thing about ECHO? *That one is busy and pleasantly employed directly doing an obvious worthwhile service in the company of very nice like-minded people.*

What is one thing about ECHO that surprised you when you started volunteering? *Nothing really surprised me but I am impressed with all that ECHO does and how well organized are its various enterprises - especially the food pantry.*

**2015 Service Highlights**

◊ Provided services to 3,317 unduplicated households
◊ Provided 3,365,612 meals
◊ Provided 1,404 nights in a motel to the homeless
◊ Provided 383 months of rent to prevent homelessness
◊ Provided 151 households with transportation assistance

**Needed Large Brown Paper Bags, Plastic Bags, Twist Ties & Plastic Bottles**

Drop them off at ECHO (65 S. High St., Janesville) Mon.-Fri. 9am-Noon, or Mon.-Thur. 1-4pm

**ECHO Needs**

Soup and Crackers
Mac & Cheese
Cereal
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Canned Meals
Instant Coffee
Feminine Supplies
Toilet Paper
Diapers

We have homeless and hungry families in our community that need a roof over their heads to prepare food we provide. **Will you please consider making a difference by making a donation to help those in need?**

$30 □ $60 □ $120 □ $250 □ $500 □ Other □ $___________

Name: _____________________ Phone #: ___________ E-Mail: ______________________________
Address: ___________________________ Zip Code: ______________

Donations can also be made online at www.echojanesville.org

For payment by credit card, visit our website above.

Your gift is tax deductible as provided by law. Thank you for your support.
As we enter into another new year, ECHO is given another opportunity to help its neighbors in our community. 2015 was very demanding for ECHO's fundraising committee. Thanks to the community, we did make our fundraising goal. But like all goals, it was an amount to aim for. We have to increase ECHO's goals, as community needs always go up. ECHO is always working hard to increase funding to help our neighbors. We give thanks to each and everyone in our community. ECHO could not keep its doors open without everyone's prayers, volunteering and donations. Remember, ECHO is totally dependent on you, the community, to help your neighbors.

Thank you, again. May the Peace of the Lord be yours in 2016.

Andrea B. Morse
Fundraising Chair

www.facebook.com/ECHOJanesville

Upcoming Events

Your $1 donation will be used to help families in our community who are in need.

Purchase a heart at these participating locations for their Valentine wall for Valentine’s Day.

Basics Cooperative  East Point Sportz
Bass Creek Espresso   Fuddruckers
BHCCU   Harris Ace Hardware
Choice Cleaners   My Apartment
Citrus Café   Shady Nook
Commercial Bank   Trading Spaces
Culvers   Wedge Inn East

Strike Out Hunger

Saturday
February 20
9pm to Midnight

$15 per person

RiversEdge Bowl
215 S River St

Unlimited Bowling
Group Discounts
Raffles
Prizes
And Much More!

Questions?
Call Jessica at 754-5333
SWING into SPRING

Saturday, March 12, 2016
7:00-11:00pm
Janesville Moose Lodge

Open to the Public

Featuring music by LADIES MUST SWING

Cash Bar - Silent Auction - Raffle

Tickets: $12
Available at ECHO - 65 S High St
or at www.echojanesville.org

Proceeds Benefit ECHO
Everyone Cooperating to Help Others
Turkey Trot - Thanks to all our sponsors and to those who volunteered or ran in our 2nd Annual Turkey Trot. It was very balmy compared to last year! We had 163 runners come out to support those less fortunate in our community! Please thank these sponsors next time you are in their establishment for sponsoring the Turkey Trot: Android, Angus-Young Associates, Dona Bolton, E&D Water Works, Festival Foods, Friends of Riverside Park, McDonald Law Office, Road ID, Throndsen Lettering, TriMark Dental Clinic.

Thanksgiving Baskets - Thank you to the donors and over 300 volunteers who braved our first winter storm to help pack and hand out 596 baskets. The Thanksgiving Baskets provided food for 2,261 people.

Holiday Express - Thank you to everyone who helped out and came to the ECHO Holiday Express. Many individuals, young and old, viewed How the Grinch Stole Christmas, visited with Santa, and made holiday crafts on November 29 at the Pontiac Convention Center. Many thanks to those who helped keep the event low-cost to those who attended this great event! Put November 27 on your calendar for this year’s Holiday Express.

Adopt a Family (AAF) - This was my 6th year to work with the Adopt a Family program, and each year I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the donors; this past year 90 families received gifts. Drop-off day is always a bit overwhelming and chaotic. I’m sure you can imagine the volume of gifts coming in, and those of you who have delivered gifts to the ECHO office have seen first-hand the Community Room stuffed to the max due to the generosity of the ECHO donors. It’s truly wonderful how much you care for people you do not even know. I was blessed with many Thank-you’s and hugs, from the clients who participated in the Adopt a Family program, to pass along to their Donor Family. On behalf of the many Adopt a Family recipients, ECHO Staff, and ECHO Board, we would like to say THANK YOU to the donors who call ECHO every year to adopt a family, as well as our many first time Adopt a Family donors. Your generosity makes it possible to continue this great program year after year.

Tonya Frerichs, Client Advocate

Christmas Toys - Many thanks to those who donated toys and/or cash to help provide a Christmas for 503 children and adults in need with the Christmas Toy Program. Thank you also to the many wonderful ECHO elves who helped sort toys and assist parents on the day of the event.

Christmas Dinner - ECHO also thanks the many volunteers who came to the Christmas Dinner and helped serve 735 meals at St. Williams Catholic Church, who graciously donated their space for the dinner. ECHO would also like to give a big shout out to Chef Stan Arnold and his many volunteers who make all of the yummy food.
In Memoriam:
Since our last newsletter, we received contributions in memory of the following ECHO friends. Their families and friends are in our thoughts and prayers.

Anna Alexander        Tom Finucan        Mrs. Jane Reid
Fr. John Auby         Don & Marlene Fuller    Mr. Scott Reid
Ruth Berger           Gary Geller           Geraldine Rice
Ann Bevens            Mary Gilbertson       Fred Ray Ritter
Nathan & Gwen Bliss   Jerry Hendrickson     Cookie & Harry Robbins
Lois Brenann          Bob Huschka           Joyce Rogge
Vicki Brunner         Ron Kildow             Phyllis Rude
Ruth, Amos & David Budahn    Beatta Kipfer       John T. Rule
Margaret Burdette     Christine Klusendorf  Ann Schork
William Burke         Elaine Knowles         Dick Shanker
Greg Burns            Edward Knutson         Fannie Shefte
Patricia Consigny     Sina Marie Knutson   Ginny Spors
Mrs. Anthony Constantino Dick LaChapell   Darrell Stearns
Danielle Du Bois      Rudolph & Genevieve Lothary    James & Norine Turner
Eunice Erdman         Jim Marchant           Verne Vollrath
Rojean Erlien         Paul Meyer             Gerald Waldsmith
Bill Feldt            Linda Miller            Gary Woodworth
Cathy Fierias         Robert Otto            Blanche Ziegler
Robert Finnane, Sr.   Alice Punzel

In Honor:
We join the families and friends in congratulating the following ECHO friends who were honored by donations in celebration of their birthday, anniversary, or special occasion.

Karen Budahn Lisser       Tom Herring                     Dr. Marshall Purdy – 100th Birthday
Dennis Burnett & Family   Grace Jackson – 90th Birthday    Elizabeth Reid
Zac Curtis Family         Robert & Trudi Likes          Dee & Tim Revere
Steve & Kathy Dean of Mocha Moment    Fr. Tom Marr        Barb Smith
Anastasia Folbrecht       Joe McCalmount                 Tony Smithson – Birthday
Joe Forrestal            Jack McCrone                    Margaret Udey – 90th Birthday
Dorris Frye               Ruth & Joe McNally                Al Utzig & Family
 Deb Grenzow              Kris Meier – Birthday           Mark Utzig & Family
Brad Herring             Jan & Bob Moore

We thank you all for thinking of ECHO!
Memorial and honorarium card packets are available at the ECHO office or through participating churches. Each packet contains:
1. An ECHO information sheet and envelope for you to mail or bring in your donation to ECHO.
2. A postcard to send to the person or family to let them know that a donation was made to ECHO in honor or memory of the person you are remembering.
3. Checks may be made payable to ECHO, Inc.
(Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law.)
Food and Fund Drives

Special thanks to the following businesses and organizations that held food, fund and other drives:

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<td>Goex</td>
<td>Schnucks</td>
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<td>Good Shepherd Lutheran Church</td>
<td>Seneca Foods</td>
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<td>Hedberg Public Library</td>
<td>Starbucks</td>
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<td>Hendricks Properties</td>
<td>Stop-N-Go</td>
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<td>Hormel</td>
<td>SWA Pickle Ball Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin</td>
<td>Trinity Episcopal Church</td>
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<td>Hunger Task Force - Milwaukee</td>
<td>Trinity Free Lutheran</td>
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<td>Janesville Home and Garden Club</td>
<td>TriSigma from UW-Whitewater</td>
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<td>Jazzercise Janesville</td>
<td>U-Bake</td>
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<td>Kids Against Hunger</td>
<td>Unitarian Church</td>
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<td>Lakeland Campground</td>
<td>UW-Rock County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Debbie</td>
<td>Walker Property Management</td>
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We send info about ECHO out via eblasts around twice a month. You can sign up by going to our website at www.echojanesville.org and clicking on the News/Event tab.
ECHO Calendar of Events

- **3/12 Swing into Spring** – 7 PM at the Moose Lodge
- **3/22-3/24 Children’s Easter Basket Distribution** – at the ECHO Office
- **6/6 Eat Out for Hunger** – All day at participating restaurants
- **8/26 School Supply Distribution** – at St. John Lutheran Church
- **10/22 Empty Bowl Soup Fundraiser** – 11 AM - 2 PM at Parker High School
- **11/4 Sleep Out to End Homelessness** – at the Rock Co. 4-H Fairgrounds
- **11/19 Thanksgiving Basket Dist.** – at the Rock Co. 4-H Fairgrounds
- **11/27 ECHO Holiday Express** – 1-4 PM at the Pontiac Convention Center.

Easter Baskets for Children

ECHO will be packing and distributing Easter baskets to children who would otherwise go without during this most blessed holiday. In 2015 ECHO gave baskets packed with Easter treats to 636 children. Items needed for the baskets include children’s Easter baskets, individually wrapped candy, plastic eggs, and plastic basket wrap. Items can be dropped off at the ECHO Office during regular business hours or by appointment by calling 754-5333. Volunteers are needed on Monday, March 21, at 9 am to pack Easter baskets at the ECHO Office and again on Tues. - Thurs., March 22-24, 9 am - 4 pm to distribute baskets at ECHO. To volunteer, please call Fran at 754-5333.