Good morning! It is a wet, chilly April day. Gary Jacobson, ECHO Food Pantry Assistant, has arrived and starts the ECHO truck. We have many pick-ups to make this morning. Grab the grocery carts and load them onto the truck. We will return them to Pick N Save. Hop aboard as it is time to get the day started with our first stop at Kwik Trip on Highway 51 south. Gary parks in front of the store, grabs his gloves, and we head for the cooler. Kwik Trip provides dairy, baked goods and frozen items. The next stop is at the front of Pick N Save to drop off grocery carts. We then drive to the back of the store where other trucks are unloading their products. Gary leads the way into the huge warehouse area, where we pick up packaged products and baked goods. We are on a tight time schedule as we need to be at the ECHO warehouse (the old Panoramic bldg.) to meet a semi by 8:30 a.m. The rain continues and has flooded out the loading dock area. Gary meticulously maneuvers the truck to the loading dock door. We have only minutes to spare before the semi arrives from Fort Atkinson. The driver began his morning near Milwaukee and has stopped at Jones Dairy Farm to pick up meats to bring to ECHO. In exchange, he takes a couple pallets of pizzas back with him to Ruby's Pantry. Once the semi leaves, we need to get the loaded pallets of meats onto the ECHO truck – no small feat as it takes a lot of muscle power and steering of the pallet mover to get the product placed precisely in the truck.

Continued on Page 4
ECHO is in the midst of its 22nd annual summer fund drive. Christmas in July was launched in 1996 when we had to shut down services because of increased need, limited resources, and growing awareness that many people think our business slows down after the holidays and in summer. It doesn’t slow down, and we experience a funding drought three of the four seasons in a year.

In 1998, we added the component of *Need Doesn’t Take a Summer Vacation* and extended the fund drive to other summer months. Summer is a time we should take a break and enjoy the weather. Go on a vacation or staycation and enjoy all the great things that Janesville has to offer. But remember: not everyone can do those things.

The local economy is better, but people are streaming in for services. ECHO provides services to over 3,600 unduplicated households, with over 14,000 people in those households. Many of them come in monthly; unduplicated refers to counting them just the first time.

In 48 years, ECHO has become a vital charity organization serving low-income families in our community. The community has come to expect that ECHO will help low-income families with many vital services, including food, rent assistance, lodging, transportation and much more. Usually, we are able to help them after evaluating their needs and resources, as well as our resources to help them.

Great programs don’t appear out of thin air. It takes collaboration, alignment of resources, duration of effort, focus, and on-going resources. It is difficult for a program that literally changes people’s lives for the better to become self-sustaining. ECHO projects an annual budget, an estimate of donations that will come in and what services will be provided. If more comes in than projected, we will be able to meet more of the need. If the cash flow slows down, we have to cut services. The biggest challenge for ECHO is cash flow.

Think about ECHO’s First Assembly in 1975, when ECHO celebrated five years of growth. The keynote speaker was Father Edward Flahavan, Office of Urban Affairs, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. While high in his praise of the accomplishments already made by ECHO, he presented the Assembly with four challenges:

- “Keep going in spite of all hardships, continue to stand with the poor and reach out to people who live outside of the mainstream of life of this city…”
- “Ask the question “why”- stand back and look at the needs, then ask why the system that prevails in this town does not work for the families you serve.”
- “Include yourself in that question. Turn the focus inward. Broaden your scope of activity to include people who are powerless in the community, including yourselves.”
- “Ask yourselves how much power you have over the structure of power in this town. Does the social, economic and political system work to enable you to have life with all its fullness...By getting together, you can make changes felt at the city, county, state levels. Try to mobilize collectively to gain the strength needed to solve problems.”

ECHO continues to address the four challenges through your support. The success of ECHO’s 22nd annual summer fund drive is vital to help us get through the funding drought we experience three of the four seasons of the year.

ECHO needs to stay afloat to help the vulnerable in our community. I’ve said this many times – *The Ripple Effect* is similar to our slogan *Life is an ECHO—what you send out, you get back!*

All of those little things you do in every moment of your life can ripple out to create endless changes in the lives of others. Thank you for your support that is making a difference in this community. Have a great summer.
ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?
IF SO, APPLY FOR A THRIVENT ACTION TEAM KIT.

Think about an unmet need in our community and how you could help.
Apply to lead a volunteer team in a one-time fundraiser, service activity to benefit ECHO.
Once your project is approved, you’ll receive a Thrivent Action Kit, including:

- Promotional banner.
- Invitations and thank-you cards.
- Thrivent Action Team T-shirts.
- A $250 Community Impact Card you can use as seed money to get your project off the ground and make a bigger impact.

For more information contact Jessica at ECHO or your local Thrivent Financial Representative.

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Food Drive for ECHO at Every Performance of Aladdin Jr.

The Janesville Performing Arts Center’s Production of

Disney’s

Aladdin Jr.


Music by Alan Menken  
Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice  
Book Adapted and Additional Lyrics by Jim Louis

Music Adapted and Arranged by Bryan Louiselle  
Based on the screenplay by Ron Clements and John Musker, Ted Elliott and Terry Rossio

August 10 - 12 at 7:00pm, August 13 at 2:00pm  
Tickets: Adults: $10, Students: $5  
408 South Main Street  
www.janesvillepac.org  

LIKE US ON facebook

www.facebook.com/ECHOJanesville

to find out more about what is going on at ECHO real time
Once finished here, it is time to head to ECHO with our load. Rob is there to meet us, and he and Gary work to get the items off of the truck and downstairs to the food pantry, where volunteers will assist with sorting and organizing. Once the truck is empty, we head out for the north side of Janesville with stops at Festival Foods, Dunkin Donuts, and KFC. With a truck of goodies, we drive back to ECHO to unload. Later in the morning, we run to E&D Waterworks to replenish the water jugs used at ECHO, the Hedberg Public Library to empty the canisters of collected foods, and another stop at the warehouse. On other days of the week, pick-ups are made at Panera Bread, Olive Garden, Sam’s, Kwik Trip Milton Ave., Fuddruckers, Starbucks, Gardner’s, CVS, and Chambers & Owen, just to name a few. The ECHO board, staff and clients are truly grateful for all of these businesses and others that donate products regularly to assist those people in the Janesville area who need food. Thanks for riding along!
ECHO assists clients with fans to keep cool in warm weather.

In 2016, 262 clients requested fans and 231 received fans.

This year 94 clients have already asked for a fan to help keep them cool.

2017 CROP Walk Results
April 23, 2017 brought us a beautiful day for the annual Janesville CROP Walk. This year, we celebrated 40 years of community involvement with this event. And what a wonderful celebration it was, thanks to the participation of 170 walkers including individuals and teams representing 13 local congregations. The theme this year was "Ending Hunger Around the Block and Around the World." The continuing generosity of the people of Janesville was evident in that total donations topped $43,000 this year. Seventy-five percent of the funds raised will be used by Church World Service in 30 developing countries to help communities create solutions to issues of poverty that they can maintain and build on. The remaining 30% will stay right here in Janesville to support the programs of ECHO in meeting the needs of our local neighbors.

We especially want to thank Rev. Debbie Fisher who has spearheaded our local CROP Walk over the past four years. Her leadership will be missed and has been inspirational. The city CROP Walk committee will continue to carry on in her legacy, hoping for another 40 years of Walking to End Hunger in Janesville and in the world.

Thank you,
Kathy Holcombe and Carolyn Brandeen
Janesville CROP Walk Co-Chairs

We have some very exciting news!
The Janesville Schnucks has chosen ECHO as the latest beneficiary of the Schnucks – Bags 4 My Cause program! This means for the entire month of August, every time the reusable Hunger bag with the message "Every Bag Feeds a Neighbor in Need" is purchased at the Janesville Schnucks we receive $1! This is truly a great opportunity for us and it’s an easy way for you to show your support for ECHO! Please go to the store, find the reusable bag rack and buy a few Hunger bags! And remember to spread the word – the more bags purchased, the bigger donation to ECHO. For more information about the Schnucks – Bags 4 My Cause program, visit schnucks.bags4mycause.com.
Please drop off school supply donations at the ECHO Office - 65 S. High St. Monday-Friday, 8am-12pm or Monday-Thursday, 1pm-4pm.

Donations may also be dropped off throughout Janesville at these participating locations:

Hagan CPA, Commercial Bank, Johnson Bank, Data Dimensions, WCLO/WJVL/Gazette, JAX Graphics, Menards
Old National Bank, Associated Bank, Big Lots, McDonalds (Pontiac Dr and Milton Ave.), Rock County Clerk’s Office, Basics, Rock-Green Realtors Association, Badger Veterinary Hosp., ANGI Energy Systems

Volunteers Needed
For set-up Mon. 8/21-Thurs. 8/24 and for the school supply distribution on Fri.8/25.
Please call Fran at the ECHO Office at 608-754-5333 for more info and to sign up!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

Crayons (24 pack)
Glue & Glue Sticks
Watercolors
3-Ring Binders
Scissors
Pencils & Colored Pencils
Pens (Black, Blue & Red)
Markers & Dry Erase Markers
Highlighters
Black Sharpie Markers

Rulers
Supply Box/Bag
Erasers (pink & pencil top)
Pencil Sharpener with cover
Spiral Notebooks (wide & college ruled)
Notebook Paper (wide & college ruled)
Scientific Calculators
Pocket folders
Ear Buds/Phones
Backpacks
Summer Fund Drive

We need your help in reaching our goal to better serve families here, in our community, in need of housing, shelter, food, clothing, and other necessities that no one should be without.

Please make a donation that will help families in need.

The options are endless and so is the need.

Can you help by donating to ECHO to assist in paying for items and many that have not been mentioned below?

- $ 20 – Gas so someone can go to work.
- $ 52 – Monthly bus pass to get someone to work.
- $ 80 – 1 week of groceries for a family in need.
- $200 – 1 week of lodging for a homeless family.
- $600 – 1 month rent to prevent a family from becoming homeless.

Life is an ECHO — what you send out, you get back!

Please make checks payable to ECHO and send to ECHO, 65 S. High St., Janesville, WI 53548. To pay by credit card call 608-754-5333 or visit www.echojanesville.org

Name: 
Address: 
City: State: Zip: 
Phone #: E-Mail: 

Name: Betty Gilbert
How Did You Get Involved At ECHO? When I moved back, I started as a Church Rep for Trinity Episcopal.
What Do You Do At ECHO? Member at Large on Board of ECHO plus Alternate Rep for Trinity Episcopal. I volunteer in various ways collecting donations at River Place Housing, helping with newsletter and mailings, School Supply Distribution, Toy Distribution, fundraisers and when ECHO has special projects collecting donations.
What Is Your Favorite Thing About ECHO? ECHO does not just give out food, but ECHO Client Advocates help people with issues making real changes in their lives.
What is One Thing About ECHO That Surprised You When You Started Volunteering? What surprised me is that over 50% of ECHO clients are employed, just not making it. So glad ECHO is there for them.
Empty Bowls
a fundraiser for ECHO.

Saturday, October 28, 2017
Parker High School
3125 Mineral Point Ave., Janesville
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Lunch and Fundraiser to support ECHO, fighting to end hunger in Janesville with handmade soups from restaurants along with artisan breads

- Soup, Bread, Beverage, & Dessert: $8 ($10 at the Door)
- Soup, Bread, Beverage, Dessert, & Reserved Seating with Servers: $35

ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AUGUST 1 AT:
ECHO: 65 S High Street, Janesville
Online at www.echojanesville.org

For more information call:
ECHO at (608) 754-5333

Contact Jessica at (608) 754-5333 or jlocher@echojanesville.org to find out about sponsorship opportunities.
Adopt a Family Sign-Up Begins
ECHO is once again looking forward to assisting low-income families in need this year through our Adopt A Family program. Individuals and organizations are asked to consider adopting one or more families to help provide hope and joy during the holiday season.

Families that are served by ECHO are on limited incomes and struggle to afford their basic needs, such as rent, electricity, transportation, and food. The holiday season can bring on even more stress to a family, adding extra expenses to the budget. Without the benefit of holiday programs, many families would not be able to have the pleasure of waking up to their children’s excited faces and squeals of glee after seeing gifts under the Christmas tree.

Families are picked randomly by the ECHO staff, then given a “wish list” to complete. Items include clothing, toys, and household necessities. Once a “wish list” is completed, it is assigned a family number and matched to a donor. Donors receive the list with first names, ages, and any other relevant information needed to be able to purchase gifts for their chosen family. ECHO asks that 2-3 gifts are bought per family member, and donors only adopt a family that fits within their own budget. To adopt a family, please contact Jessica Locher at 754-5333 or jlocher@echojanesville.org by Mon., November 13 to receive your family’s wish list for Black Friday shopping.

ECHO, as well as the families who have participated in the Adopt A Family program, greatly appreciate all the individuals and organizations that have generously adopted a family in years past. We are looking forward to working with you again and making this holiday season a memorable one for many families.

Thank You!

Janesville Farmer’s Market Voucher Program
Thank you to the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin and their donors for raising funds so our neighbors in need can visit the Janesville Farmer’s Market to purchase fresh local food.

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
Thank you, Chef Stan Arnold and your volunteers who helped ECHO show appreciation to our many wonderful volunteers during Volunteer Appreciation Week.

Letter Carriers’ Food Drive
Many thanks to all Janesville Post Office employees, volunteers, and donors who collected over 23,000 pounds of food for ECHO.

Eat Out for Hunger
Thank you to our 2017 Eat Out for Hunger participating restaurants: Charlie’s Place, Chipotle, Citrus Café, Culver’s - Milton Ave & Court St., Dairy Queen – Court St., East Point Sportz Pub, Firehouse Subs, Hammy’s Roadside Bar, Hffrrrggh, Hibachi & Sushi, Kealy’s Kafe, Mac’s Pizza Shack, My Apartment Pub & Grill, Panda Garden, Peking Chinese Restaurant, Popeye’s Louisiana Kitchen, Riley’s Sports Bar & Grill, Steve’s Deli Dog House, and Wedge Inn East.

Inclusive Charity DJ Network’s Janesville Adult Prom 360
ECHO appreciates Jon Gordon and his friends for planning this great night of fun and selecting ECHO as the charity for the proceeds. We greatly appreciate the many sponsors of the event!

Community Appreciation Day at Rotary Gardens
ECHO had a great time at the Rotary Botanical Gardens on July 11. Thank you to the RBG Staff/Board for selecting ECHO to be the Community Partner and all those who attended and donated to ECHO and RBG.
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.

Lyle Ackerman  Grace Jackson
Anna Babcock  Irene Jacowski
Ray Benton  Roberta “Robbie” Jansen
Virginia Brockhaus  Craig Kaun
Mary Therese Campbell  Jim Kraus
JP Cullen  Romney Kropf
Michael Dammen  Merdy Sotiros
Daniel DuBois  Ginny Spors
Virginia Garibay-Osborne  Elinor Streicher
Karen Goelzer-McKaig  Dennis Swearengin
Tom Hawley  The Veterans
Lorraine Henning  William R. Wettstein
Elmer Holz  Howard Wiley

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.

Mike Buggs  Dean Latka
Sr. Laurentana Gorman  Karen Lisser
Kathy Holcombe  Mary Manghera
Ted & Jan Kinnaman  Sue McCrone’s Birthday
Kathy Lader  Don & Dinty Ryan

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

| A & H Trucking                          | Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin |
| All Saints Church                      | Hunger Task Force - Milwaukee       |
| Asbury United Methodist Church         | Jay’s Big Rolls                     |
| Associated Bank                        | Jefferson Park Neighborhood         |
| Bimbo Bakeries USA                     | Jones Dairy Farm                    |
| Birds Eye                              | Kentucky Fried Chicken              |
| Blackhawk Community Credit Union       | Kwik Trip                           |
| Brownberry Bread                       | Little Debbie                       |
| Butternut Bakery                       | LWML                                |
| Cargill United Methodist Church        | MacFarlane Pheasant Farm            |
| Catholic Charities                     | Marshall Middle School              |
| Chambers & Owen                        | Montessori Pre-School               |
| Contemplative Prayer Group             | Mt. Zion United Methodist Church    |
| Country Quality Dairy                  | Nativity of Mary Catholic Church and School |
| Craig High School                      | New Life Assembly of God            |
| Craig Retired Lunch Bunch              | NHA-WIC                             |
| Crystal Farms                          | Olive Garden                        |
| CVS Pharmacy                           | Peace Lutheran Church               |
| Daniels Sentry Food Stores             | Pepsi                               |
| Data Dimensions                        | Pick’n Save                         |
| Delta Kappa Gamma                      | Riverplace Senior Housing           |
| Dollar General                         | Rock Prairie Presbyterian           |
| Dunkin’ Donuts                         | St. John Lutheran Church            |
| E & D Water Works                      | St. John Vianney Church             |
| Faith Lutheran Church                  | St. Mark’s Lutheran Church          |
| Festival Foods                         | St. Mary’s Hospital Janesville      |
| First Christian Church                 | St. Patrick Catholic Church         |
| First Congregational Church            | St. Paul Lutheran Church            |
| First Presbyterian Church              | St. Peter’s Lutheran Church         |
| Fuddruckers                            | St. William Catholic Church         |
| Gardner Bakery                         | Sam’s Club                          |
| Girl Scouts                            | Schnucks                            |
| Good Shepherd Lutheran Church          | Seneca Foods                        |
| Hedberg Public Library                 | Starbucks                           |
| Hendricks Properties                   | Trinity Episcopal Church            |
| Hormel                                 | WSBVI                               |

Thank you, MacFarlane Pheasants, for allowing ECHO use of your refrigerated truck when a large donation comes ECHO’s way. We appreciate your support of our mission!
ECHO, Inc.
65 S. High St.,
Janesville, WI 53548
Phone: 608-754-5333
Fax: 608-754-9199
E-mail: office@echojanesville.org
www.echojanesville.org
www.facebook.com/ECHOJanesville

Return Service Requested

For removal from our mailing list, call (608)754-5333, notify us in writing, or email office@echojanesville.org

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**ECHO Calendar of Events**

♦️ 8/25 School Supply Distribution – at St. John Lutheran Church

♦️ 10/28 Empty Bowl Soup Fundraiser – 11 AM - 2 PM at Parker High School

♦️ 11/18 Thanksgiving Basket Distribution – at the Rock Co. 4-H Fairgrounds

♦️ 11/26 Holiday Express – at the Pontiac Convention Center

♦️ 12/20 Christmas Toy Distribution - at St. John Lutheran Church

♦️ 12/25 Christmas Dinner - at St. William’s Catholic Church

♦️ 1/27/18 Murder Mystery Dinner - at the Venue

♦️ 3/24/18 Swing Into Spring - at the Pontiac Convention Center

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**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**

ECHO needs your large brown paper bags, plastic bags, twist ties & plastic bottles

Drop them off at ECHO
Mon.-Fri. 9am-Noon, or Mon.-Thur. 1-4pm