



Eliminating Domestic Abuse  
& Building Stronger Families

# Newsletter

## Looking for an easy way to give?

Items such as plastic bags, wrapping/tissue paper, and packing tape are always in need in our Resale Shops. You can support us by purchasing needed items from our Amazon Wish List. This list changes on a regular basis, so check back often.



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# WE NEED YOU!

PROCESSING  
CLOTHING

Join us  
Monday-Saturday, 9AM-5PM  
at our Monroe location

# Executive Director's Recap



Hello neighbor,

I cannot believe that we are halfway through 2024! I hope you are seeing your blessings between all the yucky stuff that happens. We have taken some time to focus on our successes and our blessings.

***Here are just a few items that we are grateful for:***

- A fantastic team of staff, volunteers, donors, and board members!
- A very successful Trivia Night where this very generous community raised funds to provide a/c for an apartment and new windows for the Housewares Work Room. (We exceeded our goal!)
- Renovation work from the Human Services Capital Investment Grant Program is nearing completion.
- Renovation work from a private grant from Busey is nearing completion.
- We are the recipient of the Cabot Corporation Foundation Grant for services to our clients.
- We are the recipient of the Heart of Illinois Community Foundation Grant for Community Works to build out our education space. Grants from Piatt County Farm Bureau and Ameren got the project started.
- We are the recipient of the Community Foundation of East Central Illinois for capacity building through an Annual Giving Plan as we transition from our Capital Campaign to supplementing the services we are providing.
- We transitioned to a digital loyalty program and painted the interior of the Monroe Store.

Most importantly, we are doing what we said we would do! We have had the honor of serving 85 individuals and their families this year. (For a point of reference, we served 89 individuals last year.) We fully expect this number to double by the end of the year. We are seeing an increase as we are now the sole provider of domestic violence services in Piatt County and word is spreading, thanks to you, about what we do!

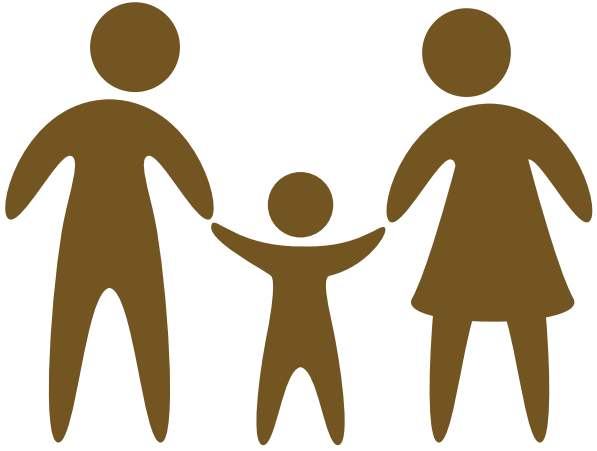
May all the glory be God's!

May God bless you and yours,

Jill Maxey, Executive Director

# 2024 By The Numbers

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**85**

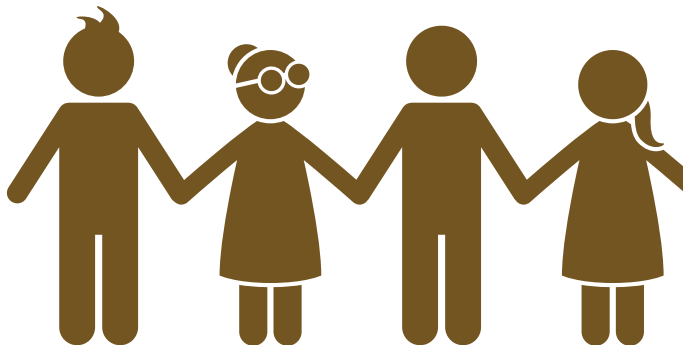
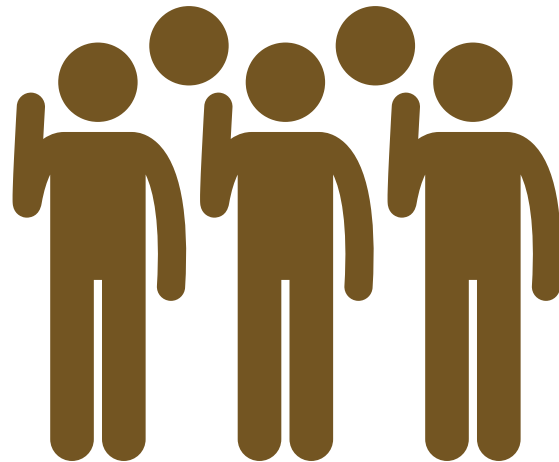
Families with  
children served

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**\$57K**

Grants & Donations  
pledged

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**4118**

Volunteer hours  
donated

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# Renovation Update

## Willow "Giving" Tree Capital Campaign

### Renovation Costs

(as of June 2024)

Renovation Project	Amount Still Needed
Tuckpointing north wall	\$25,000
Tuckpointing west wall	\$25,000
Tuckpointing south wall	\$15,000
Ceiling fans for middle & main sections	\$15,600
Renovate 2 Apartments (balance needed)	\$16,000
*Exterior work to begin in 2025	
<b>Total Renovation Costs</b>	<b>\$96,600</b>

## Will you help Willow Tree to grow?

Just as the roots, trunk, branches, and leaves work together to provide nutrients, strength, pathways, and protection to the tree, your gift will similarly impact the structure of Willow Tree Missions and its client services. Inspired by Shel Silverstein's book, *The Giving Tree*, we believe Willow Tree can be our clients' quiet place to rest, to climb its trunk of resources and swing toward freedom from its branches, to find solace under its leaves.... and to be at peace. Will you help Willow Tree to grow?



### *Donation Options:*

*Mail a check made payable to Willow Tree Missions and mail to  
100 E. Washington St., Monticello, IL 61856*

*Venmo@Willowtreemissions*

*Online at <https://willowtreemissions.org/donate/>*

## How Does Willow Tree Missions Help?

### *How do I receive services from the Family Service Center?*

- Call or text us at 217-762-2350.
- Walk-in during business hours at 100 E. Washington.
- E-mail [andrea@willowtreemissions.org](mailto:andrea@willowtreemissions.org)
- If you are not safe right now, call 911 or you can go to your police department, sheriff's department or courthouse (during business hours)

### *What does it look like to get an Order of Protection in Piatt County?*

- Enter the courthouse and tell security you need an Emergency Order of Protection.
- You will be directed to the Circuit Clerk's Office on the second floor.
- The Circuit Clerk's Office will contact either a Willow Tree Missions advocate or the States Attorney's Victim Advocate to assist you with the court process.
- You and your advocate will meet in a private room so you can safely share and document the reason you need help.
- You and your advocate will go into court together, where you will be sworn in by a member of the court staff, and asked to share with the Judge why you need an Emergency Order of Protection.
- Assuming the order is granted, the Judge will sign and review the terms of the Order of Protection with you answering any questions you may have.
- You and your advocate will return to the Circuit Clerk's Office where you can obtain copies of the signed Order of Protection.
- At this point you will have an active Emergency Order of Protection.

### *What happens next?*

- The Respondent (the individual you have the order against) will now be served a copy of the order by the Sheriff's Department. This can be as quickly as the same day or can take several weeks depending on the location of the individual.
- The Emergency Order of Protection is only effective for up to 21 days. A new court date will be given on or before 21 days from the date it is issued where you must appear if you wish to maintain the active Order of Protection.
- At this assigned court date, you and your advocate will return to court together. The respondent has the right to attend this court date.
- The Judge will ask if you are interested in seeking a Plenary Order of Protection. This means extending the order for up to two years.
- Assuming you want to remain protected, another court date will be set to give you and the respondent the opportunity to seek legal counsel. From there a hearing date will be scheduled where you can prove a Plenary Order of Protection is needed.

We will help you every step of the way and are here to provide support with the legal system as well as with the day-to-day struggles that come with living with, and fleeing from, domestic violence.

# Willow Tree Missions

*Thank you for your support of Willow Tree Missions!*



## **Family Service Center**

100 E. Washington St.

## **Willow Tree Missions on Washington**

100 E. Washington St.

## **Willow Tree Missions on Monroe**

351 W. Monroe St.

Donations T, Th, S from 10 am to 4 pm

## **HOURS**

Monday - Saturday

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

## **CONTACT**

217-762-2350

[info@willowtreemissions.org](mailto:info@willowtreemissions.org)

[www.willowtreemissions.org](http://www.willowtreemissions.org)



**Follow us!**