



Date: March 22, 2012

To: City of Tonka Bay

Re: WeCAN 2011 service data and request for financial support

Dear Mayor and City Council,

WeCAN would like to share our 2011 data with you so you are aware of our services and the number people in your city that were helped; to remain in stable housing, given a ride to work, stretch their budget with birthday or holiday gifts, received a hot meal and well check at their home, or many of the other services offered by WeCAN.

WeCAN relies on hundreds of volunteers and only 2.6 full time equivalent (FTE) staff to deliver these services. The grant for our .5 FTE Volunteer Coordinator will run out next month. Our income is largely reliant on donations from residents and businesses in our service area. With written city support of our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), we were approved for \$13,911 for services in 2012. That is less than 5% of our yearly budget of \$307,250 and less than the past CDBG grant amount of \$15,300.

As the CDBG funding stream declines, we ask for your financial help in keeping our services available to residents of your city.

With a donation to WeCAN at a rate of \$3 per resident of your city, you will help WeCAN continue to outreach and serve residents living in your city. Our clients for Emergency Assistance and Family Support programs are living at or below 200% of federal poverty. Income is not a determining factor for clients of our Meals on Wheels, job search program, computer work stations, and the WeCAB transportation programs as they are available to all residents.

Every dollar of our current budget is already stretched to the fullest and as we address more barriers for people living in poverty or struggling in these tough economic times, we need funds to aid residents in working through their issues and build skills for moving toward self-sufficiency. Additional funding will also help to continue the WeCAB transportation program after its pilot year (October 2012) and a new developing job search assistance program.



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Estimates for people living below the federal poverty level in the City of Tonka Bay are 33 or 2.28 % of the population.¹ WeCAN offers assistance to people living at or below 200% of federal poverty which is closer to the Twin Cities area poverty calculations or Area Median Income based low-income figures.² In 2011, WeCAN served 8 individuals with emergency assistance and 12 individuals with family support. We hope that all of your residents know where they can come for help.

Below is a list of services offered to residents living in WeCAN's service area cities of Greenfield, Loretto, Independence, Maple Plain, Minnetonka Beach, Minnetrista, Mound, Rockford, Spring Park, St. Bonifacius, Tonka Bay and western Orono, unless otherwise noted.

Emergency Assistance:

Criteria: Paid in the case of emergency, if the case is solvable with our help. Recipients must qualify based on income. Emergency Assistance is available to all of WeCAN's service area in Hennepin County. Examples below:

rent or mortgage	utility bill	security deposit
medical appointment	prescription	gas card or bus pass
Dog Days grant pet care	grocery/department store cards	car repair

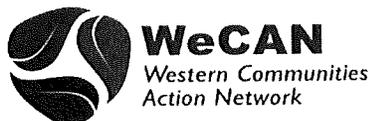
Family Support:

Criteria: To help stretch a tight budget. Recipients must qualify based on income. Family Support is available to all of WeCAN's service area. Examples below:

birthday shelf	hats and mittens	quilts and blankets
cleaning supplies	Back-to-School supplies	help filling out applications
personal hygiene products	affordable housing search help	holiday shopping
Adopt-a-Family holiday gifts	medical insurance applications	
family advocate counseling	veggies from donation garden	

¹ Based on a report from Northwest Hennepin Human Services Council, based on American Community Survey 2010 and estimates from 2008-2010.

² A family of four living on an income of \$44,700 is an example of 200% of federal poverty in 2011. Area Median Income for the Twin Cities was \$82,700 in 2011.



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Meals on Wheels:

Criteria: Delivered to senior citizens and disabled people. Not income based but subsidy available for income qualified clients. Available to residents of Mound, Minnetrista, Minnetonka Beach, Spring Park, western Orono, Independence, Maple Plain, north part of Tonka Bay and St. Bonifacius.

nutritional fresh meals	diet specific meals	holiday gifts
veggies from donation garden	volunteer driver	well-check and friendly visit
light chores help	treats and fun items	thought the year

Information, Education and Referrals:

Criteria: Specific to each person based on needs identified at in-take or phone call. Not income based. Information, education and referrals are available to all of WeCAN's service area. Examples below:

budgeting class	Hennepin County outreach
computer work stations	vouchers for clothing and household items
office equipment and phone use	connection to used furniture and household items
job search assistance	Internet access

WeCAB Transportation

Criteria: Rides provided by screened, volunteer drivers using their personal vehicles. Riders preregister for the program before calling for a ride. Use of current public transportation is encouraged and WeCAB will fill-in when needed. Fee based at-will donation. Pilot project year of Oct. 2011 to Oct. 2012 serves Mound, Spring Park, Navarre, Minnetrista, St. Bonifacius, and Maple Plain.

rides to medical appointments	rides to Park-and-Ride	rides for local errands
rides to worship services	rides to work	



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There is an excellent rate of return on an investment in WeCAN and the services offered to your residents, please add WeCAN to your next City budget. WeCAN is working on adding partners in our office by inviting agencies with additional services such as WIC, Headway mental health agency, Sojourner Project domestic violence support, and establishing a satellite office with Hennepin County Human Services. WeCAN is interested in exploring partnerships with additional agencies that can create a one-stop-shop for human service needs. Your suggestions for services and agencies that would help to create healthy communities are welcome.

I would like to invite you individually or as a group to visit WeCAN's office or if you would like WeCAN to present or discuss information at a work session or council meeting, feel free to contact us.

We look forward to your communication about how you can help us continue to offer these needed services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leah Weycker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Leah Weycker

WeCAN Executive Director



WeCAN Program Data for calendar year 2011

OFFICERS

Co President **Linda Blakstvedt**
Community Volunteer

Co President **Ann Bremer**
Community Volunteer

Treasurer **Tim Babb**
Community Volunteer

Secretary **Pastor Mike Michalk**
Community Volunteer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Linda Boyadjis
Community Volunteer

Jen Cameron
Community Volunteer

Dory Carlson
Community Volunteer

Rhonda Eurich
Community Volunteer

Becky Glistler
Community Volunteer

Dave Goode
Community Volunteer

Tina Goralczyk
Community Volunteer

Larry S. Greenbaum
Community Volunteer

Brigid O'Rourke
Community Volunteer

Sherrie Pugh
Community Volunteer

Henry (Hank) Spott
Community Volunteer

WeCAN STAFF

Leah Weycker
Executive Director

Carolyn Dillon
Coordinator
Meals on Wheels

Lisa Floeter
Family Advocate

Larry Seeley
Volunteer Coordinator

Points of Interest:

WeCAB - In October 2011, the WeCAB Transportation program was started by a group of community volunteers. It has since come under WeCAN's umbrella and will operate as a pilot project for one year. This program is available to anyone, not based on income. A ride for medical appointments is the main reason for needing a ride. Rides to connect with Metro Transit's bus service are also high on the list, allowing people to have week-end bus service. WeCAB is the only service offered in this area for many of these transportation needs.

Since WeCAB is a pilot project, not all categories of data have been collected and reflected in the graphs following.

Emergency Assistance – The dollars spent to help clients with emergency situations for rent, mortgage, utilities or car repair were increased by 130%. This is in part because of funding sources that could be used for longer term assistance. This funding will end in May of 2012 and we will be back down to assisting for one to two months. WeCAN is the only Emergency Assistance (offering zero interest loans or grants) provider in our service area.

Ethnicity - 79% of the clients we served in 2011 were White, non Hispanic.

Birthday Shelf – The increase of 194% to the Birthday shelf is because of our phone call reminders to parents. Our new database allows for this monthly report of children with birthdays in that month.

Poverty – Based on the population of WeCAN's 12 city service area and poverty statistics from the most recent census data, there are an estimated 5% of residents living at or below federal poverty levels. WeCAN served 4.8% of the population in 2011.

Stretched by time and staff – WeCAN attempts to address emerging issues that affect low-income people and their ability to become self sufficient. WeCAB transportation and work on a program for career/job search are two of the programs that WeCAN is currently working on. Pending funding, they may become part of our services.

If you have any questions or would like WeCAN to present this information, feel free to call Leah at 952.472.0742.

WeCAN
Western Communities Action Network
Community Development Block Grant
2011 Statistics

WeCAN
5213 Shoreline Drive
Mound, MN 55364
952-472-0742 Phone
952-472-5589 Fax
www.WeCAN-help.org

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

Program	2009	2010	2011
Emergency Assist	261	277	262
Meals on Wheels	59	60	63
Family Support	391	350	320
WeCAB transportation 10/2011 start			26
Total HH Served in Programs	711	687	671
Unique/Unduplicated HH	479	537	512

Information/Referral*	680	1068	1239
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* Client identification is not asked for phone referrals, resulting in a non-count for the total number of people benefiting and their family make up. Each referral by phone is counted as one in the Information/Referral graph.

TOTAL TIMES A SERVICE WAS DELIVERED**

Program	2009	2010	2011
Emergency Assist	618	581	516
Meals on Wheels	7860	8555	8923
Family Support	865	619	646
WeCAB transportation 10/2011 start			168
Total Contacts/Units	9343	9755	10253

**Time a service is delivered counts each contact made with a client . e . g., Adopt a Family for three children is counted as one.

Information/Referral*	608	1068	1239
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IN-KIND DONATIONS

	2010	2011
Value of products donated	\$121,069	\$94,944
Value of volunteer time donated	\$63,358	\$85,779

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS IN FAMILY

Program	2009	2010	2011
Emergency Assist	703	771	726
Meals on Wheels	62	60	67
Family Support	1218	1171	1073
WeCAB transportation 10/2011 start			28
Total Indiv. Served in Programs	1983	2002	1894
Unique/Unduplicated Individuals	1396	1423	1411

Information/Referral*	680	1068	1239
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UNITS OF SERVICE by TYPE			TYPE
	2010	2011	
Emergency Assistance programs			
Emergency housing, utility, etc.	\$62,981	\$82,340	dollars
Clinic Connection	46	32	medical visits
Family Support programs			
Adopt a Family	420	390	persons
Holiday Shopping	54	85	children
Birthday Shelf	82	159	packages
Quilt/Blanket	58	42	quilt/blanket
School Supplies	233	228	packages
Family Guidance	46	133	contacts
Other family support	86	40	items
Clothing hat/mitten		334	items
Vouchers for Pennywise, church sales		36	items
WeCAB transportation program			
WeCAB transportation 10/2011 start		2167.9	miles

HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

INDIVIDUALS BY TYPE:

Program	AGE			SEX			
	Adult	Children	Seniors	Unknown	Male	Female	Unknown
Emerg. Assistance	416	281	29		355	371	0
Family Support	498	498	28	2	503	570	0
MOW	19	0	48		25	42	0
WeCAB Trans.	16	2	10		10	18	
unique/undup indiv.*	700	598	96	2	633	696	0

Definition Key: Children age 0-18
 Adult age 19-64
 Seniors age 65+

FEMALE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

Program	Female HH	Households served	% of Total Households
Emerg. Assistance	62	262	23.66%
Family Support	107	320	33.44%
MOW	37	67	55.22%
unique/undup hslld.*	162	512	31.64%

*unique/unduplicated = family or individual is counted only once even if several programs were used, or used more than once.

HH = Head of Household
 EA = Emergency Assistance
 FS = Family Support
 MOW = Meals on Wheels

INDIVIDUAL ETHNICITY*

NEW CLIENTS THIS YEAR	INDIVIDUAL ETHNICITY*	
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic
2009	99	1048
2010	2	139
2011		12
EA and FS services		9
Meals on Wheels		1
	<i>if multiple races, best fit:</i>	
	Am. Indian/Alaskan Native & White	6
	Asian & White	5
	Black/African Am. & White	6
	Am. Indian/Alaskan & Black/African Am	1
	Other	1
Total Count	1329	1228

WeCAN Services - Household and Individual count, by City 2011

CITY	BY HOUSEHOLD COUNT					BY INDIVIDUALS IN HOUSEHOLD				
	Emergency Assistance	Family Support	Meals on Wheels	WeCAB Transp.**	Times served per City *	Emergency Assistance	Family Support	Meals on Wheels	*** Total Population	
Greenfield		1			1		4		2,662	
Independence		1			1		3		3,426	
Loretto	3	4			9	6	9		758	
Maple Plain	20	25	8	7	77	50	72	8	1,593	
Mtka. Beach	1	2			5	5	7		719	
Minnetrista	9	11	1	2	39	33	49	1	5,976	
Mound	153	173	41	30	698	430	586	45	8,904	
Orono (Western)	2	5	2		13	7	15	2	580	
Rockford	6	20			43	18	78		304	
St. Bonifacius	25	29	1	2	122	79	117	1	2,313	
Spring Park	34	39	10	16	121	77	114	10	1,319	
Tonka Bay	3	5			17	8	12		1,446	
Homeless	4	4			11	11	4			
Other or unknown	2	1			5	2				
Totals	262	320	63	57	1,162	726	1,070	67	30,000	

* Represents times each client was served for EA and FS plus Meals on Wheels counts of one client, not the number of meals served.

** This counts all riders that were registered with WeCAB as of 12/31/2011.

*** Population is based on the most recent census data. Rockford is only the Henn. Co. side. Western Orono is estimated from population of 7386.