

theExchange

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2026

Joining a Decade of Success

by Anna Sprague

I am excited and honored to step into the role of executive director for Shelter Development, Inc. and theExchange. Thank you to all the volunteers, staff, donors, and community partners who have given me such a warm welcome. Thanks to the decade of passion and service from those who came before me, these first two months have flown by in the best possible way.

Over the past 5 years, I've served our region through community development and fundraising roles. Prior to that, I spent almost a decade growing a small bridal start up idea into a national brand before the pandemic paused the wedding industry overnight—a professional switch up that turned out to be a huge blessing as my family returned to the La Crosse community which raised me. Bringing my professional skills into the nonprofit space here was an easy decision after growing up witnessing the generosity of our community and countless times when a few individuals have stepped up to make a huge impact.

That's the story of theExchange after all: a few people who saw a chance to connect community resources with needs to create meaningful change. I've been inspired as I've listened to stories from the founders and volunteers, or witnessed a donation arrive minutes before an appointment that requested that very item. In all of these exchanges, one concept has continued to stand out—we serve as a conduit for good. From furniture and home goods to referrals and ideas to connection and support, theExchange lives up to its name.

Like anyone stepping into a new role, I have lots of goals and dreams. First up, highlighting and celebrating the first ten years of successes to build our network of change-makers (Make sure to [follow us](#) or tell a friend!). It is my privilege to usher in a new decade and steward this incredible organization. Every gift helps care for our neighbors in need. Thank you for your continued support!



Barb Randall-Anderson's PEO chapter cleaning kit drive



Deb Randall-Anderson
by Kathie Tyser

Every nonprofit organization finds volunteers invaluable and theExchange has landed some of the best around. Meet one of them in this issue—Deb Randall-Anderson—and you just may be inspired to join her!

Deb began volunteering at theExchange in 2017 after retiring from a career in higher education, most recently at Viterbo University where she worked as creating and managing online classes for adult learners. Here she heard about theExchange from Sue Batell and Sheila Riley. She brought those organizational skills and her positivity to various aspects of theExchange over the last nine years.

Deb weaves her connection to theExchange in all sorts of ways! She coordinated the highly successful Cleaning Supplies Drive (every home needs cleaning supplies!) and the Caledonia rummage sale with the help of her PEO friends. (see *photo bottom left*). She lends a hand through garage sale pickups and helping with the Pizza Ranch fundraiser, all in addition to her regular time as Program Assistant taking in donations, sorting and organizing for shoppers.

What keeps her coming back? "It's been great meeting the people I have worked with and the great sense of pride and accomplishment in what we do each day at

~ cont. on page 2



Barb Randall-Anderson (left)
with Sister Helen (right)

Volunteer Spotlight, Barb Randall-Anderson

~ cont. from front page

theExchange. I tell people: 'JOIN US! You will LOVE the volunteers you work with, the staff and the clients!'"

"Every interaction with Deb, it's obvious how much she cares about the work of theExchange and wants to share it with others. She might try to tell you that she doesn't really do much but the combined impact of all the "little things" she does is an enormous gift to our team and our community!," says Anna Sprague, Executive Director.



Volunteer Needs

BRINGING ITEMS TO HOMES

Would you or someone you know enjoy helping our neighbors in need for a few hours?

We are creating a new position to help serve our clients by bringing items to their homes immediately after an appointment.

DRIVER DUTIES *no lifting required*

Drive theExchange truck to deliver
Must maintain a valid driver's license and insurance

Shifts Available

Tuesday: 1:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Thursday: 1:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

WAREHOUSE ASSISTANTS

- organizing and storage management of furniture.
- assisting with unloading of donated furniture using safe moving practices
- collect and stage outgoing furniture for deliveries
- general warehouse management tasks including equipment maintenance and cleaning tasks
- **ability to safely lift 50 lbs.**
- optional: flexibility to make short deliveries upon demand using theExchange truck

Learn more about volunteering [here](#).

Community Events

Join us at these upcoming events as we share the work of theExchange and advocate for those we serve!

Loggers

Non-Profit of the Night
July 30

UWL Sample the City

Volunteer Fair
September 9

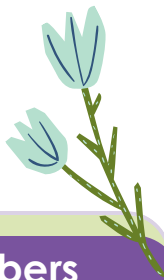
Safe Families for Children

Fairways Fore Families
golf outing
September 21

Our Thanks

Thank you to all our donors including some recent gifts from:

- Onalaska PEO Chapter DC
- Emplify Health by Gundersen
- Emplify Nursing Department
- TANDA Foundation
- Peace by Piece



By The Numbers (Jan - June)

- volunteer hours.....1342
- households assisted..230
- individuals served...548
 - 208 children
 - 340 adults

