



**From the Heart...**  
by Deanna Genske, Executive Director

## Reflect on the Year...



Wow, here we are. It's December and another year is almost coming to an end! It is a time for quiet reflections and anticipation for a new year.

I always think of January 1st as a chance to start with a clean slate. You can hit the reset button and do things differently.

Celebrate life and each and every day!

· What do you want to focus on in the new year? What do you want to do for your relationships, career, and yourself?

A year is enough time to make a lot of things happen. But at the same time, we also tend to overestimate what we can achieve in a year. While many times we underestimate what we can achieve in the long term you may find that if you work hard every day it can make a big impact.

It is hard to make a big impact by doing something for a week or a month. Mastering skills, working on your character, and building relationships take time. A long time.

Allow yourself to reflect on the past year but also let your mind start to wander and feel the excitement of a new year!

Enjoy the holiday season and the company of others! See you in 2024!

From the Heart,  
Deanna

## Ascend Services the Recipient of Several Substantial Grants

We are thrilled to share the exciting news that Ascend Services, Inc. has received substantial grant funding support in 2023. This year a diverse and generous group of foundations and grant funders, each committed to making a positive impact on our community, acknowledged our efforts and chose to provide \$189,000 in total support.



We wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Lakeshore Community Foundation, West Foundation, Wisconsin Public Service Foundations, Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes, Green Bay Packers Foundation, Otto Bremer Trust, The Hickory Fund, New Glarus Brewing Foundation, and Health Matters for their invaluable support. Thank you to these foundations and trusts that have partnered with us this year, empowering us to assist our incredible clients as they strive to build full and enriched lives.

### 2023 Grant Allocations

**West Foundation and WPS:** Replacing Roofs

**Congregation of Sisters of St Agnes:** Musical Equipment for Youth

**Green Bay Packers:** Vehicle Replacement Project

**The Hickory Fund:** Vehicle Replacement Project

**New Glarus:** Vehicle Replacement Project

**Health Matters:** Health and Wellness Training and Tools

**Otto Bremer Trust:** Technology

Replacing aging computers, software updates, cell phone boosters, etc.

(These technologies will allow us to continue performing the administrative work behind the scenes so we can continue providing the best services for our clients.)

## Ascends Pledges to Give Back on Giving Tuesday!

This year we pledged to give back to our community on Giving Tuesday! Already this year we have logged over 1,000 volunteer hours at various places in Manitowoc County. On Tuesday, November 28th, groups of clients and staff were out volunteering and giving back all day!

We hope that we inspired you to give generously to Ascend Services on Giving Tuesday so that we can continue to give back all year long!

Our Giving Tuesday fundraiser will run until the end of 2023. You can find the event pinned to the top of our Facebook Page or you can always donate on our webpage [www.ascendservicesinc.org](http://www.ascendservicesinc.org).

Any donation amount is appreciated, Here are examples of what your donation can help with!

\$25 Supplies for Healthy Cooking \$50  
Prevocational Training Activities \$75  
Youth Recreational Activity \$100  
Transportation for Community Experiences

# GIVING TUESDAY



Thank you for supporting Ascend and we can't wait to see where we can help out in 2024! If you are looking for volunteers please don't hesitate to give us a call!

Left, our youth clients were busy making cocoa packets to deliver to one of the area nursing homes and right, one of our clients was making hats for the homeless with a knitting machine!

## Ascends Youth Program Enjoying the Holiday Magic

Our youth clients have embraced the cooler weather and sporadic snowflakes! They have been keeping busy with many different activities!

They held a Hot Cocoa Stand early in December which was a huge success! A trip to Strand Adventures is good to burn off all that extra energy from being inside during the colder days.





# Holiday Fun at Ascend!



Save the Dates for 2024...  
We Have Lots of Fun in Store!



**Ascend**  
SERVICES INC.

**is excited  
to announce our  
events lineup for  
2024!**

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
5th Annual



**THROW WITH ALL  
YOUR HEART**

**Ascend**  
SERVICES INC.

**TEAM THROWING OLYMPICS  
& CELEBRITY COMPETITION**

**SATURDAY  
April 13, 2024**

**AT TAPPED ON THE LAKESHORE**





**Swing  
Fore  
Ascend**

**GOLF  
OUTING**

Monday  
June 24, 2024

**The Golf Course  
at Branch River**

*Save  
the  
Date!*

**2024**

**Toss With All  
Your Heart**



**Ascend**  
SERVICES INC.

**Save  
the  
Date!**

**CORNHOLE  
TOURNAMENT**

**BAGS & BREWS**  
AT SABBATICAL BREWING CO.

**SABBATICAL  
BREWING CO.**

**Saturday  
August 10, 2024**

