

To: Kaukauna Public Library Board of Trustees From: Library Director Ashley Thiem-Menning

Date: 3/21/24

Re: Community Partners

I had a meeting with the Fox Cities Marathon Director to discuss our involvement in the events again this year in September. We discussed how their activity program went last year here and how we can get more libraries involved. We made some changes to the activity program and we will be offering it again here in conjunction with our Summer Reading Program. Youth that participate can enter to win a free entry to one of the Kids Fun Runs. I have an email out to area libraries to gauge their interest in participating and we will be setting up a meeting with the Race Director. Last year over 500 children participated in the Kids Fun Run event and we had staff on site for outreach. That number will likely increase this year and the libraries were offered a table to conduct outreach during the event.

I met with School Superintendent Mike Slowinski this month to discuss KASD's involvement in the race, as well as general partnerships we hold with the school.

I also met with Feeding America this month to discuss hunger issues in the area. I anticipate following up with them again later this month or early next.

We will be receiving our second shipment from the Monthlies Project this month. I had to double our order number based on how quickly our stock from the first month ran out.

Our Hispanic Outreach Coordinator, Ana, met with the Hispanic Outreach Coordinator from the Appleton Public Library this month to discuss outreach efforts.

Our library has also joined a new area organization called the Network for Wellbeing and we have been attending the monthly meetings. The organization offers networking opportunities for basic needs organizations to meet and discuss their needs and services, and the group will be setting some service-based goals soon.

We recently ran out of snacks for the afterschool kids and posted on Facebook about our need. The community did not disappoint and we received many donations. Trim Hunger also saw our request and spent close to 1K on snacks and food for the pantry. Kaukauna Utilities also saw the post and brought two carts worth of food as well. A big thank you to all our donors! We have enough snacks now to last the rest of the school year.