



## List of Featured Grantees for 2024 Collaborators' Event

Programs Maximizing Collaboration	
<p><b>Wisconsin Inmate Education Association (WIEA)</b></p>	<p>In collaboration with Trinity International University and Fox Lake Correctional Institution, WIEA's Operation Transformation provides a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical Studies to inmates serving extended sentences or life imprisonment. This collaboration allows for seven Lutheran graduates who serve as field mentors to other inmates. They are catalysts for personal transformation among their peers and reduce violence, disciplinary convictions, and misconduct.</p> <p>Through this seminary program, students gain a sense of purpose and hope, leading to the development of a moral reawakening that guides their thoughts and actions. In 2024, WIEA will also work with the WI DOC to promote Operation Transformation to women serving sentences at Taycheedah Correctional Institution.</p>
<p><b>A City for God (formerly Chaplains in Schools)</b></p>	<p>A City for God (ACFG) has numerous partnerships across the city. It provides WELS chaplains for the Center for Urban Teaching's multi-site summer school program and for schools without a dedicated pastor, such as St. Peter Immanuel (LUMIN Schools campus), HOPE Christian Schools, Shining Star Christian Schools, and BriteStar Online Christian School.</p> <p>It also provides WELS chaplain support to churches with a pastor vacancy, including Fairview Lutheran Church.</p> <p>ACFG's model relies on staff Chaplains but also serves as a training opportunity for JUMP (Joshua Urban Ministry Program) students – another key collaboration. JUMP is a ministry training program in Milwaukee that recruits people of color and provides them with training to serve Milwaukee urban Lutheran ministries. Opportunities to serve include being a congregational evangelist or assistant, vicar/chaplain, or pastor. JUMP is the result of a partnership with WELS Joint Missions, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary's</p>

	<p>Pastoral Studies Institute, and ACFS. Dr. Paul Steinberg, the Executive Director of ACFS, serves as JUMP's Academic Dean.</p>
<b>Ebenezer Stone Ministries</b>	<p>Ebenezer Stone Ministries operates two food pantries serving about 500-600 families monthly. A bi-weekly pop-up pantry held outdoors in partnership with Hope Lutheran Church and Mission of Christ Lutheran Church distributes about 7,000 pounds of food within the first 30 minutes of each pantry event.</p> <p>Its food distribution warehouse supports 30+ pantries. It relies on partnerships with grocery stores, food distributors, and Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin to sustainably source over 500,000 pounds of food each year.</p> <p>Ebenezer partners with the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) through regular events to foster trust and break down barriers between the community and MPD. It also collaborates with healthcare agencies to provide preventative check-ups for food pantry guests. A three-year partnership with More Than Food Consulting will build capacity at Ebenezer to create a "community hub" of resources.</p>
<b>Bread of Healing Clinic</b>	<p>The Bread of Healing clinic is the only free clinic in Milwaukee that addresses the underlying causes of ill health and uses a trauma-informed approach to managing health and resiliency, and it does this by leveraging numerous partnerships.</p> <p>A fully staffed pharmacy provides free medications through the MedShare program. A collaboration with area universities supplies 54 interns over the course of one year in the areas of pharmacy, social work, behavioral health, and medicine. As a coordinator for the Free and Community Collaborative in Milwaukee, BOHC maintains regular contact with all the free clinics in southeastern Wisconsin.</p> <p>The clinic's integrative approach to healthcare aims to stabilize people's lives by creating favorable conditions for employment, productivity, and health. This requires working closely with the Milwaukee Health Care Partnerships Alliance and hospital systems to gain access to specialty care for uninsured adults.</p>
<b>Ministries growing to increase impact</b>	
<b>Wisconsin Lutheran College (WLC)</b>	<p>WLC's Hope Scholars program offers full-tuition scholarships to academically qualified, low-income students of color. The program targets students who attend a high-performing Christian high school in the Milwaukee area and receive nominations from their respective high schools as a student who desires to attain a college degree.</p>

	<p>The Hope Scholars program is a very targeted way to provide Milwaukee students of color with a path to and through college, while growing their faith through a Christian education. Two dedicated Hope Scholars' coaches walk with students through their four years and help remove barriers to success. Built into the program is a work-study component so that scholarship recipients are personally invested in their scholarships.</p>
<p><b>Center for Urban Teaching (CfUT)</b></p>	<p>Originally founded in 2001 at Wisconsin Lutheran College, CfUT identifies, prepares, and supports high-performing urban teachers, leaders, and schools.</p> <p>The organization's long-term vision is to become the number one producer and provider of high-performing urban teachers and leaders so that every child in Milwaukee has access to a top-notch education. To help reach that goal and fulfill the critical need for a pipeline of highly qualified and committed candidates to serve in Milwaukee, CfUT is working to expand the number of alumni serving in the field.</p> <p>CfUT works directly with 50 schools including 26 Lutheran schools in underserved communities in the Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha areas. Over 250 teachers and leader candidates will be trained in 2024. It very recently started working with schools in Madison. 610 CfUT alumni are working in schools in Milwaukee.</p>
<p><b>Project Return</b></p>	<p>People under extended supervision (probation or parole) in Milwaukee County are typically in need of stable housing and face numerous other hurdles on the path to stability, including unemployment and addiction. In 2023, there were approximately 14,000 people under extended supervision in Milwaukee County. Project RETURN's programs impact this community and work to prevent recidivism. It typically receives about 250 inquiries a month.</p> <p>Project RETURN's increased "in-reach" into the Department of Corrections allows it to establish connections and offer resources so that individuals have time to plan a safe return to the community before release. In addition, as an active member of the Milwaukee Reentry Council Project RETURN collaborates with numerous organizations to assist people returning from incarceration with jobs, housing, peer support, and advocacy.</p>
<p><b>ELCA Outreach Center</b></p>	<p>Located in a severely underserved community, the ELCA Outreach Center offers a safe place for neighbors to visit and get help. In 2023, there were 17,500 duplicated visits to the Center. Visits have doubled from 60 clients each day in 2022 to 120 clients each day at the start of 2024. This increase can be partly attributed to the influx of immigrants to the area and the presence of several Spanish-speaking staff and volunteers.</p>

	<p>Several impactful programs meet clients' needs including a referral program where outreach coordinators help people locate other needed services. The Center offers free legal advice from volunteer attorneys, hosts three Bible Studies a week, and runs a Prescription Voucher Program that provides each eligible client a \$20 monthly voucher for use at local pharmacies. A new immigration assistance program helps Spanish-speaking clients with completing the paperwork required to file for asylum.</p>
<p><b>Innovative Programs</b></p>	
<p><b>Journeys Lutheran School</b></p>	<p>In fall 2023, Journeys introduced a "Crossroads Classroom" to teach students with more complex academic, emotional, and behavioral needs life skills to empower independence in addition to academic core subjects. Key life-skills components include community skills, vocational skills, art and music, hygiene and grooming, safety, chores, maintenance, health and cooking, and religion.</p> <p>Journeys recognizes that achieving independence is one of the cornerstones of human existence and teaching life skills that promote individuality should be an integral part of the special education system, not an afterthought.</p>
<p><b>Jobs Work MKE</b></p>	<p>Unlike many workforce development programs, JobsWork MKE addresses root causes and lays the groundwork for long-term change when helping people living in poverty achieve economic self-sufficiency through sustainable employment. It helps participants find <i>and</i> keep jobs, which is a challenge given that many members are impacted by decades of trauma. A multi-year innovative strategy to enhance its trauma-informed approach to creating job stability includes partnering with Wellpoint Care Network, Westcare Wisconsin, and Fokus Family Services.</p> <p>JobsWork successfully partners with area businesses to create more opportunities for job seekers. Its Milwaukee Anchor Collaborative is a unique collaborative of large area employers that work together to increase employment opportunities for residents while purchasing supplies from businesses in disinvested Milwaukee neighborhoods,</p>
<p><b>Kingdom Prep Lutheran School</b></p>	<p>Kingdom Prep Lutheran School (KPLHS) educates over 200 young black men, 98% of whom attend with a Milwaukee Parental Choice voucher.</p> <p>With its specific student population, KPLHS strives to provide learning experiences that build faith and character with an academic focus that fuels aspirations and hope for a successful future.</p> <p>To do so requires creative and unique programs, such as an educational journey through the historic cities of Rome and Florence, designing and</p>

	<p>constructing a greenhouse to plant and grow seedlings, a visit to the Culinary Institute of America in New York, and invaluable real-world experiences through paid local internships.</p> <p>This innovative, experiential approach exposes its scholars to the world and opportunities beyond their neighborhoods and often challenging circumstances, supporting their dreams and teaching attainable applications for their God-given talents.</p>
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**Ministries Expanding to Enhance Services or Serve More People**

<p><b>Redeemer Lutheran Church</b></p>	<p>Six years into a capital campaign to renovate its space, Redeemer Lutheran Church celebrated a groundbreaking ceremony in 2023 to bring the church building and its 106-year sanctuary, designed in a Gothic Revival style, back to its former glory. When congregants throw open the doors after the renovation, they will see a new kitchen on the upper level, which will support the popular Noon Run meal, which feeds up to 50 people each Sunday, and the food pantry, which serves up to 100 families each week.</p> <p>The renovated space will host other mission partners and a new nonprofit organization, Olga Neighborhood Wellness Services, to provide immediate mental wellness and substance use services. Olga brings together other Siebert grantee partners, including the Bread of Healing Clinic and Serenity Inns Inc. This investment in the Near West Side neighborhood, where Siebert is also located, ensures Redeemer's future connection to the community over the next few decades.</p>
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<p><b>Serenity Inns</b></p>	<p>Serenity Inns utilizes an innovative data-driven approach to treating addiction within underserved communities, e.g. data indicates that people typically relapse in the first 30 days of treatment. Rather than send residents off-site for counseling, Serenity Inns added an on-site counselor to reduce the risk of relapse and early program termination.</p> <p>Other recent innovations include the addition of new support groups that address root causes, trauma, anger, and financial stability.</p> <p>The most significant innovation is Serenity Inns' new \$2.4 million facility, which is intended to provide medically monitored treatment options and long-term financial stability for the organization. Guests will stay at the new facility when they enter the program. Following this intense (often medically monitored phase), they will move to the original facility across the street to continue treatment, address the root causes of addiction, and build stability.</p>
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**Christian Family Solutions  
(WLCFS)**

CFS/WLCFS is embarking on a \$10 million campaign to expand and improve the STRONG Day Treatment Center, create an outdoor space, complete deferred maintenance, build a reserve fund for ongoing building maintenance and repair, and fund treatment objectives.

The STRONG Day Treatment Program provides intensive mental health services in the heart of Milwaukee. All the youth served have a history of Adverse Childhood Experiences, and are now dealing with anxiety, depression, and behavior disruptions as a result.

It is the only day treatment program in the City of Milwaukee that accepts kids under the age of 14 and the only program in the State of Wisconsin that serves kids ages five to eight years old.

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