

Chippewa Falls Mission Coalition Minutes – Monday, June 1, 2026

PLACE: Trinity United Methodist Church, 201 W. Central St., Chippewa Falls, WI

* Introductions and Prayer Requests (19 in Attendance)

* Open Meeting With Prayer – Mike Cohoon

* **Guest Speakers:** Don Mowry, Eau Claire County Coordinator for Roundtable Revival & Dr. Brad Grewe, Roundtable Revival Mentor

Subject: Roundtable Revival

Who They Are:

Roundtable Revival, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting formerly incarcerated individuals through mentoring programs.

They also work with lawmakers, community leaders and advocacy groups to address systemic barriers and promote fair and equitable policies for formerly incarcerated individuals. As well as actively raising awareness in the community about the issues faced by this population and fostering a more compassionate and understanding environment.

What They Do:

Since its establishment in 2019, Roundtable Revival has been committed to helping individuals successfully reintegrate into society after incarceration through a supportive network and various resources and workshops to help with that journey.

They provide a Mentoring program that offers twice-a-month group support meetings starting with a meal followed by “Circle Sharing,” ... a Life Skills presentation ... and ending with individual and small group mentoring with trained Volunteer Mentors and Peer Mentors. Mentors and Mentees also have at least one hour of contact weekly.

Both Don and Brad gave specific details on how Roundtable Revival has changed not only the Mentees lives for the better, but their lives as well. It’s amazing what a difference one caring person can make in the life of a person that has, in most cases, never had a caring relationship.

How Can We Help:

There are currently two church sites for the Men’s Mentoring Program, as well as two church sites for the Women’s Mentoring Program ... one site at a church in Menomonie, two sites at churches in Eau Claire. The Men’s and Women’s groups meet on separate evenings.

The men normally meet the first and third Tuesdays of the month (6-9pm), the women normally meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month (6:30-8:30pm)

They are currently looking for a church that would provide space for one or both groups in the Chippewa Falls area. They are also looking for Mentors to work with the Mentees. Mentors would need to complete a 4-hour training session ... have a one-hour minimum weekly contact with their Mentee ... and attend the group sessions with their Mentees twice a month.

If you are able to help with either a church site for their meetings and/or Mentors for their mission, please contact Don Mowry ... don@roundtablerevival.org ... 715-495-0565. You can also go to their website for more information ... <https://www.roundtablerevival.org>

*** Mission Update: April “Lather With Love” Soap Mission – (Tom Drehmel)**

-- CFMC completed another successful “Lather With Love” Soap Mission in April. This was our first outreach mission back in 2011 and here we are 16 years later still providing soaps for the local pantries.

Some extra money came in after the deadline, we now have the OFFICIAL FINAL TALLY...

Laundry Soaps – 135

Dish Soaps – 96

Hand/Body Soaps – 491

Shampoo/Conditioner – 107

Misc. Health Care Items – 82

TOTAL – 911 “Lather With Love” Items

We also tallied up the number of washes we provided with those 135 containers of laundry soap. **That Total is 8,598 loads of wash. “Yay God!”**

All soaps were distributed to the following local pantries ... St. Francesca Resource Center ... LE Phillips CDC Chippewa Outreach ... Valley Vineyard Pantry ... First Presbyterian Pantry ... Chippewa Valley Alternate High School Pantry ... Agnes’ Table/YMCA Pantry ... and English Lutheran of Bateman Pantry.

*** Mission Update: Hope Village/Tiny Houses (Mike Cohoon)**

-- **Indianhead Motel** - We should see the siding going on soon, which will make the project stand out more. They are completing the sheetrock on the inside, which will allow them to be begin doing cabinets and fixtures. Project should be done by 2nd week in August with move in dates in September. It is 26 units and we do have 22 applications. WHEDA has agreed to give us a \$562,000 loan at 0% interest to finish the project. Rents will be at 3 different levels based on size and on HUD guidelines. -- \$932/\$882/\$852 utilities included. 51 percent are income restricted, 49% are not.

-- **Hope Village** - One 3 bedroom unit at 199 Hope Village Way still needs to be leased out - we are working with two families - the paperwork is mind boggling.

-- Construction of the Phase 2 units, two more 6 plex's and 2 more duplex buildings, should start in August as soon as the Indianhead units are completed.

-- We are beginning to plan for a spring 2027 construction of our Multipurpose Building, our Playground and our Donor wall.

-- All 11 tiny house are currently occupied

-- Next two fundraisers - Golf Scramble July 27 and Clothing Drive - Mid August. Check out our CFMC website for more information about signing up for the Golf Scramble ...

<https://www.hopevillagechippewafalls.org>

Hope Village Resale Shop -- We have now gotten the okay to begin some light demolition in the Indianhead Resale. - We are hoping the shop will open yet this fall. Currently the team is selling out a storage unit near the Dollar General by Lake Wissota.

Hope Village Pop-up Sale -June 4-6 at Wissota Self-Serve Storage, 16947 169th St. Unit #3, Chippewa Falls. (It's just a few blocks west of the Former Family Fare Lake Wissota Grocery Store and near the Dollar General store.)

Joint Building Project with Cadott -- No word from the Cadott School District – We just have to get on the same page about what is needed and what they could provide. Stay Tuned!

Mike's Retirement Announcement –

I will be semi-retiring in September. Hope Village is in the process of hiring an Executive Director to replace me. I will be staying on 3 days a week for an undetermined amount of time to help with the transition.

Our current schedule is:

June 1st - Release hiring info

July 1st - Begin Interviews

August 1st - Offer the position

September 1st - New Director begins.

(I have committed to working 3 days a week until at least the end of the year and until Jan 1, 2028 if needed)

Tom's Note: I still remember that CFMC meeting back in 2015 when Mike presented that crazy idea about establishing Transitional Tiny Houses to help house the homeless and provide them with resources to return to a stable life style.

We had no money for this mission, we had no Tiny Houses, just the hope and a prayer of one amazing man and his unwavering faith that we could do this with the help of the Holy Spirit and a whole bunch of people that bought into his dream and made it our dream as well.

Thank You Mike and God's Blessings to you as your Journey Continues!

*** Mission Update: "Lighten Your Load" Family Laundry Mission.** (Gayle Klitzke)

-- January through April 2026 we had 15 laundry sessions and served 124 people and did 300+ loads of laundry. Cost was \$1,668 in quarters to operate the washers/dryers during those months.

Right now funds are keeping up with demand, but donations are always appreciated.

Donations can be sent to: Pam Moran, c/o Central Lutheran Church-Lighten Your Load, 411 N. Bridge St., Suite #101, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729.

-- We are averaging about 8 Individuals/Families per session. We will have the new sign-ups online for the upcoming summer months. Volunteers are holding steady, but we could always use a few new people to team up with some of our seasoned volunteers.

-- We have also been contacted by people from Eau Claire and Birchwood through our CFMC website, asking about our Lighten Your Load mission and starting one of their own. We are in contact with them, helping to answer any questions they may have.

*** Other Business/Announcements: None at this time.**

Closed Meeting with Our Father/Lord's Prayer!

*** Next Meeting – August 3, 2026 at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church**
No July Meeting ... currently meeting every other month (Even Months)

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Drehmel

CFMC Mission Statement: "Faithful people joining hearts and hands to be God's Love in action for our neighbors near and far."

CFMC Bible Verse: Psalm 60:12 – "With God's Help We Will Do Mighty Things."

WEBSITE: cfmissioncoalition.org -- **FACEBOOK:** facebook.com/cfmissioncoalition