

LIGHTEN YOUR LOAD
YEAR IN REVIEW 2024

Total number of laundry sessions – 46 (no sessions on July 4 or December 19)

Total number of participants – 433 (99 unique)

Washing more than 1,057 loads and drying those loads

Cost of washing machines - \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$6

Cost of dryer - \$.25 for 10 minutes

Average 9 participants per session

Average 36 participants per month

Average 22 loads each session

Most participants at a session: 14 which occurred 5 times

Most loads by 1 participant: 8

Tuesdays 213 participants attended Thursdays 220 participants attended

17 volunteers

1 person volunteered 14 times, 3 others volunteered more than 10 times

INCOME

Donors:

- 6 churches \$2,813.30
- 4 individual donors 320.00
- Organization 50.00
- Burke grant 600.00
- TOTAL \$3,783.30

Expenses: Quarters for laundry sessions	\$4,500.00
Suds Hub debit cards	801.25
Total	\$5,301.25

Comments are printed as written by participants in our notebook:

- “Lighten Your Load continues to help me balance my finances, so I can wash my clothing and linens to maintain a healthy home and health. The regular cost of washing clothing is very expensive, so in the past, I was washing clothing every couple of months and washing bed sheets and other cloths – maybe once a year. That was not healthy nor was I happy. Thank you for this program.”
- “This program helps me out a lot with keeping my clothes clean and smelling great. When you are living paycheck to paycheck and can barely pay bills this helps so much and eases the stress of paying for laundry every week. When you don’t have a washer or dryer this is amazing. It just makes life easier. Thank you so much for this program” Terry
- “Recently I had a heart attack and I am not working. I appreciated this service very much.” E
- “This program gives us a huge financial relief monthly. We wouldn’t have clean clothes as often without it.”
- “I love this program. It helps so much. I’ve been laid off for three weeks and no money. Thank you for your help.”
- “I’m very thankful for this program. I have 5 children and no washer and dryer. Thank you so much!”
- “Super busy today – but very well managed!!!”
- “I am very grateful for this program it helps me have clean clothing for school. The staff are amazing have Big hearts to give there free time to make it happen to get clothing done.” Damian
- “This was a really busy evening – 2 laundry days in one because of the 4th but volunteers were great! Thanks”
- “Lighten Your Load helps me out a lot because I have 3 young children and they get clothes pretty dirty! And currently playing catch up. I had 2 major surgeries this year and was off work for 6 months. I am very thankful for the help! Thank you!”
- “I love all these peeps volunteers that help us peeps with our laundry. Its such a blessing. My washing machine is 25 years old and doesn’t work well and we have horrible iron in our well water. We are lower income but don’t receive any assistance cause we are over that income level. It’s so nice to come to laundry and the nice peeps are so helpful. Thank you!”
- “I am really happy with all the help that is extended to those of us that are in desperate need. The take the load off you help is a tremendous help to us. Also all the help the local churches give those in need and the Barnabas coffee, food and especially the Christian music on Saturday nights are tremendously helpful to our souls. Also all those in chippewa falls who extend meals several day a week and especially heartfelt Christmas, Thanksgiving is great. All this leads me to want to stay and live in the Chippewa Falls area. It is nice to be able to share holiday when one doesn’t have anyone to share them with. God bless all the volunteers who help and share their time to help us and lets us feel like we belong in their heart and in them somehow make the fit in our heart. God bless them and the city and churches & those who volunteer to help us feel like we are cared about.” Sincerely, Vito PS that is why I am looking to stay and live here.
- “We really appreciate Lighten Your Load – what a wonderful help it is! Thanks to everyone who contributes time, money and caring.”