



Creating independence for 55 years!

We are truly humbled and grateful to those who champion our mission by sharing their time, expertise, and financial support. With that support REAL Services has helped hundreds of thousands of people in need over the last 55 years. Below, is one person who recently received help from the staff in the Energy Assistance Program.

After Months of Living in Her Car...

This is just one of so many short stories that circulate each day at REAL Services. A community partner in Warsaw contacted REAL Services about a client of hers that had been homeless. She was homeless because her home was without electricity and heat. This client has issues that make it difficult for her to communicate so that she can ask for the help she needs. Because someone learned of the clients needs and advocated for her, they were able to access REAL Services website and completed the online Energy Assistance Program (EAP) application. Staff member April Copas in EAP worked with the client and the utility company to get the electricity turned back on. She is also working on getting a LP tank set. The EAP benefit will then pay for the LP Fill. And now, after months of living in her car, the client is finally back in her home.

[REAL Services Celebrates 55 Years Infographic](#)

2021
REAL Services
Celebrates 55
Years!

2020s

2018
 The REAL Grille Food Truck hits the streets

2017
 Les Fox Leadership Circle created to recognize supporters

2010s

2011
 Implemented National Weinberg Foundation Caregiver grant with community partners

2010
 Held first REAL Room Makeover Raffle

2009
 After reaching the capital campaign goal, the ribbons were cut on the Regional Kitchen for Independent Living

2000s

2007
 Lester Fox retired as CEO. Becky Zaseck was named the new President and CEO of REAL Services

2005
 REAL Services piloted the Aging and Disability Resource Center for Indiana

2003
 The Community Foundation of St. Joseph County selected REAL Services to receive the Leighton Award for Non-Profit Excellence

1994
 Published the first REAL Connections Magazine. Began the Guardianship Program

1990s

1996
 First Age of Excellence Luncheon was held

1992
 Purchased the land at 1151 S. Michigan Street in South Bend to build a central office

1988
 Pre-admission screening and case management services expand to cover the 5 county area

1980s

1985
 REAL is designated by the Governor of Indiana as the Community Action Agency to serve low income families

1990
 Began administering the Social Services Block Grant program in 5 counties. REAL piloted CHOICE in Elkhart and St. Joseph Counties

1981
 REAL started Project Safe (Energy Assistance) in 5 counties

1982
 REAL started administration of Weatherization Program in 5 Counties

1975
 REAL moved to 622 N. Michigan Street in South Bend and began the Transportation Program

1974
 Governor of Indiana designated REAL as the Area Agency on Aging for Elkhart, Kosciusko, La Porte, Marshall, and St. Joseph Counties

1972
 REAL began the first Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) in Indiana and started the Foster Grandparent Program

1973
 Began Nutrition Program in St. Joseph County

1967
 First offices located at 1201 S. Main Street in South Bend opened

1968
 REAL started the first program in the country to provide meals, recreation and socialization for older persons. Meals on Wheels became a program of REAL Services

1960s

1966
 REAL Services began with Lester Fox as its Director

2020
 COVID - Agency pivots and serves 6,000 additional clients with 7 new services

2019
 Representatives from the Netherlands visited to consult about quality Dementia Care

2016
 REAL Services celebrates 50 years of service

2013
 Alzheimer's and Dementia Services of Northern Indiana became a division of REAL Services



REAL SERVICES

Creating independence for 55 years!

Please consider assisting us in our mission by donating \$55 in honor of our 55th Anniversary year

<https://realservices.org/giving/>

Volunteer Opportunities Available!

<https://realservices.org/get-involved/volunteer/>



Save The Date! 25th Annual Age Of Excellence

May 5, 2021 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Century Center

<https://realservices.org/get-involved/excellence/>

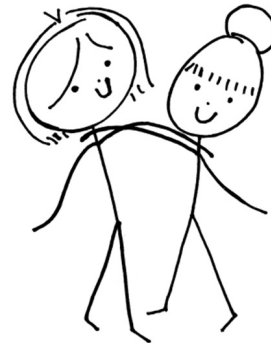


Save the Date: Alzheimer's & Dementia Services 31st annual "Stand by Me" Fundraising Walk

It is time to provide real support for real, local caregivers. Join us at the Alzheimer's and Dementia Services 31st annual Stand by Me Fundraising Walk.

The 1.5 mile walk will take place rain or shine on Saturday, June 5, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Howard Park in South Bend.

To sponsor, participate as an individual or form a team, please call 574.284.7104 or email events@realservices.org.



DONATE YOUR VEHICLE AND TURN YOUR USED WHEELS INTO MEALS

We'll use the proceeds from the sale of your car, truck, RV or boat towards addressing senior isolation & hunger.

To learn more, call or visit us online:
844-411-5768 | mealsonwheels.careasy.org



MEALS ON WHEELS

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How it works!



1. Simply call or donate online.



2. Schedule your free pick-up.



3. Receive a donation receipt.

Vehicle donations are tax-deductible! The Meals on Wheels Vehicle Donation Program works to get the highest return per vehicle and handles all the paperwork, too!

<https://www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org/donate-a-vehicle---local>

Support Us Through Kroger Community Rewards

By selecting REAL Services while shopping at Kroger with your rewards card, we receive dollars for your points. A digital account is needed to participate in Kroger Community Rewards. Here is a link to read more about it at:

<https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

Please consider us during your future shopping.
Thank you!



Shopping on Amazon in 2021?

By selecting REAL Services while using Amazon Smile we receive a portion of the sale. Using Amazon Smile will not affect your current status. Here is a link to read more about it at <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/pd>

Please consider us during your future shopping.
Thank you!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Keep up with the latest news!



Providing real services for the independence, strength, and dignity of our community.

GIVE NOW

Visit www.realservices.org
Click on "News" for updates.

Articles Since Last Newsletter

- 95.3 MNC: Donations, Volunteers Needed By Meals On Wheels As Winter Begins
- 95.3 MNC: REAL Services Celebrates 55 Years Of Providing Support To Hoosiers
- 95.3 MNC: REAL Services To Host 25th Annual Age Of Excellence Luncheon

The REAL Grille

Specializing in:

- Company Parties
- Food Truck Festivals
- Sporting Events
- Weddings and Celebration Events
- Or, Anywhere We Can Park It!
- Gourmet Grilled Cheese and more!
- We Welcome Custom Menu Design



Proceeds from The REAL Grille support REAL Services Meals on Wheels Program.
Call 574-284-2025 to schedule

Simply Catering to You

Simply Catering to You prepares and delivers outstanding meals for events, meetings, weddings, and more! The best part? 100% of our profit funds Meals on Wheels, a program that provides nutritious meals five days a week to members of our community who are in need.

<https://realservices.org/catering/>



to All At Real Services
I just wanted to thank you
for what you have done for me.

I did not know how I was
going to pay my Heating Bill
God, though you payed it for
me I can not thank you enough

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Connect with us

