



Winter 2023

## *Dear Friends,*

A warm hello from the Hope Center! With the coming of the holidays and family traditions being planned, I'd like to share a personal story with you.

It was Thanksgiving about a dozen years ago, and she was just doing what she always did for us, her family, every year. I brought the desserts; my sister-in-law brought the salads and veggies. Mom made the turkey, stuffing, and gravy. The kitchen was full of activity. As I turned around, I let out a loud gasp, and pulled her hand away from the burner. Mom was about to warm up her gravy on the stove...

*...in a Tupperware container!*



We had seen a gradual change in her, but just chalked it up to her being almost eighty-two. (Where was the line between "normal aging" and Alzheimer's?) From that moment we became more actively involved and helped my in-laws live their best lives, all things considered. It was not easy, and we were not very well-prepared to take on the role of caregivers in addition to being parents, having jobs, and living more than an hour away.

This is why our Alzheimer's respite program at the Hope Center, our **Senior Moments Lunch Club**, is very near and dear to my heart. I know firsthand how draining being a caregiver can be. It could be a 24-hour labor of love, but sometimes you need a break. To fill that need, we offer our lunch club every month for those who suffer from memory impairment. They engage in fun social activities like balloon volleyball or Bingo, are treated to a delicious hot lunch, create art projects, and share a lot of laughs; all the good things that go into making moments that matter. Caregivers have a much-needed break to go shopping, to the dentist, or to take a nap without worrying about their loved one walking out the door...or turning on the stove.



Our longest running program, **Fresh Start Tutoring**, is in its sixth year! Remember how some grades in elementary school were easier than others? We have students that we tutor who haven't come to the easy ones yet. We welcome them for weekly help in math or reading, and they can have a snack, too! Our small army of trained volunteers go above and beyond to be a trusted adult in the life of "our kids" who warm our hearts when they go out the door with a confident smile, can't wait to come so they arrive early, or don't want to leave when it's time to go home!

*We are a faith-based nonprofit that serves and supports our community through programs and partnerships.*

Since opening our doors as a nonprofit community outreach center in 2017, *we have made serving our business*, and although there are always costs to maintain these programs, there is no charge for those who participate. We rely on fundraisers, grants, the precious gift of time from our volunteers, and the generosity of our donors who want to bless the lives of people they don't even know-those who rely on the Hope Center. (If you would like more information about these or other programs at the Hope Center, we invite you to check out our website at [hopecenterofleroy.org](http://hopecenterofleroy.org), or follow our Facebook page.)

This year, as you plan your holiday giving, will you consider adding the **Hope Center of LeRoy** to your list? We would greatly appreciate your support and invite you to partner with us and bring hope for a better tomorrow to our community.

*On behalf of our staff, Board of Directors, volunteers, and those we serve, thank you so much for your consideration!*

*Diane Sia*

Director of Development



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[hopecenterofleroy.org](http://hopecenterofleroy.org)

**Donation Form** : (Please make checks payable to the Hope Center of LeRoy.)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (in case we need to verify information)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my donation of \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please note: we do not share your information.)*

Credit card (circle one): Visa / Mastercard

**(Credit Card or PayPal** account donations may also be made on our website: [hopecenterofleroy.org](http://hopecenterofleroy.org))

Please deduct \$ \_\_\_\_\_ from my credit card as a one-time donation.

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3 digit number on back of card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*(We do not keep your information on file.)*

*Thank you so much !!*

We'd love to give you a tour!

Contact us at:

(585) 768-8184