



The Helping Hand

Father Gene's Help Center Newsletter

Summer 2025



TMJ4's What's Brewing Wisconsin

TMJ4's What's Brewing Wisconsin featured Father Gene's Help Center Executive Director Jason and Assistant Executive Director MaryAnn, who announced that clothing donations were still needed for people impacted by Milwaukee's Mother's Day fire.

Their collaboration has fostered a resilient network of assistance, enabling Father Gene's Help Center to respond swiftly to each family affected by the fire. This spirit of unity and generosity continues to inspire new initiatives and partnerships, amplifying the positive impact throughout the city.

Father Gene's Help Center and the Hispanic Community



Father Gene's Help Center (FGHC) provides essential clothing for individuals and families across many backgrounds, including a significant number from the Hispanic community.

Recently, one of FGHC's Hispanic clients shared her experience. Martha Castro, a daycare director, referred her to the center so she could get clothing for her children. She began visiting Father Gene's in November and has returned three times since then. Grateful for the support, she expressed that staff and volunteers make her feel genuinely cared for with every visit.

She also appreciates the other basic necessities offered by FGHC, such as diapers for her children and for other families. Receiving clothing from the center has relieved her financial burden, allowing her to use her income to meet other needs at home.

Her positive experience led her to share information about FGHC with two friends at her workplace. She is especially thankful for Kassy, Father Gene's Bilingual Associate, whose ability to speak Spanish and understand the perspective of native Spanish speakers made her experience even more meaningful.

Father Gene's Help Center values the Hispanic community and remains committed to providing clothing resources to all those in need.



Volunteer Opportunities

The Essential Role of Volunteers

Father Gene's Help Center relies on the dedication and generosity of its volunteers to serve those in need. Without their tireless and selfless efforts, the center could not fulfill its mission.

How You Can Help

If you are searching for a meaningful volunteer experience, FGHC is looking for volunteers to sort incoming clothing donations and assist client shoppers.



Get Involved

To find out more, visit fathergeneshelp.org/volunteer or scan the QR code.

Connect with us:

Website: FatherGenesHelp.org

Facebook: [@fathergeneshelpcenter](https://www.facebook.com/fathergeneshelpcenter)

Instagram: [@fathergeneshelp](https://www.instagram.com/fathergeneshelp)

Twitter: [@fathergenes](https://twitter.com/fathergenes)

Stan's Shoes Support



Shoe Donation

Stan's Shoes generously donated 40 cases of shoes in a variety of sizes for men, women, and children.

Support for Fire Victims

Many pairs from this donation were given to the victims of the Mother's Day fire.

In addition to these efforts, FGHC volunteers worked alongside staff to ensure that each donation reached those most in need, providing not only essential footwear but also a sense of comfort and relief during a difficult time. Their collaboration exemplified the spirit of generosity and solidarity, making a meaningful difference for families as they began to rebuild and recover from the recent hardships.

Salvation Army / FGHC Collaboration

Following the devastating Mother's Day fire, Father Gene's Help Center partnered closely with the Salvation Army to support those affected. FGHC volunteers and staff worked tirelessly to fulfill clothing orders submitted through the Salvation Army, ensuring families received the garments they needed during this difficult time.

MFD / FGHC

Father Gene's Help Center has begun working with the Milwaukee Fire Department to help those in recovery rebuild their lives by providing them with clothing for a fresh start.

Through this collaboration, individuals are given not just garments, but a renewed sense of dignity and hope as they take their first steps toward lasting change. By addressing such fundamental needs, the partnership fosters a supportive environment where recovery is not only possible, but sustainable. These efforts, grounded in compassion and practical support, weave a safety net that catches those most in need, guiding them forward as they build a new chapter in their lives.

Critical Needs



New undergarments

(New Men's Women's, and Kid's underwear) to every man, woman, and child we serve—an essential expression of our mission and a basic need that often goes unmet.

Backpacks

Father Gene's Help Center is looking to supply two economically challenged schools. To do this we are asking for your help. Please consider donating new or gently used backpacks for that kid in need. Donations can be dropped off at Father Gene's Help Center.



Fire Victim Tamika Davis

Three months ago, Tamika lost everything in a fire. Needing food and clothing, she called 211 and was referred to Father Gene's Help Center. After two visits, she expressed appreciation for the positive experience and the clothing she received.

Grateful for the assistance, Tamika found comfort not only in the practical support she received, but also in the kindness shown by the staff, who treated her with dignity and understanding during her visits. Each trip to the center offered her a renewed sense of hope and belonging, helping her regain stability as she began to rebuild her life. These acts of generosity became a turning point, allowing Tamika to look toward the future with greater confidence, and reinforcing the importance of community in times of hardship.

How to Donate

Donations can be dropped off at: **Father Gene's Help Center** | 5919 W. National Ave., West Allis, WI 53214

Hours

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. | First Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please call the center at (414) 258-4357 with any questions regarding donations.