

Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg Takes Action in April for Sexual Assault Awareness Month ✦



HO-CHUNK GAMING WITTENBERG SUPPORTING DENIM DAY

Taking the time to recognize and support those in need became priority for employees

Wittenberg, Wisconsin. Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg, a community minded gaming, hotel and entertainment establishment in north central Wisconsin, took the sudden opportunity to help local organizations that tirelessly work to assist families, children and women who are victims of abuse and/or sexual violence.

The opportunity arose when an unexpected surplus of remaining promotional items from the previous month triggered thoughts to go beyond the everyday. The overage consisted of high quality, hard shell carry-on luggage pieces and travel accessories. They needed to move out of the way in a short amount of time to make room for the next shipment of items that were coming in.

"When the discussion came around to donating these items to abuse centers, it was a no brainer," said Senior Manager Public Relations Jessica White Wing Clark. "Realizing these items may be the perfect thing for someone having to leave home suddenly, really hit our emotional cord."

A flurry of phone calls immediately began to try to reach out to as many shelters as possible and soon grew to include foster care facilities. Along with women and families abruptly finding themselves homeless, foster children may often have to move frequently between places and

may have nothing sustainable to carry what little possessions they have. Some facilities were not able to accept the donations due to storage constraints, but were grateful at the offer. Those that could take in the luggage pieces were thankful to have something like this to offer in their services.



STOCKBRIDGE MUNSEE FAMILY SERVICE PROGRAM

"Very often victims come with nothing but the clothes on their backs," said Volunteer Coordinator and Administrative Assistant of the Family Center in Wisconsin Rapids Amy Scheide. "We can fill the suitcases with vital supplies to help them on their journey to their violence free futures. We are already using them and were able to give them to two survivors this past week!"



SHAWANO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



CAP WOMEN'S SHELTER OF STEVENS POINT

Amy shared that facilities throughout the state receive a large amount of their funding through the United States legislation called the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984. It is the largest source of federal funding for domestic violence and sexual assault services in the United States. Facilities like Amy's recently learned VOCA is facing cutting those funding amounts across the Nation. She shared that local donations are becoming more of a necessity than they had been before.

"We just want to express our gratitude for the outreach of support from Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg," said Amy Scheide. "We have been provided hope by working with the Ho-Chunk Nation, as we're able to work with Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa as well. We hope to continue to work together in the future!"

Overall, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg was humbly able to donate over 800 travel items to 11 facilities throughout north central Wisconsin in four days' time. It was a strong effort that could

not have happened without the selflessness of those that make up the family team of employees at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg.

Moreover, and seemingly fitting, the last of the donations occurred on April 26th, which is a highlighted awareness day of the Sexual Assault Awareness month and is called Denim Day.

"I'm really appreciative we are able to help those who really need it," said Players Club Manager Jacob Vargas. "I enjoy being part of actions that help others."

About Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg. Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg has been in business since 2008, with a major expansion in 2018, which included gaming space and an addition of a luxury hotel. It is committed to providing excellent customer service and entertainment to guests while creating an atmosphere that is fun, exciting, and strives to continue to support its employees and communities.



HO-CHUNK GAMING WITTENBERG EMPLOYEES



AVAIL INC. OF ANTIGO



SAFE HAVEN OF SHAWANO

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THE WOMEN'S COMMUNITY, INC. OF WAUSAU



THE FAMILY CENTER OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS

Thank you for reading!

HO-CHUNK GAMING WITTENBERG

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