Greetings,

In celebration of CORE's 20 years of service in the community, over the past year we have highlighted our commitment to CORE's mission and the services and programs that so many in our community have come to rely on.

To mark the shift from looking back to moving forward, we will be hosting our 20th Anniversary Celebration this month! We hope you will join us as we honor the people, moments, and accomplishments that have shaped our journey and will continue to guide our work as we look at the road ahead.

Thank you for being part of CORE's journey and for helping make these past 20 years so meaningful. Your support, participation, and enthusiasm continue to inspire all that we do now and we can't wait to see what we can accomplish together in the next 20 years.

CORE Spotlight

Looking Back at CORE's History

Mary Rice initiated the formation of CORE Community Resources in 2006 in response to a recognized need for services for seniors in the greater Bayfield area, and consultant Nicole Wilde was hired to survey the community regarding these needs. Survey results showed concerns of a growing elderly population with increasing needs for home maintenance or modification, transportation, meal assistance, social interaction and companionship. Responding to this need, Nicole developed a business plan

and incorporated CORE in October 2006. A managing board of directors was formed and CORE began operations in the winter of 2007.

The board was a hands-on, hard-working group dedicated to the mission of CORE and oversaw the work of CORE volunteers and the Executive Director, Shannon Swanstrom, who was hired in February 2007. On April 20, 2007, CORE received 501(c)3 as a federally tax-exempt non-profit organization. From this point, the board and Executive Director drafted a case statement and set to work organizing volunteer services and on May 20, 2007, CORE held a community open house to introduce the concept of CORE and CORE's services and mission to the community.

2026 BY THE NUMBERS

CAPACITY BUILDING

- **163 volunteers** were involved so far in 2026, together logging more than 2,800 hours.
- **3 new Board members** joined CORE's Board of Directors.

ENCORE

- **330+ shifts** staffed by **20+ volunteers** so far in 2026.
- **$60,000+ of revenue** was generated by Encore Resale Shop by July 1, 2026.

FOOD PANTRY

- **40% increase in participation** since 2025.
- **165 households** served in 2026.
- **407 individuals served**, including 119 older adults and 119 children so far in 2026.
- **500+ volunteer shifts totaling 1,566 hours** providing food pantry services.
- **50,000+ lbs of food distributed**.

PROGRAMMING

- **12+ Arts & Education events** held including art classes, poetry workshops, and more.
- **15+ Social Programs events** including Friday Friends, First Fika Fridays, and Monday Mingles.
- **198+ Wellness participants** across 5 programming events in 2026.
- **4 Repair Cafe's** held in collaboration with the Bayfield Carnegie Library.

To further its goals, CORE developed a volunteer program called Friends in Deed. These volunteers comprised the heart of CORE and performed a variety of non-medical tasks intended to meet temporary needs of seniors. Two members of the board served as coordinators for volunteers beginning in 2007, five training sessions were held and over 50 volunteers were trained. As a result, more than 30 area seniors received services and the Friends in Deed provided close to 1000 hours of volunteering and well over 1200 miles in transportation.

A thrift store, initially named "*CORE Community Closet*", opened on June 18, 2007 with two main purposes: to help finance operations and programs; and

to provide opportunities for seniors and other members of the community to socialize as volunteers and to purchase low-cost quality clothing and household items. Volunteers staffed the store three days a week, and a volunteer coordinator was paid for four hours per week to assist the Executive Director with store management. In the spring of 2008, with the help of about two dozen volunteers, the thrift store moved to a much larger retail space which is the current location known as Encore Resale Store. A half-time paid manager ran ENCORE and was assisted over the summer months by a part-time assistant manager until 2024 when Encore transitioned to being fully volunteer staffed.

Photo from the grand opening ribbon cutting celebration of CORE"s Community Closet thrift store (now Encore Retail Store) which took place on June 22, 2007.

CORE also became the fiscal sponsor of the Bayfield Food Pantry, which involved management of grant funds, donations, and establishing a contract with Second Harvest allowing the food pantry to purchase non-perishables at greatly reduced prices. Today, the Food Pantry is a primary service and integral part of CORE's role within the community.

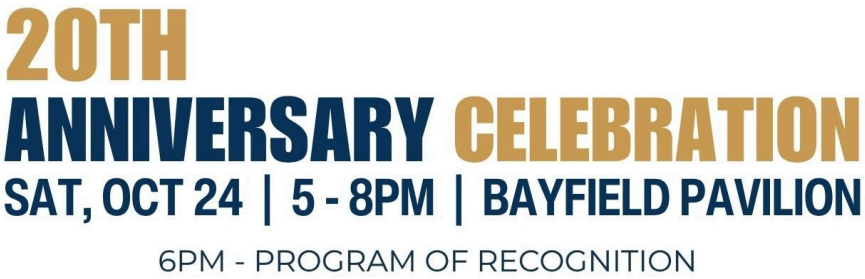
Volunteers still remain at the heart of CORE. A hard-working volunteer board continues to oversee CORE's operations while teams of volunteers are the backbone of all of CORE's services including the Food Pantry and Encore. Likewise, the all-volunteer *Social Programs*, *Arts & Education*, and *Wellness*

committees each plan events and classes throughout the year to enrich the lives our area residents. Committees are always seeking additional people to help with planning and hosting events, so if you would like to volunteer on a committee or with another service offered by CORE, please contact: 715-779-3457 or email programs@corecr.org.

We are continuing to collect stories from CORE's history and would love to hear from you! Submit your story through the form on the website or by emailing community@corecr.org.

Upcoming CORE Events

Every month CORE hosts a variety of events, classes, and social opportunities for the community. If you'd like to receive weekly emails about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities click here.



Get out your party hats (from Encore, of course) and save the date to celebrate CORE's 20th Anniversary – October 24, from 5 to 8pm at the Bayfield Pavilion. The Board of Directors invites the whole community to mark this milestone and to launch the next chapter of programs dedicated to serving the Bayfield Peninsula. The Pavilion will be decked out for the anniversary, with catered treats and beverages, music and fabulous door prizes from the Encore collection. We hope you'll join us!

October Calendar

To see additional event details to sign up for events and volunteer opportunties, click the button below.

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

CORE
COMMUNITY RESOURCES

October 2026

CORE Calendar

CORE Food Pantry

10:30 - 1:30pm | Thur, Oct 8 & 22

CORE's Food Pantry is open every-other Thursday. All are welcome.

Holiday Card Making Class

12 - 2pm | Tue, Oct 6th

Learn to make homemade holiday cards using stencils, ink, and watercolors with Jane Jonas Williams. $15 suggested donation.

Chair Yoga

10 - 11am | Wed, Oct 7, 14, & 21

Led by Tracy Chipman, Chair Yoga is for increased strength, mobility, better balance, and less stress. Sanctuary of the Bayfield Presbyterian Church, 306 Washington Ave. $10 suggested donation. Drop-ins welcome.

Repair Cafe

9am - 12pm | Sat, Oct 10

Bring your beloved but not working items back to life with the help of volunteers! Held at CORE in partnership with the Bayfield Carnegie Library.

Dementia Training

8:30 & 10:30AM | Tue, Oct 13

Colleen Brewer, ADRC Dementia Specialist, will provide an experiential training on working with people with dementia. Two sessions will be offered.

Friday Friends

11:30 - 1pm | Fri, Oct 16

Friday Friends is a free monthly event bringing together community for social connection over lunch. October's guest speaker is Jeff Rennicke, Executive Director of Friends of the Apostle Islands.

Encore Resale Store

10 - 4pm | Thur - Sat

Encore Retail Store is a 100% volunteer run and profits support CORE!

20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

5 - 8PM | SAT, OCT 24TH
6PM - PROGRAM OF RECOGNITION

BAYFIELD PAVILION
2 E FRONT ST, BAYFIELD

For additional details and to sign-up for events, scan the QR code or visit: https://tinyurl.com/CoreBayfieldEvents

CORE Community Resources
257 Manypenny Ave, Bayfield
www.corecr.org | info@corecr.org | (715) 779-3457

CORE Services

CORE Community Resources operates a Food Pantry and Medical Equipment Lending Closet as part of the core services offered by CORE.

If you'd like to receive bi-weekly emails about the Food Pantry and other services offered by CORE click here.

CORE Food Pantry

Upcoming food pantry dates are:

October 8 & 22

Share the Harvest is a wonderful way to support the Food Pantry by sharing extra produce from your gardens! Donations should be brought to CORE between 10am - 1pm on Wednesday before the Food Panty. With questions contact: food@corecr.org.

Medical Equipment Lending Closet

CORE's Lending Closet provides no- cost rentals of durable medical equipment such as walkers, wheelchairs, electric beds, and more! To inquire about or schedule an equipment loan or to donate equipment, please call (715) 779-3457 x3.

Encore Resale Store

Encore is an integral part of CORE Community Resources and is 100% volunteer run with every dollar going to support CORE's mission! CORE's summer hours are 10 - 4pm Thursday through Saturday.

Get Involved!

Volunteering

CORE Community Resources relies on volunteers and below are just a few of the many volunteer opportunities available. Reach out if you're interested in getting involved: programs@corecr.org

- **Teach a class, workshop, or give a lecture**
- **Offer social support through our Senior Connections program**
- **Volunteer with Encore Resale Store**
- **Join the Wellness, Social Programs, or Arts & Education committees**

Donations

All gifts are welcomed and appreciated. These funds enable us to continue offering valuable services and programs across northern Bayfield County.

Donate to CORE

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Update your contact info or change your email preferences here.

CORE Community Resources

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