

## HOW DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD?

Your donations to Community Shares of Wisconsin go to help all of our nonprofits working on long-term social change and environmental sustainability. All of our groups accomplish great things every year. Here is a very small sampling of our progress in creating lasting change.



*Governor Doyle signs e-waste bill into law.*

### PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIVING SUSTAINABLY

#### Clean Wisconsin

*Helping protect our clean water and air and advocating for clean energy.*

Clean Wisconsin was a strong advocate of the electronic waste (e-waste) bill, which was signed into law in late 2009. Wisconsin consumers will soon have a much more convenient means of properly disposing of old computers, televisions, printers, and other e-waste that contains toxic materials.

When e-waste is simply put into a landfill, toxic substances such as mercury and lead leach into the ground and water, threatening our health.

“Making it easier for consumers to properly dispose of electronic waste will have a substantial impact on the health of our environment—and on our health too,” says Amber Meyer Smith from Clean Wisconsin.

### EMPOWERING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

#### Chrysalis

*Providing vocational and work-related services to those who have mental illnesses.*

Before working with Chrysalis, “Liz” wanted to work but feared public interaction. She was routinely hospitalized every six weeks for an attempted suicide. After working with an employment specialist at Chrysalis, she was able to find a job as a deli-worker. Six months into her job, Liz was a visibly changed person. Once shy and isolated, she became outgoing and assertive and enrolled in classes at MATC.

Liz has gone eight months without an attempted suicide. She says her work-related connection to the community brings new meaning and enjoyment to her life.

### PROMOTING JUSTICE

#### ACLU of Wisconsin Foundation & Fair Wisconsin Education Fund

*Fair Wisconsin Education Fund: dedicated to advancing, achieving, and protecting the civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Wisconsinites.*

*ACLU of Wisconsin Foundation: advocate for civil rights and civil liberties.*

The ACLU of Wisconsin Foundation and the Fair Wisconsin Education Fund worked together to defend Wisconsin’s new statewide domestic partnership legislation, which recently faced legal challenges in the state’s highest court. The Wisconsin Supreme Court, siding with both CSW groups, dismissed a challenge asking

that the domestic partnership protections be declared unconstitutional.

“No one should have to worry about being blocked at their partner’s hospital room door, or have to make the heartbreaking decision to quit their job in order to care for a seriously ill partner,” says Katie Belanger of Fair Wisconsin. “This isn’t about being gay or straight—it’s about being decent.”

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence

*Providing a bridge to a safe environment for Latino victims of domestic violence.*

“Virginia” initially came to UNIDOS as a victim of domestic violence. But after participating in support groups, individual sessions, and training, Virginia has become a self-confident, respected community leader. In her leadership role she helps out in the following ways:

- Facilitates a leadership group
- Collaborates with other domestic violence organizations
- Does educational presentations to schools and at events

In countless situations like Virginia’s, UNIDOS creates positive change in the lives of Latino citizens.

## FOSTERING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

### League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund

*Promoting informed and active participation in government—for a better Wisconsin.*

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund is a 2010 Census Partner working to achieve a complete Census count for Wisconsin.

Many Wisconsin residents go uncounted in the U.S. Census. For instance, many “snowbirds” fly to southern states in the winter, and this year’s form lacks useful instructions about determining full-time residence. Also,



*The Fair Housing Center helps end discrimination for everyone.*

immigrants may be concerned about sharing information with the government.

Yet Census data impact the amount of federal funds coming into our communities, as well as planning decisions about where to site hospitals, schools, and businesses. The League’s education efforts are key to achieving a full Census count.

## ENSURING FAIRNESS IN HOUSING

### Fair Housing Center of Greater Madison

*Working to eradicate discrimination in the housing market through education and enforcement.*

The Fair Housing Center of Greater Madison won a recent judgment against a landlord who had discriminated against families with children.

Tobi LeMahieu of Fair Housing says, “The subtleties of discrimination make the Fair Housing Center’s investigations essential. Without our organization investigating and pursuing legal action in this case, the housing provider’s illegal practices might never have been uncovered. We’re dedicated to ending housing discrimination for everyone—including for families with children.”

*Your support allows all of our member groups—now a total of 64 nonprofits—to continue their work in advocacy and activism. Thank you!*



READ ABOUT THE WORK OF MORE CSW GROUPS AT [www.communityshares.com](http://www.communityshares.com)

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