



# Resource Family Connection

News, Events, and Information Benefiting  
the Children of Waukesha County  
November and December, 2023



## Holiday Festivities

### Night of Lights

Please join the Waukesha Downtown Business Association, the City of Waukesha Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Waukesha in kicking off the holiday season with our tree lighting, lantern stroll through Downtown Waukesha, and Walk of Lights illumination ceremony at Riverfront Plaza!

*Where:* Starts at the Rotunda, 235 W Broadway, Waukesha

*Date:* Friday, December 1, 2023

*Time:* 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

*For Additional Information, Including Timeline of Events:* <https://www.waukesha-wi.gov/residents/night-of-lights.php>



### Waukesha Christmas Parade

Downtown Waukesha comes alive with enchantment and merriment during its annual Christmas parade, a beloved tradition that brings the community together in the spirit of the season! Colorful floats, marching bands, Santa Claus, and treats being handed out by cheerful parade participants - The atmosphere of warmth and togetherness is what makes the Christmas parade a heartwarming and unforgettable experience for all who attend!

*Where:* Parade route begins at the State Office Building in Downtown Waukesha, 141 NW Barstow St, Waukesha

*Date:* Sunday, December 3, 2023

*Time:* 4:00 p.m.

*For Additional Information, Including Parade Route:* <https://www.waukesha-wi.gov/residents/waukesha-christmas-parade.php>

## Science is Fun! Science Fest!

### Science Fest! Now You See It! Now You Don't!

The annual Science Fest is a celebration that connects people with science, technology, engineering, and math in fun and exciting ways! Attendees of all ages are encouraged to explore and engage in a variety of interactive activities and discover how science mixes into our everyday lives and shapes our future.

*Where:* Retzer Nature Center, S14W28167 Madison St, Waukesha

*Date:* Saturday, November 4, 2023

*Time:* 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

*For Additional Information:* <https://www.waukesha-county.gov/landandparks/park-system/find-a-park/retzer-nature-center/specialevents/science-fest>

## Christmas Clearing Council



Christmas Clearing Council  
of Waukesha County

The 2023 Christmas Clearing Council Client Application is now available online! You will be asked to provide proof of residency and financial hardship when applying.

If you have questions about this application, please email [applications@christmasclearingcouncil.org](mailto:applications@christmasclearingcouncil.org) at anytime or call the office at 262-771-0909.

For both Spanish and English applications:

<http://www.christmasclearingcouncil.org/application>

**Deadline to apply is November 15, 2023, at 11:59 p.m.**

## Informational and Training Opportunities

### Waukesha County Foster Parent Information Sessions

Open to Waukesha County residents interested in learning more about foster care in our community. Also required for any new foster parents. If you are a two-parent household, both parents must attend. The information sessions will be held virtually using Microsoft Teams.

**Note:** There are no Thursday mid-day sessions in November or December.

*Date:* Wednesdays - November 8, December 13, 2023

*Time:* 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

*For Additional Information and to Register:* [www.wcfostercare.com](http://www.wcfostercare.com)

### Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Peer Support

This group welcomes grandparents, guardians, and caregivers to learn, connect, share resources, while navigating the experience of raising grandchildren.

*Where:* Waukesha County Health and Human Services Center, 514 Riverview Ave, Waukesha, WI

*Date:* Third Wednesday Each Month - November 15, December 20, 2023

*Time:* 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (Free dinner served at 6:00 p.m.)

*For Additional Information and to Register:* Contact Linda Senger at 262-548-7698 or [lsenger@waukesha-county.gov](mailto:lsenger@waukesha-county.gov). You can also visit: <https://www.healingheartswisconsin.org/support-groups/grandparentsgroup/>.

### Waukesha County Caregiver Connection

This group is for kinship and foster parents. Sessions are facilitated by Healing Hearts in partnership with Waukesha County Foster Care.

*Virtual*

*Date:* Wednesday, November 1, 2023

*Time:* 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

*Topic:* Co-Regulation

*In-Person*

*Date:* Wednesday, December 6, 2023

*Time:* 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

*Topic:* Kinship Caregiving - Managing Relationship with Child's Parent  
*Location:* First United Methodist Church, 121 Wisconsin Ave, Waukesha

*For Additional Information and to Register:* <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/waukesha-county-52187854553>

### Waukesha County Caregiver Community

Bringing together caregivers of children and adolescents with social, emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health challenges. These sessions are held virtually using Microsoft Teams.

*Date:* Last Thursday Each Month - November 30, December 28, 2023

*Time:* 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

*For Additional Information and to Register:* Contact Kirsten Jones at [kejones@waukesha-county.gov](mailto:kejones@waukesha-county.gov).



## Let's Cook! Easy Taco Macaroni and Cheese

By: [thelazydish.com](http://thelazydish.com)

Combine two classic comfort foods - cheesy macaroni and taco meat - to create this flavorful and simple weeknight meal!

### Ingredients:

- ✦ 1 Pound Ground Beef
- ✦ 2 Boxes Velveeta Macaroni and Cheese
- ✦ 1 Can Rotel Diced Tomatoes and Green Chiles
- ✦ 1 Packet Taco Seasoning



### Instructions:

1. Cook the boxes of macaroni and cheese according to package instructions.
2. While the water is boiling and the pasta is cooking, brown the ground beef in a large skillet. Remove any excess grease and mix in about 1/4 cup water, the packet of taco seasoning, and the can of diced tomatoes.
3. Allow the taco meat mixture to simmer for at least 5 minutes and then dump in the macaroni and cheese once it's finished.
4. Stir to combine and enjoy!



## Let's Cook! 3-Ingredient No-Bake Hershey's Pie

By: [thelazydish.com](http://thelazydish.com)

Looking for a quick and easy dessert for that holiday party? Look no further! Here is your incredibly simple to make but totally irresistible chocolatey-bit of goodness! It's so quick and easy, you can make two! One to pass and one for you - don't worry! It'll be our little secret!

### Ingredients:

- ✦ 1 (6oz) Pre-Made Graham Cracker Crust
- ✦ 1 (8oz) Tub of Cool Whip (Thawed in Fridge)
- ✦ 6 Regular-Sized Hershey's Chocolate Bars (About 9oz)



### Instructions:

1. Break apart your Hershey's bars and reserve 2-4 pieces for garnishing the pie later. Place them in a microwave-safe bowl and heat for 20-30 second increments until the chocolate is melted.
2. Add the thawed Cool Whip to the melted chocolate and mix until well combined.
3. Spoon the mixture into your prepared pie crust, and then use a cheese grater to garnish the top with any chocolate you have set aside.
4. Refrigerate and chill for at least 3 hours or overnight before slicing.



### Contact Numbers:

#### Foster Care Social Workers:

Waukesha County Health & Human Services  
262-548-7212

Michelle Lim, Foster Care Supervisor  
262-970-4761

Cassie BeLow ..... 262-896-8574

Rhonda Klinger ..... 262-548-7240

Jennifer Mantei ..... 262-548-7250

Evelyn Mosso ..... 262-548-7254

Brittany Sutton ..... 262-548-7262

#### Case Management Social Workers:

Denise Hegberg, Ongoing Social Work Supervisor  
262-548-7754

Jennifer Eiler, Ongoing Social Work Supervisor  
262-548-7260

Jamie Proctor, Ongoing Social Work Supervisor  
262-548-7272

Jamie Carter ..... 262-548-7264

Kimberly Dudzik ..... 262-548-7347

Megan Fishler ..... 262-896-8570

Abbey Girman ..... 262-548-7695

Emily Kerr ..... 262-548-7239

Nicole Laird ..... 262-548-7265

Jessica Larsen ..... 262-548-7346

Maria Maurer ..... 262-548-7345

Jessica Palmersheim ..... 262-896-8281

Cindie Remshek ..... 262-548-7281

Elizabeth Russo ..... 262-548-7349

Kim Sampson ..... 262-548-7273

Linda Senger ..... 262-548-7698

Children's Mental Health Outreach  
262-548-7666

Medical Emergency: 911

Family Emergency: 211 or 262-547-3388



If an Allegation of Abuse or Neglect has been made against you, please call:

FASPP  
Norma Schoenberg  
920-922-9627

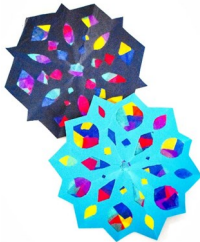
## Let's Craft! Snowflake Suncatchers

By: [Kidsactivityzone.com](http://Kidsactivityzone.com)

Bring some color into your home during the winter months with these fun unique snowflake suncatchers!

### What You'll Need:

- ✦ Press n Seal Wrap or Clear Contact Paper
- ✦ Blue Paper (or Purple... or White... or Pink...)
- ✦ Tissue Paper - Assorted Colors
- ✦ Scissors



### What You'll Do:

1. Begin by making your snowflake.
2. Once your snowflake is cut, unfold the paper to see your design.
3. Tear a sheet of Press n Seal wrap or clear contact paper.
4. Press the snowflake into the wrap.
5. Cut a bunch of squares of the tissue paper.
6. Press the tissue paper into the open spaces of the snowflake.
7. Once finished applying the tissue paper, tear another sheet of wrap and position over the tissue paper, sealing in place.
8. Trim all the excess wrap from around the snowflake. (Tip: Make sure that your scissors are clean or they may stick, making it difficult to cut!)
9. Hang your colorful designs in the window and watch how the light makes the colors glow!

### How To Make A Paper Snowflake:

1. Fold one corner of a sheet of blue (or purple, white, or pink!) paper into a triangle.
2. Cut the excess strip.
3. Fold over into another triangle.
4. Fold one side over to a point.
5. Fold over the other side.
6. Cut the top.
7. Begin cutting patterns into the edges of the paper. Since all snowflakes are unique, you can make yours however you want!

