

May 9, 2023



Annual Excellence in Economic Development Awards Breakfast: *Community Enhancement Award*

Lakeshore Foster Families and Friends was chosen for the 2023 Community Enhancement Award. This award recognizes a business or organization that has made a substantial impact on the quality of life in Manitowoc County by creating projects and initiatives to make Manitowoc County a more attractive place to live and work.

Our organization is beyond grateful for this award as we actively work to make sure our foster, kinship, and guardianship families have appropriate services to support them in caring for the children placed with them.



Some of our programs and initiatives include:

- **Care Kits** are created for out-of-home placements with the purpose to help with the transition to a new home. We provide items needed to support not only the child but the family as a whole.
- **Monthly Hygiene Pickup** is made possible through our partnership with Jake's Network of Hope. Our families can request monthly diapers, pullups, or feminine hygiene products. Jake's NOH supplies the majority of these items for us!
- Our **Care Closet** contains brand new items that are donated, or purchased, for the children in our programs. Items in our Care Closet include new clothes, pajamas, activities, pantry items, games, shoes, backpacks, school supplies, sheets, blankets, suitcases, diapers, wipes, baby essentials, and so much more.
- Through our **appreciation events**, we actively show appreciation to our families, the children, social workers, and all involved in the welfare of children placed out-of-home.
- Our bi-monthly **Support Group** is a time for parents to build relationships and be in conversation with other adults going through similar experiences.