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## **YMCA Provides Shower Facilities for Shelter Residents**

[GREEN BAY, WI, April 2, 2020] – St. John’s Shelter has been serving record numbers of guests since mid-March, 2020 due to the economic and other challenges created by COVID-19. On March 18<sup>th</sup> they opened a second site at Spring Lake Church to accommodate more people in need. The only thing missing, showering facilities. The Ferguson Family YMCA, just down the street from Spring Lake Church, stepped in to provide this service for St. John’s and their residents.

“From the bottom of my heart and as a homeless shelter guest, it means the world to me to be able to take a shower and feel better as a human being. I coordinate our shower program, and for me and all the guys, it makes such a big difference and lifts our spirits to have a hot shower every day. You can see the look on our guests faces that shows how much it helps. It is such an honor to be part of this partnership with the YMCA.”

-Mark Taylor, St. John’s Guest Intern

The Ferguson Family YMCA has worked out a daily schedule to allow approximately 15 men per day to shower. Donated toiletries are available for them to use. In addition, the Y’s cleaning service partner comes through once the men have finished to clean and sanitize in preparation for the next day’s group.

“Every individual, no matter what their current situation, deserves dignity and respect. We are honored to work with St. John’s Shelter to help them continue providing that as well as basic hygiene needs to their shelter guests,” Sean Elliott, President and CEO stated. “We’ve had a long-standing, positive relationship with St. John’s. When they called looking for help we didn’t hesitate.”

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### **About the Greater Green Bay YMCA**

*In 2019, the Greater Green Bay YMCA reached an all-time high participation in programs with over 80,000 participants in more than 45 locations throughout the community. With a commitment to ensuring every person has the access and opportunity to lead a healthy and impactful life, the Y provides over \$1 million in financial assistance and subsidies. This is made possible through a variety of grants, as well as through contributions to our Annual Campaign.*

*Since 1871, the Greater Green Bay YMCA has embraced the balanced strength of spirit, mind and body. We’ve put Christian principles into practice, and stood for caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. We serve more than 33,000 members and remain steadfastly committed to*

*offering programs and providing places where healthy lives and community enrichment comes alive.*