

About the Polish Center

Rising steadily from the 1800s, Milwaukee's Polish community grew to become one of the nation's largest-nearly 200,000 strong by 1980. Generations of pride flourished which led to the creation of Polish Fest, a celebration of culture and cuisine first held on Milwaukee's lakefront in 1982. The success of Polish Fest helped the community pursue an even larger dream: a permanent center for the promotion and preservation of all things Polish.

The dream took a more tangible shape in 1987, when Polish Festivals, Inc. purchased a parcel of land in suburban Franklin. In 1996, 26 representatives from more than 15 Polish organizations convened to lay the groundwork for today's Polish Center in a picturesque park-like setting, which is perfect for weddings, showers, banquets and meetings.

The Polish Center was designed in the style of a Polish manor house- a fitting symbol of Poland's national heritage and tradition of gracious hospitality. The Polish Center offers the flexibility to accommodate very small groups to large groups. The facility is unique in that every banquet room has a scenic lake view. The lakeside patio is perfect for hosting an outdoor reception or gathering.

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP AND OUR LEGACY WILL BE CHERISHED FOREVER



WHAT SOMETHING SO SMALL CAN MEAN FOR GENERATIONS





6941 South 68th Street Franklin, WI 53132-8237

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Capital Improvements



In 2015, the Polish Center raised the money necessary to satisfy its mortgage. With our beloved Polish Center of Wisconsin home now over 20 years old, we are in need of completing major capital improvement projects. This includes age-related repair and improvements to our roof, windows, HVAC, patio, kitchen, parking lot and grounds.

Like many other non-profits, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic created a financial strain to us as we lost all of our major fundraising activities and events. Through this capital campaign, we are reaching out to the greater community to help us raise the funding for these important projects so the Polish Center of Wisconsin continues as a proud heritage home to promote, enrich, and educate the community in Polish culture and heritage.

- Repair/Replace all Asphalt Surfaces, Damaged Curb and Gutter and Catch Basins, Side Walk Stones/Repair and Reset Retaining Wall
- Renovate The Patio
- Replace Kitchen/Restaurant Equipment
- Repair and Replace Exterior Trim and Windows
- Repair/Refurbish Heat, Ventilation & AC
- Repair/Replace Roof
- Southern Elevation- Rain Gutters, Pond, Gazebo
- Replace Furnishing/Chairs
- Refurbish Interior of PCW
- Replace/Update Computers/Electronic Systems
- 25 Year Reserve Study

Capital Gift

In 2007, the Polish Heritage Alliance, Inc. Board established a Facility Committee the purpose of which was to address repairs and maintenance of the building contents and the grounds and landscaping.

Since establishment, the Committee has addressed projects ranging from rain gutter installation, carpet replacement, outside door replacement, paving, finishing hard wood floors, outside building resurfacing to new parking lot lighting and illumination of the building to mention a few.

The Committee has produced a twenty-five year plan indicating when components will simply wear out and have to be replaced as well as a list of new improvements.

The problem confronting the Center is that all of its many revenue generating activities, Polish Fest, which has been canceled this year and last, cultural events, admissions, members' dues, dinners, banquets, golf outings weddings and so on do not generate enough money to meet the required repairs and replacements as well as new projects. Our 2021 Capital Campaign began its silent phase in late spring 2021, will go public in Fall, 2021, extend through 2022 and wrap up in early 2023. We hope that extending it over three income tax years will act as an inducement to participate with larger gifts to assist in obtaining our goals.

Donation Levels



All levels include permanent recognition on our Capital Campaign Gifting Tree.

*Includes One PHA Life Membership- available for one owner or designee/Permanent Recognition at Polish Center of Wisconsin.

All donations are subject to all applicable federal, state and local tax laws. See your tax consultant for details.

Special bonus! Contributions of \$500 or more will also receive a custom Polish Center of Wisconsin lasered ornamental collector emblem.



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