Community

Momentum Center moving to new Grand Haven location

Contributed
May 23, 2023

The Momentum Center is moving from its current location on Columbus Avenue to a new spot in the former Rendezvous Restaurant building on Seventh Street.

Tribune photo / Matt DeYoung

The Momentum Center in Grand Haven will soon be moving from its current location.
The nonprofit group is currently housed at 714 Columbus Ave. It will move into the previous Rendezvous building at 401 N. Seventh St. The move will provide better accessibility and more adequate space for programming and public events.

The new facility will allow the Momentum Center to expand its reach and provide critical mental health services to a growing population, according to executive director Barbara VanHorssen. Their adult program focuses on mental illness, disabilities, and addictions. The teen program focuses on positive relationships, mental health, success in school, and overall wellbeing.

The Momentum Center originated as a grassroots organization named Extended Grace in 2015, serving to connect people to opportunities and address service gaps. In 2017, the Momentum Center for Social Engagement opened to provide social and recreational opportunities for teens and adults in a stigma-free environment; educational events for the community; and resources for all.

While the move is possible due to arrangements with the building's owner, the Momentum Center will be launching a capital campaign, “Building Momentum,” to purchase the building and make it their permanent headquarters in Grand Haven. The capital campaign represents a long-term investment in the community’s health and well-being. The Momentum Center also operates in Holland, working to meet the growing need for nonclinical resources to address behavioral health needs, including exercise, nutrition, and community engagement.

The new Grand Haven facility will include multiple programming spaces and a public-facing, expanded café. The larger space will allow membership to double from 200 to 400, and will allow for increased opportunities to participate in a large spectrum of programs and activities.
The café portion of the building will continue to operate as The Vous and be managed by staff from the US Café in Muskegon Heights, offering homestyle comfort food alongside Cajun specialties. The US Café has a proven track record as a community hub that also serves people with disabilities. Bringing them to this location will provide increased job training and volunteer opportunities for Momentum Center members.

“It is thrilling to know services impacting the mental health and well-being of individuals will continue to grow with this improved location through the support and continued partnerships in the community,” said Momentum Center’s Experi-Mentor, Barbara Lee VanHorssen. “Having a safe space available for everyone to gather, heal, and grow will impact the entire community.”

For more information on the Momentum Center, visit momentumcentergh.org.