

# Event raises \$26,000 for Shirley's House of Hope

For News-Herald Media 11:04 p.m. CST December 11, 2014



(Photo: Contributed photo)

**MARSHFIELD** — Four local chefs competed Nov. 6 at RiverEdge in the sixth annual Marshfield Iron Chef event to benefit Shirley's House of Hope.

More than 250 were in attendance as Mauvice Murphy of C&M Crossroads, Ted O'Neill of West 14<sup>th</sup>/Blue Heron Brew Pub, Ron Weis of The Vintage House and Wally Walberg of Hotel Marshfield had 30 minutes to prepare a dish to be judged in four different categories.

While the three judges, Lisa Kegler of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Police Chief Rick Gramza and Steve Barg, City Administrator, made their decisions for each award, Chief Gramza shared that police respond to a domestic violence call on the average of once every other day in Wood County. Sarah Engle, a domestic violence survivor gave her testimony and asked guests to join her in supporting the shelter. Nicole, a recent graduate from the program, also shared her journey to health and freedom, by the support of loving volunteers and staff at Shirley's House of Hope.

"I want to be here again next year," Walberg said. "Just let me know when the competition is held and I'll be here." Chef Mauvice received the award for Most Creative, Chef Ted for Best Presentation, Chef Wally for Best Flavor and Chef Ron for Best Showmanship.

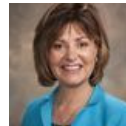
There was a new twist to the competition this year as each chef brought their signature soup for the guests to taste and vote on. Chef Wally won the "Wooden Spoon" award for best soup.

More than \$26,000 was raised and will go directly to help women and children hurting from abuse. Shirley's House of Hope would like to thank this year's sponsors for the event: Marshfield Clinic, Security Health, Forward Financial, V&H Automotive, V&H Heavy Truck, WDLB, 89Q, Felker Brothers, Figi's, Hawkins Ash CPAs, Northside Computers, Stratford Sign, WGNV, and Wenzel's Farm Sausage.

Shirley's House of Hope is a Christian domestic violence shelter in Marshfield. It has been open four years and has served more than 200 women and children. To learn more about partnering with Shirley's House of Hope go to [shirelyshouseofhope.org](http://shirelyshouseofhope.org).

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