PROVIDING A SUSTAINABLE, COMMUNITY-LED SOLUTION TO END HUNGER IN STARK COUNTY SINCE 1989

COMMUNITY HARVEST OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, February 2nd 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Although we've included a before and after picture of our renovation, we'd love to share our excitement about our new office space with all of our supporters, friends, and donors in person. You are invited to stop by our Open House any time between 4:00 – 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 2nd. We will have warm cider, lemonade, and wine in addition to food from two of the newest food donors to join our program – Angello's 2 Go and Caroline's Cupcakes.

When asked how Community Harvest is able to rescue \$1.6 million in food on such a slim budget, our answer is consistently the same – "We get by with a little help from our friends." That was certainly the case when dozens of people joined together in kindness and generosity to help us with our office relocation. For that very reason, Community Harvest is eager "to pay it forward" by collecting much needed supplies this winter for two of our participating agencies – Family Living Center and Hope Outreach Ministries. Please continue reading on the following page about these two amazing missions, and how you can help them during the harsh winter months approaching.

IT'S A NEW YEAR ... A NEW START ...

and a New Location for Community Harvest!



Community Harvest has been located on Fulton Road in Jackson Township since 2001. With over 80% of our regular food donors within a 10 mile square radius of the office, this location has provided us with both accessibility to our food donors and an opportunity for growth within the food industry.

We feel our current location is ideal. However, very few upgrades have taken place to the Community Harvest office since we first moved into our Fulton Road location fifteen years ago. Formerly home to a wedding boutique, our walls were decorated in bright pink and

green. Visitors, supporters, and food donors visiting our office for the first time would have a consistent look of surprise. Two of our favorite responses over the years ranged from "Wow! It looks like someone went a little overboard with their Easter egg decorating" to "It's surprisingly small. How do you find room to change your mind in here?" While we appreciate all of the good humor, our office was not our top priority. All of the "magic" of Community Harvest, including the \$1.6 million in food donated annually and over 5,000 volunteer hours to deliver over 1,200,000 meals each year, occurs in our 14' refrigerated truck. As one of the most efficient prepared and perishable food rescue programs in the

country, our program has been modeled by other non-profits throughout the United States.

After fifteen years, we decided that it was finally time to say goodbye to our pastel walls and made plans to paint during the first week of December. On the day that our volunteers came to the office to paint, we learned that the adjacent suite, a former pet-grooming business, had moved up the street. It was fate! We knew right away that this suite should become our new home. With over 400 additional square feet of space and a back door access for food deliveries, this was the perfect move for us. A team of our board members and volunteers began work immediately. And, since the move was just next door, an address change will not be required.

A HUGE THANK YOU to Todd Civiello and Amber Hessick, Rob and Christina Furney, Michael Barbato, and the various contractors who all postponed projects during the holidays in order to help with the renovation. Everything was done from start to finish in just three short weeks! We would especially like to thank the businesses who donated their time and talent to make this amazing transformation possible – Ronali's Painting and Wallcovering for donating their time to paint our entire new suite, Sherwin Williams for donating the paint, Lennon Floors, and Schnegg Drywall. Mike Schnegg's truck could be found at the Community Harvest office every evening and weekend for several days as he helped patch, repair, and reconfigure our new "home."



Connect With Community Harvest

Phone 330.493.0800

Address 4915 Fulton Dr. NW, Unit 7, Canton, OH 44718

Email faith@communityharveststark.org

Facebook https://www.facebook.com/communityharvestofstark



A TIME FOR COMMUNITY HARVEST TO "PAY IT FORWARD"

During the Community
Harvest Open House on
Tuesday, February 2nd, we
will be collecting canned
goods for the Family Living
Center in Massillon in
addition to blankets and
coats for Hope Outreach
Ministries. One lucky
attendee bringing an item
for either organization
will win a free general
admission ticket to our
upcoming Celebrity Cuisine
on Tuesday, March 15th.

FAMILY LIVING CENTER

365 days a year there are homeless families and individuals in Stark County. As a service provided by Community Services of Stark County, Inc., the Family Living Center Homeless Shelter provides a safe haven for some of Stark County's most vulnerable individuals and families with the opportunity to have emergency housing for up to 90 days. Last year alone, the center provided 11,061 nights of shelter. Shelter was provided for individuals and a family of nine. Shelter was provided for infants, senior citizens, and children – lots of children. In an average year, over 130 homeless children take up residence at the Family Living Center.

Working closely with the Family Living Center staff, individuals and families learn to acquire emotional and economic self-sufficiency and independence. This is done by offering a wide array of support services which are part of the program and located in the building. These services include food, clothing,

Non-perishable foods including cereals, peanut butter, tuna, canned meats, canned fruits and vegetables, and soups are always in need at the Family Living Center. Please help Community Harvest "pay it forward" by bringing one of these items to our Open House for the Family Living Center.

counseling, instructional programs, job training, and employment assistance all delivered by a dedicated and caring staff. This coordinated effort helps to alleviate traditional barriers that prevent movement out of welfare dependency and helps individuals and families live successful lives.

For the past fifteen years, Community Harvest has provided prepared foods, including pizza, pastas, soups, and chicken in addition to non-perishable food for the families and children residing at the center. Amy Dornack, Manager of Homeless Services for Family Living Center, shared what she values most about their partnership with Community Harvest. "Community Harvest has always been there for us. We can count on them every Monday to be here for our residents." When discussing the types of food received by Community Harvest, Dornack added "Community Harvest is not just a provider of food. They really take the time to understand the unique needs of our residents. As an example, they recently increased the amount of pizza delivered each week. With the large number of children housed each day, pizza has always been a big hit with our residents. Canned goods are always appreciated because they provide our diverse residents the opportunity to prepare food for themselves."

HOPE OUTREACH MINISTRIES

One of our youngest Community Harvest volunteers and supporters at just eleven years of age, Bradley Mull, is collecting blankets to help some of the area's homeless families get through the winter, and he would like you to join *Bradley's Blanket Brigade*.

Bradley visited Hope Outreach Ministries, located on Mahoning Road near downtown Canton, in early December. Hope Outreach is a 501(c)3 grass roots, faith-based organization that serves many people who are Canton's poorest-of-the-poor. According to Pastor Marilyn Roman, over 30% of the people who



come in for a hot meal and free clothing are homeless. Pastor Marilyn showed Bradley that the blanket bin was bare, and Bradley told her that he would get blankets to help her fill-up the bin. He originally set a goal of fifty blankets. The blankets do not have to be new, just durable and clean. The homeless are not just adults, as many have children with them, so all sizes will be helpful. Comforters and sleeping bags that are no longer used or needed are welcomed as well.

Collection started in December and will continue through the winter. Bradley passed his goal before Christmas, then raised his target to 100. He is currently at 112, so his new goal is now 150 blankets. He will continue to raise his goal as long as it is cold outside. With recent temperatures in single digits, the need is greater than ever. There is also a desperate need for used winter coats, winter boots, hats, gloves, and scarves. If you have any to donate, Bradley will make sure they get to Hope Outreach Ministries as well.

"In Canton, you don't usually see homeless people sleeping over grates on the downtown streets like in a major city. But they are out there, under bridges, in corners, and in temporary shelters," Pastor Marilyn told Bradley during his visit. According to the 2014 Stark County Homeless Council point-in-time (PIT) survey, 1485 people were considered "homeless," but that number is always low since many cannot be located or do not wish to be counted.

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING "BRADLEY'S BLANKET BRIGADE" BY BRINGING A NEW OR GENTLY USED BLANKET TO OUR OPEN HOUSE.



THE TRI-COUNTY RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION & COMMUNITY HARVEST REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY AT:



SPONSOR \$3000 LEVEL:

3 reserved tables in the VIP area for 24 guests Prominent name display in all advertising and program Wine at tables and VIP table service

SPONSOR \$1000 LEVEL:

2 reserved tables in the VIP area for 16 guests Prominent name display in program Wine at tables and VIP table service

SPONSOR \$400 LEVEL:

1 reserved table on the floor for 8 guests Name displayed in program

GENERAL ADMISSION:

\$30.00 / person

Standing room only at tall tables

presented by: Atlantic Foods

Tuesday, March 15, 2016 from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm The Canton Memorial Civic Center

The 24th Annual Celebrity Cuisine to Benefit Community Harvest

Ticket and Table Sponsorship Reservation

Ticket and sponsorship requests will only be available through the mail prior to March 1st.

After March 1st, tickets can continue to be purchased at the Tri-County Restaurant Association or Community Harvest office.

General admission tickets will be available at the door on the day of the event.

Yes, I can attend the 24th Annual Celebrity Cuisine to benefit Community Harvest.				
Enclosed is my check payable to Tri-County Restaurant Association in the amount of \$				for the following:
	SPONSOR \$3000 LEVEL	☐ SPONSOR \$1000 LEVEL	☐ SPONSOR \$400	LEVEL
General Admission Tickets at \$30.00 each				
Your family or business name as you would like it to appear:				
Mailing address you	would like tickets sent or delivere	ed to:		
Contact Name and P	hone:			





Extend your Valentine's Day weekend and include Community Harvest in your hearts by joining us at The Crush House at Gervasi Vineyard (1700 - 55th Street NE) on Monday, February 15th from 5:00 - 8:00 pm for another night of fun and good cheer to benefit Community Harvest.

Whether you have the day off for President's Day or you plan to join us after work, we promise you won't be disappointed! Attendees will have an opportunity to win a table for eight to Celebrity Cuisine (valued at \$400), and our infamous "giving tree" will be full of great prizes including a \$100 Gervasi gift card. Guest Bartenders Kathy Krohn and Joe Borawski will be taking orders from guests from 5:00 – 6:30 pm, followed by Michael Barbato and Board President, Brian Abbey, from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.



REGISTER EARLY FOR THE 5TH ANNUAL HARVEST MOON RUN AT VARIAN ORCHARDS

Sunday, October 9, 2016 • Kid's Run 2:00 PM • 1 Mile 2:30 PM • 5k/10k 3:00 PM

The Sunday afternoon race with Browns broadcast received overwhelmingly positive feedback while allowing us to maintain the family atmosphere so important to us. For that reason, we are keeping the

two things people liked the most about our race last year - a Sunday afternoon

race with a 10k option.

Registration is now available online at www.runtoyouracing.com. Mail-In forms are available on the Fundraising & Events Page of our website at www. communityharveststark.org. Registrants of the 1 Mile, 5k events, and 10k will each receive a long-sleeved logo t-shirt, goodie bags, and post race food/drink tickets for the after race bonfire party, which will include hot and cold apple cider, beer, music, and great food from Santangelo Catering! Of course, we will have our free kid's run, expanded play area with chaperones, balloon artists, and inflatable jumpers again to make the event fun for the entire family!

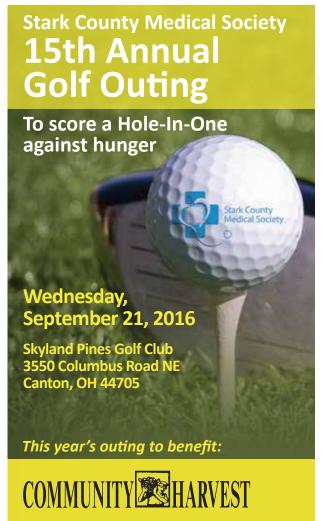
5PRIDE 5k and 10k events continue to occur across the state at an unprecedented pace. We totally get that new and avid runners alike are torn between races at times. For that reason alone, we want to thank our loyal participants who have participated in the Harvest Moon Run for FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS with a commemorative gift. Sorry folks – This special gift is only for those who are participating for their 5th CONSECUTIVE time this year. If you missed a year, please accept our apologies. We think running our extreme course five times is definitely worthy of some additional praise. Please enter "5PRIDE" as the coupon code when registering,

so we can quickly identify your name and run it through our records.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Is only \$25 through May 1st. Early Bird Registration will not be extended as we have done in the past. So, register early! Registration will be closed at 600 participants this year.

"TRY THE TRAIL" - By popular request, we will be hosting three "test the trail" dates prior to our 5th Annual Harvest Moon Run. This is a great opportunity for track coaches, avid runners, trail runners, and new participants to experience first-hand what all of the hype is about. Look for updates on our website regarding dates to "test the trail" on our Fundraising and Events page at: www.communityhaveststark.org.





Celebrity UISINE 2016

Sponsorship Tables are Selling Quickly!

Can you think of the last time you had dinner at a nice restaurant with several drinks, tax, and gratuity for \$30.00 or less? Have you ever spent \$75.00 or more on a ticket for an auction or dinner and found yourself disappointed with the food? Unfortunately, it happens, but never at Celebrity Cuisine, a local favorite event sponsored by The Tri-County Restaurant Association to benefit Community Harvest.

For a ticket price of only \$30, Celebrity

Cuisine attendees can wine and dine on a feast of local flavors from nearly forty of the most popular restaurants and food vendors in Stark County. If you grab something that doesn't please your pallet, no worries – Just move on to the next table. With local restaurants including Tim's Tavern, Walther's Café, Papa Bears/Pizza Oven, Lucia's Steakhouse, Kozmo's Grill, Hide-A-Way Buffalo Grill, Jojutlas Mexican Grill, Sparta Steakhouse, and Taggart's Ice Cream to name just a few, attendees will undoubtedly find the variety and value they are seeking for only \$30.

TICKETS & TABLES ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

THE TRI-COUNTY RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION

10am - 3pm 6959 Promway Avenue NW North Canton, OH 44720 (330) 499-7007

COMMUNITY HARVEST

9 am - 2 pm 4915 Fulton Drive NW, Unit 7 Canton, OH 44718 (330) 493-0800

One question that we get asked every year is, "How can I get a table of eight on the floor or preferred seating on the stage?" The answer is simple – For just a small premium above the standard ticket price, tables of eight are available for as low as \$400. There are three sponsorship levels available for Celebrity Cuisine that are very reasonable and offer the ideal opportunity for you to share the evening with colleagues and friends while sitting down at a private table with your own bottles of wine and table service (in our VIP area). The most important aspect to consider when deciding which sponsorship level is best for you is that 100% of all sponsorship dollars benefit Community Harvest.

SPONSOR \$3000 LEVEL: 3 reserved tables in the VIP area for 24 guests

Prominent name display in all advertising and program

Wine at tables and VIP table service

SPONSOR \$1000 LEVEL: 2 reserved tables in the VIP area for 16 guests

Prominent name display in program Wine at tables and VIP table service

SPONSOR \$400 LEVEL: 1 reserved table on the floor for 8 guests

Name displayed in program

But, don't wait until the last minute. Due to increased demand for these tables, we expect to sell out again this year. Please call Julie Carpinelli, Tri-County Restaurant Association Manager, at 330-499-7007 or Faith Barbato, Community Harvest Executive Director, at 330-493-0800 for more details.





Tickets and sponsorship tables can be purchased at the Tri-County Restaurant Association or Community Harvest. Or, simply complete the enclosed form and mail payment as instructed to have your tickets sent to you.













COMMUNITY HARVEST ANNUAL DINNER & STEAK FRY

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2016

Our annual summer dinner in 2015 was certainly one that guests are still talking about! As many of you may recall, May and June of 2015 brought several consecutive days of rain and much disappointment for anyone eager to get an early start to their summer. A record amount of rainfall in June required us to change the venue of our 2015 Annual Dinner from Varian Orchards to the pavilion at Skyland Pines just two days before our event.

After receiving considerable feedback and several requests to continue our annual dinner tradition at Varian Orchards,



I am pleased to share that we will be going back to the orchards this summer. The Varian family has exerted a considerable amount of time, energy, and expense renovating their facilities. It is so impressive that we want to share it with all of our supporters and friends!

The annual dinner is a time for Community Harvest to express our appreciation to the numerous volunteers, food donors, participating sites, and caring contributors who provide valuable resources and much appreciated services to our program. Save the date of **Thursday**, **June 16th** from 5:30 – 9:00 pm at Varian Orchards in East Canton. **Ticket information and event details will be available on the Community Harvest website in April**.