



**Kids' Food  
Basket**

# Sack Supper Sentinel

vol. 11 • Issue 4 • June 2014



**"Edgewood Elementary has the highest academic growth, based on the MEAP test, in the Muskegon area. I am 110% sure that Kids' Food Basket helped to make that happen."**

**-Sean Hurt, Principal, Edgewood Elementary in Muskegon Heights**

## **Join the Sack Supper Club and do twice the good!**

What can a dollar do? Just one dollar donated each weekday allows you to sponsor a Muskegon child suffering from hunger for an entire year, ensuring that lunch is not the last meal of the day.

If you join the Sack Supper Club through July, your year-long commitment of \$240 will be matched by the Youth Advisory Board of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County! This \$480 will help twice as many kids to learn and live well.

Through your support, a child will have daily access to nutritious Sack Suppers containing:

**BRAIN FOOD** from the five food groups, helping kids concentrate and stay on track in school

**HEALTHY HABITS** gained from receiving balanced food, instilling smart decisions lifelong

**A TOUCH OF LOVE** from people like you, whose current involvement and dedication helps local kids thrive

For more information on how you can get involved, or to donate, visit [www.KidsFoodBasket.org/donate](http://www.KidsFoodBasket.org/donate).

## **Wish List**

Every day, over 600 children in the Muskegon community receive a Sack Supper and these numbers are growing! As we continue to improve and grow locally, so do our Sack Supper program needs. Here are a few tools on our Wish List that we need to improve our methods and serve more daily meals.

Cargo Van  
Hand Truck  
Milk Crates  
Networked Copy Machine  
Voice Over Internet Program

14 Gallon Rubbermaid Totes  
Pallet Jack  
Storage Systems  
Walk-in Cooler



Interested in learning more about how to give? Contact [kris@kidsfoodbasket.org](mailto:kris@kidsfoodbasket.org).

## Community Partner Shout Out!

We are so grateful that our friends at Baker College of Muskegon understand that childhood hunger is a community problem with a community solution. Following the impact of Go Orange! week, Baker College of Muskegon joined us as a Muskegon Community Partner!

Since December, students and faculty, from 22 campus departments, collected food, decorated bags, and every Friday the Baker College Rotaract Club make sandwiches and pack Sack Suppers.

During our first March Madness Challenge, the Muskegon campus' excitement went viral as they included the Fremont and the Flint campuses. Baker College collected nearly 450 pounds of food, volunteered 237 hours, and created a movement with over 200 individuals wearing orange.

Thank you Baker College of Muskegon, our incredible community partner, for ensuring kids get the nutrition they need to reach their full potential!

### DID YOU KNOW?

Based on a study of Kids' Food Basket by Michigan State University in Spring of 2012, kids who received Sack Suppers were more eager to attend school. According to AttendanceWorks, a national and state initiative to promote school attendance, students with good attendance do better in school, and are more likely to graduate. It makes sense: kids can't learn if they're not in school, or if they are too hungry to concentrate.



# KUDOS FROM BRIDGET

## Commemorating Outgoing Board of Directors' President Jay Ertl

*"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." - John Quincy Adams*

We've gone from an organization with humble beginnings - a \$3,000 seed gift, a dedicated founder, a handful of volunteers, and one intern - to a movement that is changing lives. **Each weekday we serve 6,300 kids a healthy evening meal that nourishes their bodies, minds and souls.** And we couldn't do any of that today, nor have made years of impact, without the hard work of many individuals.

Essential among our hard-working volunteers are the members of our Board of Directors, a diverse group of community leaders who ensure the organization's fiscal responsibility, sound organizational strategy, and governance. They are fierce advocates for the mission, fundraisers, and servant leaders.

Our Board of Directors' President is Jay Ertl. Jay's term as Board President is coming to an end this June, so I want to share how **Jay's extraordinary leadership has helped to make Kids' Food Basket a stronger, smarter, more sustainable organization.**

In addition to serving in a volunteer role as Board of Directors President, Jay is Vice President of Product Demand at Amway. Jay's ability to leverage the leadership and governance skills he's cultivated during his time at Amway for leading the KFB Board is one more way Amway has played a role as a community partner.



**Jay's commitment and expertise has helped us see astonishing growth.** In Jay's time as Board President, we

saw a 60% increase in Sack Supper distribution each weekday, which has significantly impacted our ability to fulfill our mission.

**One of the greatest gifts Jay gives is his leadership by example.** He inspires those around him to be the best versions of themselves, to use their unique gifts to bring good into the world, and to remember to have a good time in the process.

Jay is everything an authentic leader should be: a person of uncompromising integrity, strong values, loyalty, commitment, optimism, and love. The good that he puts out into the world is remarkable. He has an incredible ability to pull out the best in everyone he works with, and in turn, he never gives anything less than his best.

I want to extend an enormous thank you to Jay's family, immediate and extended, for your time and energy in the attack on childhood hunger. **Jay has brought along his wife Barb, an advocate, donor, and committed weekly volunteer; his mom, Carol, a volunteer; and his sister Cathleen DuBault, who serves on our Muskegon Advisory Council.** He has also brought along his kids, Claire and Ben, as champions of our mission.

**I'm especially grateful for the time he's invested in my growth as a leader.** Jay's given me a tremendous gift of time and talent by investing in my leadership - challenging me to consistently learn, pushing me to see wider and deeper perspectives, and encouraging me to constantly strive to be an even stronger leader. I'm humbled and honored by this gift. And Kids' Food Basket is better every day because of it.

**Kids' Food Basket is a catalyst of systemic change.** We are changing the futures of the children we serve - kids like Jaden, who told the social worker at his school, "If it wasn't for Kids' Food Basket, I wouldn't have had anything to eat since yesterday's lunch. Oh, yeah, and I also really like the yogurt!" We are a community solution to a community problem. And we couldn't have done it so well without Jay Ertl.

So, Jay, this kudos is for you. Thank you a million times over!

Forever grateful,

*Bridget*

**P.S. Want to send your own kudos to Jay? Consider making a gift in his name, or shouting out to him on our Facebook wall or Twitter!**



# Go Orange! March Madness

There is nothing simple or fun about childhood hunger, and it weighs heavy on many. But doing something about it - making an impact - CAN be fun! And that's exactly what happened during Muskegon's first March Madness!

Fifteen teams, among three different divisions, competed in a friendly competition to see who could collect the most food and raise the most awareness through our Go Orange! campaign. We learned our supporters are very competitive when it comes to providing kids with the nutrition they need to thrive!

Teams ranged in sizes of 12 people to large corporations and campuses of over 200 employees. Collectively, the teams accumulated 2,346 pounds of food, 678 volunteer hours, and close to 5 days' worth of decorated bags!

A special congratulations to the March Madness winners of each division:

**Overall & Division 1:**  
Baker College of Muskegon

**Division 2:**  
Panera of Muskegon

**Division 3:**  
Muskegon/Spring Lake Women's Life  
Chapter #893

A HUGE shout-out to Applebee's, Brunswick, Chili's, Consumer's Energy, JAAR Inc./McDonald's, Herman Miller CARES, IMS, Muskegon Community College, and White Lake Area Community Education for participating!

Thank you for helping to give children what they need to learn and live well. Mark your calendar for March 2015 to join us in this exciting competition next year.

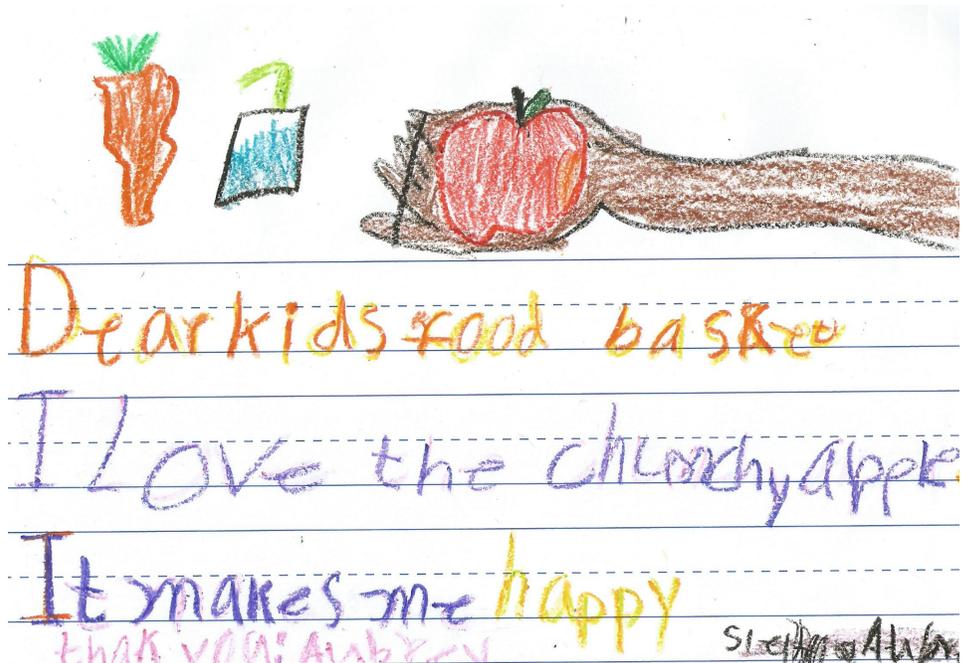


## Grow 4 Kids

At Kids' Food Basket we believe in providing kids with the food they need to live, be healthy, and grow stronger. Now, you can help nourish children in our community by providing them with fresh fruits and vegetables straight from a garden! Here are just a few ways to get involved:

- 1 Donate produce from your own garden.
- 2 Plant a new garden or row!
- 3 Volunteer at an existing garden.

For more information on how you can make an impact, contact [lynk@kidsfoodbasket.org](mailto:lynk@kidsfoodbasket.org)



### President

Jay Ertl

### Vice President

Bill Jack

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Cindi Welton

### Treasurer

Tony Payne

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Mary K. Hoodhood

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Cathleen Dubault

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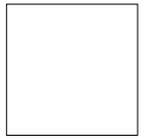
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**VOLUNTEER + DONOR  
APPRECIATION  
OPEN HOUSE**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION &  
COMMITMENT TO KIDS' FOOD BASKET. JOIN  
US TO CELEBRATE YOUR IMPACT ON ATTACKING  
CHILDHOOD HUNGER!

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 5TH, 2014**  
11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

R.S.V.P. TO SUE ALLORE  
SUE@KIDSFOODBASKET.ORG

FEEL FREE TO SHOW YOUR KIDS' FOOD BASKET  
SPIRIT & DRESS IN YOUR BEST LUAU ATTIRE!