



Kids' Food Basket

Sack Supper Sentinel

Vol. 10 • Issue 2 • November 2014

DID YOU KNOW?

you help serve...



- GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- WYOMING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- GODWIN HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- GODFREY LEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- KELLOGGSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- KENTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- NATIONAL HERITAGE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL



KIDS' FOOD BASKET SERVES SCHOOLS WHERE MORE THAN 80% OF THE STUDENT POPULATION QUALIFY FOR FREE / REDUCED MEALS



SACK SUPPERS PROVIDE A WELL BALANCED NUTRITIOUS EVENING MEAL, ENSURING LOCAL KIDS GET THE NOURISHMENT THEY NEED TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL AND LIFE.

Join the attack and YOU can change the world!

Volunteers

The Sack Supper Engine



175 community members from all walks of life, including YOU, join us for 11 hours each day, 7 days a week, to prepare, pack and deliver Sack Suppers to a child in need.

Did you know you can make an impact hosting an offsite volunteer project with your family, friends, business, faith community or school?

For offsite opportunities, visit:
www.kidsfoodbasket.org/offsite

Volunteer Sack Supper Drivers

Direct Service to a Direct Need



It takes more than 25 volunteer drivers to deliver Sack Suppers to schools each week day.

Have a vehicle and 1 hour a week? You can help put a meal into the hands of a local child!

Contact
carly@kidsfoodbasket.org or call 235-4532 to become a chauffeur to our precious Sack Suppers!

Food Donations

Brain Food for Young Minds

Did you know we use 25,000 pieces of food each day?

This fall, we're also in need of 100% fruit juice boxes, fruit cups, boxes of cheerios and dried fruit.



New Food Donation Drop-off Hours:

9am – 11am & 2pm – 5pm

Please call 235-4532 in advance to set-up a drop-off time if your donation exceeds 500lbs.

December only: Drop food off anytime between 9am and 5pm!

Matching gifts double the nourishment

A huge shout out to our matching donors, who doubled your gifts in 2014! With the help of Kate Pew Wolters, Jay and Barb Ertl, Bridget Clark Whitney and Matt Whitney, and their families, we not only met, but exceeded, our goal this spring to "Nourish" kids with the fresh fruits and veggies they need to thrive.

Lois Ginebaugh and Bill and Sallie Bowie generously matched all gifts designated to the Sack Supper Club this fall, in hopes of inspiring others to sponsor a child for just \$20 a month, providing Sack Suppers for the entire school year to a child in need.

Thanks to the generous support of the Shannon Family Foundation, any online gift made before year-end will do twice as much good. Matched through December, your online gift can help children receive the nourishment they need to reach their full potential!

Our matching donors continue to inspire others to give, and we are so grateful for their tremendous impact!

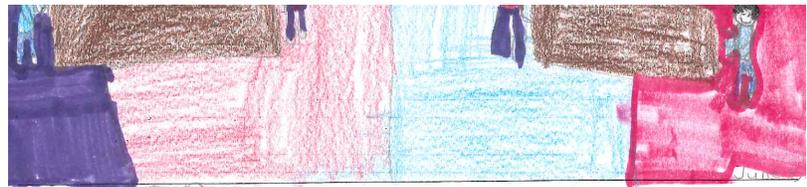
SAVE THE DATES

Go Orange! Day | March 27

Join us again this year as we promote Orange, the national color for hunger, to raise awareness for **1 in 4 kids** that are affected by hunger in our community.

Feast for Kids | May 5

Hosted by the American Culinary Federation Greater Grand Rapids Chefs Association, this fundraiser showcases some of the best food Grand Rapids has to offer. Sponsorship and ticket sales coming soon!



Dear KFB,
Thank you for giving me sack supper. I really like the sandwich, it is soft and sticky. The juice box, it is tasty and juicy. The food you give me makes me be happy and healthy.

Sincerely,
Jessica



LEAVE A LEGACY WITH KIDS' FOOD BASKET

Did you know there's a way to make a profound and lasting impact on childhood hunger in our community? You can do this through a legacy gift!

A legacy gift is a gift that can pay you back in multiple ways! It's a unique opportunity to impact our community through your will, estate or other financial plans, and has direct benefits to you through charitable tax deductions.

A community of support makes each child feel cared for. Childhood hunger affects the whole community - and a legacy gift is a part of the solution to building a stronger community for today...and tomorrow.

For more information on how you can leave a legacy through a planned gift with Kids' Food Basket, please contact jenny@kidsfoodbasket.org

YOU beat the record! Brown Bag Decorating Day

The goal was to decorate 50,400 bags by September 17. The final count? Drum roll, please. Over **57,000!** Thank you so much for your amazing effort! Be sure to join us next September.

Visit www.kidsfoodbasket.org/Blog to read about your impact and hear from our guest bloggers.



"They love it when their bags come with pictures on them. They just think that's so cool! They dig through the bins looking for the a decorated bag they like. They love it!"

- Sarah Lang, 3rd Grade Sibley Elementary

"YOU GUYS ARE SO INSPIRING. BY THE WAY, I'M INSPIRED BECAUSE YOU KNOW HOW YOU GUYS DO ANYTHING GOOD FOR US LIKE MAKE 500 BAGES? I AM GOING TO TRY TO DO SOMETHING GOOD BECAUSE EVERY DAY COUNTS. SINCERELY YOUR FRIEND, TANJAN"



Kudos from Bridget!

INSPIRING CHANGE

A little over twelve years ago, I was a student at Aquinas College, studying abroad in Ireland. I stayed there past the semester because I loved Ireland so much. I thought I might stay forever. Then I got a phone call from my professor at Aquinas. He said he'd found an amazing capstone project for my degree in Community Leadership. A phenomenal local woman, Mary K. Hoodhood, had started a program that was providing evening meals for kids in Grand Rapids. She needed an unpaid intern to run the show each day; I was fiercely committed to working on social change, especially in the areas of basic needs and children. Perfect match.

In the beginning, we only had 10-20 volunteers. Those same core volunteers are a part of the foundation of our growth. They were unstoppable. Many of them, and their families, continue to volunteer at Kids' Food Basket today. **We grew our volunteer base by creating a model that made it easy for anyone and everyone to volunteer, to change the world, and that's reflected in the 15,000 faces we see at Kids' Food Basket each year.** We pride ourselves on making changing the world accessible, and fun, for everyone. **There is nothing simple, easy, or fun about childhood hunger. But changing the world? It CAN be fun!** It inspires us so much to see groups of differently-abled volunteers (like our friends from MOKA and Hope Network) serving at Kids' Food Basket, packing Sack Suppers and making sandwiches, ensuring that local kids are getting the nutrition they need.

An inspirational 25% of our volunteers are under the age of 18, and many of those kids who attend a service school

and/or receive a Sack Supper themselves. **Our Kids Helping Kids program has taught us that while 1 in 4 Michigan kids experience hunger, 4 in 4 kids have the power to change that.** Last year, students involved in our Kids Helping Kids program, Youth Action Board, and Junior Ambassadors program raised a stunning \$95,000 in cash, \$139,000 in donations of food and materials, and volunteered the cash equivalent of \$421,000. We empower young people to help each other. We provide opportunities for all kids - those who struggle with hunger and those who do not - to volunteer and learn through our programs so that all understand the challenges of hunger and have the change to lead projects that benefit both them, and their peers.



From day one, Kids' Food Basket has inspired me and continues to every single day. It's so much more than a nonprofit that provides evening meals to kids living at or near the poverty level. **Kids' Food Basket is a community, fired up and passionate**

about breaking the cycle of poverty and bringing social change in the form of a Sack Supper.

Stay inspired, Kids' Food Basket friends. The work we're doing together is changing the world.

Peace,

Bridget

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Tony Payne

Vice President
Cindi Welton

Secretary
Danielle Williams

Treasurer
Jay Ertl

Founder
Mary K. Hoodhood

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Jon Siebers

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Mark Hoogterp
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Jason Wheeler



2055 Oak Industrial Drive NE
Suite C
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

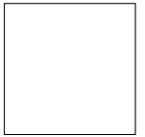
P: (616) 235-4532
F: (616) 454-9387

www.KidsFoodBasket.org
kidsfoodbasket@kidsfoodbasket.org

[@kidsfoodbasket](http://www.facebook.com/kidsfoodbasket)



Kids' Food Basket
2055 Oak Industrial Drive NE, Suite C
Grand Rapids, MI 49505



**Holiday Card Order
Form Enclosed**

TONY AND JULIA

WRITTEN BY DANIELLE ALEXANDER
ILLUSTRATED BY ALYSSA PARSONS
TRANSLATED BY ARTURO GONZÁLEZ

Kids' Food Basket believes that while 1 in 4 Michigan kids struggles with hunger, 4 in 4 have the power to change that. Tony and Julia tells the story of the magic that can happen when kids help other kids, and is a great tool for discussing childhood hunger, bullying, and the importance of inclusion and advocacy with elementary-aged kids.

To learn more or purchase this limited edition bilingual book online for just \$10, visit www.kidsfoodbasket.org/TonyandJulia.

100% of proceeds from your purchase supports Kids' Food Basket's mission of attacking childhood hunger to help young people learn and live well.

