



400 Beach Farm Circle
Highland, MI 48356

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Coming Events

Fall Garage Sale
Community Sharing
September 16 & 17 2023

Empty Bowl
Bakers of Milford
November 5, 2023

The Flame

www.community-sharing.org

Summer 2023

A Note from the President

Very Busy best describes the last few months at Community Sharing. We have seen a significant increase in client numbers, who have visited the food pantry as well as those visiting Case Work for financial assistance. From January through July, 2022 to 2023 we have seen, about:

- 55% increase in family visits
- 75% increase in purchased food
- 150% increase in financial assistance for Client, rent, utilities, etc.
- Summer Lunch Bags June-July are up 75% from last

Unfortunately, our Cash donations are down 60% from YTD budget.

In recent months we have completed three of our major fundraisers and the National Letter Carrier Food Drive. In partner with the White Lake Meijer, we had wonderful results with The Meijers Simply Give Donation Program.

Just this month we completed major landscape work by K&K Excavating and hosted a volunteer work day with the Barton Malow Company. A big Thank You to the Highland Garden Club for the donation and work to install the flowers and pots in front of the building.

My favorite event this summer was the Food Fight, started by Uplift Milford. They had 7 participating local gyms, (Core 4 Complete Fitness, Milford Bell's Gym, CrossFit Justice, CrossFit Melior, Powerhouse Gym, Milford Carls Family YMCA, In Harmony Yoga and Wellness) and collected over 3000 kid friendly food items for the Summer Lunch Program. The winner of the Food Fight is the KIDS!

Next UP! The Empty Bowl Project on November 5 at Baker's in Milford. The planning committee has been busy getting ready. Please watch the website for more information on donations, auction items and more!

The sign on Harry Truman's desk said "The Buck Stops Here." Well, your Dollar donation does not stop working at Community Sharing. It continues to help purchase food and support local families in financial need. We could not do what we do, without the wonderful support and donations for the local community.

Thank you,
Dave Bell, President

Feeding Hungry Families

Empty Bowl Project

Save the Date!

November 5: Join us for a simple meal of soup & bread.
Bakers of Milford from 12:00pm - 3:00pm.

FALL GARAGE SALE

SEPTEMBER 16TH AND 17TH



Despite some hurdles at the spring sale, we are happy to announce another successful sale is in the books! We adjusted the times, days, parking and layout of the sale and will continue to tweak things going forward. The next sale is September 16 from 5-8 with \$5.00 admission and September 17 from 10-4.

The sale raises funds to help fill the food pantry to feed clients in need in the community. The sale includes donations from the community of furniture, household goods, linens, books, DVD/CDs, toys, sporting equipment, plus much more.

The popular "Antiques and Uniques" specialty area features many vintage and unique items. Most items for sale do not have price tags. Rather, the buyer makes an offer, which can be accepted or negotiated by the cashiers. Large items such as furniture are priced fairly. All proceeds from the garage sale benefit Community Sharing.

Community Sharing Outreach Center Fundraiser Fall Garage Sale

We need CLEAN and USABLE items for the sale!

PLEASE, YES

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| ✓ Games, Puzzles & Legos | ✓ Linens |
| ✓ Home Décor | ✓ Bikes |
| ✓ Kitchen Wares | ✓ Books (Fiction Only) |
| ✓ New Items | ✓ CDs/DVDs |
| ✓ Purses | ✓ Dishes, mugs & glasses |
| ✓ Small Appliances | ✓ Framed Pictures |
| ✓ Tools | ✓ Furniture ** See exceptions on NO list |
| ✓ Sporting equipment | |
| ✓ Craft items | |



PLEASE, NO

- | | |
|--|--|
| X <u>Plastic</u> Toys, Stuffed Animals | X Electronics (inc. TVs & Computers) |
| X <u>Christmas Trees & Decorations</u> | X ** No Entertainment Centers or Hutches |
| X <u>CLOTHING</u> | X VHS Tapes |
| | X Exercise equipment |

Items may be dropped off
Mon. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

at Community Sharing Outreach Center
400 Beach Farm Cir., Highland

For more info call 248-889-0347
Community Sharing is a 501 (c)(3) organization

What's happening in the Pantry

WHAT WE DO: We provide food distribution for our clients every Tuesday morning from 10-1:00 and monthly the 2nd Tuesday evening from 6-8:00 PM and 2nd Saturday morning from 10-12:00. Upon reaching the pantry, our clients are greeted, sent to registration and a volunteer porter who helps direct them through the pantry stations with their shopping cart. With amounts based upon family size, clients can choose canned and boxed pantry goods, frozen meat, milk and eggs, fresh produce, personal care and cleaning supplies, and bread and baked dessert items. All stations are staffed by volunteers. Once the clients have finished in the pantry, their porter helps them out to their vehicle to load all the goods received

OUR MISSION CONTINUES TO GROW. As previously mentioned, our visitor numbers are up 60%, from 2022. From January thru July, we provided food assistance to 422 families. When you include multiple visits, this year, that means 1425 families have come thru our doors. Most importantly we have provided food to 550 children. All of this means our pantry volunteers have been working extra hard. We have been bringing back "pre-Covid" volunteers to better serve the clients. We have added extra orders/deliveries from Gleaners Community Food Bank and Meijer. Food Donations from Forgotten Harvest are also up.

We traditionally provide 6 -7 pounds of frozen meat. This has been difficult because of a shortage of chicken. In recent days we have ordered from Mattie's Fresh Market, in Milford. Food Card donations from Meijers due to Simple Give program has allowed us to order more food from Meijers, White Lake. Good news price of eggs has been coming down. We also receive generous donations of paper towel and bath tissue from Highland Supply. We received over 3000 pounds from Post Office food Drive, in May.



A local community group, UPLIFT MILFORD, completed a Food Drive in July. Challenged many local gyms to a "Food Fight". Those included: Carls Family YMCA, CrossFit Melior, Core 4 Complete Fitness Milford, Powerhouse Gym Milford, In Harmony Yoga and Wellness, Bell's Gym, and CrossFit Justice! The food drive collected over 3000 items for the summer lunch program.

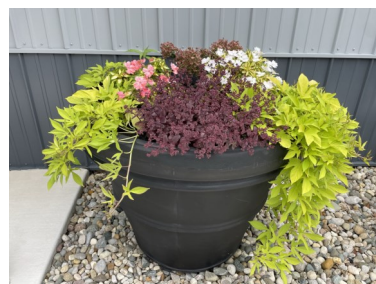
Every Year, Community Sharing provides extra Summer Lunch Bags for each child. In June and July we have provided over 225 kids food bags. Besides some standard children friendly lunch items, the bags also included extra, healthy snacks. We have already started collecting food items to be used for Thanksgiving and Holiday food bags. The team continues to work hard to get ready for the fall.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to the family and friends of Karol & Jack LaHaie for the donations for our beautiful flag-pole.



Thank you to the Highland Garden Club for their donation and work to add potted flowers to our building.



OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE.

1. Watch for them on our Facebook page.
2. Designate Community Sharing as your Kroger Community Reward.
3. Watch for special times when Meijer offers the "Simply Give" program.
4. Donate when "Bringing Hope to the Table" is conducting a drive at Milford Kroger.
5. Participate in the annual "Crop Hunger Walk" in October.
6. Watch our Facebook page, webpage and the newsletter for information on Christmas needs.
7. "Stamp Out Hunger" by leaving non-expired, non-perishable food at your mailbox the second Saturday in May.

*Did You Know?***NEW ITEMS WISH LIST**

No time to shop, but want to donate to Community Sharing? Visit the Community Sharing website: Community-Sharing.org and visit the Donation page.

On the Donation Page you can:

1. Make a cash donation
2. Visit our Amazon Wish List
3. See and print a list of Non-perishable Food Items
4. See a list of Hygiene and Household Items

amazon

*Fantastic Fundraising!*

Our Spring and Summer Fundraisers played a big role in helping us feed 200 families for 5 months in a row!

GOLF OUTING

A beautiful day on the golf course at Beacon Hill Golf Club in Commerce Twp made for a great Community Sharing Golf Outing held on June 2. This very popular fundraiser was close to capacity in attendance. Several golf contests were held with prizes to the winners of each event. A silent auction produced much interest and participation and a 50/50 raffle was very popular. The proceeds made from this event help to fill our food pantry to help feed those in our community who are in need.

**TRIVIA NIGHT**

Community Sharing's 7th annual Trivia Night was held on April 29, with well over 100 players in attendance.

**TRIVIA NIGHT**

The trivia leader presented some very challenging questions, but many of the players stepped up their game and produced correct answers. Teams of 10 collaborated to come up with the answers. In addition to the Trivia games, a 50/50 was held and many gift baskets were raffled off. All proceeds from this fundraiser benefit the mission of Community Sharing to support those in need in our community.