

Volume 13
March 2023



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QR Code. Use our email to find
the list of opportunities.
Communityhelpnetwork2020@gmail.com



To make donations go to:
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smartphone camera.



The Apple Newsletter

News and Highlights from
Community Help Network, Inc.



Stories from the Warehouse

Bonnie's mission motto, "missions is twofold; we help people and we help people help people", came to life recently in the Household Pantry. As we mentioned in a previous newsletter, a family of Ukrainian refugees has been utilizing the pantry. During a recent visit on a Tuesday morning, with all the Buddy Bag packers present, Bonnie introduced the family to the volunteers. A conversation ensued where it was brought to everyone's attention that the family was in need of some beds. Out of the blue came the voice of another pantry client offering them an extra bed she could give. This memory will stay with us forever.

How the Board Shapes Up

President – Eden Koenig, Eden is also the administrative assistant.
Vice President – Paul Sills
Recording Secretary – Christy Miller
Co-Treasurer – Kathy Dybowski
Co-Treasurer – Sue Riester

Members at Large:

Ruth Argenta
Cori Kale
Ken Kramer
Bette Oesterle
Dian Reyome
Bob Votaw

Executive Director
Bonnie J Meyer

Saturday March 18th, Ladle of Love will be a Brunch. Pancakes, mini quiches, bacon, sausage, biscuits, and more. Free will offering accepted but accepted but never expected.



Tavern on Main is a frequent provider of Ladle of Love meals. Their recent "Give Back Tuesday", netted a \$550 donation to Community Help Network.

Saturday April 8th Let us hide your Easter Eggs!!! If you do an Easter Egg hunt for your kids or grandkids, hire us to hide filled, plastic eggs outside your house. Each egg is filled with a trinket or a quarter and a fun sticker. For a mere \$50 we will hide 100 Easter Eggs around your yard. Give us a call, 219-805-3717 or email us communityhelpnetwork2020@gmail.com, to make arrangements. **Hiding will commence at 7:00 pm and end at 10:00 pm. Limited to Crown Point Residents.** All proceeds help food insecure and low-income families in South Lake County.

Buddy Bags – The estimated cost of the Buddy Bag Program for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year is \$50,000. Food Drives help a lot! Food Drives thus far this school year have contributed enough food for a week's worth of Buddy Bags. That's Awesome!

Here is what we need:

- Boxes of Mac n Cheese**
- Ramen Noodles**
- Canned Pasta Meal**
- Canned Tuna**
- Individual Boxes of Cold Cereal**
- Instant Oatmeal**
- Hot Cocoa**
- Microwave Popcorn**
- Granola Bars**
- Fruit Cups**

Household Pantry – Providing hygiene items, paper products and cleaning supplies to low-income families in South Lake County. Open Tuesdays 9:00 am until 1:00 pm and Saturdays 9:00 am until Noon. Let us know if you would be able to place a collection bin in your place of work or business.

Little Free Library – A large selection of books for all ages. All books are free. Open any time there are people at the warehouse.



From Bonnie's Messy Desk

I spend a lot of time at the warehouse and I love it!! I work with people I respect and admire and who inspire me. I meet lots of new people from all walks of life. I get to play a little pool and sometimes beat Paul Sills.

But mostly, I get to witness the compassion, kindness and dedication of the most amazing volunteers. They pick up large food orders, bring them back to the warehouse and stock the shelves. They pack over 600 Buddy Bags every Tuesday morning, all while Kevin's dog Gia begs everyone to throw the ball one more time! They bring in baked goods and homemade candy. They always wear smiles. They share great ideas and invite friends to join them.

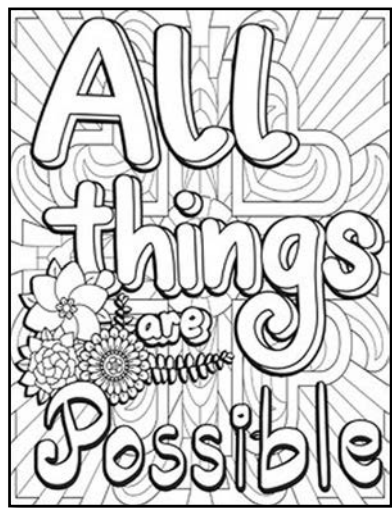
Our volunteers are simply the best and we could not do what we do without them. This includes some wonderful young people that we've recently met. Jeremy Melf from Campus Life is one energetic young man who works with youth throughout Lake County and is getting them involved in volunteering. The rest of our volunteers will tell you it's great to have some young, strong folks lifting bales and toting barges for us.

There is a high school class using a room in our building while waiting for their regular classroom to be renovated. (I think every school in Crown Point is under construction.) They are always eager to help when I need a hand unloading my car or setting up tables for Ladle of Love. (Well, and yeah, they get out of class and I give them snacks.)

Stop in some Tuesday morning for a tour or just to visit. You'll meet some great people doing some great things for others.



We say **Thank You!** To everyone who has donated items for the Buddy Bag Hygiene Kits. We have been blessed from all directions. People have dropped things off at the warehouse, ordered items from Amazon that have been delivered and we've even made a few pick-ups. Thank you again!!!



We've made a few changes to the inspirational cards. Now the kids have something to color. And, we put important information for parents on the back side.

Franciscan ALLIANCE

CROWN POINT community foundation

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Community Help Network, Inc.
 550 East Burrell Drive
 Crown Point, IN 46307
 (219) 805-3717
communityhelpnetwork2020@gmail.com
www.communityhelpnet.org
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730 E. Lincoln Hwy, Schererville
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