Volume 15 May 2023



To make donations go to: <u>www.communityhelpnet.org</u> Or scan this QR Code with your smartphone camera.



Garden Update

Anyone interested in helping with this year's vegetable garden is welcome to join us on Saturday May 6th at 2:00 pm at the warehouse. We will be cleaning up the remains from last year's garden and planning this year's garden. We could very well do some planting, too. Bring work clothes, garden gloves and any garden tools you like to use.

The Apple Newsletter

News and Highlights from Community Help Network, Inc.



Stories from the Warehouse

You never know what will happen next at the warehouse. People come to the Household Pantry for some very basic needs, like hygiene items and paper products. Many times, though, they have needs we just cannot meet. Well, until Bonnie gets a phone call.

We recently had a pantry client in need of a new sofa.

The very next day Bonnie received a phone call from a local resident who had a very nice sofa that she needed to find a home for. A few phone calls later and with the help of some of our amazing volunteers, our clients had a new sofa.











Friday June 16th we will have our **Second Annual Family Fun Fair** at the **Lake County Fairgrounds** from 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm. This is an event for our Buddy Bag Kiddos and their families. Last year we had over 100 attend and we are expecting more this year.

We are in need of volunteers to help with set up, games, food, crafts, prizes and clean up. www.signupgenius has the different opportunities. You can also call 219-805-3717 or email to volunteer.

We are in need of donations of:

Hot Dogs, hamburgers, buns, lemonade mix, condiments, napkins, paper plates, disposable forks, paper cups, etc.

Buddy Bags – The estimated cost of the Buddy Bag Program for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year is \$15,000. 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 Individual Drink Mix Microwave Popcorn Granola Bars Applesauce 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

While enjoying a week's vacation on the Big Island of Hawaii I am reminded of how very blessed I am. I am blessed with the opportunity and ability to travel. I am also blessed with staff and volunteers who allow me to relax knowing that they have everything under control at CHN while I'm away. I look forward to a summer of gardening, growing and giving.

New Ways for You to Get Involved!



CENTURY CLUB

Buddy Bags is now packing 630+ bags of food for 2 Head Start classes and 17 elementary schools – plus 231 middle school students - in 4 school districts each week. We are dedicated to helping children who fall into the food insecure category in the South Lake County area. Children who participate in the Buddy Bags program are on the Free Lunch program at their school. We invite you to help us continue to support these students by becoming a member of our new **Community Help Network Century Club!**

Please consider contributing at one of the following levels: Century Club Apple - \$100.00 Silver Apple Club - \$500.00 Gold Apple Club - \$1,000.00 An "APPLE" plaque baring your name will be hanging on the wall at our Warehouse.

Please consider making your gift an annual contribution and become a CHARTER member.



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.



Friday April 21st We had a wonderful celebration of our 3rd Anniversary. We are grateful to so many people who made the evening such a great success. Kristy Murphy and Full Plate Catering, Kelly Lambert and The East Pointe Venue, Barb from Off Square Brewing, Liq-Go, our band The Hotts, guest speaker Nick Ciochina, principal of Timothy Ball Elementary School, special guest speaker Jeff Newton, founder of Kokomo Urban Outreach and the incredible members of the CHN Board.



A Luncheon to Show Our Appreciation For the Greatest Bunch of Volunteers!!



You, too, can be a volunteer! Check out the many opportunities at www.signupgenius.com

