



The Apple Newsletter

News and Highlights from
Community Help Network, Inc.

Volume 25



"Sustaining Our Vision"

Please join us in celebrating
our 4th Anniversary!
April 27th at Signature Banquets,
1908 Commercial Ave. in Lowell.
Guest speaker will be Crown Point
Mayor Pete Land.
Music provided by The Hotts
and Jill Hayman.

Click on link to purchase tickets.

<https://www.communityhelpnet.org/tickets/>

Purchase tickets before March 29th
and your name will be entered into a
drawing for one of two Coach purses
valued at over \$400 each!!

4th Anniversary
Dinner/Fundraiser

Saturday April 27th Doors Open at 5:00 pm
Signature Banquets 1908 East Commercial Lowell IN

Community Help Network
Home of
BUDDY BAGS

"Sustaining Our Vision"

Tickets \$125
per person

Use QR Code to
purchase tickets

Guest Speaker
Crown Point Mayor
Pete Land

Live Music From
Jill Hayman

The Hotts

Raffles
Door Prizes
Wine Pull
Mystery Gift Cards

Community Help Network, Inc. 550 East Burrell Drive, Crown Point, IN 46307
CHN is a registered 501(c)3 in the state of Indiana. EIN 85-1092043
www.communityhelpnet.org Facebook

Mission Statement

The Mission of Community Help
Network, Inc. is to provide
programming to help eliminate
food insecurity and systemic
poverty in South Lake County,
Indiana. We serve those citizens
in our community that dwell in
poverty, while respecting each
one's diversity with equity and
inclusiveness.

From Bonnie's Messy Desk

During the first five years after we began the Buddy Bags Program at the Crown Point First United Methodist Church, our biggest fundraiser was a golf outing. We held them at a few different courses with good success and a tremendous amount of work. In the last two years that we held outings, the returns on all that hard work grew smaller as prices increased significantly. So, last year we had our first anniversary dinner/fundraiser. We celebrate the anniversary of the founding of Community Help Network, Inc. in April of 2020. This year's celebration will be in Lowell at Signature Banquets. They have been a joy to work with and we are very much looking forward to April 27th. We invite you to join us for what is sure to be a fun-filled evening.



What do we do with all that clothing from Amazon?

Saturday February 24th, we held our 2nd clothing give away of the school year for our Buddy Bags families. 40 families took advantage of the huge selection of clothing.

(It snowed that day, not much but it covered the ground. I asked one of our young Buddy Bags kiddos who he thought put that snow there. Without missing a beat and his bright eyes wide open, he exclaimed, "Not Me!!")

One of our young volunteers found a new suit, in which he looks very handsome!

Dr. Michelle Boswell-Kramer, who works at the Neurobehavioral Hospital in Crown Point is often invited to the warehouse to gather clothing for patients. The patients are often homeless and have little clothing when they arrive at the hospital.

Michelle Garcia and her sister Genny Leal, who work with refugees and homeless, came and gathered clothing and a few other items that we had in excess, thanks to *Amazon*.

One of our Buddy Bags students drawing of people waiting in line to look for clothing.



Lenten Household Pantry Challenge

Lent is a season of sacrifice. People often give up something they like to do or eat or drink. During Lent 2024, beginning Ash Wednesday, February 14th through Easter Sunday, March 31st, we are challenging the supporters of Community Help Network to a different kind of sacrifice. As you may or may not know, low-income families cannot use their SNAP benefits (aka Food Stamps), to purchase paper products, hygiene items or cleaning supplies. These are exactly the items we offer families in our Household Pantry, which is currently serving over one hundred families each month.

We are challenging you to collect one of these items listed below each day, as possible, through the Lenten period. We would then like you to deliver them to our warehouse location, 550 East Burrell Drive, Crown Point (red door by the loading dock), the week of April 1st between the hours of 10:00 am until 3:00 pm Monday through Friday and Saturday 9:00 am until Noon. If this is not possible or convenient, you may bring items during pantry hours: Tuesdays and Saturdays between 9:00 am and Noon or Wednesdays 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm.

Items Needed

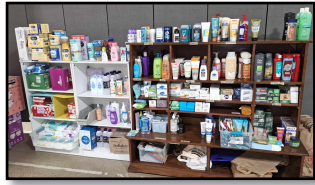
All-purpose cleaner, dish soap, laundry pods, fabric softener sheets, hand soap, bars of soap or body wash, shampoo, deodorant, hand or body lotion, hand sanitizer, disposable razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine supplies, diapers, baby wipes, adult diapers, adult wipes, toilet paper, paper towels.

Household Pantry is taking on a new look. We are in the process of revamping the pantry and much of the warehouse space. Let us know if you would like to help.



We are happy to announce that Wallace Consulting of Merrillville, is offering free tax return preparation for our clients. Thank you so much Teri Wallace and staff. Teri is also one of our dedicated volunteers at the warehouse. She and her family are a wonderful help. Teri puts it this way: I am thankful to be able to help others in our community. I came from very little means and struggled for years as a single mom. There were several nonprofits in the area that helped bridge the gap when I wasn't able to make ends meet. I remember not only receiving tangible items, but receiving compassion and encouragement from individuals who were volunteering to help. Each of those caring individuals helped to build the foundation for who I am today. It's my mission and passion to be that kind of support and encouragement to others so that I can help to positively impact someone else's life.

Before



After



Paul Sills and his right-hand man, Nick Werley



Michelle and Carol flippin' grilled cheese sandwiches.

Pantry Days & Hours

Open Tuesdays and Saturdays 9:00 am until Noon and Wednesdays 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm

Use This QR Code to Donate



Tina Pelton Robinson welcomes back Kristy Murphy



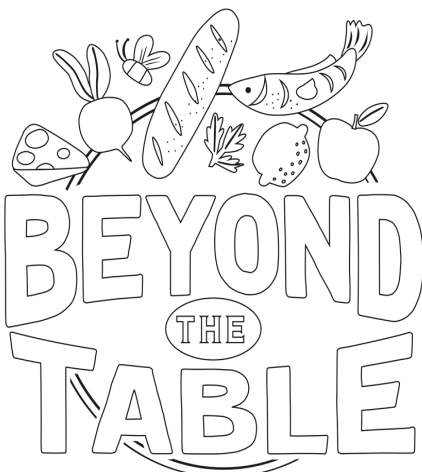
Ladle of Love
 Bi-Monthly Free Luncheon
 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the Month
 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

550 East Burrell Drive
 Crown Point, IN
 219-805-3717

Full Plate Catering
 Great Harvest Bread Co.
 Full Circle Methodist Church

(Free Will Offering Accepted But Never Expected)

Tavern on Main, Full Plate Catering and Great Harvest Bread Co. join forces for Ladle of Love on Saturdays March 2nd and 16th. Chef Honey from Tavern on Main and CHN cooks will be working together to present some delicious food. Great Harvest Bread Co. will provide the best bread this side of the Atlantic. AND, Welcome back Kristy from Full Plate Catering!!!



2024 NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH!

The kids have something to color. And, we put important information for parents on the back side.