

Food for Thought

A newsletter published by the Community Kitchen of Monroe County, Inc.

February 2008

Board of Directors

Jim Becker
Mary Clegg
Darlene Cook
Laurie Eynon
Tim Haas
Terry Harper
Valeri Haughton
Ashley Hillman
Nick Hillman
Judy Lucas
Linda McNabb
Maryjane McNabb
Terry Radke
Fred Schick
Martha Schick

Staff Members

Janna Arthur
David Bower (work study)
Ann Brookshire
Tim Clougher
Caroline Daly (SPEA intern)
Allison Homan (work study)
Julius Lee
Ashley Mann
Nathan O'Donnell
Eric Patterson
Vicki Pierce
Adam Sommer
Victor Varela

Community Partners

Bloomington Township
Hoosier Hills Food Bank
Martha's House
Mother Hubbard's Cupboard
Options
Perry Township
Stone Belt Hand 'n Hand
United Way of Monroe County



Community Kitchen
of Monroe County, Inc.

PO Box 3286
917 South Rogers Street
Bloomington, IN 47402

Phone: (812) 332-0999
Fax: (812) 332-1937

Email: www.monroecommunitykitchen.com

Community Kitchen – the first 25 years!

Community Kitchen of Monroe County, Inc. (CK) was incorporated as a nonprofit organization on June 21, 1983. The first meals were served in March of 1983, three days/week. Women from several Bloomington churches were the catalysts behind the organization of CK. Their actions were in response to their concerns for local people who needed help in getting enough to eat. In keeping with their religious convictions, these women established a policy of asking no questions or outlining eligibility requirements for those needing food. This is a policy that stands to this day.

From its first days until August 1992, Community Kitchen served meals at the Monroe County United Ministries building. On Thanksgiving 1992, the first hot meal was served at 917 S. Rogers (a new location in partnership with Perry Township). Since then, CK has grown from a small organization with one part-time employee serving meals three days a week to one with full- and part-time employees and volunteers serving meals six days a week.

In 1993, CK began serving six meals/week and providing free carry-out meals upon request. In 2001, a second site, CK Express, opened (in partnership with Bloomington Township) in an old fast food restaurant on W 11th Street to expand services throughout the community. In January, 1994, CK collaborated with the Boys and Girls Clubs to provide free dinners two days a week at their sites at Crestmont and Henderson Courts. This program has expanded to serve at-risk children in other areas of the city and now serves children at both Boys & Girls Clubs, Girls, Inc., Broadview Teen Learning Center, Monroe County Corrections JAMS, Rhino's, and Middle Way's The Rise childcare center. In 2007, over 35,500 of these meals were provided. CK started a summer breakfast program in June 1997. Brown-bag breakfasts of nutritious foods are distributed to children in six low-income housing areas. In 2007, a record number, 12,766, of breakfasts were provided through this program.

In addition to meals, CK offers other services to its patrons. A part-time social worker is available for consultation and referral. The Waldron Arts Center provides opportunities for patrons to express themselves through art once/week and interactive games are provided for patrons one night each week.

Whatever the need, patrons find the Kitchen to be a place where they not only eat, but linger for conversations with other patrons, volunteers and staff. This social support is often as important, or perhaps more important, than the meals. Building on this sense of community, CK provides very special meals on Thanksgiving and Christmas. This tradition dates back to 1990 when the first Christmas meal was served. On these holidays, CK also works with Area 10 to provide holiday meals for delivery to elderly and home-bound individuals.

—continues on page 2

Palette-to-Palate—April 12th

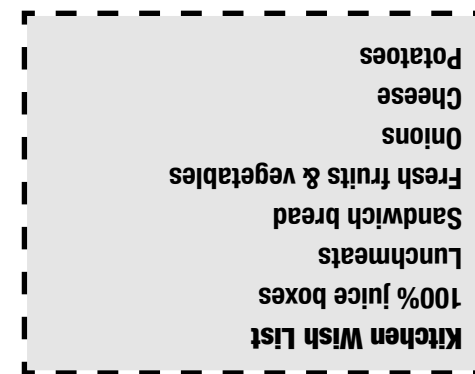
Community Kitchen will hold our 11th annual **Palette-to-Palate** silent art auction on Saturday, April 12th from 7–10pm. This year's P2P promises another fabulous evening of food, music and a wonderful array of art for purchase at The Clubhouse at The Fields (1333 Fenbrook Lane). Pieces up for silent auction are valued from \$5 up to several hundred dollars. As last year, the evening will conclude with a live auction of selected pieces while silent auction bids are tallied. We are thrilled that amazing live entertainment will be provided by David Baker's Jazz Ensemble. All proceeds from the event fund the Kitchen's hunger relief programs. Tickets are available in advance at Community Kitchen (917 S Rogers St) \$25 each (IU students—\$20). Please watch the Kitchen's website: www.monroecommunitykitchen.com or contact us (332-0999) for additional details.

CK Annual Meeting @ Palette-to-Palate

Community Kitchen's Annual Meeting will be held on April 12th at 6:45pm, immediately prior to the start of **Palette-to-Palate**. Those interested may attend the meeting in the Palladian Room in The Clubhouse at the Fields (1333 Fenbrook Lane). The meeting will last about 15 minutes, as we highlight the year's achievements and ratify the election of new members to the Board of Directors. All who have contributed to Community Kitchen in the past year and are present, are eligible to vote at this meeting.



Design, prepress and printing are donated by Timothy Mayer, TMDesign and FinePrint.



Return Service Requested

PO Box 3286
917 South Rogers Street
Bloomington, IN 47402

Community Kitchen
of Monroe County, Inc.



non-profit org.
US Postage
PAID
Bloomington, IN
Permit No. 312

Community Kitchen is grateful to the following organizations

Thank you! The Community Kitchen would like to thank the following organizational and institutional supporters and we encourage you to thank them as well. These that follow have provided financial, in-kind, or volunteer support since the last newsletter:

American Red Cross of Monroe County	Monroe Hospital
Argonaut Club	New Year's Day Soccer Folks
B & L Sheet Metal	Nick's English Hut
Barker Engineering	One World Enterprises
Bloomingsfoods	Perry Township Trustee
Bloomington Friends Meeting	Read Dining Hall
Bloomington Metro Professional Firefighters Union 586	Restaurant Tallent
Bloomington Township Fire Department	Sam's Club #6437
Bloomington Township Trustee	Schulte Corp.
Bob Evans	Simpson Chapel United Methodist Church
CFC Inc.	St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
Center for Sustainable Living	St. Mark's United Methodist Church
Clark Tool & Grind	Stanford Senior Club
Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe Co.	Tina's Cuisine
DGTL Tibetan Monastery	Trinity Episcopal Church
Dagom Geden Tensun Ling Temple	Tri- Parish Group
Edgewood High School Honor Students	Unitarian Universalist Church
Ellettsville Senior Citizens	United Way of Monroe County
Emmanuel Church	WAVE
Evening Glories Home Extension Club	West Side Trinity Pentecostal Church
First Christian Church	Woodhaven Christian Church CWF
First United Church	Yogis Grill & Bar
Freedom United Methodist Church	
Girl Scout Troop #447	
Good Neighbors Home Ec Club	
Hamric's Earth Works	
Hand n Hand a Stone Belt Project	
Hilger Enterprises—Orkin Pest Control	
IU Alternative Spring Break	
IU RPS Dining Services	
Independent Order of Odd Fellows	
Indiana Ave. Church of Christ	
Indianapolis Church of Christ	
Internal Medicine Associates	
Kappa Delta Phi-Gamma Sigma Chapter of Bloomington	
Korean Presbyterian Church of Bloomington	
Korean United Methodist Church	
Laborers International Union Local 741	
Labtek, Inc.	
Liqua-Dry Lawn Care	
Mercy Mission Apostolic Faith Church	
Moe's Ache Studio	

2007 Meal Counts

What your support helps accomplish at Community Kitchen

January—December 2007	
Rogers Street CK	57,890
CK Express	35,563
Feed Our Future	35,506
(up 33% over 2006)	
Backpack Buddies	8,521
Summer Breakfast Program	12,766
(up 48% over 2006)	
Nutrition Links	2,270
Total Meals	152,516
(up 16% over 2006)	

—continued from page 1

—the first 25 years!

Community Kitchen celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. Since our beginning, the number of meals served has steadily increased. This increase is due both to increased need and to expansion of serving sites. CK is able to provide wholesome, nutritious meals at a very low cost because a large part of the work is done by volunteers (70-80 each week) and food is either donated or purchased at very low prices through the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. In 2007, CK served a record number of meals—152,516 and our cost per meal dropped to \$1.88, the lowest in a decade. Thank you for supporting our efforts over the past 25 years. We hope you continue to help us make Bloomington a wonderful place for each of its citizens.

Volunteer Spotlight—Clare Enright

Clare Enright began volunteering with Community Kitchen a few years ago. She learned about volunteering at Community Kitchen at the Friends Meeting House. Clare approached us and asked about setting up an interactive table for patrons one evening each week during serving time. Clare had heard that there were art projects available for patrons on Wednesday evenings and thought games might be another welcome addition. She set up a table on a Thursday evening a few years back and has been there each Thursday since. Clare has a wonderfully kind demeanor and is always welcoming and engaging with Kitchen patrons. Each week she brings board games, word puzzles, fun and uplifting stories, etc. for all to enjoy. Thursday evenings have become a highlight of the week for many of our patrons. Thank you Clare for your initiative in providing Kitchen patrons a place to relax and play games, interact with one another and feel valued. We appreciate all you do!



Volunteer Clare Enright is a regular Thursday fixture at the Kitchen, providing interactive games and activities for Kitchen patrons.

Feinstein Challenge—March & April

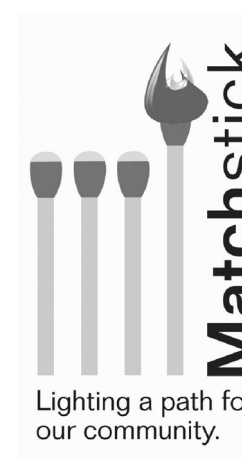
For the eleventh straight year, Alan Shawn Feinstein will divide \$1 million among hunger fighting agencies nationwide, using it to help them raise funds during March and April. This Challenge has become the largest grass roots hunger fighting effort in the country. You can be a part of it by donating money or food items during the months of March and April. All donations and food donated as a result of this challenge will be counted and reported to the Feinstein Foundation. Community Kitchen will receive a portion of Feinstein's one million, based on the percentage of funds and food raised here compared to the country's total. So if the total raised at Community Kitchen equals .05% of the total raised by the challenge, CK would receive \$500 from the Feinstein Foundation. To be a part of this national effort to fight hunger, make a food or monetary donation during the months of March and April.

Homeward Bound—April 6th

Once again, the Kitchen will participate in the Homeward Bound walk. Homeward Bound is a statewide effort to fight the effects of homelessness. Our local walk will be held on Sunday, April 6th. The walk kicks-off with entertainment and registration at Third Street Park. This 5K walk winds around through downtown Bloomington and nearby neighborhoods, with entertainment and water stations along the way. Walkers raise support from friends and family to earn funds for local agencies. Community Kitchen is a participant in this walk and would like your support. If you are interested in walking, please visit <http://homewardboundindiana.org> to start a team or join the Community Kitchen team. If you can't walk but would like to sponsor the Kitchen's team, you can also visit the website to donate online, or can donate by check made payable to Homeward Bound, noting support for Community Kitchen. Come join us for a nice walk for a good cause.

Matchstick Phase III—One more opportunity

Community Kitchen is pleased to have been selected to be one of nine participants in Phase III of Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County's Matchstick Program. Through a generous gift, Community Kitchen created an endowment years ago but until recently had not worked to make that endowment grow. By participating in Matchstick Phase II last year, CK added over \$12,000 to that fund. Our goal in Phase III is to raise \$15,000 for our endowment, which will qualify for a \$5,000 match. Each \$3 raised toward this goal will qualify for a \$1 match. Giving to the Community Kitchen Fund means that your \$75 becomes \$100 and helps fund the Kitchen's hunger relief programs in perpetuity. The funds will stay with the foundation permanently, providing annual interest income to fund Kitchen programs as long as they are needed. Community Kitchen is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2008. Help us ensure hunger relief for our community for the next 25 years, by contributing now. Checks should be made out to Community Foundation with CK Fund noted in the memo section. For additional information, please visit www.communityfoundation.ws or call us at 332-0999.



Lighting a path for our community.