

Food for Thought

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

December 2019

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Area 10 Agency on Aging
Bloomington Township
Boys & Girls Clubs of Blmngtn
Friend's Place
Girls Inc.
Hoosier Hills Food Bank
IU Health - Positive Link
LifeDesigns
MCCSC
Perry Township
RBBSC
Stone Belt
The Rise
Transitional Services Inc.
United Way of Monroe County

Community Kitchen
of Monroe County, Inc.

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The Year in Review

As we approach the end of 2019 and near 2020, we remember where we've been and look forward to what's ahead. 2019 has been an incredibly busy and good year.

- We are currently on target to serve around 310,000 meals and snacks in the year 2019. That will be our third year ever surpassing 300,000 meals, and a new meal service record.
- We held four fantastic, successful brunch fundraising events. (See back for upcoming 2020 dates)
- We had a wonderful mural painted (Adam Long with youth help) on the south facing wall of our building. It's painted as if you're looking into the building to see the work going on inside.
- We welcomed three new board members this year (Gillian Johnston, Angela Martin and Alan Simmerman) and we said good bye to retiring, long-term (21 years) board member, Judy Lucas.
- We provided thousands of lunches to children in low-income neighborhoods for the 22nd summer in a row.
- We continued to serve lunches to preschool children enrolled in Head Start sites throughout the county. In 2019 we added another site and classroom and we provided summer field trip lunches for their classrooms on their summer field trips.
- We held our 13th annual Chefs' Challenge event, where David Tallent won the Golden Spatula!
- We had a couple of staff members move on and welcomed a couple of new folks to our ranks.
- We started our 15th year of the Backpack Buddies program.

As we look toward 2020, we do so with an eagerness to serve community food needs as best we can. In that regard, we will continue to seek out ways that we can address unmet food needs in our community. We will keep you posted on how that might look going forward.

Thank you all so much for your support over this year. We couldn't provide much needed food services in our community without the loyal and generous financial, food and volunteer support you deliver. *Thank you!*



Christmas at Community Kitchen

On Thanksgiving this year, Community Kitchen served **662** meals and handed out **200** bags of groceries in conjunction with the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. 230 of those meals were delivered by holiday volunteers to local homebound or disabled seniors. Community Kitchen will provide a special Christmas dinner this year. We expect to serve similar numbers as we did on Thanksgiving. The holiday meal will consist of ham, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, fruit salad, pies, rolls and cider. As is our custom on holidays, we will serve an hour longer than normal, serving 3-6pm. The following items are needed and can be dropped off M-F from 8am-6pm or Sat from 11am-6pm.

65 boneless hams
300 cans of green beans
200 cans of cream of mushroom soup
15 gallons of apple cider
60 dozen rolls
Other canned vegetables

100 large cans of sweet potatoes
120 cans of tropical fruit
120 cans of mandarin oranges
120 cans of pineapple
60 pies (including 10 sugar free)
20 lbs. of butter

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank the following organizational and institutional supporters and we encourage you to thank them as well. The groups below have provided financial, in-kind, or volunteer support since our last newsletter:

Alpha Phi Omega	Gaden KhachoeShing Monastery	SCI - REMC
Amazon Smile	Gilbert Construction Inc.	Sober Joe
Banneker Community Center	Gilbert S. Mordoh & Company, Inc.	SOCC Youth Group
Baxter	Good Neighbors Home Ec Club	Soma Coffeehouse
Baxter Employee Giving Campaign	Great West Casualty	St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
Bethel Lane Holiness Community Church	Hand in Hand a Stone Belt Project	St. Paul Catholic Center
Black's Mercantile	Herald-Times and Hoosier Times	St. Mark's United Methodist Church
Bloomingsfoods	Highland Village Church of Christ	Stampfli Associates
Bloomington Board of Realtors	Hilger Enterprises - Orkin Pest Control	State Employees' Community Campaign
Bloomington HS South Honor Society	ISU The May Agency	Steve's Roofing & Sheet Metal
Bloomington Moose Lodge	IU Law	Stone Belt
Bloomington Township Trustee	Kappa Delta Phi-Gamma Sigma Chapter	Strauser Construction
Boy Scouts	Keller Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.	The Lone Wolf Electric
Cardinal Spirits	Korean United Methodist Church	The Production House
Catalent	Kroger	Thrivent
Childs Elementary School	Kroger Community Rewards	Transitional Services
Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe Co.	LIFE Designs	Union Savings Bank
Congregation Beth Shalom	Little Union Baptist Church	Unionville Church of Christ
Cook Medical	MCCSC Community Transitions	Unitarian Universalist Church
Cross Roads United Methodist Church	Michael's Uptown Cafe, Inc.	United Way of Bartholomew Co.
Delta Theta Tau Sorority, Zeta Chapter	Monroe County Retired Teachers	United Way of Central Indiana
Delta Upsilon	Network for Good	United Way of Greater Philadelphia
Dermatology Center of Southern Indiana	Owen County State Bank	United Way of Monroe County
Dolan Ridge Community Church	Paypal Giving Fund	Unity of Bloomington
E&B Paving	Perry Township Trustee	University School
Eastview Church of the Nazarene	Phi Sigma Kappa	Wednesday Club
Ellettsville House of Prayer	Rainbow Bakery	Woodhaven Christian Church CWF
Express Employment Professionals	Rogers Elementary	Wright Financial Services
	Safe Ride Taxi	

Kroger Community Rewards

Do you shop at Kroger? Carry one of those Kroger Plus cards? Now you can help support Community Kitchen when you shop at Kroger. Just register your Plus card at the website and 2% of your grocery purchases support Community Kitchen each time you shop.

Follow the link below to register your card today. When you get logged in and registered, just move to the Community Rewards section and select Community Kitchen of Monroe County or organization #SJ831. It's that simple. If you haven't, please do so today! <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

If you're on Facebook, please like Community Kitchen. You can find us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/monroe.community.kitchen>

And you can follow us on Twitter: @Monroe_ck or

Instagram: monroecommunitykitchen

Help us spread the word about Community Kitchen happenings and join us today!



Volunteer Opportunities

Are you someone who is looking for a volunteer opportunity for yourself, your family or other group? Community Kitchen is a great place to get involved and there are several ways to do that. We have regular volunteer shifts each Monday - Saturday. Our **prep shift is from 11:30am-1:30pm**, while our **servicing shift is from 3:30-6:30pm**. Over the holiday break while people are traveling and schools are out, is a great time to get involved. Many of our regular volunteers are off to travel and we have open spots that we need to fill.



While we can't accommodate really large groups, we can schedule up to 7 or 8 volunteers per shift. In addition, if your group wants a project offsite, at your location, consider holding a food drive for Backpack Buddies or other Kitchen programs; or call and let us talk to you about how you can purchase some ingredients and assemble ready to prepare meals for Backpack Buddies. When you have your project offsite, you can use whatever number of volunteers your space will accommodate.

If you're looking for an MLK Day project for a small size group, we may have an opportunity for you here. Give June a call at 812-332-0999.

Event Sponsorship

If your business or group is interested in helping sponsor any of Community Kitchen's fundraising events, please contact Marty at 812-332-0999.

We have several levels of event sponsorship available and a couple of events from which to choose:

Brunch Events – A event for us since 2015, we hold quarterly brunches, one each season. The event includes a three-course brunch, all-inclusive with paired drinks at a ticket price of \$50/person. We hold the event at Community Kitchen to get folks inside to see our facility, learn about programs and keep costs low. Costs for the event are limited to food expenses. Food and drink are prepared and served by restaurant industry volunteers, headed by Community Kitchen board members who are chefs. Up to 128 people are able to attend each event.

Chefs' Challenge – Our premiere fundraising event, Chefs' Challenge is a local Iron Chef type competition on stage at the Buskirk-Chumley in late summer. Three chefs from local restaurants are selected through community voting to compete on stage by preparing a dish or dishes using a secret ingredient, revealed at the start of the competition. Tickets are \$30 each and limited Bistro seating is available by bid, starting at \$110 each. The event draws anywhere from 200-400 attendees. Costs for the event include rental of the Buskirk-Chumley, tech support of the BCT crew, printing and incidental supplies.

Contact Marty at 812-332-0999 or marty@monroecommunitykitchen.com to see how your business might participate.

Backpack Buddies

We now have over 400 families from 21 different schools, involved in Backpack Buddies. That's 3,280 pounds of food each week of the school year. We welcome donations of the following foods for the program:

- Canned or pouch tuna, chicken or ham
- Peanut butter
- Meal helpers (like Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna helpers)
- Fruit cups – applesauce, mixed fruit, pears, peaches, etc.
- Instant Oatmeal – individual portions
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Boxes of breakfast cereal
- Easy to prepare food items – instant mashed potatoes, dried soups, beans, rice or pasta meals, etc.
- Granola/fruit/cereal bars
- Dried fruit – raisins, cranberries, cherries, etc.
- Small bread mixes – cornbread, muffin, biscuit, etc.

Jan - Nov Meal Counts

Rogers Street	40,255
Express	45,922
Feed Our Future	68,530
Head Start	48,604
Nutrition Links	3,347
Backpack Buddies	63,719
A Friend's Place	15,785
Senior Links	3,038

Total **289,200**

Family Volunteer Day - January 19th

In order to provide opportunities for families with young children to participate in volunteering at Community Kitchen, we hold special family volunteer days. These special days involve volunteer tasks that do not involve being in the actual kitchen or using the equipment. The volunteer tasks are chosen to be things that families with children of various ages can participate in together in the dining room, in a safe environment. Space is limited and signing up ahead of time is required so that we can properly plan. We conduct these family volunteer days four times/year. The next one will be held on Sunday, January 19th from 3-5pm at our main facility at 1515 S Rogers St. To sign up your family, give June a call at 812-332-0999. If this specific date doesn't work for you or our spots fill up before you call, let us know you'd like to be notified when we schedule the next one. June will contact you in a few months when we get the next one scheduled. We look forward to your family joining us!

2020 Brunch Dates

Mark your calendars now for Community Kitchen's 2020 fundraising Brunch dates. These brunches are three course, all inclusive meals prepared by local industry professionals from various kitchens and restaurants. Cardinal Spirits generously pairs each course with a cocktail. Reservations and menu choices are required in advance. Tickets are \$50 per person.

Watch our website and Facebook page for details. 2020 brunch dates are expected to be:

Sunday, February 16, 2020

Sunday, May 17, 2020

Sunday, August 9, 2020

Sunday, November 15, 2020



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PO Box 3286
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Member Agency

Non-profit org.
US postage
PAID
Bloomington, IN
Permit No. 312

Kitchen Wish List

Garlic powder
Onions
Brown rice
Oregano
Basil
Veggie soup base