

# Food for Thought

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

October 2020

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Stone Belt  
The Rise  
United Way of Monroe County

## What's New & Expanding Service to Ellettsville

In late August we had some transition among staff. While we don't often have much transition, we had two important staff changes. First, our longtime Kitchen Supervisor, Adam Sommer, resigned to be a stay-at-home dad. Adam was with us for 19 years and gave tremendous service over the years. We are grateful for his years with us. Taking over the Kitchen Supervisor position is Heather Craig. Volunteers and many donors already know Heather. She's been with us as Kitchen Staff for five years. Heather has stepped into that full-time Kitchen Supervisor position. Along with Heather being full-time, Andrew Simmons will also be full-time Kitchen Staff. Andrew came to us this spring after Darn Good Soup had to close. Andrew has been an excellent addition to our staff and we're glad to welcome him sticking around. Arielle Hacker, our Referral Specialist, also left in late August. She was able to get a full-time job and we are excited for her next chapter. We will be looking for a part-time (10-12 hours/week) Referral Specialist. If you know someone with a social work background, or someone who is comfortable talking with people and wants to be of help, send them our way. The person in this position is available during dinner a few times each week to talk with patrons, provide referrals to other agencies and services, and gather survey data from patrons.

Community Kitchen is working to expand services into Ellettsville. To that end, we have been talking to community leaders and stakeholders in that part of the county to ensure that our services are as appropriate and helpful as they can be. We are currently urging folks to provide us some feedback and direction. If you are someone who might need to use Community Kitchen services, are someone who works with people who would use our services, or work or live in Ellettsville and are interested, please consider completing one of these quick online surveys:

You might need services or work with folks who do (link or QR):

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GWVMBRC>

You are a community stakeholder (link or QR):

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G2VXXWZ>

Your input is helpful and will enable us to make informed decisions about the type, frequency and time of service we'll provide in Ellettsville. Thank you for your input. Please feel free to pass this along to others you feel might have feedback, as well.



## LIKE US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

If you're on **Facebook**, please like Community Kitchen. You can find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/monroe.community.kitchen>

Community Kitchen of Monroe County, Inc.

PO Box 3286  
1515 S Rogers Street  
Bloomington, IN 47402-3286

Phone: (812) 332-0999  
Web: [monroecommunitykitchen.com](http://monroecommunitykitchen.com)  
Email: [director@monroecommunitykitchen.com](mailto:director@monroecommunitykitchen.com)



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!

# 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:

9 Patches Extension Homemakers	Eastview Church of the Nazarene	Network for Good
Abbie	Ellettsville House of Prayer	Opie Taylor's
Amazon Smile	Emergency Food & Shelter Program	Paypal Giving Fund
Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield	Federal Managers Association, Chap 170	People's Market
Avers Pizza	First United Church	People's State Bank
Bethel Lane Holiness Community Church	Frontstream (United E Way)	Perry Township Trustee
Bloomington North Rotary Club	Future Famers of America	Rainbow Bakery
Bloomington Rotary Foundation	GE Appliance Giving Campaign	Rotary Club
Bloomington Township Trustee	Girl Scout Troop #3554	SCI - REMC
Boys & Girls Club of Bloomington	Hand in Hand a Stone Belt Project	South Central Community Action Program
Catalent	Hanes Brands	State Employees' Community Campaign
Church of Latter Day Saints	Healing Sacred Space	Stone Belt
Cindy Vlasman Insurance Agency, Inc.	Highland Village Church of Christ	Timmy Global Services
City of Bloomington Common Council	Hilger Enterprises - Orkin Pest Control	Tri-Parish
College Internship Program	Indiana Department of Education	Unionville Church of Christ
Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe Co.	ISU The May Agency	Unitarian Universalist
Cross Roads United Methodist Church	IU Health	United Way of Bartholomew Co.
Cruisin Classics	Juannita's	United Way of Monroe County
Delta Theta Tau Sorority, Zeta Chapter	Korean United Methodist Church	Widiss Goldstein Family Fund, Vanguard Charitable
Duke Energy Foundation	Kroger Community Rewards	YourCause
	Little Union Baptist Church	

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## 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>

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## Still At It...

While we are still here and serving dinner to anyone in need, things are not back to normal at Community Kitchen.

- We are still serving carryout meals only, both warm and cold. We are not doing inside dining yet and have no immediate plans to do that soon. We will wait until we are confident that we can return to inside dining in a manner that is safe for our patrons, volunteers and staff.
- We are still working with only about 50% of the volunteers we would normally use. Because many volunteers are not ready to come back yet, and because we want to keep volunteers spaced out as much as possible, we will remain around 50% volunteer capacity for a bit longer.
- We are still doing temperature checks of all staff and volunteers each day, along with wearing masks and gloves. We clean and sanitize surfaces each day, as a part of our normal routine.
- It always takes need longer to show up at Community Kitchen. When the economy gets rough, people use food pantries before they access kitchens, like us. We are starting to see more new patrons now, including families with small children. We expect that as extra supports expire, that the need will continue to increase here.
- We continue to welcome food donations M-F from 8am-6pm and 11am-6pm on Sat.

### Jan-Aug 2020 Meal Counts

Rogers Street	30,189
Express	27,804
Feed Our Future	26,542
Head Start	24,047
Nutrition Links	2,092
Backpack Buddies	41,381
A Friend's Place	11,495
Senior Links	1,887
Meals on Wheels	1,635
Isolation Shelter	985
Hotels 4 Homeless	704
<b>Total</b>	<b>168,761</b>

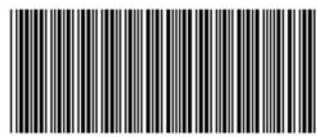


**POT OF DOUGH FUNDRAISER**

PLEASE PRESENT THIS CODE TO CASHIER AT TIME OF PURCHASE.

FOR ONLINE ORDERS, ENTER CODE BELOW IN PROMO CODE BOX AT CHECKOUT.

**5% FUNDRAISER EVERYDAY** & **CHANCE AT \$10K GRAND PRIZE!** 



COMM KITCHEN



GOOD THROUGH 11/30/20



## New Walk-in Freezer

We are grateful for a new walk-in freezer, funded in part by a Hoosier Hills Food Bank, CARES grant. This walk-in freezer is our second on site. And while it will be helpful for all of the future, it is essential as we deal with the fallout from COVID. Because the County Fair and 4-H auction were cancelled this year, we were unable to get meat donated from that auction. We will be purchasing meat for the entirety of 2021. The extra freezer space will allow us to buy in larger quantities when prices are good, and accept more donated meat, as well. Thank you Hoosier Hills Food Bank!

## Thanksgiving at Community Kitchen

The holiday season is right around the corner. Thanksgiving will be here before we know it and much food is needed to create a traditional Thanksgiving meal for our patrons. Each year we seek to make a festive holiday meal for folks who, often times, don't have family or friends with whom to enjoy the holiday. Unfortunately, we'll likely still be carryout at Thanksgiving, but we can provide warm, holiday meals to anyone in need.

At Community Kitchen, we have extra volunteer shifts to accommodate generous volunteers who want to be a part of our holiday meal and we serve an hour longer than normal. We've already begun scheduling volunteers and shifts will fill quickly. Please consider contributing special holiday food. Below is a list of the items and quantities we'll need for Thanksgiving. Help us make it a special day for the needy in our community!



- 45-50 turkeys
- 150 boxes of stuffing mix
- 400 cans of green beans
- 200 cans of cream of mushroom soup
- 200 cans of tropical fruit or fruit cocktail
- 12 sugar free pies
- 30 dozen rolls
- 30 large cans of French fried onions

## United Way of Monroe County - Reimagine

This year, when you support your local United Way, you are helping to Reimagine a future that works for everyone by embracing big ideas, big solutions. United Way works to empower people and create a resilient community, and the big work starts now! You can donate online or text **Reimagine2020** to **41444**. The fall fundraising drive is a critical part of the United Way outreach, which continues year-round especially in times of disaster or deep need. Funds raised during this time touch the lives of one in three individuals in our community, and support Community Kitchen and other agency partners in our community.





# Brunch

GETASTAY

*Course 1*  
Pacific Inspired Summer Rolls with Peanut Tamarind Sauce  
Grilled Jerk Chicken Wings with Chili Honey

*Course 2*  
Brunch Fried Rice  
Pancit Bihon with Tocino

*Course 3*  
Planters Punch Hand Pies  
Tropical Panna Cotta

*with cocktail pairings from Cardinal Spirits*



MAKE YOUR OWN GOURMET MEAL WITH GUIDANCE FROM THE PROFESSIONALS!  
**VIEW DETAILS AT [MONROECOMMUNITYKITCHEN.COM](http://MONROECOMMUNITYKITCHEN.COM)**

We're doing another **virtual brunch!** This one is **Tiki themed** so get ready to make some exciting Tiki dishes at home and share pictures of your creations with us!

Since we are unable to do this event in person, please check out our website and Facebook page for recipes, videos and other information about how to participate with us at home. Get your signature cocktail from Cardinal Spirits, choose your dishes, prepare your meal and share pics with us on social media, using the tag **#CKBrunch**. You can do it whenever you want but our goal is for most folks to participate during the **weekend of October 16th-18th**.

While we can't gather, we can still enjoy great food in the company of those close to us, and support Community Kitchen efforts to feed the hungry. Whether you make a donation or just participate without making a donation, we welcome you to try something different and share your fun with us!

Check out our Facebook page and website for additional information, recipes, how-to videos,

how to donate, and how to order your specialty cocktail from Cardinal Spirits. Join us in celebrating and supporting Community Kitchen in this unique way! Remember to use **#CKBrunch**.

- Kitchen Wish List**
- Canned vegetables
  - Pasta (not spaghetti)
  - Ground Black pepper
  - Garlic powder
  - Canned fruit
  - Basil
  - Thyme
  - Oregano

Member Agency



Community Kitchen  
of Monroe County, Inc.  
PO Box 3286  
Bloomington, IN 47402-3286

