

COMMUNITY HARVEST, INC

PROVIDING A SUSTAINABLE, COMMUNITY-LED SOLUTION
TO END HUNGER IN STARK COUNTY SINCE 1989



Celebrity Cuisine

Celebrating 25 Years Hosting
“The Biggest & Best Happy Hour” in Town

Community Harvest in collaboration with The Tri-County Restaurant Association and Atlantic Food Distributors will be hosting the biggest and best Celebrity Cuisine to date on **Tuesday, March 21, 2017** at the Canton Memorial Civic Center from 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Attendees will have the opportunity to bump shoulders with national celebrities and some local favorites while enjoying a feast of local flavors showcased by forty of Stark County’s finest restaurants and purveyors.

As always, attendees of the 2017 Celebrity Cuisine will enjoy unlimited access to appetizers, entrée samples, beer, wine, and desserts while listening to live music by Ryan Humbert and bidding on our silent auction. Celebrity Cuisine offers several options for attendance, ranging from general admission tickets priced at just \$30/person to table sponsorships at three different levels. As we celebrate our 25th Anniversary this year, we expect sponsorship tables to sell-out quickly. So, don't wait too long!

“Very early in our planning process, I met with other members of the Celebrity Cuisine planning committee, and we all unanimously agreed to keep the cost of general admission to Celebrity Cuisine at just \$30, making it affordable for everyone to attend,” shared Julie Carpinelli, Association Manager for the Tri-County Restaurant Association. “We

are proud supporters of Community Harvest and commend them for continually providing a low-cost, community-led solution to curb hunger in our community. It was important to us to establish an event that was feasible for everyone in our community to enjoy.”

Whether you plan to purchase a sponsorship table or general admission tickets, joining the fun is as easy as 1-2-3.

- Step 1:** Simply fill out the enclosed registration form included on the inside of this newsletter
- Step 2:** Mail payment with the bottom half of the registration form as instructed prior to March 10th
- Step 3:** Your admission tickets will be mailed to the address provided on your registration form

After March 10th, tickets may be purchased at the Tri-County Restaurant Association (330-499-7007) or Community Harvest office (330-493-0800). With over 40 different restaurants and purveyors showcasing their specialty food, drinks, and desserts, you will be eager to join the fun! Although general admission tickets are always available at the door, we recommend that you purchase tickets in advance and avoid waiting in line.

AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR, SPONSORSHIP TABLES ARE ALMOST SOLD-OUT. SO, DON'T DELAY AND MAIL YOUR REGISTRATION TODAY!

The
HARVESTER

Winter 2017

Connect With Community Harvest

Phone 330.493.0800
Address 4915 Fulton Dr. NW, Unit 7, Canton, OH 44718
Email fbarbaro@acrfb.org
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/communityharvestofstark>



**Save the date of
Sunday, Oct. 1st
for the
6th Annual
Harvest Moon
Run
Details Inside**

FEEDING MORE. TOGETHER.



Dear friends,

It's a brand new year, and for many of us that means it is a time of reflection and refocusing our energy on the things we wish to accomplish in the coming year. As I reflect on 2016, it was a year of tremendous growth for Community Harvest. We welcomed two sizable good donors, UTZ Chips and Earth Fare. A team of dedicated, regular volunteers gave over 5200 hours of service and delivered over 1 million meals. Roughly 200 volunteers donated their time to help make huge successes of our annual fundraisers, Celebrity Cuisine in March and the Harvest Moon Run in October. The combined efforts of all of our donors and friends resulted in a record-breaking year for Community Harvest with over \$1,575,000 in wholesome food recovered and delivered to hot meal programs and shelters to help those in need.

As I refocus and prepare for 2017, there has already been a flurry of activity centered around **collaboration**, which will clearly be the overwhelming theme for the coming year. It is amazing how much has been accomplished already through our network of partners, and it is only February!

Most notably, leaders of The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank and Community Harvest signed and filed paperwork on January 1, 2017, merging them into one organization with a greater capacity of serving those struggling with hunger in Stark County. We've already experienced several "wins" immediately out of the gates. The Community Harvest engine misfired in early January, requiring a full engine replacement. With the new partnership in place, an Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank replacement truck was in Canton within a few hours, allowing all routes to continue as scheduled with no disruption to food donors or participating agencies. New donors of prepared food have already been identified outside of the Community Harvest service area with food rescue plans in place to get that food to the people who need it. Community Harvest agencies who were not previously members of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank have recently joined the larger network, providing them with access to millions of pounds of free produce, a full range of menu options to choose from, and continued delivery by Community Harvest directly to them at no cost.

Additional collaboration was demonstrated on Super Bowl Sunday when local youth at St. Michael's Parish collected money before and after church services for Souper Bowl of Caring. Church of the Lakes preschoolers reenacted the ultimate example of collaboration with the Stone Soup Parable. The amazing ladies of the Stark County Medical Auxiliary hosted an epic 3rd Annual Mission Possible, exceeding all goals and expectations established for the event. And, of course, we have been busy planning our 25th Silver Anniversary of Celebrity Cuisine, which is now nearly just a month away.

I want to close by telling you how grateful I am for your support and trust in our collective vision of creating a hunger-free community. On behalf of the many thousands who benefit from the services provided by Community Harvest and the Foodbank all year, thank you for your generosity and support.

I am looking forward to an amazing 2017 with all of you!

Faith Barbato



LOCAL CHILDREN LEARN A LESSON ABOUT CARING

"Helping little minds build big dreams." That is the recurring theme at Church of the Lakes Child Care as well as the tagline you will find when visiting their website. Livvy Mull, a long-time supporter and friend of Community Harvest, had an opportunity to interact with the youth at Church of the Lakes Child Care recently while they reenacted the "Stone Soup" parable.

The Stone Soup story is a depiction of feats a community can accomplish when the work together. The children learned this lesson first hand as they each played their part by contributing their very own ingredients that resulted in a delicious vegetable soup for all to enjoy. "It was so much fun to watch the children as each of them dropped their ingredients into the pot," commented Mull after the event. "They really could grasp the concept of how each of them played a small part of something bigger."

Children each brought a non-perishable food item to donate to Community Harvest for delivery to the Canton Domestic Violence Shelter the following day.

We appreciate the support of our youngest hunger-fighters from Church of the Lakes Child Care!

3RD ANNUAL MISSION POSSIBLE BROUGHT A RECORD CROWD

Over 160 attendees enjoyed the third annual "Mission Possible," a joint fundraising event hosted by the Stark County Medical Society and the Medical Society Auxiliary. The theme of the event was "Casino Royale," an evening of dining, auctions, and casino-style gaming to raise money for Community Harvest, PAL Mission, K9's for Warriors, and the Medical Auxiliary Scholarship Fund.

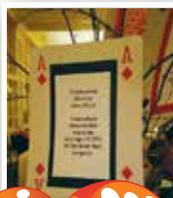


One lucky winner, Terry Wilmlink, "hit the jackpot" and walked away with a treasure trove of gift certificates, cash, coins, and lottery tickets valued over \$1000 while the event collectively raised over \$30,000 to be distributed among the four non-profits selected.

Jill Miller of PAL Mission and Faith Barbato of Community Harvest both gave a brief summary of their missions and expressed their gratitude to the sellout crowd. "PAL Mission has been a participating agency of the Community Harvest network for eighteen years," commented Miller during her presentation. "Having Community Harvest and PAL Mission selected together as recipients of proceeds from this event is truly a wonderful blessing that I can't possible express in words."



Jill Miller from PAL Mission with Faith Barbato



THE TRI-COUNTY RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION & COMMUNITY HARVEST
REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY AT:



The 25th Annual
Celebrity Cuisine 2017



SPONSOR \$3000 LEVEL:

Deadline of February 10, 2017 for inclusion in print advertising
3 reserved tables in the VIP area for 24 guests
Prominent name displayed in print advertising and program
Wine at tables and VIP table service
* VIP early entry into the event at 5:00 pm with yellow ticket

SPONSOR \$1000 LEVEL:

2 reserved tables in the VIP area for 16 guests
Prominent name displayed in program
Wine at tables and VIP table service
* VIP early entry into the event at 5:00 pm with yellow ticket

SPONSOR \$400 LEVEL:

1 reserved table on the floor for 8 guests
Name displayed in program

**GENERAL
ADMISSION:
\$30.00 / person**

**Special 25th Anniversary yellow tickets will be distributed to \$3000 LEVEL sponsors and \$1000 LEVEL sponsors only, allowing them to preview and taste the food early at 5:00 pm. Yellow VIP tickets are required to enter early. \$400 LEVEL and general admission tickets are white, allowing entrance into the event at 5:30 pm or later.*

presented by: Atlantic Foods

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm
The Canton Memorial Civic Center

The 25th Annual Celebrity Cuisine to Benefit Community Harvest
Ticket and Table Sponsorship Reservation

Ticket and sponsorship requests will only be available through the mail prior to March 10th.
After March 10th, tickets can continue to be purchased at the Tri-County Restaurant Association or Community Harvest office.
General admission tickets will be available at the door on the day of the event.

Yes, I can attend the 25th Annual Celebrity Cuisine to benefit Community Harvest.

Enclosed is my check payable to **Tri-County Restaurant Association** in the amount of \$ _____ for the following:

SPONSOR \$3000 LEVEL
Includes 24 VIP tickets

SPONSOR \$1000 LEVEL
Includes 16 VIP tickets

SPONSOR \$400 LEVEL
Includes 8 general admission tickets

_____ General Admission Tickets at \$30.00 each

Your family or business name as you would like it to appear: _____

Mailing address you would like tickets sent or delivered to: _____

Contact Name and Phone: _____

Mail the bottom portion with check payable to Tri-County Restaurant Association to:
COMMUNITY HARVEST • 4915 FULTON DRIVE NW; UNIT 7 • CANTON, OH 44718

COMMUNITY HARVEST DATES TO REMEMBER...

Considering how fast the year is already flying-by, our two most popular events of the fall will be here before you know it.



6TH ANNUAL HARVEST MOON RUN

The best trail run Stark County has to offer!

Sunday, October 1, 2017
5k/10k at 3:00 PM



16TH ANNUAL STARK COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY GOLF OUTING

Proceeds benefitting Community Harvest for a 5th year!

Wednesday, September 20, 2017
Skyland Pines Golf Course

→ **COMING SOON:** ←

Registration for the Harvest Moon Run and more information regarding both events will be posted on the Fundraising/Events page of our website at www.communityharveststark.org.



HELP US **STAMP OUT HUNGER** ON SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2017

It's simple to get involved! Just leave non-perishable food items by your mailbox before the time of your regular mail delivery, and your letter carrier will pick them up.

A NEW CHAPTER IN OUR ONGOING MISSION TO SERVE MORE PEOPLE THAN EVER BEFORE

We officially became a program of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank on January 1, 2017. The Foodbank and Community Harvest share the same goal, so formally teaming up is a natural step. This is truly a special moment, and we're proud to share it with you!

We look forward to sending you regular communications that update you on our progress and how you can stay involved with us. Thank you for all you do! Here are a few community members who share in our excitement:



"Both of these organizations will benefit from this and ultimately so will the communities they serve. Congratulations to the directors of these organizations for their focus on mission effectiveness." JONI CLOSE

"We have relied on Community Harvest to provide the basis for many of our Wednesday meals for many years. It has been a wonderful partnership. With Faith's expertise and the Foodbank's resources, the merger will benefit the community." MARIE SENFTEN-DEITZ



"This merger will allow two longstanding nonprofits to leverage their resources and enhance their services to better serve the needs of the community. We're looking forward to watching how their collaboration evolves as they provide more food to those in need." MARK SAMOLCZYK

STORIES OF HOPE: OUR HUNGER-RELIEF PARTNER, CANTON CALVARY MISSION

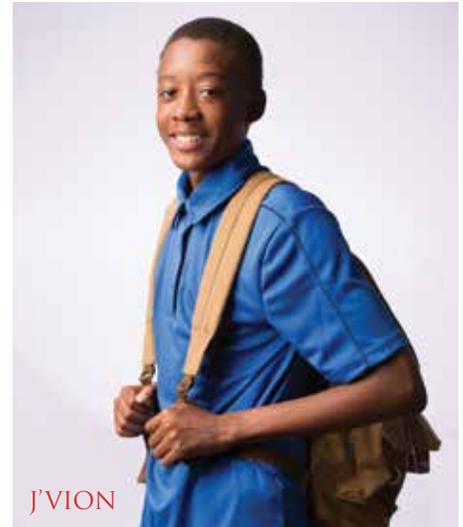
Marie is the Executive Director of Canton Calvary Mission, located at the Northeast end of Canton in the Gibbs neighborhood. Last year alone, with the support of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank and from Community Harvest, the Mission provided more 398,800 pounds of food.

“The mission is important to this neighborhood—we are proud to be a safe haven for children and adults alike, said Marie Senften-Deitz, Executive Director of Canton Calvary Mission. “Kids know they can come here and be loved and receive what the need. Adults also know they can come here and get a hot cup of coffee, a cold drink of water, a meal, a pat on the back

or a hug. We know we are more than a place to provide food, but we’ve created a community inside our doors for families like J’vion’s.”

Most days after school, J’vion walks with his siblings to the Canton Calvary Mission. “When I grow up, I want to be a lawyer or work with kids, maybe run a daycare,” explains J’vion in his soft-spoken, genuine manner.

When asked what his favorite thing about Canton Calvary Mission is, J’vion kindly said, “Talking to Miss Marie (the program Director) about life and school. The pantry is a community, and there is so much love. I’m just comfortable. It’s more than snacks. They really help you.” J’vion also adds, “And I love the oranges!”



J'VION

HARVEST FOR HUNGER CAMPAIGN HELPS OUR NEIGHBORS STRUGGLING WITH HUNGER



TODAY SHE'S JUST HUNGRY

YOUR DONATION FEEDS PASSION.

1 in 4 children in our area struggle with hunger. You can help by joining the Harvest for Hunger campaign.

\$1 = 4 meals

HARVEST
for HUNGER 



HARVEST for HUNGER

In an effort to continue the fight to end hunger in our community, we need your help! Join Community Harvest as we work with the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank this spring by participating in one of Ohio’s largest food & fund drives, Harvest for Hunger. The annual Harvest for Hunger campaign happens because individuals, families, businesses and corporate partners, rally around their Foodbank to support those in our community struggling with hunger.

There are two simple ways you can support the 2017 Harvest for Hunger campaign:

CHECK OUT HUNGER

Shop at participating supermarkets and ask your cashier to scan a \$10, \$5 or \$1 donation coupon as you Check Out Hunger. Then, take a selfie and tag your picture on social media, #ICheckedOutHunger

HOST A FOOD & FUNDS DRIVE

Gather your friends, family or coworkers together and join the more than 200 local organizations who host food & funds drives. Simply visit the website, akroncantonfoodbank.org for campaign materials and to register your drive.





*Our guest bartending events have become a crowd favorite!
Please join Community Harvest from 5:00-8:00 pm on*

**President's Day, Monday, February 20, 2017
at The Crush House at Gervasi Vineyard
(1700 – 55th Street NE)**

*for a night of fun and good cheer to benefit
Community Harvest.*


GUEST
BARTENDING
AT



**MONDAY
FEBRUARY 20TH**

Whether you have the day off to relax or plan on joining us after work, a raffle for a \$400 Celebrity Cuisine table and our famous giving tree will add excitement to your President's Day plans! Stacey Spears and Michael Barbato will be our featured pourers behind the bar from 5:00 – 6:30 pm, followed by Kari Pekar and Todd Civiello from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

Sometimes copied, but never duplicated... Our guest bartending event at the Crush House at Gervasi will again feature an enormous "giving tree" with 75 envelopes attached. Each pull of an envelope will cost only \$10, but you are **guaranteed** to receive a minimum of the same value spent! Higher valued prizes include (2) one-night stays at the Courtyard Marriott, a \$50 Tri-County Restaurant Association gift certificate, and \$100 Gervasi gift card.

The average prize amount is \$36! Get there early before it sells out!