

COMMUNITY HARVEST, INC

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**Tickets are now
Available!**

*We recommend that you buy
your tickets in advance to avoid a
long line at the door. Tickets are
available for only \$30 at:*

COMMUNITY HARVEST

Mon-Fri • 9 am - 2 pm
(330) 493-0800

4915 Fulton Drive NW, Canton, OH 44718

**THE TRI-COUNTY
RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION**

Mon-Fri • 10 am - 3 pm
(330) 499-7007

6959 Promway Avenue NW
North Canton, OH 44720

23RD ANNUAL CELEBRITY *Cuisine*

**Tuesday,
March 24,
2015**



Food enthusiasts from all over NE Ohio will enjoy a new look at this year's Celebrity Cuisine. Not only are we moving our event to March, but we are adding more seating, highlighting new food vendors, and adding an enormous "giving tree" to our Silent Auction. Save the date of **Tuesday, March 24, 2015**, for the 23rd Annual Celebrity Cuisine to benefit Community Harvest at the Canton Civic Center from 5:30 – 8:00 pm. For just \$30, attendees will enjoy a feast of local flavors including unlimited access to appetizers, entrée samples, beer, wine, and desserts while listening to live music and bidding on our silent auction.



Sponsorship opportunities for Celebrity Cuisine are very reasonable and offer the ideal opportunity for you to share the evening with colleagues and friends while sitting down at a private table with your own bottles of wine. Please call Julie Carpinelli, Tri-County Restaurant Association Manager, at 330-499-7007 for more details.

DONATIONS FOR OUR SILENT AUCTION AT CELEBRITY CUISINE

As our largest fundraiser, the success of Celebrity Cuisine is critical to our ability to recover and deliver healthy, wholesome food to those in need. Please consider generously supporting this event with a donated item for our silent auction or cash sponsorship for the underwriting of larger raffle prizes. We will be auctioning off merchandise, gift cards, baskets, and services donated by area businesses and individuals. Each business or individual donating an item will be recognized in the program and will have their name prominently displayed next to their item. Please contact Faith Barbato at (330) 493-0800 for more information.

THANK YOU TRI-COUNTY RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to the Tri-County Restaurant Association for their commitment and continued support of Community Harvest by hosting Celebrity Cuisine for 23 years! That is a remarkable testimony to their faith in our mission and our ability to provide more children and families with access to nutritious food. Community Harvest was created in 1989 through the diligent efforts of the Tri-County Restaurant Association and other concerned members of the community, and they have been with us every step of the way!



Connect With Community Harvest

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



COMMUNITY HARVEST

Annual Fund Drive

Community Harvest is raising money to fight hunger in Stark County with our Annual Fund Drive, a primary source of income for the Community Harvest mission. In Stark County, more than 57,000 of our neighbors are currently struggling with food insecurity. That means one in six residents are hungry and one of every four children are not getting enough food to eat. Many of these people rely on Community Harvest to transport food to local hot meal programs and shelters for their main source of food each week.



We often get asked what a monetary donation to Community Harvest looks like. We hope this picture explains what is difficult to put into words. Your \$1 donation to Community Harvest provides 4 complete meals for our friends and neighbors right here in Stark County. We are able to do this because:

- Our operating expenses are minimal. Our program is executed entirely by a team of volunteers and a staff of only one to run the office.
- There is no cost for the food we deliver. All of it is donated.
- We have a 97% service-ratio. The money received and generated through our fundraising efforts is spent almost entirely on what we do best – *Delivering as much nutritious food as possible to those who need it.*

If you have already donated this year, we are thankful for your support. If you have not yet supported the Community Harvest Annual Fund Drive, we would be extremely grateful for your tax deductible donation today. Online donations are the fastest and easiest way to help. Visit the homepage of our website and click on the donations link to contribute using your credit card. Or you can donate with a check:

Please make checks payable to: Community Harvest; 4915 Fulton Drive NW, Unit 7; Canton, OH 44718.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

*Providing Area Youth an Opportunity to
"PAY IT FORWARD"*

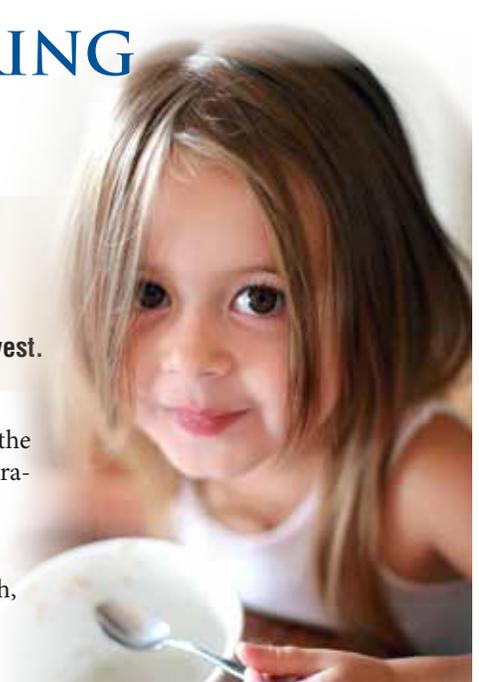


**On or near Super Bowl Sunday, February 1, 2015,
several area churches, schools,
and civic organizations will collect donations
and then give 100% of their collection to Community Harvest.**

By using this weekend as a time to help the hungry, many youth in our community will learn about the reality of hunger in their own neighborhoods as they turn one of the nation's universal days of celebration into an opportunity to care for those in need.

Short video clips and additional information can be found at <http://www.souperbowl.org/>. Community Harvest can provide announcements, soup pots, and even volunteers to visit your parish, school, or place of business and help with the collections.

Please feel free to contact Faith Barbato at 330-493-0800 to participate and for more information.



A Message From The Executive Director



Faith Barbato
Executive Director

Over fifty Community Harvest board members and volunteers gathered together on Thursday, December 11th to celebrate the spirit of the holiday season and to share thankfulness for personal blessings as well as gratitude

for the prosperity of the Community Harvest program over the past five years. Upon opening the event with statistics about hunger in Stark County and a recap of the past five years as the Executive Director, attendees were astonished to hear that Community Harvest has increased the value of rescued and delivered food from \$730,000 in 2009 to \$1.6 million in 2014 while operating expenses have increased only moderately.

With tremendous growth and prosperity comes increased responsibility and hard work. Our continued success and ability to provide more nutritious meals for children and families throughout Stark County has only been possible because of the volunteers who donated 4500 hours this past year and the board members who worked tirelessly to execute our mission. I realize that I have asked for more than ever from the Community Harvest volunteers who have doubled the amount of food they are delivering in a very short timeframe. Meanwhile, the board of directors have stepped-up their efforts as well by creating and executing fundraisers in order to fund the modest increase in expenses needed to keep the truck on the road for longer hours, in the evenings, and on weekends.

I am so blessed to be surrounded by such amazing people each day who give so generously of their very best to make the lives of those around them even better. I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support of Community Harvest and your service to humanity. I would especially like to recognize and thank my husband, Michael, who encouraged me to take this journey five years ago. From volunteering to drive the truck on many occasions to supporting our numerous fundraisers, I am so blessed to have him by my side.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Tuesdays with Ron Davidson & Eddie Warner

Volunteers are the back-bone of Community Harvest. They are unsung heroes who are willing to share their time, talents, and energy to deliver hundreds of pounds of food each day to hot meal sites, soup kitchens, and pantries who provide food for the under-served and those in need. They are kind at heart, generous, dependable, and dedicated. They have developed strong bonds with the agencies and people they serve each day.

Quite frankly, the Community Harvest mission could not exist without them. The Tuesday drivers at Community Harvest, Ron Davidson and Eddie Warner, exemplify all of these qualities and more! When nearly all of the businesses in Stark County were closed last year, they fought against 40 below temperatures to get food to those in need. We'd like to share a little more about what makes them so special to Community Harvest.

"Ron Davidson is one of the hardest working men I have had the pleasure to meet," commented Mike Fetterman, a fellow volunteer driver. Davidson came to the Community Harvest program in April of 2004 and has been with us over ten years now. Upon retiring as a semi driver with AGA Gas (now known as AirGas), Davidson was getting a little antsy during his retirement and wanted to find a rewarding hobby during his free time. He heard about Community Harvest through a friend, and he has enjoyed meeting new people and forging new friendships ever since. "My favorite part about volunteering for Community Harvest is the people," said Ron. "The food donors are extremely kind and eager to help, while our receiving sites wait eagerly for our arrival each day. Volunteering for Community Harvest brings so many intrinsic rewards that it is difficult to put into words. It is much like being Santa Claus, but I get to do it every Tuesday instead of once each year."

Eddie Warner is our other volunteer who receives food and distributes it to local agencies on Tuesdays. Eddie also came to Community Harvest through a referral after retirement. Eddie just recently celebrated his third anniversary with Community Harvest and agreed with Ron that it's "ALL about the people!" He further added, "Having an immediate, profound impact on the lives of others is extremely rewarding. I am very thankful to the Sutter family for introducing me to Community Harvest."



WE ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers work one day each week from approximately 7:00 am to 1:00 pm. These hours fluctuate slightly, depending on the day of the route. We have two types of volunteer positions:

DRIVER: The driver's primary responsibility is to drive a 14' refrigerated truck. A CDL is not required, but prior experience driving large trucks is preferred. The average route consists of food pick-ups at approximately 15-20 different food donors and then delivery to 6-8 agencies each day. The driver helps load and unload the truck at each of the food donor and delivery sites.

DRIVER "BUDDY": The buddy accompanies a driver on the route and typically loads lighter boxes or bags of food from smaller food donation sites on his own while the driver waits in the truck. The buddy works with the driver to load and unload large food donations and assists by completing a food log, so all donations can be tracked and recorded.

Please call Faith Barbato at (330) 493-0800 if you are interested and/or would like to learn more.



“PUTTING” AN END TO HUNGER

The Stark County Medical Society (SCMS) selected Community Harvest as the recipient of the proceeds generated by their (13th) Annual Golf Outing for a second year in a row. Twenty two foursomes enjoyed a beautiful day at Skyland Pines. Guests were treated to a cookout-style luncheon to kick off the event, followed by a scramble format outing with numerous prizes and contests. The day concluded with a banquet dinner at the clubhouse.

Dr. Luis Martino presented Community Harvest Executive Director, Faith Barbato, with a check for proceeds from the event exceeding \$5000. “SCMS has a long, distinguished history of promoting and preserving the highest standards of medical care for over 147 years. The SCMS network of doctors work tirelessly to serve as advocates for their patients’ access to health care, while Community Harvest is on the front lines to secure healthy, wholesome food for countless families and children throughout Stark County - It makes for quite the ideal partnership,” added Barbato during her invocation before dinner.



Community Harvest is extremely thankful for the SCMS board, participants, and sponsors who helped make this event such an incredible success:



FIRST PLACE TEAM

Hilton Garden Inn Akron-Canton Airport

2ND PLACE TEAM

Westfield Bank

TEAM NEEDING THE MOST PRACTICE

EMS Sentry, Inc.

HOLE-IN-ONE

MetLife

CLOSEST TO THE PIN

Suarez Industries

LONGEST DRIVE

Skyland Pines

LONGEST PUTT

Michael and Faith Barbato

PUTTING CONTEST

The Uniform Shop

DOOR/RAFFLE PRIZES

Aflac • Aultman • Michael and Faith Barbato • Canton Charge • Canton Regency • Edward Jones
Gervasi Vineyard & Italian Bistro • Pro Football Hall of Fame • Springhill Suites North Canton
The Laurels • Paul O'Connor • Dr. James and Darlene Violet

Signs donated by: creative source SIGNS & PRINTING csForIdeas.com 330.497.5556



MASTERS

Huntington Bank

OPEN

Sirak Insurance Partners

CLASSIC

Canton Regency • Edward Jones

MEMORIAL

Layman, D'Atri & Associates, LLC • OSMA Insurance

HOLE-IN-ONE

MetLife

COOKOUT BUFFET

Fidelity Properties, Inc.

HOSPITALITY STATION

The Laurels

TEE SPONSORS

ABC Supply Co., Inc. • Aultcare/Aultman • Canton Charge • Dr. & Mrs. Gregory Bonavita
Dr. Lee and Lindsay Bowman • Robert Hamilton III M.D., Inc. • Ohio.net
Portage Family Practice • Dr. Leonard Tamburro • R.T. Hampton Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Sheet Metal Workers' Local 33 • Suarez Industries • SunLit Communications LLC.

Signs donated by: creative source SIGNS & PRINTING csForIdeas.com 330.497.5556



Pro Football Hall of Fame Marathon

Post-Race Party

Community Harvest has again been chosen as a “non-profit of choice” for the Pro Football Hall of Fame Marathon on **Sunday, April 26th** and will be the recipient of proceeds from the post-race party at Jerzee’s Bar & Grille. This post-race event will take place from 9:00 am-3:00 pm at Jerzee’s All American Bar & Grille before, after, and during the Marathon. Drink specials including \$1 drafts for runners showing their medals, breakfast and lunch specials, DJ Jeff Turk, and a “giving tree” with over \$2500 in prizes are just a few of the things to look forward to at this post-race celebration. All proceeds from the event and a portion of drink & beverage sales will benefit Community Harvest.



Community Harvest Annual Dinner

We are going back to the orchards!

As an effort to express our appreciation to the numerous volunteers, food donors, participating sites, and caring contributors who provide valuable resources and much appreciated services to our program, the Community Harvest Staff and Board of Directors host an Annual Appreciation Dinner each June. Save the date of **Thursday, June 18th** from 5:30 – 9:00 pm at Varian Orchards in East Canton. Attendees will have an opportunity to enjoy a trolley ride throughout the scenic orchards, play cornhole, and enjoy a delicious steak or chicken dinner with baked potato, salad, dessert, and assorted beverages including beer, wine, water, and lemonade for one low ticket price. **Ticket information will be available on the website in April.**



The Annual Harvest Moon Run

Huge strides were made to fight hunger in Stark County at the 3rd Annual Harvest Moon Run on Saturday, October 11, 2014.

This event would not have been possible without the many months of planning orchestrated by the race team, our generous sponsors, approximately 400 participants, and 80 volunteers who worked so hard to make this event a success. We would especially like to thank our 2014 Race Sponsor, **415 Group**, and **Santangelo Catering** for the delicious food!

**SAVE THE DATE
FOR NEXT YEAR**

Our scenic trail course, chaperoned kid’s area, grilled food, and post-race bonfires are the top reasons avid runners, new runners, and families alike keep coming back. We’ve added a few changes for 2015! We’re moving our date to a Sunday, and a 10k option has been added for participants who couldn’t get enough with just one time around our challenging course. Save the date of **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2015**, for our 4th Annual Harvest Moon Run. **Registration and additional information will be available on the Run to You Racing website in February at www.runtoyouracing.com.**

We’d like to thank everyone who previewed our t-shirt options for the 4th Annual Harvest Moon Run on our Facebook page. The votes have been tallied, and we are pleased to share our logo and colors for next year!



 The
HARVESTER
Winter 2015
NEWSLETTER

Guest **MONDAY,**
FEBRUARY 16, 2015
BARTENDING AT THE
BARREL ROOM

The Barrel Room Wine and Beer Bar
(7901 Cleveland Avenue NW; North Canton, OH)
has been hosting guest bartending nights for several years
to benefit various non-profits in Stark County.

Extend your Valentine's Day weekend and include
Community Harvest in your hearts by joining us at the
Barrel Room on **Monday, February 16th from 5:00 - 8:00 pm**
for another night of fun and good cheer to
benefit Community Harvest.

**COMPLIMENTARY CULINARY DELIGHTS WILL BE PROVIDED BY CESSNA'S FINE ITALIAN FOODS THROUGHOUT THE EVENING WITH
JOE BORAWSKI AND KATHY KROHN AS OUR GUEST SERVERS FROM 5:00 – 6:30 PM FOLLOWED BY
TODD CIVIELLO AND AMBER HESSICK FROM 6:30 – 8:00 PM.**