



COMMUNITY
Food WAREHOUSE
OF MERCER COUNTY

FEEDING HOPE *NEWS*

Empty Bowls

Volunteer Spotlight

Thank you!





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Dear Friends,

Hello and Happy Spring!

Whew! This winter doesn't seem to want to end! Snow, wind, ice and cold temperatures seem to be grating on everyone's nerves! We seem to need some bright warm sunshine! Don't despair! Warmer weather is on its way! Soon the crocuses and daffodils will be blooming and we will relish in the warmth of a spring day.

The harsh winter weather has left many of our neighbors in Mercer County looking for some relief from high utility, medical (flu) and transportation costs. Budgets are left in the red with no reprieve in sight! My friends, this is where we all can help. The CFWMC, with the help of our community, can fulfill the need for nutritious food for individuals, seniors, children and families in need. Our spring campaign, "*Starve Hunger – Feed Hope*" begins April 1st and runs through the end of May. We hope that you will consider donating and allow us to continue our work in Mercer County.

Empty Bowls! Yes, this is the year for our biennial event! April 12th 4-8 pm. We are very excited that HopeCAT (Sharon PA) will be the venue for our fundraiser this year! We are looking forward to a great meal, cookie table, basket auction and lots of good fellowship! In addition, there will be pottery making demonstrations by Christian Kuharik and his HopeCAT students, live music and tours of the facility. We look forward to seeing you there!

I have a favor to ask. This year the Farm Bill is up for renewal in Congress. This is the most important piece of legislation for protecting and strengthening anti-hunger programs across the nation. Some of our most important and effective programs are in jeopardy (SNAP and CSFP). The CSFP (Senior Box Program) is teetering on the cliffs edge – with the chance of being completely eliminated! Please let your Congressman know that we NEED this program. A call or email will let them know that you are behind assisting our senior citizens in need.

Thank you to all of you for supporting the CFWMC – whether it be donating, advocating, volunteering or just telling others about the work we do, please know that you ARE making a difference!

Peace,
Lori Weston
Executive Director

Empty Bowls Mercer County

We hope you'll join us for our biennial event, Empty Bowls Mercer County, on April 12, at the Hope Center for Arts & Technology, from 4-8 pm!

The premise of Empty Bowls Mercer County is simple: Potters and students create handcrafted bowls. Event attendees receive a simple meal of soup and bread, generously donated by local restaurants and bakeries, and are given a bowl to take home. The bowls is a reminder that every day, bowls remain empty and hunger persists.

Tickets are \$20 and include the meal and your choice of handmade bowl.

The event will feature live pottery demonstrations, a basket raffle and 50/50 drawing, and a live jazz trio from 5-7 pm. Basket raffle prizes will be drawn starting at 7 pm.

Tickets may be purchased during office hours (we recommend calling first), and online through Eventbrite or directly through the event's Facebook page. All money raised will be used to help feed the hungry, right here in Mercer County.

Limited parking is available at the Hope Center, but a free shuttle will be running back and forth from the Reyer's parking lot, from 5-7 pm.





COMMUNITY
Food WAREHOUSE

OF MERCER COUNTY



Presents

EMPTY BOWLS MERCER COUNTY

An artful taste to ending hunger

Thursday, April 12, 2018

**4-8 pm @ Hope Center for Arts & Technology
115 Anson Way • Sharon, PA 16146**

Join us

For a simple meal of soup and bread, donated by local restaurants and bakeries.

Take Home

A bowl handcrafted by local artisans & students as a reminder that hunger persists.

Know

Your support helps feed the hungry right here in Mercer County.

Event tickets are \$20 and
available on
EventBrite: [https://www.
eventbrite.com/e/empty-
bowls-mercer-county-
tickets-425414004](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/empty-bowls-mercer-county-tickets-425414004)



Questions or interested in
helping? Please call or
email Lauren Moyer at:
724.981.0353 or
[lmoyer@food
warehouse.org](mailto:lmoyer@foodwarehouse.org)

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County's Backpack Program serves over 900 students, in 18 schools, in nine school districts. That's over 33,000 weekend bags of food for kids packed each year! It takes over 500 volunteers throughout the year to keep the program running smoothly. While Commodore Perry, Greenville, Lakeview, West Middlesex, and Wilmington pick up their food twice a year and pack offsite,

Farrell, Reynolds, Sharpville, and Sharon all pack on-site at the CFWMC on Tuesday nights. To assist our Backpack Coordinator, Terry Evans, we have a small group of dedicated volunteers who come in each Monday morning to help count out and set up the items for Tuesday night packing.

Joe McLaughlin, Jim Sheasley, Joe and Mary Ann Walsh, John Williams, and Jim and Karen Zorzi are usually here by 8 am on Monday mornings to set up and spend a couple hours counting out cereals, fruits, milk, juice, etc. for Tuesday night packing. When asked about why he volunteers, Joe McLaughlin quoted *Luke 12:48*, "To those for which much has been given, much will be expected."

When asked about his time spent volunteering, Jim Sheasley, a longtime business owner and entrepreneur said, "I enjoy it and I like to keep busy." Jim and Joe, along with the others, can also often be found volunteering at one of our member agencies, St. Joseph's Food Pantry. They are all quick to jump in and volunteer for other tasks at the CFWMC too; many of them have helped to sort and bag produce and have helped with our various events.

From all of us here at the CFWMC- we are so grateful for each of you and all you do to give back to those in need!



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BACKPACK MEAL PROGRAM
PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS



OTHER NEWS

We had another successful MilitaryShare Distribution on Tuesday, March 13. This month's distribution of 1,240 pounds of food, was completely free to the CFWMC, as we were able to utilize donated product! We are accepting financial contributions, along with food drives, for the program. If you're interested in donating, please contact Volunteer/Program Coordinator, Lauren, at: 724.981.0353 or lmoyer@foodwarehouse.org.

Our Spring Direct Mail Campaign officially kicks off on April 1 and runs through May 31. This campaign helps us to purchase food for those most in need, in Mercer County. To donate to the campaign, simply send a check to the CFWMC, or donate through PayPal, on our website.

We've had some great volunteer groups in the last couple of months! The students from the eAcademy at LindenPointe (below center), a group from AllState, a group from First Methodist Church (left), and a group from NLMK have all spent time volunteering. Thank you all, we appreciate it!



The staff of the Community Food Warehouse would like to thank the following people and organizations for your contributions to our upcoming Empty Bowls Mercer County event. It is because of the generosity of the people of Mercer County that we can continue to feed the many hungry people in our communities, and it is also because of this community that Empty Bowls is such a fun event. (This is by no means a full list and is in no order, just a few of the MANY people and organizations who have contributed to our upcoming event in some way. We are thankful for everyone who has contributed.)

- New Deal Club
- Tom Roberts
- Quota Club of Hermitage
- Anna Houlihan
- Christian Kuharik
- Gwen Martino
- Sarah Scott-Rossi
- Gino Tofani and the talented ceramics students of Reynolds High School
- Donna's Diner
- Chris Anderson and the talented ceramics students of West Middlesex
- Muscarella's Café Italia
- Terri Hessman & West Middlesex High School's Service Learning Class
- P.E.O. Chapter, CP Hermitage
- Daffin's Candies
- Joshen Paper & Packaging
- DJ's Greenhouse
- Greenville Savings Bank
- Lulu Beans Café & Coffee House
- Hickory VFW
- Reyer's
- Giant Eagle
- The Tara
- Eat'n Park
- Elliott Lengel
- Renee Howard and the talented ceramic students of Greenville High School
- All other artists who have contributed bowls
- Cannon's Chophouse
- Beth Anne Black and the talented ceramic students of Hickory High School
- Farrell Golden Dawn
- Primanti Brothers
- Hickory Bar & Grille
- Nick's Inn 62, Inc.
- Studio 83
- Jackie Leasure
- Nittany Pub & Grille
- Applebee's
- The Park Inn by Radisson
- Brewtus Brewery
- Twin Temptations Bakery
- The Corinthian Banquet Hall
- DiLorenzo's Bakery
- Perkins
- Hoss's
- O'Neill's Coffee
- Red Lobster
- Sharon Save A Lot
- Tim Horton's



Starve Hunger - Feed Hope

Annual Spring Campaign • April 1 – May 31, 2018

Spring is here, and for many of us it represents new beginnings... but for too many families in Mercer County, it is just another season of not enough; days not knowing where the next meal will come from. But *you* can help!

Please give generously to the Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County and help us fight hunger right here in our own backyards.



COMMUNITY
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OF MERCER COUNTY

ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT TO HELP *Starve Hunger - Feed Hope* IN MERCER COUNTY

\$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$500 _____ Other: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please include your email address for future correspondence:

Reminder: Effective January 1, 2016, donation acknowledgements for gifts under \$200 will be sent once per year in January summarizing the previous year's gifts. If you require an immediate receipt, please call our office.

The CFW does not receive United Way funding. In compliance with Privacy Laws your name shall not be provided to any other organization. The Community Food Warehouse is a 501C3 non profit organization.

Please make checks payable to:
COMMUNITY FOOD WAREHOUSE

Thank you for helping!