

FALL 2022

FEEDING HOPE NEWS



Serenity, Honesty, Izzy, Mello and Meleki enjoy lunch at Myron's Meal Mobile this summer



This issue:

Race to End Hunger

Myron's Meal Mobile Recap

Hunger Action Month

Community Spotlight: Lady Scouts

Stuff-the-Bus

Save the Date

HAM Campaign

Dear Friends,

As we enter the busiest quarter of the year in food banking, I would be remiss if I didn't extend my sincere appreciation to each of you for your unwavering support of our mission to feed our neighbors in Mercer County.

As we know, hunger doesn't take a summer vacation. Over the past several months, we've made great strides in reaching more of our neighbors who need our assistance including growth in three of our key programs.

The MilitaryShare program is providing food to a record number of veteran families who live in our communities throughout Mercer County. Last month, 250 families were on the MilitaryShare roster, and the calls for participation continue to come through on a daily basis. With the coldest months still ahead of us, we have already exceeded our expected MilitaryShare participation rate by 20%.

The Mobile Pantry program, designed to meet the needs of residents who live in underserved and rural areas, has also experienced substantial growth. You may recall we started this program last year in Hermitage, serving 100 families each month. In just a year's time, we have added two locations: Mercer and Fredonia. We are now serving over 400 families each month through these three distribution locations.

Myron's Meal Mobile, Community Food Warehouse's mobile summer feeding program, concluded its second summer season, providing more than 5,000 hot, nutritious lunches to those who need it most in our communities. The retrofitted school bus traveled to Farrell, Hermitage, Mercer, Greenville and Sharon.

It is only with your support that we've been able to adapt and grow to best meet the needs of our neighbors during these uncertain times.

The need for food assistance throughout Mercer County remains elevated and with inflation at a 40-year high, we anticipate the lines at food pantries and feeding sites to continue to grow even longer as we move into the winter months.

As we continue to navigate during these times of need, we want you to know that together, we are making a very real difference in the lives of our neighbors who find themselves in need of a hand-up and for that, we are forever grateful.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Page
Executive Director



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September is Hunger Action Month

**FOOD
SHOULDN'T
BE AN**

**IMPOSSIBLE
CHOICE**



For many, a daily meal is just a choice of what to eat for dinner. But for people facing hunger, a daily meal poses a very different type of choice. It's often an impossible choice between food and other critical needs. Nobody should be forced to choose between food and other crucial needs like medicine, electricity or childcare.

**Keep scrolling to see how YOU can
take action and join the fight to end
hunger in Mercer County.**



COME AND HELP



Stuff-the-Bus!

THE HOLIDAYS ARE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER AND LOTS OF CUPBOARDS REMAIN BARE. HELP US FILL OUR BUS WITH NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO GIVE TO OUR NEIGHBORS FACING HUNGER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10**
10:00AM-4:00PM

**Take
Action!**

Our bus will be located in the parking lot of Giant Eagle in Hermitage.



WGRP 92.7 / 940AM will be doing a live radio remote all day!



RACE TO END HUNGER

Take Action!

5K / 2 MILE WALK

BC3 @ LINDENPOINTE, HERMITAGE

09.17.22

[Click Here to Register](#)

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This year we're honoring breast cancer survivors!

Starve Hunger ~ Feed Hope

HUNGER ACTION MONTH CAMPAIGN * AUGUST 22 – SEPTEMBER 30



COMMUNITY FOOD WAREHOUSE OF MERCER COUNTY

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Sharon, PA 16146
Phone 724-981-0353
Fax 724-981-7949
www.foodwarehouse.org

A Member of
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



DONATE HERE TODAY!

September is Hunger Action Month:

Join us in feeding Mercer County.

**Take
Action!**

September is national Hunger Action Month — an annual campaign dedicated to driving awareness and inspiring action to help end hunger in America, both on a national level and on the ground here in Mercer County.

Starve Hunger ~ Feed Hope.

FOOD SHOULDN'T BE AN IMPOSSIBLE CHOICE.

For thousands of families in Mercer County, a daily meal is often a choice between food and other critical needs — like medicine, housing, utilities, and transportation. With inflation at a 40 year high, these choices are becoming more difficult. Over the past several months, the number of families, seniors and veterans relying on our services has increased substantially. You can help ensure our neighbors don't have to decide where their next meal will come from by donating to Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County.

CFWMC distributes food to over 4,200 families through a network of 30 member agencies.

For additional ways you can take action during the month of September, visit foodwarehouse.org.

April 20, 2023

SAVE THE DATE!

Empty Bowls Mercer County



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Lady Scouts

FOOD FIGHT BATTLE OF THE BUSINESSES

With inflation at a 40-year high, more and more people have been seeking food assistance from the Community Food Warehouse and its network of member agencies. The increased cost of goods, supply chain issues and food shortages have caused CFWMC to operate with only 30% of our typical food supply. When the Lady Scouts caught wind of this shortage, they immediately took action.

The Lady Scouts, a local group who's motto is Be social. Do good., reached out to share their brainstorm-- a community-wide food drive food fight where local businesses would battle to see who could collect the most non-perishable food items. The winner would be crowned Food Fight Champion! Brittany Sammartino, marketing officer said, "We felt that it was so important to get involved in helping the Community Food Warehouse because, like everyone else, we've all personally felt the impact of rising grocery and supply costs and we're aware of how that impacts everyone—especially those who already struggle with food security or are living paycheck-to-paycheck. We thought that creating a friendly competition between local businesses would be a great way to not only incentivize participation, but to spread the word about the huge need since CFW's food supplies have been depleted faster than usual because of rising consumer costs."

The goal was to get 30 or so local business to participate and the response was incredible! More than 60 businesses signed on to participate in this community wide food drive food fight. "We honestly weren't sure what to expect when we kicked off the Lady Scouts Food Fight— we came up with a goal of collecting at least 1 ton of food, hoping that it wouldn't be too lofty. But so far, one business had a \$500 donation, another incentivized their employees to donate by offering a casual day at the office, and another has already dropped off over 500lbs of food. Our local businesses have stepped up in ways we never thought and we're so grateful for everyone who has participated; we had over 60 businesses agree to participate which is better than any of us expected!" added Brittany.

The food drive food fight champion will be announced at Community Food Warehouse's Stuff-the-Bus event on Saturday, September 10th. We're thrilled to report that the goal of one ton of food has been met and the donations are still rolling in! A great big THANK YOU to the Lady Scouts and each of the participating businesses who have worked so hard to help feed our friends and neighbors!





The second summer of Myron's Meal Mobile was a great success! We served 5,000 meals to children, adults and seniors in the communities of Sharon, Farrell, Hermitage, Mercer and Greenville.



Many thanks to our host sites, volunteers, bus driver, Meal Bus coordinator and Weber Catering for another great summer!

Farewell, Tim!

After more than five years with CFWMC, we bid farewell to our Warehouse Manager, Tim Slagle. Tim has literally carried the heaviest load, lifting millions of pounds of food (with a pallet jack, of course!) We will miss you, Tim! Thank you for your years' of service, helping to feed the hungry in Mercer County.

