



A LITTLE HISTORY ...The Staunton Helping Hands Center (previously the Staunton Food Pantry) moved to 219 W. Main in 2017 from a 500 square foot location to the new 2,800 square foot location. This update and move was a game changer. In the near two years since the move, there has been a triple in the amount of guests that are served each month. Typically, over 500 individuals are reached with food and resources, every month. The Helping Hands Center is much more than just food. A secondary site (next door at 217 W. Main) is a Christian Women’s Job Corps and Christian Men’s Job Corps site. You see, the SHHC is more than just food. Training and resources can be received, as well as a smile a hand UP, each week in Macoupin County.

INTRODUCING, PLAYTIME WITH PURPOSE...

Our friends at Net Community Church have developed a way to raise money for us, every month! Private bounce house parties can be held at Playtime With Purpose with all proceeds benefitting the Helping Hands Center! So far this year, PWP has donated \$3,000 to our location. Most donors love to see their money go towards food, so PWP aims their gifts toward our overhead. We have very economical rent and utilities and we are excited to have this covered every month so that we can focus on buying food and resources.



FIRST QUARTER GRANT: SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC

We received \$500 from the Operation Round Up grant through Southwestern Electric. This grant is specifically written to purchase hygiene items for our guests. Energy bills can be “rounded up” to source this grant.



ZION LUTHERAN : Zion did a toilet paper drive for us during “Lutheran Schools Week”. We also receive monthly donations for our breakfast category. Breakfast items and toilet paper represent a couple of our high demand items that are also costly for us to buy. In ADDITION, we received a check from Zion for \$605 as a missional gift. We love Zion!



First United Methodist
Souper Bowl Collection



Net Community Church
Monthly Hygiene Donations

IN KIND DONATIONS These pictures represent most of the organizations, churches and friends from our community that donated items to the Helping Hands Center this quarter. We LOVE donations and cannot survive without them. When we receive unique, frequently used or otherwise expensive items, it is an *added bonus* for us.

**Not pictured, but always a donor of monthly assorted items is St. Michaels Catholic church. Also, coffee from Rich Fiori and the Recyclers.*



Stauntoners 4H Club
Birthday Bags



Girl Scout Troop 33
Instant Oatmeal and \$400



Pearl Essence



Powder Puff and Pinewood
Derby donations



Girl Scout Troop 597
Supplies and help with the Easter
Basket project (68 baskets were given out).



Meghan Bianco
Coat Drive

COATS, HATS AND GLOVES:

All winter, we were able to have free coats, hats and gloves for the public. We received new coats from the Knights of Columbus and new hats and gloves from Staunton Hospital Physical Therapy as well as Concordia Hall. One of our biggest sources of used coats was through a drive by the Bianco family. Many friends from the public also contributed and we were able to keep Staunton and the surrounding areas warm this winter!



Bills IGA
Weekly Bread



Noah Atkins-Harris
Special hygiene kits



New Hope Baptist Church
Filling our "out of stocks".



The Assembly
\$200 monthly toward condiments



CENTRAL ILLINOIS FOOD BANK (CIFB):

A special grant from the CIFB supplied new fixtures for our fruits and vegetables. This is part of a campaign called “nudges” (promoting the selection of healthier choices).



Shopping is done at the Central Illinois Food Bank every month with purchases averaging .19 cents a pound. Many items like breads, produce and government commodities can be received for free too. We make one trip a month and they also deliver once a month. Additionally, we make a trip to the Midwest Food Bank once a month. Our volunteers give their time to travel and unload these orders. Often, these items are very unique and unpredictable, so we still purchase the “staple items” locally at IGA and we receive high quality produce each week (donated by Mayfield’s Produce).



FIGHTING HUNGER WHILE PROMOTING HEALTH:

New this quarter, we have added a “Hunger Beaters” basket in the guest waiting area of the pantry. If a guest comes in hungry, they have access to a snack while they wait. We also have a nurse on site each month with various health education topics and the ability to do health assessments. We promote health with our food selection and with provided education as well.



CHRISTIAN MEN'S AND WOMEN'S JOB CORPS:

We are a Nationally certified site for CMJC / CWJC. Our purpose is to provide a welcoming and well rounded environment in which men and women are equipped for life and employment. We are a strengths based ministry that offers free classes, free curriculum and free mentorships. This quarter, we purchased laptops and tables for our location. We offered classes in Anger Management, Health and Finances. We also host workshops through the Department of Employment Security for Resume Writing and Job Preparedness .

DONORS AND SUPPORT FOR THIS PROGRAM COMES FROM:

New Hope Baptist Church, First United Baptist Church, Net Community Church, Ace Hardware, First National Bank and Bank of Springfield (Staunton location).

The Helping Hands Center spends an average of \$3,000 per month in operation and food. We have zero payroll and minimal overhead. We receive an average of \$1500 in donations per month. Our trend indicates a gap since we are a growing organization with growing needs. Can you sponsor us on a regular basis? Tax deductible donations can be sent to:

Staunton Helping Hands Center
PO Box 111 Staunton, Il. 62088 www.stauntonhelpinghands.org

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