



SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY KITCHEN

If you can't feed 100 hungry people, then feed just one. Mother Teresa

When you give to the SCK, together we serve hundreds each week.

Celebrate the holiday season with a generous gift to SCK used to alleviate hunger in our community.

Increasing our Impact

Over the past year, the Southside Community Kitchen has experienced so many changes: Renovating, moving, licensing, re-opening, growing, changes in staff, building of new partnerships, going even greenerthe list goes on! One thing hasn't changed. We are steadfast in our commitment to serve meals to anyone who hungers on a reliable schedule, with dignity and respect.



We are overjoyed with our new shared space. The pantry is just big enough and accommodates all of the Southside Community Kitchen's equipment, small appliances, pots, pans, serving supplies and ingredients. We are grateful for Sandra Norton, who faithfully volunteers several times a month, to tidy up and stock our pantry after our food bank order arrives. The kitchen is a perfect size for our preparation, cooking, and clean up. The kitchen is well laid out and all of the appliances work reliably. The dining area is warm and welcoming and is large enough to accommodate our ever growing numbers of guests.

We are pleased beyond words with our hosts, Unitarian Universalist of Lansing. It is a true partnership of mutual support and outreach to the community. We are able to compost, recycle, and use fresh garden produce because of our connection. We are able to offer meals to students of all ages attending english classes at the Refugee Development Center who share the building.

Our ability to connect people in need with community resources has grown. The Greater Lansing Food Bank comes in regularly to help guests sign up for SNAP benefits on line. We keep a list of local agencies and as needs arise, are able to refer guests to additional resources. Recent connections with area food pantries at South Lansing Ministries, and Grace Lutheran Church Food Pantry have helped us let people know of our meals. We are exploring partnerships with Punks with Lunch, and Loaves and Fishes.

We held our first volunteer recognition event this fall for our Galilee site volunteers, many of whom have never visited our kitchen facility. They had an opportunity to hear how the food is prepared, meet our Lead Cook, Corey and tour the kitchen and pantry. Many of the Galilee volunteers come in small groups from local congregations and organizations. They give of their time and many of the organizations also support us with important financial support. With our re-opening, we are focused on strengthening our relationships with organizations in turn they help spread the word to people in need, are able to recruit additional volunteers, and help with fundraising and grants.



Volunteers are the heart of our mission!

Website: www.southsidecommunitykitchen.org

Getting the word out to people in need is a challenge. We've placed signs, distributed cards, door hangers, and flyers. We've changed our community service listings including 211, Christian Services, and other hunger agencies and resources. We've been interviewed by local media. Our guests arrive by car, foot, bus, bike, and special transportation. We are conveniently located next to the South Lansing Pathway, the Pennsylvania bus stop, and ample parking is available. Our dining room, restrooms and kitchen are all accessible. We are open to all people who struggle with food insecurity and/or loneliness. We see and care for each person who comes to us in need and offer meals on a reliable schedule.



Marcia Beer takes a shift in the kitchen.

Our Need

Our partners at the Greater Lansing Food Bank (GLFB) are facing challenges post Covid. Supply chain issues and rising prices for food and transportation are having a large impact. The GLFB is paying 30-40% more this year as compared to last year. There has been a 50% decrease in USDA food donations to GLFB compared to last year. All of this while seeing a 15% increase in the number of households needing services.

Since SCK is dependent upon the GLFB we too are deeply impacted by the same challenges. It's been difficult to find canned good and non-perishable items that had previously been available. Many are stock items for our kitchen. Items like canned tomatoes, noodles, cream of mushroom soup, rice, canned beans, canned fruit and most especially missed are the meats. We've even run out of canned tuna! Twice this year, items that our pantry regularly use to prepare meals are simply unavailable and must be bought at local retail stores.

So far, this year we have served over 8,000 meals to people in need. Needless to say, the cost of food and supplies have increased significantly and we have limited control over the price of food. We are unwilling to compromise quality and the nutritional value of our meals. We have done all we can including shopping sales, reducing food waste, and reducing the use of single use serving items. We've started serving one vegetarian meal a week and stretching our meat use while meeting the minimum of 4oz of protein per meal.

We have trimmed our staff to the bare minimum. We now have one lead cook instead of two. Your financial donation is critical and it's due to your generosity that we've come this far. For you who give regularly we are so grateful. If it's been a while since your last donation and you still are called to support our mission, consider writing a check or giving on line today. With all of us joining together we are confident we'll overcome the many challenges we face to meet the basic need of nutrition for each person one meal at a time.

Top Five Ways to Make an Impact

1. **Partnerships:** The number one way to assure our success is to help us build strong partnerships. I am convinced that through partnerships - when we all share, everyone will have enough. Examples of supportive partnerships include: Gabi, a UU member, who introduced us to the Meridian Township Farmers Market and throughout the summer we received items from local farmers who donated hundreds of pounds of local, fresh produce at no cost to us. Caroline Case invited me to speak at the Independence Village Knitters Group and since my visit these amazing knitters have donated hundreds of colorful scarves, hats, mittens, and blankets for our holiday gift bags given out each December to every guests. For many years, MDOT coordinated a holiday fundraiser and over the years donated over \$100,000 to Southside Community Kitchen. We provided lunch, they hosted a silent auction, a live auction, raffles, and donated all proceeds to support our mission.

2. Spread the Word: Tell your friends about the good work we do meeting basic needs in our community, and they might feel called to support people who hunger. Friends and family may donate in honor or memory of a special person.

3. Estate Planning: Include the Southside Community Kitchen in your will. We accept memorial donations and bequests. Over the years we've received several large gifts and received memorial funds from people who desire to leave a living legacy that makes all the difference to the people we serve. People like Theresa Lenhard, Francis Smith, Teresa Lynch and others. Through careful management of these larger gifts we are able to update aging equipment, make our kitchen work safer, and grow our mission. Receiving unexpected gifts help to carry us through difficult years - like sustaining our non-profit throughout Covid when fundraising was curtailed. Keep us in mind as you do your estate planning.

4. Advocate: Host a group gathering and invite our executive director Marcia Beer to share the complicated issue of hunger and how the work we do matters. We work together to improve the health and well-being of people who struggle with poverty. Marcia is an engaging speaker and loves to share the SCK's story of serving, advocacy, and compassion. If you are a member of a congregation or organization that is looking for a cause to support, or renew your support for SCK, Marcia would love to help!

5. Donate: Giving to the SCK - a small 501 (c) 3 non profit has a strong and direct impact for our guests, four part time staff members, and over one hundred sixty-five volunteers. Each dollar received supports direct services to our guests and covers our insurance, licensing, and necessary business expenses to operate. Because we engage the energy and talents of our volunteers we are able to make a big impact with our experience and efficient part time staff. Make a donation to SCK today in the envelope provided or go to www.southsidecommunitykitchen.org and click the "donate" button to give online. When you give online, you are able to give a one time donation or choose a reoccurring donation at a frequency of your choosing. Giving monthly, helps even out our donation cycles and makes it easy for you. All donations are processed through Network for Good a trusted, national database and donation processing company. Alternatively, please make your check out to: Southside Community Kitchen and mail to: SCK, PO Box 80844, Lansing, MI 48908

Our Promise

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- We promise to use all donations received in support of our mission and exercise wise stewardship of all gifts.
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- We promise to serve each and every person who comes to us hungry with dignity and respect.
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- We promise that each meal served is made from quality ingredients and is prepared in safe and sanitary methods.
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- We promise that every meal meets our minimum standard for a serving of protein, fruit, vegetable, starch, dairy, and dessert.
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- We value the time, energy and talent of our volunteers and promise to work with volunteers in ways that respect their knowledge, time, and gifts.
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- We demonstrate our appreciation and value the specialized work of our staff by creating a collaborative, professional environment. We compensate our staff with generous leave time and fair compensation.
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- We promise to act as advocates for people who hunger, and to make appropriate referrals to agencies that provide other social services to help meet basic needs and assistance.
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Southside Community Kitchen Board of Directors 2022-2023

Directors

Anthony Patrick, President; Kim Gools, Vice President; Karen Saad, Secretary; Pamela Baker, Treasurer; Kim Cotter, Jennifer Cronkhite, Diane Dykstra, Fred Galloway, Mary Mareck, Monica Martinez; Laura Ray

Ex-Officio/Staff

Marcia Beer, Executive Director; JoAnne Boss, Assistant Director; Corey Marie Kitley-Hassenger, Lead Cook; Timothy Beer, Custodian

Memorial Donations Received in 2022* and Supporting Organizations

In memory of David Aikin

University United Methodist Church

Joseph and Jeannette Pizzo

John and Margaret Jones

Richard and Jayne Erickson

Rosemary Nestor

John and Margaret Becker

Kristin Mellon

Thomas Burchman

Robbe Pohl

Gerald and David Shepherd

Rob Bowman

In memory of Frank Carmen

Judith Neilson

In memory of Maurita Holcomb

Barry Holcomb

In memory of Wilma Annette Katz

Renee and Bob Swanson

In memory of Barbara Powers

Libby Stearns

In memory of Maryellen Rogers

Marcia Rogers Beer

JoAnne Boss

Donations in Kind

Allegra Printing- Chicken

Meridian Farmers Market - Produce

Panera of Okemos - Doughnation Program

"In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability." The Southside Community Kitchen is an equal opportunity provider.

**January 1, 2022 - November 15, 2022*

Supporting Organizations

Asbury UMC

Sycamore Creek Church

Edgewood United Church

The People's Church

Delta Presbyterian Church

Kiwanis of South Lansing

Galilee Baptist Church

East Lansing Catholic Communities

Judson Memorial Baptist Church

Grace Bible Baptist Fellowship

St. Michaels Parrish, Grand Ledge

Junior League of Lansing

Christ United Church, DeWitt

Gunnisonville UMC

Monthly Donors

Linda Aikin

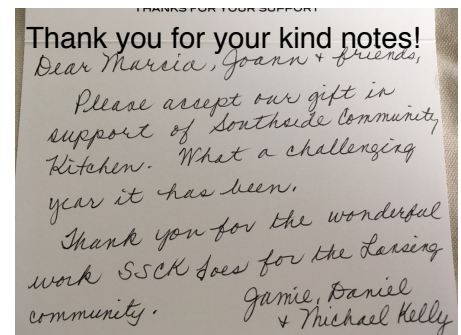
Elizabeth Eberly

Heidi Thornley and Kris Wisniewski

Sarita Overton

Sandra Pearson

Brook Pline



Happy Holidays from the Southside Community Kitchen. May you experience the joy of giving, breaking bread with loved ones, and deep peace now and throughout the year.