

COMMUNITY HARVEST, INC.



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

ANNUAL DINNER **Another Crowd Favorite**

Over one hundred Community Harvest supporters, food donors, partnering hot meals sites, and volunteers attended the 2015 Annual Dinner and Steak Fry on Thursday, June 18th. In spite of a rough start with above average rainfall in June requiring us to change the venue from Varian Orchards to the pavilion at Skyland Pines just two days before our event, the dinner was a huge success that will certainly be remembered for years to come!

The weather forecast for the entire day looked like rain with more rain to follow. Thankfully, the clouds finally parted, the sky became clear, and the sun continued to shine bright for the delicious steak dinner and fellowship among supporters. The dinner was followed by a presentation of awards to several key contributors who have made significant impacts on our program throughout our history and during the 2014-2015 calendar year. Just as Faith Barbato, the Executive Director for Community Harvest was presenting the fourth and final award, one of the worst storms in Stark County made its appearance, causing tables to overturn while attendees ran for cover in the clubhouse. "I have never seen a storm come out of nowhere like that before," commented Sheree Olszewski, a long-time supporter of Community Harvest and Harvest Moon Run participant. "In spite of the unexpected ending, it was a wonderful meal for such a terrific cause. I will remember this night for a long time and look forward to the next one!"

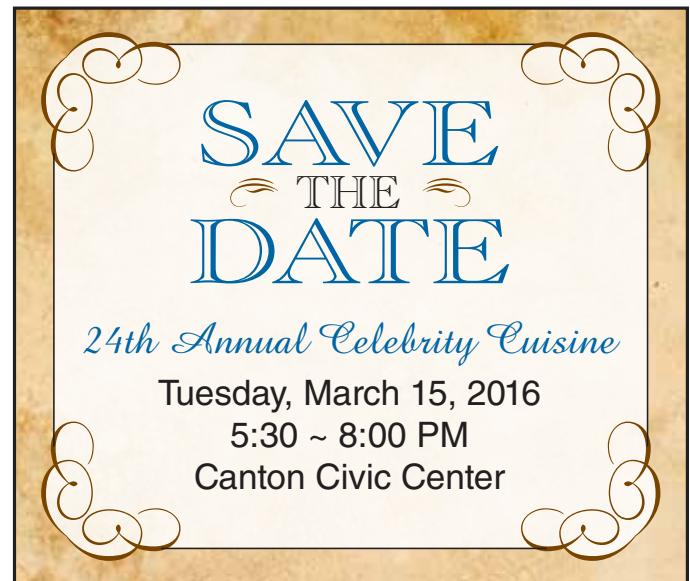
In light of the abrupt ending to our evening, we would like to take the time to highlight our 2014-2015 key contributors, the extraordinary efforts made to help fight hunger in Stark County during this past year, and some special people who helped make this event so successful. We are very grateful to Mike Monastra of Skyland Pines and his staff for accommodating our 2015 Annual Appreciation Dinner at such short notice. Mike and his brother, Nate, prepared the donated steaks with the help of Michael Barbato. A special thank you to Tim and Jean Reinhert of Santangelo Catering for providing the salad, rolls, pasta, green beans, and baked potatoes. Desserts were prepared by board

members, Kristen Petrilla, Judie Cohodas, Nancy Varian, and Linda Steinhebel. Board member, Todd Civello of Trademark Entertainment, provided the sound and great music throughout the evening.



There was a common theme among our 2014-2015 award winners this year with the food industry taking center stage! **Atlantic Food Distributors** was recognized with the *Outstanding Business Support Award*, an award given each year to a business that has significantly impacted the success of Community Harvest. More specifically, Atlantic Food Distributors has sponsored our Harvest Moon Run since its inception and have significantly impacted the success of our Annual Celebrity Cuisine as both a vendor and financial contributor. These two key fundraisers would not be successful without their continued support!

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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>



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Community Harvest was selected (along with Canton Calvary Mission) as the two non-profits in Stark County to receive an Honor Project Grant out of Cleveland for the tremendous impact we have made on hunger in the Stark community.
- The Tri-County Restaurant Association hosted their 23rd Annual Celebrity Cuisine to benefit Community Harvest for the first time in the month of March, raising a record high of nearly \$40,000 for Community Harvest.
- Community Harvest hosted an event each month to commemorate our 25th Anniversary.
- Bloomin' Brands (Outback Steakhouse, Bonefish Grill, and Carrabba's Italian Grill), Aultman Hospital, and Fieldcrest Estates were added as regular food donors, accounting for an additional 30,000 meals.
- Stark County Medical Society selected Community Harvest for proceeds from their Annual Golf Outing for a 3rd consecutive year.
- Indian Run Church harvested 22,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables for distribution to our thirty-two partnering hot meal programs and shelters.
- Fifteen dedicated volunteers gave 4500 hours of service and delivered nearly 1 Million meals.
- Nearly 200 volunteers donated their time to help make huge successes of our two annual fundraisers, The Harvest Moon Run in October and Celebrity Cuisine in March.

Another Crowd Favorite continued...



Santangelo Catering received the **Outstanding Community Support Award** in recognition of their tremendous impact as a regular food donor and loyal supporter. Santangelo Catering provided hot meals for runners and walkers after our Harvest Moon Run last year and will provide the same support this year on Sunday, October 11th. Additionally, they have provided side dishes for our last few annual dinners and continue to be one of the local caterers who provide regular donations of excess food.

Perhaps the most widely-recognized support received by Community Harvest comes from our good friends at the **Tri-County Restaurant Association**, which is why they were presented with the **Outstanding Community Partner Award**, an award given each year to an organized group or business who has significantly impacted the success of Community Harvest by partnering with us on a project or fundraiser. This is our way of expressing our appreciation to TCRA for selecting us as recipients of proceeds from the Annual Celebrity Cuisine for the past 23 years, the food donations made by their participating members, and the restaurants who joined together with the vision of creating Community Harvest in 1989. They were not only influential during our inception, but they have been with us every step of the way!



(L to R) Gary Hulett, Faith Barbato, Mike Sylvester, and Nick Margaritakis, Jr.



Bill Smuckler

The Deloris Cope Humanitarian Award is a distinguished honor presented to a community leader who has demonstrated good stewardship and dedication to reducing hunger in Stark County. This award was presented to **Bill Smuckler** of Canton Hotel and Restaurant Supply for his exemplary social service, servant leadership, and dedication to Community Harvest over the past twenty-five years. When asked about receiving this honor, Smuckler said "I am truly touched and honored to receive the Deloris Cope Humanitarian Award. As one of the original members of the Community Harvest board of directors and a business in the food industry, it is so gratifying to see how much this amazing program has grown. The real thanks goes to the volunteers at Community Harvest who work tirelessly to deliver thousands of pounds of food each week and the food donors who make it possible."

THANK YOU PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME Appreciation Party Committee

4500 volunteers have teamed up with professional staffs of the Pro Football Hall of Fame and Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce to host a "One of a Kind Celebration" with 23 diverse events enjoyed by nearly 700,000 people. These dedicated volunteers are the backbone who drive these outstanding events each year in Stark County and are recognized with an appreciation party at the Civic Center near the end of July.



Refuge of Hope residents helping with the sorting of food



Jo Ann Carpenter weighing and labeling donated food



Faith Barbato and husband, Michael, at the appreciation party

"Collecting food after the Hall of Fame appreciation party each year is the epitome of how our program is designed to work and why it is so efficient," commented Faith Barbato, Executive Director. "There are hundreds of events that take place in Stark County on any given week. We take the guess work out of determining how to transport the leftover food and where it should go. Knowing that excess food can be turned into something beneficial for the community with one phone call is truly priceless."

COMMUNITY HARVEST

FALL EVENTS

Just Around the Corner

Now that the Pro Football Hall of Fame events are almost over, we are reminded that we only have one month left of summer! It also means that Community Harvest is planning for two of our most talked about events of the fall – The 14th Annual Stark County Medical Society Golf Outing to benefit Community Harvest and our 4th Annual Harvest Moon Run. Don't miss out on these opportunities and RSVP today!

14th Annual SCMS Golf Outing *Wednesday, September 16th*

Join us on Wednesday, September 16th for one of the most popular golf outings in Stark County! We promise it will sell out this year, so don't delay and register your team today. This 4-person scramble tees off at 12:30 PM. All golfers will enjoy a shrimp and Bloody Mary hospitality station during registration, a pre-golf cookout for lunch, 50/50 raffle, complimentary gifts, free skill prizes including a hole-in-one contest and closest to the pin, and dinner at the clubhouse after golf. We've even added a few surprises this year including a chair massage at the turn! It would be difficult to find a better golf bargain than this one for only \$75/person!

10:30 AM	Range Balls, Registration, and Hospitality Station provided by The Laurels
11:30 AM	Cookout Lunch
12:30 PM	Shotgun Start
6:30 PM	Dinner at the Clubhouse

\$75/person and \$300/foursome

SKYLAND PINES GOLF COURSE

3550 Columbus Road NE
Canton, OH 44705

Registration is quick and easy. Just complete the mail-in registration form included in this newsletter and mail with payment as instructed. A few sponsorship opportunities, including hole sponsorships for \$100, are still available.

Please call Faith Barbato at the Community Harvest office (330) 493-0800 for more information.

4th Annual Harvest Moon Run *Sunday, October 11th*

**Kid's Run 2 PM * 1 Mile 2:30 PM * 5k/10k 3 PM
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FOR JUST \$25
HAS BEEN EXTENDED!**

We know this is an iconic time for the Pro Football Hall of Fame city, so we are extending our Early Bird Registration for the Harvest Moon Run through midnight on Saturday, August 15th. Don't miss out on the most talked about cross country, scenic course in Stark County!

The fun doesn't stop after participants cross the finish line. Inflatable jumpers, face painting, and balloon artists in our fenced-in kid's area with chaperones make it fun for the entire family. Great sound and music provided by DJ George Douglas, bonfires, and hot grilled food by Santangelo Catering make our post-race party a night to remember. On-line registration is available at www.runtoyouracing.com. Mail-in registration forms are also available on the Fundraising-Events page of our website at www.communityharveststark.org.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION NOW THROUGH AUGUST 15th - \$25

August 16, 2015 - October 4, 2015: \$30
October 5, 2015 through Race Day: \$35

* On-Line Registration will end at midnight on Sunday, October 4th

** Apparel availability and sizing cannot be guaranteed after
October 4th at midnight

RACE DAY REGISTRATION AND RACE DAY PACKET

PICK-UP: 1:00 – 2:30 PM at Varian Orchards
EARLY BIB AND PACKET PICK-UP: Friday, October 9th from 5-7 PM at the entrance of Varian Orchards

WE LOOK FORWARDING TO SEEING YOU IN THE FALL!

Stark County Medical Society 14th Annual Golf Outing to Benefit Community Harvest

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Skyland Pines Golf Course

3550 Columbus Road NE, Canton, OH 44705

10:30 AM	Range Balls, Registration, and Shrimp & Bloody Mary Hospitality Station provided by The Laurels
11:30 AM	Lunch
12:30 PM	Shotgun Start
6:30 PM	Dinner

Scramble Format 18 Holes with Cart • Lunch cookout before Shot Gun Start •
Unlimited beer and water on the course • Complimentary gift for each attendee •
Prizes • Free Contests • Dinner at the Clubhouse

\$75/Golfer • \$300/Foursome

Single Registration • \$75/person

Name: Meal Selection:

Individual golfers and smaller groups will be paired for the event

Team Registration • \$300/foursome

Team Name:

Name 1: Meal Selection:

Name 2: Meal Selection:

Name 3: Meal Selection:

Name 4: Meal Selection:

Registration required - Please register by September 10th

Please indicate dinner selection after each name – Golfers have a choice of Steak, Scrod, Lemon Chicken or Vegetarian

Tee Sponsorship • \$100

Business or Family Name:

Sponsorship Opportunities:

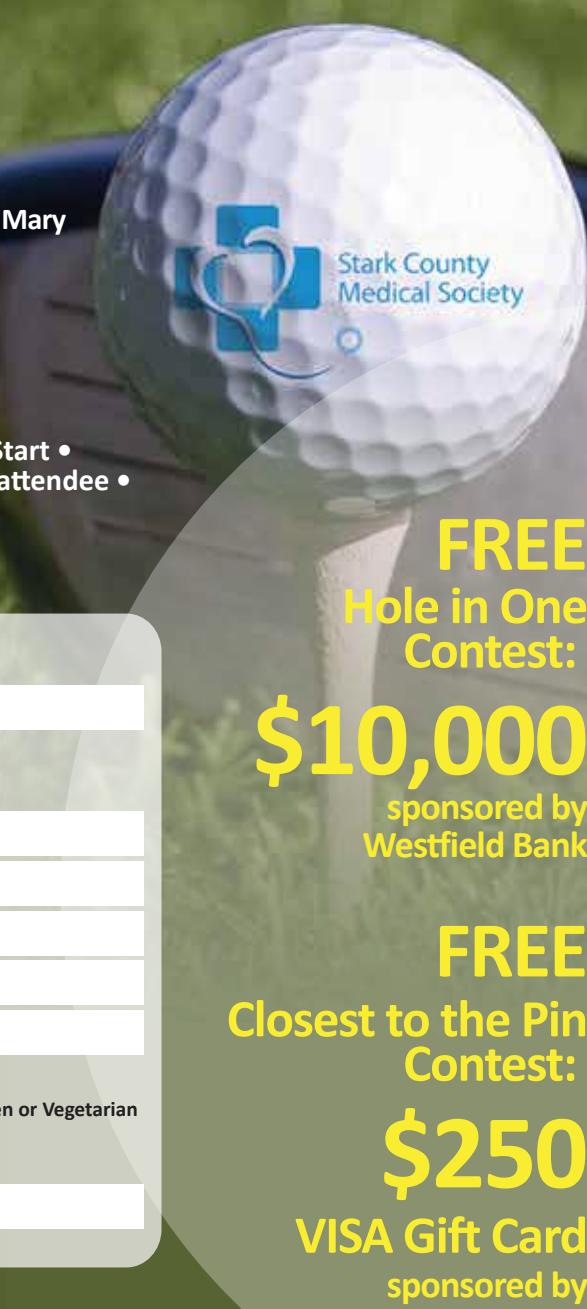
Become an outing sponsor for just \$100 and show your support to
Community Harvest. Your family or business name
will be proudly displayed at the tee box of one
of the 18 holes.

COMMUNITY HARVEST

Contact Faith Barbato at 330-493-0800 or faithbarbato@sbcglobal.net for more information

Mail this form with check payable to Stark County Medical Society to:

Community Harvest; Attention: Faith Barbato; 4915 Fulton Drive NW, Unit 7; Canton, OH 44718



PRIZES AWARDED TO
1st Place Team • 2nd Place Team
Last Place Team

Agency Spotlight

Samaritan's Table



PROVIDING HOPE WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT.

That is the reoccurring theme at the Samaritan's Table where hundreds of dinner guests are provided a hot meal, between the hours of 11:00 am and 1:00 pm each Thursday in the social hall of St. John the Baptist Church (717 McKinley Ave NW in Canton).

Founded in 1986 by Community Services of Stark County, Inc., the Samaritan's Table started on their first day with approximately thirty-five (35) dinner guests. "The kitchen crew now

plans for 500 each week after reaching a record-high of 684 dinner guests on July 31, 2014," commented Linda Steinhebel, Basic Needs Assistance Specialist with Community Services. "With the recession in 2008, we have definitely seen an increased need for food assistance in downtown Canton. We especially see a rise in the number of people requiring support towards the end of the month."

Dinner guests at the Samaritan's Table come from all walks of life. Some are homeless, but a majority of Samaritan's Table guests are mostly the working poor. Many are low income seniors on fixed income, single-parent families, and multi-generational families all struggling to make ends meet. Each meal consists of soup, salad, an entrée, bread, milk, coffee, tea or juice, and a dessert. Tom Preiss, head chef at the Samaritan's Table, has been volunteering for nine years and began the same year as his retirement. "At the present time, a majority of the



Kim Picard

non-perishable food for our program is purchased or obtained through the Akron-Canton Foodbank. All meat products used and served by the Samaritan's Table and a majority of our bread and desserts come from Community Harvest. With some limited funds from FEMA and the rest of our funding through local donations, we have been extremely fortunate to receive deliveries by Community Harvest each Thursday morning."

The operation of the Samaritan's Table is in the hands of a dedicated and 100% volunteer army. "It is truly gratifying to see people enjoy a quality hot meal with all the trimmings served by dedicated volunteers who just want to give back from their own good fortune," said Preiss. Feeling a sense of responsibility to give back to others in need is a common theme among the 50-60 other volunteers who donate their time each week. Jean Reagan has been a volunteer at Samaritan's Table for 28 years. Her job is to greet and count the guests as they enter the dining hall each Thursday. "I feel like it was my calling to give back to the community," commented Reagan. "The fact that the food is absolutely delicious, makes it all the more gratifying for me. Everyone deserves a quality meal. I just wish we could do it more often."

For other volunteers at the Samaritan's Table, it is truly "a family thing." Kim Picard has been a volunteer for the past six years. Her husband, John Picard, owns John Patrick Picard Architect, Inc. located just across the street. He lends his hand at the Samaritan's Table by setting-up all of the tables and chairs with a team each Wednesday morning and taking them down each Thursday evening. "I do this with a couple of my guys each week. It is such a simple thing for us to do that has an immediate impact on the program and the community," added Picard. "It takes just a little effort from a collective group of people who really care. Together, we do make a difference, and that feels great to us."



Jean Reagan greeting guests

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The Samaritan's Table served 25,271 dinner guests in 2014 and already 11,935 guests to date in 2015. For more information about volunteering or donating, contact Community Services at 330-455-0374.



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 The
HARVESTER
Summer 2015
NEWSLETTER

Welcome Andre's House

"When one door closes, another door opens."

"When one door closes, another door opens." That is a common saying that holds true for Community Harvest as well. We were saddened by the closure of the American Rescue Workers Shelter earlier this year after financial difficulties became too much to overcome. We are pleased to share that the former American Rescue Workers shelter (located at 1311 Market Ave N) has been converted into a group home for the homeless who are physically handicapped or afflicted with mental illness.

"We are excited to add Andre's House as a partner to our program," commented board President, Brian Abbey. "Although a majority of the programs we assist are hot meal programs, Andre's House will fall under our small umbrella of residential homes that may not otherwise qualify for food assistance, since they are technically not a hot meal program or pantry. Our greatest benefit to Andre's House and similar programs is that we deliver food directly to them at no cost. This provides them with more time and resources to focus on other ways they can benefit the populations they serve."

Andre's House does indeed provide a tremendous impact in our community. "This is supportive housing with 24 hour assistance," said Cliffie McDaniel-Thompson, who is overseeing the project. "Housing always has to come first. How can you treat them when they are out on the streets?" Upon meeting with former officials of American Rescue Workers, one of their top suggestions was to call Community Harvest as a resource as soon as possible. "Support from Community Harvest will be critical, especially during these initial planning years as we work to establish sustainable cash flow and support. We are super excited about our partnership," added McDaniel-Thompson.

Andre's House will receive food each Tuesday going forward to assist with meals provided to residents.



Cliffie McDaniel-Thompson (center) with two residents