

Fall 2022 Edition

CCH NEWS

CCH MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS. For the past 31 years, CCH has assisted and supported the homeless and our community at large. After building the Sand Castle Shelter for Homeless Families program, CCH added the Grace Learning Center, Keys to Hope Community Resource Center, the Food Rescue Initiative and the Housing Assistance Program. Under the CCH operating platform of Organizational Collective Impact, these five CCH programs have worked together and with our community partners to impact thousands of families and individuals over the last three decades. CCH newsletters always contain wonderful success stories, but the most significant assistance has occurred over the last two years.

COVID-19 left its mark on our community. Participants at Sand Castle Shelter and Keys to Hope work with our case managers to create proactive action plans which address client barriers to sustainable self-sufficiency. Through generous donations from the community and grants from our funding partners, CCH has been able to add to Grace Learning Center's life skills curriculum classes and workshops to also address mental health, substance abuse and nutrition. Most recently, CCH has received a significant grant from Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte to build a teaching kitchen at Grace Learning Center to address



diabetes and obesity plaguing CCH participants and our community at large. Please take a moment to visit our website at www.cch-mc.org for more information on these new offerings. Links to classes and webinars are being added daily and remote access and virtual learning are now available to the community at large and to those with mobility or transportation issues. Donations from the community allows CCH to make a difference. So please, if you are able, consider donating to CCH to help our participants help themselves.

Thank you!

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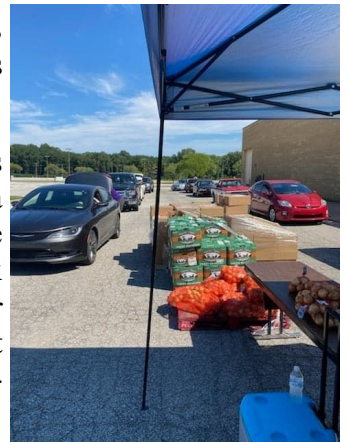
FOOD RESCUE INITIATIVE



FOOD RESCUE INITIATIVE---THANK YOU UNITED WAY. In late 2020, Kris Pate, President of United Way of LaPorte County ("UWLC"), approached CCH about sponsoring mobile food pantries across all LaPorte County. CCH would facilitate and run the events and Food Bank of Northern Indiana would provide the food purchased by the UWLC's sponsorship. We are now approaching the end of the UWLC collaboration. The success of this collaboration has been staggering. Over a two-year period, this partnership saw 203,112 pounds of free, healthy food distributed to 6,626 families impacting 144,772 individual family members. To say this is remarkable is an understatement.

In order to reach the goal of county wide impact, CCH facilitated multiple events for UWLC in the following cities; Michigan City, LaPorte, New Carlisle, Wanatah, Kingsford Heights, Westville and Hanna. United Way wanted to make a difference, and they did. UWLC also sought and received a grant for refrigerators and freezers for the food pantries in a capacity building initiative.

United Way of LaPorte County is one of the most impactful community partners CCH works with. What they did for our communities regarding food insecurity is a small piece of what UWLC does every day. Thank you, United Way of LaPorte County, and our trusted friends and partners Kris Pate, Dave Sisk, Ellen Devereux Meihofer and Marisa Chapels. Also, special thanks to CCH Operations Director Tammy Rosebaum for coordinating these events to perfection. Collective Impact works, and by working with other organizations collaboratively, we continue to battle food insecurity in LaPorte County.



If you or someone you know is in need of food, please email: gracelearningcenter@cch-mc.org, and we will send you a complete listing of food pantries and soup kitchens in the LaPorte County area. Hard copies of the food pantry list may be picked up at Grace Learning Center, 1007 W. 8th Street, Michigan City, Indiana, between the hours of 8am and 5pm, Monday—Friday.



SAND CASTLE SHELTER



After addressing barriers, 'A' has a second chance at success

Congratulations to 'A' on her recent graduation to housing! This is not the first time A has been in a CCH program, but hopefully it will be her last! Working through barriers to sustainable self-sufficiency by taking classes at Grace Learning Center, A now has all the tools in the toolbox. Some of the beneficial classes A took to help her on her journey were Nurturing Parenting, Coping Skills for Trauma/PTSD, Coping for Chronic Illness, Financial Literacy and Thinking for Good.

A short stay with big results



Sand Castle recently had a family of four staying at the shelter. Mom was already working but Dad was looking for employment. He gave the Operations Director his work history and was immediately referred to a job she was aware of.

Within a few days, he interviewed and was hired! J and J also obtained housing through a rental owned by a family friend. They left with enough food in their freezer and pantry to last them for quite a while, thanks to CCH's Food Rescue Initiative program. It was nice to see this sweet family able to back on their feet so quickly. Great job J and J! We wish all the best for you and your family!

Lemonade stand benefiting Sand Castle Shelter

When life gives you lemons, make lemonade, and make a lemonade stand!

In August, Colin and his cousin Mary had a lemonade stand to benefit Sand Castle Shelter, and raised \$250! Colin and his mother, Margie, then delivered the money to Operations Director Tammy Rosebaum.



Thank you to Colin, Mary and Margie for your support of our families, and for your generous donation!

A short stay with big results

On Sunday, September 18th, the annual Tin Cup Golf Outing benefitting Sand Castle Shelter was held at Whispering Pines in Walkerton, Indiana. Thanks to the generosity of the golfers, more than \$4,000 was raised in a few short hours! Their donations will benefit shelter residents through programs designed to teach individuals a path to sustainable self-sufficiency. Thank you to all who attended and supported Sand Castle and CCH!



Christmas at the Castle

Christmas will be here before we know it. It's a magical time of the year when people are a little nicer to each other, families get together, eat too much, give gifts or participate in whatever traditions they have. If you are interested in "adopting a family,"



please reach out to Tammy at 219-879-2552 or via email at: trosebaumsc@gmail.com.



GRACE LEARNING CENTER



GLC's Teaching Kitchen is complete!

As part of Grace Learning Center's continuing initiative to busting through barriers, we recognized the need to increase the number of nutrition classes on our calendar. From diabetes to obesity, cardiovascular issues to cancer — coupled with a food desert on the north and west ends of Michigan City — the residents of LaPorte County continue to struggle with finding healthy, affordable, nutritional foods to encourage better living.



In September, thanks to a generous donation from the HealthCare Foundation of LaPorte, that vision became a reality. However, building a kitchen was only one part of the plan, as licensed, qualified nutritionists were then needed to host the classes. That is where our invaluable community partners come in.

Purdue Extension of LaPorte and Lake Counties are offering an expanded series, with 'Nutrition Education' and 'Dining with Diabetes'. Holistic Dr. Karen Edwards is now hosting a plant-based class titled, 'Cooking for the Health of It', HealthLinc is offering a class addressing 'The Four M's of Diabetes', and Franciscan Health will kick off the 'Parent Café'. Like our Mental Health programs, GLC's Nutrition Series will expand with additional classes for obesity, exercise, cardiovascular and cancer-related programs. It is only through the generosity and support of our multiple community partners that this vision became a reality.



Dr. Karen Edwards teaches participants 'Plant-based Cooking for the Health of It' at GLC.

'Thinking for Good' changes one man's perspective

Omar came to Grace Learning Center after being court-ordered to attend classes addressing anti-social and criminal thinking, through LaPorte County Drug Court.

Since the evidence-based class teaches participants how to learn new ways of thinking when they have a criminal history, it is accepted by the LaPorte County Problem-Solving Court programs.

Omar attended every class taught by Keys to Hope's Toni Mandeville, and was front-and-center each week to turn in his homework and discuss the material. When 'Miss Toni' was unavailable one day to meet with him, Omar still made sure to arrive at Grace to ensure 'Miss Erica' accepted his homework on time and reviewed it.



We are proud to share that Omar is the first community graduate of this program, which takes a minimum of 10 weeks to complete! We have enjoyed getting to know Omar, and wish him nothing but the best, now that he has new tools in his toolbox to respond differently with positive thinking at his disposal. Omar—please do not be a stranger! Your infectious smile and the successful completion of your program reminds us every day why we do what we do!

'Thinking for Good' runs each Tuesday from 10:30am—12noon, at Grace Learning Center, 1007 W. 8th Street, Michigan City. For more information or to register, please call (219) 879-6788.



KEYS TO HOPE



From shelter to stability for two Veterans

Addressing substance abuse for a brighter future

When 'B', a US Military veteran, enrolled in the Keys to Hope program, he was unemployed, dealing with alcohol-related legal issues, and struggling to find a light at the end of the tunnel.

During his time in our program, B enrolled in Swanson Center's PATH program for mental health and recovery support; faithfully attended classes at Grace Learning Center to address his barriers; secured stable employment through Goodwill's SCSEP program; wrapped up his legal issues, and saved his money according to the financial budget he had established with our Case Manager.



When our partners at the Housing Authority advised us of an opening and gave us the criteria, we knew B would be the perfect fit for their program, and they agreed! We are delighted to announce that B has bid farewell to the KTH program and its team and is beginning the newest chapter of his journey in his very own apartment!

Congratulations, B! Your hard work and determination continue to move you forward and upward! While you will be missed by the KTH staff and other participants, we are so excited to see where your journey takes you!

Finding hope after trauma

'T' came to Keys to Hope in February, 2022 seeking shelter. At the time of intake, an 8-year-old warrant was discovered, thus halting his entry into the program. 'T' immediately went to the police department and turned himself. Because he had not had any additional run-ins with the law in 8 years, the warrant was dismissed, paving the way for his entry into Keys.

A military veteran, 'T' was dealing with depression and a history of substance abuse. Although he had achieved, and was maintaining an active recovery, his current life situation greatly increased his risk of relapse. As part of his Action Plan, the case management team at KTH immediately assigned him to Substance Abuse Education classes at Grace Learning Center to help decrease that risk, as well as others, to assist in addressing his other identified barriers.



'T' gradually developed a trusting relationship with KTH staff, and throughout his time in the program, seized every opportunity to express his appreciation and gratitude for their compassion and support.

'T' hit the ground running! Not only did he attend every assigned class with active participation, but he worked with our community partners at Goodwill to develop a strong resume, leading to a full-time position at a local, high-end clothing store.

Within months of beginning his new job, 'T' was offered a management position, and he accepted! He saved diligently as per CCH program requirements and had a strong nest egg ready to go when an apartment became available at Housing Authority!

Because of his determination and hard work, 'T' is now set up for success! Upon graduation to housing, 'T' told our case management team that his time here at CCH gave him the courage to dream of the future he wants for himself, and the confidence to chase it!



2022 TIN CUP Golf Outing



On Saturday, September 17th, the annual Tin Cup Golf Outing benefitting Sand Castle Shelter for Homeless families was held at Whispering Pines in Walkerton, Indiana. This event was possible thanks to the generous support of the following businesses and sponsors.



CALVIN KLEIN

Garner Construction Inc



Tom & Kathy McCormick



Dr. Jeffrey Samelson, PHD

AGENCY WISH LIST

Paper Products:

Bathroom tissue

Paper towels

Kitchen garbage bags (Tall-13 gallon)

Cleaning Supplies:

Disinfectant wipes/spray

Multipurpose cleaner

Laundry Supplies:

Laundry detergent

Gift Cards:

Walmart, Meijer, Lowes, Menards

Gas cards

For a complete list of supply needs, visit our website at: cch-mc.org



CCH IN ACTION



Contact Us

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HONORING OUR VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

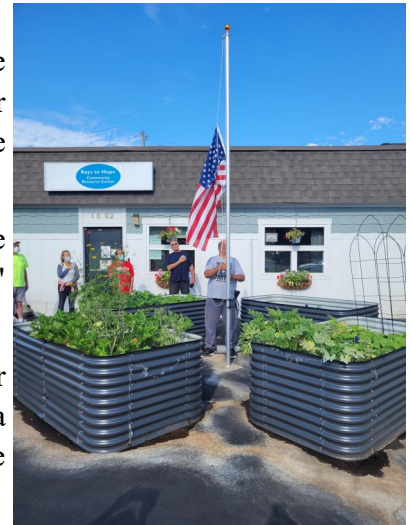
Raising the flag at Keys to Hope

In August while enjoying a little "down time" with friends, Keys to Hope Program Coordinator Toni Mandeville shared that one of her wishes for her building was to erect a pole in the courtyard to proudly display the American flag, in honor of our great County, and our Veteran participants.

The following day, that wish became an unexpected reality, thanks to the generosity of our new friends, Paul & Tracy Levay, Anthony "Tony" Sharp, and Lowes of Michigan City!

Upon installation, Paul & Tracy Levay, KTH program participants, Mayor Duane Parry, and CCH staff gathered together in our courtyard for a flag-raising ceremony, with one of our Veteran participants doing the honors.

We appreciate the support from Paul and Tracy for organizing this surprise blessing, and extend our gratitude to all who made it happen.



Lance Corporal John William Ruder II of the United States Marine Corps raises the flag at Keys to Hope on August 24th, 2022.



Citizens Concerned for the Homeless, Inc.

Sand Castle Shelter for Homeless Families,

Grace Learning Center,
Keys to Hope Community Resource Center

PO Box 8612 Michigan City, IN 46361

219-879-2552 / mchomeless@ameritech.net

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