



Summer 2020 Issue

# HospitalityHouse

food pantry

This publication is brought to you by Hospitality House Food Pantry | [www.hhfp.org](http://www.hhfp.org) United We Serve  
Hospitality House is an equal opportunity provider

## A Word from Hospitality House's President



As president of Hospitality House Food Pantry's Board of Directors, I have had the opportunity to see the overwhelming generosity and kindness of people in our community. On behalf of the Board: thank you to our volunteers, donors, and supporters. I am honored to be making a difference in the community with you!  
-Scott Lavine, Board President

## Client Testimonial

"A few years back I fell on hard times and after seeking assistance from a couple different sources, one stood out as the class of the field: and that was Hospitality House. Lynnette, Donovan and the staff of volunteers have always shown me that there are angels among us. Thank you for making our community a better place... For all."  
-Shawn M., HHFP client

## Telugu Community Rises to Meet the Demand for Food During the COVID-19 Crisis!



HHFP received an overwhelming introduction to the Telugu Community on June 27th when they presented us with a check for over \$8,000! Telugu people are originally from the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in South India and

many have settled in the Detroit area, bringing their dedication to family, work, education, and culture. Coordinating the effort was Sunny Reddy of the American Telugu Association, who matched the amount dollar for dollar. Also representing the group were Parmesh Bheemreddy, Hari Lingala, Murali Bommanaveni, Sunil Reddy, and Venu Suraparaju. Other leaders present included Chenchu Reddy, Krishna Prasad Alapati, and Prasad Bethamcherla of the Troy Telugu Association and Sudharshan, Reddy Minumula, and Aditya Reddy of the Michigan Reddy Association. Senator Jim Runstead joined them for a special introduction and tour. Impressed by the pantry's efficient adaptations during the COVID-19 crisis and continued commitment during a 50% spike in demand, Telugu leaders committed to ongoing support of HHFP and look forward to continued opportunities to serve as volunteers and fundraisers. A big thank you to the Telugu community who answered the call when we needed it most!



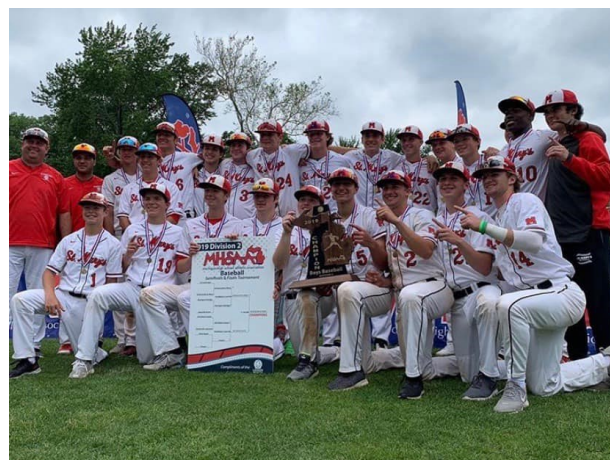
# The Executive Director's Message



We are in the midst of the worst pandemic the United States has seen in a hundred years. I am sure most of us did not enter the year thinking we would experience such a thing in our lifetimes. It's during such challenging times that I am reminded of the words of Fred Rogers: "look for the helpers." I am pleased that every day I get to see the faces of those helping our community: our volunteers who pass out food, our business partners who have rallied to raise funds on our behalf, and you, our beloved supporters who have served as benefactors to provide for the needs of the less fortunate during these trying times. The next time the words "look for the helpers" ring in your ears, please take the time to look in the mirror. You are the reflection of the best in our community. Hospitality House could not exist without you! On behalf of the staff, volunteers, and the clients we serve, thank you so much for your support.



Jack Shubitowski, President and CEO of Huron Valley State Bank, recently visited Hospitality House to present a donation of \$500. We are grateful for the support!



How about this for teamwork? Coach Petry and Orchard Lake St. Mary's Baseball Program raised over \$1,000 to support Hospitality House!



Hospitality House wants to thank Matt Marsoupian and the Keller Williams family for their support during their annual Red Day. They raised 963 lbs. of food and \$2000 in cash for the pantry!



## Thanking our Supporters

Thank you to Detroit Catholic Central High School and St. Catherine of Siena Academy! They raised over \$5,500 for Hospitality House with their Shamrock Shuffle virtual 5k!

Thank you to Blazing Bagels of Commerce Township, who donated an entire day's sales, raising over \$4,000 for Hospitality House!

We are incredibly grateful for the support of our community, including generous businesses like Blazing Bagels. Your continued support helps us feed our neighbors.



# Hospitality House receives new grant funding to support Oakland County!

Hospitality House Food Pantry is celebrating the receipt of a grant for over \$99,000 from the Oakland Together Community Response and Recovery Fund. This grant, established by the Oakland County Executive and Board of Commissioners, was created to provide support to individuals and families negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Hospitality House will utilize the grant funds to assist impacted Oakland County residents with obtaining food, utility assistance, emergency auto repair and emergency housing.

The Oakland Together Community Response and Recovery Fund will fund four temporary part-time employees. These new positions include a Program Administrator (to assist in the running of non-food programs), two pantry staffers (to assist with food preparation and distribution) and a warehouse staff member (to assist with the receipt of donations, inventory and stocking). Those interested in applying can submit their resume directly to Executive Director Donovan Neal via email at [donovan@hhfp.org](mailto:donovan@hhfp.org) or learn more by visiting [hhfp.org](http://hhfp.org).

“The addition of these new employees will help the pantry to continue to serve the residents of Oakland County and expand direct care services through these very challenging times,” said Donovan Neal, Executive Director.

## Thank you, Outrun Hunger!

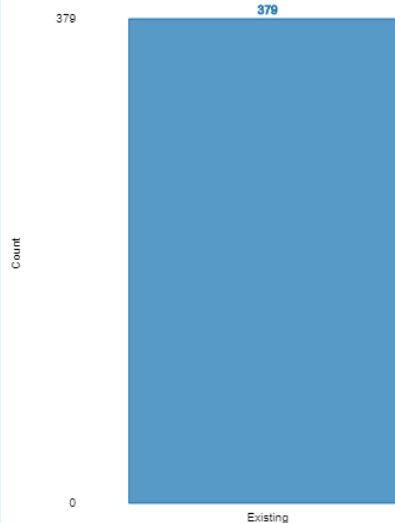
Since the launch of an online fundraiser on May 5, the Outrun Hunger organization raised \$10,696.38 to support pandemic response programs at Hospitality House and Open Door Outreach Center. Each organization received a check for \$5,348.19. We are endlessly grateful to Outrun Hunger, who has been supporting our organization through an annual 5k run for the last 9 years!



Hospitality House is now a proud partner with United Way for Southeastern Michigan!



**United Way  
for Southeastern Michigan**



## Board Member Spotlight



**Linda Hyaduck**

Linda is an Estate Planning Attorney and the Director for Michigan's 15th Senate District. She has been involved in non-profits since she was a student at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University College of Law. A passionate advocate, she has a history working with food pantries, legal clinics, neglected and abused children, developmentally and intellectually disabled people, mentally ill people, and the elderly. She enjoys cooking, reading, and experiential travel. Linda looks forward to helping Hospitality House move to the next level and is honored to be working with such an experienced and dynamic Board.

Hospitality House has served 142 new households between March and June! That's a 37% increase in new clients served!



# Event Calendar

August 3

Backpack Program Donation Deadline

August 17-22

Backpack Program Distribution

August 29

Pantry is closed

September 7

Pantry is closed in observance of Labor Day

December

Annual Santa Shop holiday gift program: details to come

## Small Business Shout Out

Thank you to Nino's Italian Bakery of Walled Lake, who baked and donated 60 loaves of bread while the bakery was closed during the pandemic. You are a shining example of what makes the Lakes Area great!



TRAIL'S EDGE CAFÉ



Thanks to the Wixom Bar and Shelby Carolan and Courtney McLean of the Trails Edge Café in Wixom for the wonderful coffee and sandwiches they delivered to the pantry for our staff and volunteers!

## Volunteer at Hospitality House



Would you like to volunteer at Hospitality House? We would love to have you! Contact us via phone at 248-960-9975 or visit our website, [hhfp.org](http://hhfp.org), for more information!

## It's Backpack Time!



Hospitality House is in need of donations of the following items:

Back-to-School Pack for Grades K-5  
(minimum 200 needed):

- ▶ 1 **large** backpack.
- ▶ 2 notebooks.
- ▶ 5 folders.
- ▶ 2 24 count crayons.
- ▶ 3 glue sticks.
- ▶ 20 pencils.
- ▶ 1 small scissors.
- ▶ 2 large erasers.
- ▶ 1 pencil sharpener.
- ▶ 1 package large markers.



Donations of cash or gift cards that can be used to purchase these items are also gratefully accepted. Just write "Back-to-School" on the memo line.

Back-to-School Pack for Grades 6-12  
(minimum 200 needed):

- ▶ 1 **large** backpack.
- ▶ 4 notebooks.
- ▶ 5 folders.
- ▶ 1 notebook filler paper.
- ▶ 1 ruler.
- ▶ 3 glue sticks.
- ▶ 1 white glue.
- ▶ 1 24 pack crayons.
- ▶ 2 large erasers.
- ▶ 1 box colored pencils.
- ▶ 2 red pens.
- ▶ 10 blue pens.
- ▶ 10 black pens.
- ▶ 20 pencils.



Donations must be received by August 3, 2020.

Hospitality House P.O. Box 284 Commerce Twp, MI 48390

Located at 2075 E. West Maple Rd, Suite B204

(248) 960-9975 [www.hhfp.org](http://www.hhfp.org)

## Santa Shop Update

Santa Shop, Hospitality House's annual holiday gift program, will look different but — due to the persistence and dedication of the program's lead volunteers — will continue for its 19th year! Stay tuned for more information about how you can get involved!

