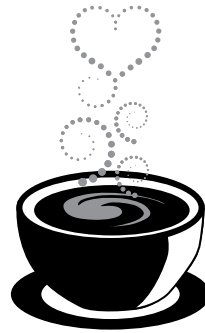


Mission:

To provide a nutritious daily meal to the hungry of the area, as well as to provide a safe and sheltered place for social gathering.



Learn about The Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen.
Read all the newsletters.
Donate any time.
www.soup-kitchen.org



The Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen



A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION • 1-269-925-8204 • SUMMER 2014 EDITION



IN THE COMPANY OF ANGELS

Together we mourn the passing of long-time friend to the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen, Barbara Whitwam. For over 30 years Barb quietly, and without fanfare, assisted hundreds of our patrons in need, some in ways we will never truly know.

In spite of the challenges she faced in her long and courageous battle with cancer, she never lost her dedication to this ministry. Her service to persons in need continued until she was finally called home to her Lord and Savior to be in the company of angels. (By the way, if you knew Barb Whitwam or ever came in contact with her – you, too were blessed to be in the company of an angel.)



Robert

About five years ago I needed some help. A guy on the street told me to come to the Soup Kitchen and see a lady named Barbara who could help me get my birth certificate. When that came back in the mail, she had the money order ready to

pay for my state ID. The day I went out to get that, I walked over to the mall and applied for a custodian job. I've had that job ever since, been promoted to supervisor, and now I work at the Soup Kitchen too.

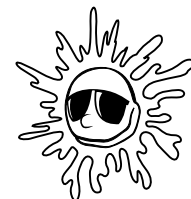
It's very rare to find a person who doesn't know you at all that will help you. Barbara is the reason that I try to help people out now. I used to be a tightwad, not even wanting to pay bills. Now I try to help others whenever I can.



Theron

I get a good, balanced meal here every day. The Soup Kitchen also gives me bread and other food. I call my mom from here because I don't have a phone. The Soup Kitchen is a place that I can socialize... I can be part of something here.

I like to volunteer here and other places because it gives me a chance to give back for what society gives me. I am legally blind, so jobs are hard to come by. I like to clean up outside, weed, and rake. I do a good job, and that makes me feel good.



Thank You

Thanks From Those Who Can't Thank You In Person

On June 16, the Soup Kitchen held its annual event at Harbor Shores. The weather and the course were beautiful, and the golf scores were very competitive. What a blessing and a privilege to be there that day! On behalf of hundreds in need who depend on our sponsors to make this annual fund-raising event possible, thanks to the following for making our Harbor Shores golf outing/fund-raiser successful, again. (And you can thank some of the businesses mentioned here by choosing to give them some of your business, too!)

LECO CORPORATION
THE SCHALON FOUNDATION
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HARBOR SHORES
BISTRO ON THE BOULEVARD
SUN COAST PACKAGING
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MARK III RESTAURANT
GRANDE MERE INN
SCHU'S GRILL AND BAR
SHORELINE LIFESTYLE/JULI GAST



A Resounding Thank You To Tabor Hill Winery



The 2014 version of the Tabor Hill Winery and Restaurant's dinner benefit for The Soup Kitchen on Sunday, April 27, again hit maximum capacity!

Paul Landeck, Tabor Hill President, and his administrative staff, hostesses, servers, chefs and behind-the-scene workers performed their typically splendid job of serving excellent meals and wines – and, they did it all “gratis” with all the proceeds donated to The Soup Kitchen.

The 160 diners, once again, thoroughly enjoyed the elegance of the facility, the view of the vineyards, along with the intimacy of private tables with close friends.

This winning combination was enhanced by the absence of typical fund-raising activities such as raffles, live auctions, 50-50's, speeches and silent auctions. As in past years, many generous people who could not make it to the dinner, made a donation, thus acknowledging the worthiness of The Soup Kitchen's mission.

It is the caring people of Tabor Hill, along with the diners and donors, who help The Soup Kitchen to serve about 53,700 warm meals yearly to those who hunger in our community.

We Thank You !

Stevensville Post Office Really Delivers

Rain or storm, snow or sleet, your local postal carrier delivers the mail. You can also depend upon postal carriers to contribute generously to the Soup Kitchen. A big thank-you to the Stevensville postal carriers and volunteers who collected and sorted canned goods for our ministry during their annual food drive!



Soup Bowl 2014

The 15th annual 'Soup Bowl' was held at Kelley's Bowl on Sunday, April 6. We filled all 30 lanes, and 125 bowlers participated.



The teams from Buoy's at the Silver Beach Hotel took home both the first and second place trophies, while the US Jack team took the bronze.



First-time participants from Dave's Tree Service claimed the Team Spirit trophy.

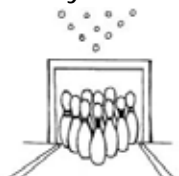
The Soup Kitchen would like to thank our generous donors and bowlers and the great staff at Kelley's Bowl.



Special thanks to our great volunteers; we couldn't do this without you! Kelli Reeves and her Aunts Judy, Karen and Lori; Ken and Kristi Clark, Maddie Zimmerman, Nancy and Jeff Von Koenig, the team from Honor Credit Union and the Soup Kitchen staff.



See you all next year!



Thank You To Our Local Farmers

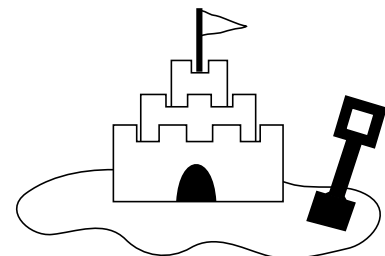
Michigan's Great Southwest is blessed to have the presence of many farmer's markets and roadside fruit and vegetable stands. The Soup Kitchen has been blessed over the years also to be a recipient of numerous donations of fresh produce and products from our local Berrien and Van Buren County farmers.

Farmers from throughout the area frequently donate excellent quality apples, eggs, berries, vegetables, and other fresh farm products for use by Soup Kitchen volunteers in serving the needy.

Thank-you to all of the generous and hard working farmers who support our ministry. Please support our local farmers by purchasing their products at local roadside stands and markets, and by asking our local grocery stores to carry local farm products.



Local farmers give generously to the Soup Kitchen. These photos show a small portion of the high-quality fresh asparagus donated by Falak Farms of Baroda.





Soup Kitchen Wish List

- 1) 4 Oxo Silicone Oven Mitts
- 2) Hand Truck
- 3) Coffee Creamer
- 4) 60 Gallon (heavy-duty) Trash Bags
- 5) 33 Gallon (heavy-duty) Trash Bags

BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN QUICKFACTS FROM U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

2012 Population Estimate: 156,067
Persons below poverty level: 17.4%
or about 27,150 residents of the county live in households which meet the U.S. definition of living in poverty.

According to the Berrien County Dashboard, the poverty rate in the county has increased from 15.4% in 2007 just five years earlier.

Berrien County says the poverty rate is important because "families are struggling to make ends meet, unable to provide their families basic food, clothing and medical care needs."

**As a result of your generous support,
The Soup Kitchen is here to help
local families in need.**

SOUP KITCHEN PRESENTATIONS

We would be honored to present the Soup Kitchen story to your organization. Please call today to schedule a time and date.

SOUP KITCHEN DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

The Soup Kitchen is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. Our mission is to feed a nutritious meal to the hungry. Donations to the Soup Kitchen are deductible to the full extent of the federal law. Please consult your tax advisor for further information on the tax benefits of your generous donation.

FEEDING AMERICA WEST MICHIGAN

Churches are automatically eligible to purchase food at 17 cents (or less) per pound, including food in #10 cans, from Feeding America West Michigan, 1488 E. Empire Ave., Benton Harbor. Unlike other organizations, churches are not required to be a 501 (c)(3). Please think about shopping there first.

For more information, contact Feeding America Manager, Rich Glista at 269-926-2646.

MATCHING GIFTS PROGRAM

The Whirlpool Corporation has one matching gift program to help maximize employees charitable donations.

The Matching Gifts Program matches personal contributions from \$50 to \$10,000 with dollars from the Whirlpool Foundation. Full-time, salaried and hourly U.S. Whirlpool employees and retirees are eligible.



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