

WEEK(END) CHILDHOOD HUNGER IN WEST MICHIGAN



Meadowlawn Elementary School is 1.8 miles from Plymouth UCC.

- 80% of their students are on free lunch; 10% on reduced lunch
 - Many of their students are recent immigrants and refugees.
 - These families are not in the area serviced by UCOM (United Church Outreach Ministries)

The Outreach Board is planning for Plymouth UCC to help fill this gap beginning next fall (school year 2021-2022).

- It will take MONEY for the food – and/or food DONATIONS.
- TIME (30-45 minutes) on every other Sunday following worship to pack the backpacks provided by Hand2Hand - August-May
- A small group of PEOPLE TO DELIVER backpacks every Friday.
- PERSONS TO SHOP.

Hand2Hand exists to eliminate that 68 hour gap so every kid has an opportunity to thrive.

WHAT ARE YOU WILLING TO DO TO HELP THE CHILDREN?

It is too early to begin food donations – even though all the foods required are shelf stable. But, we can begin to build the teams and support structure:

1) **FOOD DELIVERY TEAM:**

- a) Deliver food on Friday afternoons.
- b) Commit to 1-2 times per month for 9 months
- c) Background check by the school
- d) Your own transportation

2) **SHOPPING TEAM:**

- a) With donated money, not your own funds
- b) Commitment can be one time to every other week

3) **DONATION TEAM:**

Eventually, this will include food items, but not now.

a) **PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS**

- We will need 1080+, any brand
- Begin saving them
- We will do collection every so often, even with the building closed

b) **QUART SIZE RESEALABLE STORAGE BAGS**

- We will need 2160, any brand
- Some can be bought with donated money, but ...
- If you buy some every so often that is a good, too
- We will do a collection every so often, even with the building closed

Email Sandy Swayman at swaymom2@comcast.net to JOIN A TEAM!

Because a hungry child hurts.