



Church & Community Newsletter
March 2012

“Neighbors Helping Neighbors in Need”

From the Director ...

Sandy Waite



Dear Friends,

Wonderful things continue to happen at NKCS every day. Your support is constantly making a difference in the lives of our families. Mandy selected some professional clothing for her upcoming job interview, Sara took home furniture for her new apartment from our donated furniture area. We provided 16,929 pounds of food to 1,285 families in January. Success stories touch us each and every day and it is important to take a moment every now and then and think about what makes it all possible.

It's simple really - You do.

Your backing and support makes sure our families get the help they need and families don't go hungry. Your donations are what makes North Kent Community Services the hopeful place it is. So on behalf of everyone here at NKCS, THANK YOU for all that you have done and continue to do. Without you we wouldn't be here for our neighbors.

God Bless,

Sandy

“All we can take with us to heaven is what we leave behind in the lives we touch.”

10075 Northland Dr.
Rockford, MI 49341
616-866-3478

Mission Statement:
North Kent Community Services' mission is to coordinate committed workers and available resources to serve people in need, with Christian love and sensitivity.

CLOSED TUESDAY, MARCH 6

Donation Hours

Monday - Thursday 8 am - 6 pm
Last Saturday of each month 10 am - 2 pm

We welcome monetary donations via PayPal, MasterCard or Visa. Please visit our website at www.nkcs.com



EASTER BASKETS

We are collecting new items in February and March to make 500 Easter Baskets for children ages 1 -10. Can you help us by donating the following items by March 22? Thank you.

- Candy, fruit snacks, gum
- Small stuffed animals (Beanie Baby size)
- Small cars/trucks (Matchbox/Hot Wheels)
- Crayons, washable markers or colored pencils and coloring books
- Bubbles and sidewalk chalk
- Jump ropes or balls
- Books, stickers, erasers
- Easter baskets and grass
- Other items suitable for Easter Baskets for children ages 1 - 10



GARDENERS WANTED!!!

There will be a meeting for those interested in helping with our vegetable gardens this year on Tuesday, March 27 at 6:30 pm at NKCS. Last year, our volunteers harvested over THREE TONS of vegetables from our gardens to help feed our families. Please join our garden friends this year, as it takes MANY volunteers to tend our large gardens. We are looking for volunteers - individuals, couples, families, groups, businesses, etc., to ADOPT-A-ROW. You would be responsible for planting, weeding, tending, and helping to harvest a row of your choice of vegetables, at your convenience. If you are interested in helping, but cannot attend this first meeting, please contact Deb M. at 866-3478 x103 or deb.mcintyre@nkcs.com. A special thank you to those that contributed so much last year - Post Farms, Cedar Springs Mill, Tom & Daryl Nederveld, Dodd Morris & West Cannon Baptist Church, Barb Van Wagoner, Jaqueline VanCamp, Laurie Pullen-Johnson & sons and friends, and many more.



Give us your e-mail address to have our newsletters sent to you, or view them at our website - www.nkcs.com.

FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE

NKCS is taking part in the 15th Annual \$1 Million Feinstein Challenge to Fight Hunger. From March 1 - April 30, the more money donated to NKCS, the more money we will receive from the Feinstein Foundation. Please consider donating any amount to NKCS and mark it for the Feinstein Challenge. Only donations received between March 1 and April 30, 2011 are eligible. Thank you.



JUST BECAUSE GROUP

Stegenga Funeral Chapel will be hosting their March "Just Because Group" at North Kent Community Services. Each get together will revolve around food and a social activity. Join them on March 20 at Noon for lunch and the opportunity to learn about what we do, volunteer opportunities and possibly entertainment. Please RSVP to 866-7200 by March 16, if you would like to attend.

CAN YOU HELP STOCK OUR PANTRY?

We have an average of 100 families visit our pantry each day and we need your help to keep it full.

FOOD FOR KIDS

Kids cereal, granola bars, pop tarts, fruit snacks, peanut butter & jelly and healthy snacks



MOST-REQUESTED FOODS

Boxed dinners (Hamburger Helper-type meals), pasta & sauce, macaroni & cheese, rice, noodles, canned fruit & condiments

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

Soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toilet paper, dish soap, deodorant, laundry soap & softener, Kleenex, feminine hygiene items, razors & shaving cream, baby powder, baby wash, baby lotion, and disposable diapers

CLOSING POLICY

We will be closed or delayed whenever Rockford Public Schools are closed or delayed, due to bad weather.



Thank You

We appreciate your new and gently-used donations. **PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF WHEN OUR GATES ARE CLOSED.** Household and clothing items should be left inside the donation room on the South side of the building only. Donations left outside are unsightly and any items that get wet, must be thrown away. Please bring food donations inside our food entrance on the North side of the building. Please bring any new donations in our front door and hand them to a staff member or volunteer. We will be happy to give you a receipt for your donation at that time.