

# NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS Fall 2023

## EHC PARTNERS TO KEEP EUCLID KIDS WARM

The Euclid Hunger Center was proud to be a part of the first annual "Fall Fest", a joint effort in partnership with many local organizations, which took place on November 3rd at Euclid's Memorial Options Center. Through a generous Amazon donation and collaboration with Operation Warm, EHC was able to purchase over 400 winter coats, which were distributed at the event. In addition, children were allowed to select and take home books which had been provided by the Cleveland Book Bank, via another Amazon Gives grant. One hundred backpacks that had been packed by Amazon volunteers were also available, and Lenzworks was on site offering family photos. Additionally, attendees were provided with information regarding Hunger Center services, and at the end of the event, 25 lucky families were chosen at random to receive a \$20 Dave's gift card. One child said he loved getting a new winter coat because his old one was too small. He rated his new coat a 10 out of 10. The entire event was a wonderful display of what can be accomplished when groups work together.



## **MOBILE PANTRIES SERVE RECORD NUMBERS**

EHC hosted three mobile pantries this past summer, and the turnout was incredible. On the 4th Monday of July, August and September, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank delivers 6,000 pounds of fresh produce to the EHC. With the help of many loyal volunteers, the food is set up on the front lawn of the Shore Cultural Centre and offered free of charge to our neighbors. This year's mobile pantries served almost 500 families over the 3 months, including 90 families who had never visited our pantry before. We are proud to be able to offer this healthy food to the people of our community.

#### SUMMER WINEDOWN AT I-A CLUB



The Irish American Club, East Side was the site of this year's Summer Winedown. The nearly 300 people in attendance enjoyed delicious food, great music by DJ Dwayne Pringle and the opportunity to win one of 50 spectacular raffle baskets filled with items donated by countless members of our community. Over 30 generous organizations and individuals supported us with a sponsorship, helping us to surpass our fundraising goal. We are grateful for everyone who joined us for a wonderful evening of "neighbors helping neighbors."

#### WINTER COAT DRIVE

Again this winter, we will be collecting adult winter coats for distribution during our pantry hours. We will gratefully accept any donations of new/gently worn winter coats only. Please be sure the coats are not stained, nor have missing buttons or broken zippers. Only winter coats are being accepted at this time – no sweatshirts, spring jackets or other clothing. Coats can be dropped off in the hallway outside the Hunger Center between 7:30am-6:00pm weekdays.

# **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Meet Harold Dudley**

Every volunteer at EHC is special to us, and each contributes something unique to our organization. Harold Dudley is one of those volunteers. When Harold first came to EHC, he was struggling with mental illness/depression as a result of a difficult divorce and some significant financial trials, and his case worker suggested he do some community work to get him out of the house. At the time, Harold was living across the street from the Hunger Center, so he stopped in to ask if he could volunteer. Seven



years later, Harold has never looked back. Harold credits the Hunger Center with getting him back on track. He says, "At a time when I was at my lowest, the Center accepted me and gave me a sense of purpose and hope. Working with everyone took away some of my pride and resentment." Harold is a proud Marine, and now lives in Cleveland. He is active in his church, and enjoys cooking and working out. Harold had a hip replaced last spring, but that didn't keep him down for long. As soon as he got the OK from his doctor, he was right back at EHC, using a cane, but nonetheless contributing his time and talents. When asked what the Hunger Center has taught him, Harold responded, "I've learned not to be so judgmental. I once was at the top of my game and lost it all. The Hunger Center keeps me humble, and gives me a sense of self-worth in being able to share my talents with others." We feel blessed to have Harold as part of our Hunger Center team and are grateful for him and all of our wonderful volunteers.



"What if today, we were just grateful for everything." -Charlie Brown

#### **THANK YOU!**

Thank you to the following individuals/organizations who made significant financial or food donations over the last several months:

Boy Scout Troop 143 David & Susan Carlson Tom Daly – State Farm Eaton Family Credit Union Euclid Hospital Employees Bonita Kale K&D Properties Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Lakeshore Christian Church Midwest Precision The Musca Foundation Noble Beach Club Connie Pavlina Perry Ruth Mary Torzewski Tranzonic Companies Julie Valyn

#### Looking to Help This Holiday Season?

Please consider a donation of the following:

- Non-perishable Food
- Aldi gift cards which we use to purchase bread/cereal
- Cash donations
- Plastic bags or reusable shopping bags

#### EUCLID HUNGER CENTER 291 E 222nd Street, Room 17 Euclid, OH 44123 P.O. Box 23554 216-731-3329 www.euclidhungercenter.com euclidhungercenter@gmail.con

The Euclid Hunger Center is grateful to these partners whose support enables us to accomplish our mission!



Euclid Hospital

a Cleveland Clinic hospital

- **EUCLID HUNGER CENTER** The Euclid Hunger Center could not operate without financial donations.
  - Donate online at www.euclidhungercenter.com/donate
  - Donate via Venmo @EuclidHungerCenter

HOW TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE

 Mail checks made payable to Euclid Hunger Center to: P.O. Box 23554, Euclid, OH 44123 Thank you!

Join our email list by sending us an email at euclidhungercenter@gmail.com To be removed from our mailing list, email us at the address above, or call Kay at (216) 731-3329.