



News from the Heart
Avon/Avon Lake Community Resource Services Newsletter

October, 2017

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

A huge shout-out to the Girl Scout troops of Avon Lake for hosting their annual Scouting for Food food drive to benefit CRS.

This year's drive was held on Saturday, October 21st -- a gorgeous fall day! Thanks to all the Scouts and their troop leaders, everyone who put donations out for them, and the volunteers who helped sort and shelve food that weekend, the CRS food pantry is ready to head into November!

A total of 2,400 pounds were collected in one day! Wow! Thank you all for your support of CRS and our local families!

HOLIDAY TIME AT CRS!



Christmas is a special time at CRS!

Each of our holiday programs are donor driven, made possible by the generosity of community members, groups, churches, and businesses.

Want to get involved? Here's how:

Santa's Workshop provides a wonderful Christmas for our CRS families. Mom and/or Dad will be able to choose three things (a coat, a toy or wish list item, and pajamas) for each child in their family. The Workshop is stocked from items donated through toy drives, coat drives, and individual donors.

We also provide a Family Basket to each family in an effort to provide families with a basket of items they can use (a Cleaning Basket or Personal Hygiene Basket) or would

FIGHTING TO END HUNGER ONE BOWL AT A TIME

Saturday, October 14th



The sixth annual Empty Bowls by the Lake fundraiser was held on Saturday, October 14 at the American Legion Post 211 in Avon Lake from 11am- 2pm.

Potters, crafters, educators, students and volunteers worked hard to create and donate handcrafted bowls. Local restaurants donated soup and bread to serve. Guests were invited to a simple meal of soup and bread in exchange for a cash donation. They were also able to keep one of the beautiful bowls as a reminder of all the 'empty bowls' in the world.

Thank you to Laura Kirchner, and her entire team. The Empty Bowls by the Lake group works tirelessly to make this event a success, and we are so very grateful to be one of the agencies to receive proceeds from the event.

The "Empty Bowls Project" is an international grassroots effort to raise both money and awareness in the fight to end hunger. The mission is to create positive and lasting change through the arts, education, and projects that build community.



CALLING ALL BELL RINGERS

enjoy (Family Game Night Basket or Kitchen Basket). We'd love to expand this program and provide more useful items instead of more "stuff." These baskets are such a treat to families in need and more in line with the mission of CRS to provide basic needs assistance.

Need donation ideas? Check out our website at aalcrs.org. If you have any questions regarding Christmas, or would like to know what we need most, please call Amy at the CRS office. Our office hours are weekdays from 10 AM to 2 PM and our phone number is 933-5639.

All donations for Christmas should be made by Monday, December 11th to be ready in time for Santa's Workshop. It's always helpful when we know what you would like to donate, so please call in advance. We can make arrangements for you to drop off your donation at our Christmas location at your convenience.

Thank you!

DISCO FEVER



Thank you to the Carlsons and the Stoneciphers for hosting a "groovy" party to collect gift cards for the upcoming CRS Charity Ball, and for everyone who showed up with a donation. What a fun night!

Thanks to everyone's support, more than \$1,000 in gift cards to area restaurants and retailers were collected to help make our Silent Auction a success!

Save the date for January 27th -- it's going to be a blast!

COMMUNITY LUNCH BUNCH

Avon Lake Presbyterian Church hosts a free Community Lunch Bunch the third Thursday of each month.

All are welcome. Bring a friend and come join the group from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church, 32340 Electric Blvd., Avon Lake.

All ages will be treated to a homemade lunch. No registration is required. For more information, please call the church office at 933-6240.



CRS will once again be partnering with the Salvation Army to ring the bell and staff the Salvation Army kettles this holiday season.

We are looking for volunteers to help us Monday through Saturday at Giant Eagle in Avon Lake, and Friday and Saturday at Wal-mart in Avon. This is a great volunteer opportunity for clubs, organizations or families looking for community service hours.

Please click on the links below to sign up:

Giant Eagle:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4aaaaa22a75-giant4>

Wal-Mart:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4aaaaa22a75-walmart4>

Or for more information, contact Kris Greene at 933-5639, ext. 205, or kgreene@aalcrs.org.



CALL FOR AUCTION ITEMS!

Looking for a way to support CRS but not sure how? We're currently looking for auction items to include in our Silent Auction at the 2018 Charity Ball. The revenue generated from our auction is a big part of our event's success, and we're always looking for new and creative items to offer for auction. Wine baskets, restaurant gift cards, unique experiences. We love them all! Be creative! If you'd like to bid on it, chances are someone else would too.

For more information on how to get involved with the Charity Ball, please call Pam Ohradzansky at 440-933-5639 or pohradzansky@aalcrs.org.



COMMUNITY DONATIONS

CRS has truly been blessed this month with many donations of non-perishable items.

Thank you to the following businesses and organizations: Avenbury Lakes - Ladies of the Lake, Avon Lake CVS, Christ Church Westshore, Holy Spirit Church, JC Penney, and Open Door Christian Academy.

This is in addition to the many individuals who bring

donations to the CRS office on a daily basis. We are so grateful for all the donations that help keep our food pantry well stocked and that help us make a difference - right here at home!

Avon/Avon Lake Community Resource Services

Our Mission: Community Resource Services is a responsive, community-based organization whose mission is to diminish the effects of poverty in Avon and Avon Lake. We provide basic needs assistance and individualized resource and referral services in a compassionate and confidential manner.

[CRS Website](#)