Happy Spring from CRS!

HELPING OUR SENIORS

On Thursday, March 15, CRS hosted a light breakfast for residents of Beachpark Tower located in Avon Lake. The main purpose of the event was to allow current CRS clients the opportunity to complete the annual update of their file and invite non-CRS residents to learn more about the agency and open a file if they chose.

A huge thank you to Shea Alltmont, Public Relations and Marketing Coordinator at Avon Lake Public Library, who was the guest speaker for the event. She provided information about services and programs offered at the library and events planned in 2018 that may be of interest to the attendees.

Additional thanks to the Community Foundation of Lorain County for their continued support of our Senior Assistance Program at CRS. This funding enables us to make sure we’re meeting the needs of our seniors by providing basic needs assistance and individualized resource and referral services.

The staff at CRS truly value our senior population and enjoy meeting with them individually and getting to know them better through this type of event.

Community Resource Services will be hosting our Annual "Crush Hunger" event on Thursday, June 21, 2018. Join us for Homeruns for Hunger at Sprenger Stadium, home of the Lake Erie Crushers, as they take on the Schaumburg Boomers. Home box tickets are $9 each*. A portion of each ticket sold will be donated back to CRS.

To purchase your tickets, please visit our website at www.aalcrs.org or call Pam at 440-933-5639.

CRS COUNTS ITS BLESSINGS

This Easter, CRS was able to provide holiday food baskets for a total of 35 families, grocery gift cards to 37 different households, and Easter baskets to 88 young children.

We’re extremely grateful to everyone who donates in support of our holiday initiatives and would like to send a special thank you out to Christ Church Westshore for the generous gift cards, and the United Church of Christ and St. Joseph’s Church in Avon Lake for the gorgeous Easter baskets.

Serving those in need is a true collaborative effort and we’re so lucky to have the support of so many community partners!

WOW! CHECK OUT ALL THESE COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS!

These are just some examples of the amazing community we live in... a sampling of some of the collections facilitated to support CRS. 1) The Avon Lake Police Department presenting us with a check from their No-Shave November fundraiser; 2) A paper goods collection hosted by Avon’s Early Learning Center; 3) Eastview...
You will be purchasing your actual tickets and seat location. If you would like to sit with a group, you should purchase your tickets in one transaction or call Pam at 933-5639 for assistance.

**CONGRATULATIONS ELISABETH LENDAL!!!**

This impressive young lady just became the first Avon Lake Girl Scout to earn her Gold Award. She’s a freshman at Avon Lake High School and we were lucky enough to be the recipient of all her hard work!

Elisabeth and her family have helped out at CRS over the years, and when given the opportunity to create a project for the Gold Award, she decided to spice things up at our pantry...literally!

Not only did she collect a total of 1,185 spice bottles to donate to CRS, but she also created a gorgeous cookbook to distribute to our clients—chock full of healthy recipes that use the spices she collected and only require a minimal number of ingredients. Her goal was to educate people on how they can still eat healthy on a limited budget, and without sacrificing flavor.

An additional piece of her project involved enhancing the CRS website with healthy eating and shopping tips (check them out under Announcements at aalcrs.org). And up next, she’s been contacting pantries from all over and asking whether they’d be interested in copies of her cookbook—she’s had a number of takers already!

We are so grateful to Elisabeth for bringing this project to us and congratulate her on this amazing achievement!

The Charity Ball, sponsored by Applied Specialties, Nations Lending Corporation, NRG Energy, PolyOne and LaCentre Conference & Banquet Facility, was held on Saturday, January 27, 2018. A record number of guests helped raise more than $74,000 which will go directly toward our mission. The event was attended by 416 people who enjoyed a sit-down dinner, open bar, live music by Disco Inferno, raffles, auctions and more!

Elementary’s Shelf Helpers dropping off the proceeds from their fundraiser and touring the CRS pantry; 4) The Avon Police Department, in collaboration with the Avon Fire Department and the Sophomore Class at Avon High School, who hosted a food drive at Walmart; and 5) Students from St. Joe’s School bringing in their collection of non-perishables. THANK YOU TO ALL!

**STAMP OUT HUNGER**

Save the Date for the Annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, hosted by the National Association of Letter Carriers and facilitated by your local Post Office. This year’s event will be held on Saturday, May 12th. Watch your mailbox for a post card with more info.

**COMMUNITY LUNCH BUNCH**
The generosity of our sponsors, donors and guests helped make the Charity Ball a great success! Please visit our website to see a full list of our sponsors and auction donors.

Special thanks to Peter & Co. Jewelers for their donation of a Hearts On Fire necklace to our Jewelry Raffle. Congratulations to Nikki Mohar for being the lucky winner!

**MOVING NEWS**

So many of you have asked when we will be moving...we can assure you, it’s soon—and we promise to let you all know as soon as we have a firm moving date.

Our new address will be 33479-C Lake Road—directly to the left of The Dogg House Bar and Grill on Lake Road -- in the same shopping plaza where we are currently located.

Stay tuned...and thank you to those of you who’ve offered to help. We will send out a list of volunteer opportunities as soon as we can.

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, April 19th, 2018 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.

**COMMUNITY THANKS**

CRS has truly been blessed the first part of this year with many donations of non-perishable items for our food pantry. Thank you to the following businesses and organizations:
- Eastview Elementary School, Avon Early Childhood Learning Center,
- Avon Girl Scouts, Avon Lake Public Library, Avon Lake United Church of Christ, Avon Police Department,
- Avon-on-the-Lake Garden Club, Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church,
- Church of the Open Door, Holy Spirit Church, Avenary Ladies of the Lake,
- Kiwanis Club of Avon Lake, Redwood Elementary School, St. Joseph Church,
- Westshore Mothers of Multiples, Westview Elementary School and Westview PTA, Avon Lake Police Department, SiteOne, Stack Heating,
- Avon Lake Presbyterian Church, Christian Brothers Automotive,
- Edward Jones - Avon Lake and Hunter International Recruiting.

This is in addition to the many individuals who bring donations to the CRS office on a regular basis. We are so very grateful for all of the donations that help keep our food pantry well stocked and that help us continue our mission of People Helping People!

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