



Making a difference. Right here at home.



Avon/Avon Lake Community Resource Services Newsletter  
November, 2019



### Calling All Bell Ringers!

We are looking for volunteers to ring the Salvation Army Bell on Fridays and Saturdays at the Avon Walmart and Mondays through Saturdays at Giant Eagle in Avon Lake.

We are especially in need of Walmart ringers this season. This is a great volunteer opportunity for clubs, organizations or students looking for community service hours. You must be at least 16 or accompanied by an adult. Volunteer bell ringers are the difference between an empty kettle and one that raises the funds that sustain the help that is given all year long.

Please click on either of the links below to sign up:

Avon Walmart: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4aaaaa22a75-avon>

Avon Lake Giant Eagle: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4aaaaa22a75-giant6>

If you have any questions, please call Kris, at 933-5639 or email her at [kgreene@aalcrrs.org](mailto:kgreene@aalcrrs.org). More details about bell ringing can be found at our website.

## CRS Hires New Executive Director

The new Executive Director is a familiar face around CRS. Long-time employee, Pam Ohradzansky, has been chosen as the permanent Executive Director. She replaces Susan Poole, who left CRS to become the Development Officer at the Community Foundation of Lorain County. Pam was hired in 2010 as the Bookkeeper and Special Events Coordinator in charge of the annual Charity Ball. Most recently she has served as the Interim Director.

Pam lives in the community and is well versed in the services provided to residents of Avon and Avon Lake. The CRS Board of Directors, staff and volunteers are thrilled that Pam will provide trusted leadership and continuity to CRS.



## CRS CHARITY BALL Save the Date! January 25, 2020

Mark your calendar for the 31st Annual CRS Charity Ball on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at LaCentre Conference & Banquet Facility in Westlake. This year's theme is "Strong Hearts, Strong Community."

This event is our largest fundraiser! In 2019 we raised over \$82,000 with 407 guests in attendance. The Charity Ball is black-tie optional and features an open bar, sit-down



## SANTA'S WORKSHOP

Would you like to get involved in our Holiday Assistance Program? 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, pajamas, and a toy or wish list item) for each child in their family.

We also provide a Family Basket to each family in an effort to provide them with items they can use (a Cleaning Basket or Personal Hygiene Basket) or would enjoy (a 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 our families and are more in line with the mission of CRS to provide basic needs assistance.

This program is donor driven, made possible by the generosity of community members, groups, churches, and businesses. The Workshop is stocked from items donated through toy drives, coat drives, and individual donors.

Need donation ideas? Check out our website (What We Do/Seasonal tab) for a complete list of great ideas including our teens who can be so challenging to buy for!

All donations for Christmas should be made by Monday, December 9th. It's always helpful when we know what you would like to donate, so please call the CRS office in advance to let us know. Arrangements can be made for you to drop off your donation at our Christmas location at your convenience. This year our Santa's Workshop will be held at 457 Avon-Belden Road in The Landings at the corner of 83 and Walker Road in Avon Lake.

If you have any questions regarding Santa's Workshop or any other holiday programs, please contact Amy at the CRS office. Our office hours are Monday - Friday from 10 AM to 2 PM. Our phone number is 440-933-5639.

dinner, live music by The Midtown Band, dancing, auctions, raffles and many more ways to support CRS.

Sponsorship opportunities are now available at various levels of support. All sponsors receive special recognition at the event. Full details can be found on the Events page of our website.

## Charity Ball Auction

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 2020 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!

For more information on how to get involved with the Charity Ball, please call Sheila Roth at 440-933-5639 or [sroth@aalcrs.org](mailto:sroth@aalcrs.org).

## CRS is Hiring

We are currently looking to hire a part-time Bookkeeper/Client Coordinator. Please go to the Announcements tab at [www.aalcrs.org](http://www.aalcrs.org) for a full description of the job responsibilities.

Letters of interest and resumes may be sent to [aalcrs@aalcrs.org](mailto:aalcrs@aalcrs.org).



Help raise funds for CRS while doing your online shopping!

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

It's easy to do: Log into [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) using your same Amazon log-in information. You will be prompted to select a charitable organization. Select Avon Lake Community Resource Services!

Thank you!



## COMMUNITY THANKS

CRS has truly been blessed this month with many donations of non-perishable items for our food pantry. Thank you to the following businesses and organizations:

Avenbury Ladies of the Lake, Avon High School Drama & Choir Boosters, Avon Lake Garden Club, Mrs. Tomlin's students at Avon Lake High School, Avon Lake Presbyterian Church, Avon Lake Regional Water Department, Eastview Elementary School PTA, Erieview Kids in the Community, Eyring Movers, the Fall Brawl Event Committee, Girl Scout Service Unit 506, Holy Spirit Church, Hooks for Hunger Committee, Independence Village, Redwood Elementary School 1st Grade, Redwood Elementary School K-Kids and the Kiwanis of Avon Lake.

This is in addition to the many individuals who bring donations to the CRS office on a daily basis. We are so very grateful for all of the donations that help keep our food pantry well stocked. Thank you for making a difference, right here at home!



## Girl Scouts and Bikers!

It was a very busy day at CRS on November 3rd! The Lake Erie Harley-Davidson held a Turkey Run and a group of Harley riders brought us donated frozen turkeys. It was also the annual Scouting

## **ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN**

It's that time of year again....time to consider a gift to the CRS Annual Fund.

The campaign is underway, and you should receive information in the mail soon about how to make a donation to support our on-going programs. On-line donations are also accepted, and can be made through our website at [www.aalcrs.org](http://www.aalcrs.org). All money raised stays right here in your community to help local families in need.

For more information, please contact Pam Ohradzansky at 933-5639. Thank you!

for Food! Local Girl Scouts collected donations throughout Avon Lake and delivered over 2,000 pounds of food to our food pantry! We are so fortunate to have such caring, generous community members!

### **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](#)