



Making a difference. Right here at home.



Avon/Avon Lake Community Resource Services Newsletter  
February, 2020

### COMMUNITY RESOURCE SERVICES 2019 IN REVIEW

Here is a recap of some of the ways CRS served the community in 2019:

**113,000** - Pounds of food distributed from our on-site food pantry.

**229** - Number of students that went back to school with the supplies they needed thanks to our Back-to-School Readiness program.

**184** - Number of times financial assistance was given to prevent utility disconnections.

**101** - Number of times rent assistance was provided to prevent eviction or homelessness.

**332** - Number of children that were provided Christmas gifts, pajamas and coats from Santa's Workshop.

**149** - Number of senior citizens that received assistance through one of more of our assistance programs.

**411** - Times we assisted with car repairs or fuel cards.

**299** - Times we distributed grocery gift cards for perishable food items.

**206** - Number of people who volunteered more than 2,550 hours for CRS in 2019.

### John Shook Community Service Award

At this year's Charity Ball, we paid tribute to a very special friend; longtime CRS Board member John Shook, who passed away in 2018. John was dedicated to community service and volunteered for many local organizations including CRS, Avon Lake Kiwanis, St. Joseph Church and Beachpark Tower. In John's memory, the CRS Board established an award in his name, to be given annually to someone who embodies John's commitment to community service.

The 2020 John Shook Award was given to Pastor Jeffrey Phail of Christian-Heritage Church in Avon for his work with the Summer Lunch Program. In 2017 he recognized an opportunity to help feed students who received free or reduced lunches during the school year, but might



### CRS CHARITY BALL

The 31st Annual Charity Ball, sponsored by **GenOn, Jazzercise Avon Lake/Westlake, LaCentre Conference & Banquet Facility and Performance Health**, was held on Saturday, January 25th. It was a night to celebrate the many ways that CRS has made a difference in the lives of the residents of Avon and Avon Lake who are struggling financially. Guests enjoyed a sit-down dinner, live music by The Midtown Band, auctions, raffles and many other ways to support CRS! The 2020 Charity Ball raised approximately \$73,000! All proceeds go directly towards our mission of diminishing the effects of poverty for residents of Avon and Avon Lake.

### Santa's Workshop and Holiday Assistance

For most of us, the holidays are filled with family gatherings, delightful meals and generous gifts from loved ones. For many of the CRS families, the holidays are an extra burden on an already tight budget.

Santa's Workshop gives CRS parents the opportunity to select a coat, gifts and pajamas for each of their children. We were also able to offer pre-made stockings and a family basket, non-perishable food and a gift card for perishables to each family. Senior citizens also received a holiday gift bag. These items are entirely stocked from donations we receive from local individuals, church groups, businesses, civic organizations, giving trees and schools.

All of these donations brightened the lives of 174 Avon and Avon Lake families, made up of 192 adults and 332 children.

be facing food insecurity during the summer months. The Summer Lunch Program continues to grow each year serving 4,091 lunches during the summer of 2019 when Pastor Phail organized over 800 volunteers from 8 local churches, the Avon Schools, the Avon Library, The Cleveland Clinic Avon Hospital, and God's Soldier Ministry. 37 local businesses also contributed to the program as well.



CRS Board President, John Alten, presents the 2020 John Shook Award to Pastor Jeffrey Phail.



### Charity Ball Jewelry Raffle



Congratulations to Michele Adams! She was the lucky winner of the Charity Ball Jewelry Raffle! Thank you to **Peter & Co. Jewelers** for their generous donation of a stunning diamond tennis bracelet valued at \$6,690!

There are far too many people and groups to acknowledge, as we received hundreds of donations. Some of our larger donations came from the following: Avon PTA, Holy Trinity Church, The Goddard School-Westlake, GenOn, Hinkley Lighting, Avon Lake Police Department, Christ Church Westshore, Avon Lake United Church of Christ and Independence Village. Special thanks to Bucky Kopf, VIP Property for providing the space where we held Santa's Workshop.

It is with deep gratitude that we express our heartfelt thanks to all of our donors. Each donation comes with individual thought and kindness that we have the honor of passing along to the families we serve.



### 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:

Avon Lake Garden Club, Lake Erie Harley-Davidson, Lakeshore United Methodist Church, Redwood Elementary School, RGM Materials, Redwood Elementary School 1st Grade, Learwood Middle School and Westview Elementary School.

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!

### Charity Ball Photos

To see all the photos taken at the 2020 Charity Ball, click on the following link:

[www.crscharityball.shutterfly.com](http://www.crscharityball.shutterfly.com)

Enjoy!

### 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](http://www.crs.org)