

Hope for the hungry.



What is

God's Kitchen?



Each day Catholic Charities West Michigan works to feed the hungry, counsel those who struggle and build strong families throughout West Michigan. God's Kitchen, a program of Catholic Charities West Michigan, has been a beacon of hope and respite in the Heartside community for over fifty years.

Last year, God's Kitchen served over 75,000 meals. In an effort to eliminate barriers and uplift those in need, each day a noontime meal is provided with no questions asked and no qualifiers. Our mission at God's Kitchen is to directly support those who need immediate help, whoever they may be. We serve the able and disabled, the youngest among us and the elderly, mothers, fathers and those seeking food for their minor children.

"Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love."

- St. Teresa of Calcutta

In addition to the services provided to our community at God's Kitchen, our reach extends to those in need of support outside of our immediate area through programs such as God's Roamin' Kitchen and Home Delivered Meals. We recognize that the most vulnerable in our communities are often further marginalized by lack of adequate, reliable transportation. God's Kitchen has responded to this barrier through mobile distribution programs which deliver meals directly to individuals who face transportation restrictions.

Learn. Volunteer. Give.

We invite you to discover more about the many ways in which those who hunger for hope are supported through our programming at God's Kitchen.

Feed the hungry



God's Kitchen

God's Kitchen opens its doors Monday through Saturday from 12:30PM to 2:00PM and provides a hot, healthy meal to those in need. Meals are prepared by our God's Kitchen staff and our dedicated volunteer community.

Our patrons are served with dignity and respect, with no questions asked and no qualifiers.

- God's Kitchen volunteers dedicated over 9,500 hours last year to feeding our community in need.
- God's Kitchen is supported solely by the generosity of the community.
- Over 75,000 meals were served at God's Kitchen last year.

Hunger in Michigan

- One in **nine** people in Michigan experience food insecurity.
- Over **300,000** children in Michigan are food insecure.
- 6.9% of seniors face food insecurity in Michigan.

*Food Security Council Final Report Feb., 7, 2022.



Remove *barriers*



God's Roamin' Kitchen

Combatting the barriers that amplify food insecurity is critical to addressing the needs of the hungry in our communities. God's Roamin' Kitchen is an extension of God's Kitchen and operates as a mobile food distribution service in rural areas where transportation is limited and critical resources are inaccessible.

God's Roamin' Kitchen distributes 100 hot, healthy meals in rural areas on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 to 12:30PM.

- God's Roamin' Kitchen was established in 2019.
- God's Roamin' Kitchen served over 11,000 healthy meals in underserved communities last year.
- God's Roamin' Kitchen is a gateway for additional outreach, connecting families with CCWM and area partner services.

Hunger in rural Michigan

- In counties with the highest population of food insecure children, **84%** are rural.
- **Nine** out of **ten** counties with the highest food insecurity rates are rural.
- **1 in 4** adults experience transportation insecurity.

*Feeding America - West Michigan



Look for *Solutions*



Home delivered meals

The Home Delivered Meal program at God's Kitchen provides those who are homebound with a supply of fresh, healthy meals. Each week, our dedicated delivery volunteers visit those who can't access services at God's Kitchen, ensuring these individuals are not excluded from our community.

Volunteers deliver one week's worth of meals to homebound individuals throughout the greater Grand Rapids area.

The impact of immobility

- **One in four** adults in Michigan struggle with a disability.
- Adults with mobility restrictions are more likely to suffer from the mental impacts of immobility such as depression.
- Individuals with a disability have an increased risk of suffering from health issues related to food access such as diabetes and heart disease.

*Disabilities and Health Promotion, CDC 2023

- The God's Kitchen home delivered meal program delivers over 10,000 meals to those who are homebound.
- Individuals receiving home delivered meal support have been referred to our program and face a range of medical complications that restrict mobility.



Share your time as a *Volunteer*



Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers provide critical support to our staff at God's Kitchen and assist with everything from meal prep, home delivered meal packaging, meal distribution and clean up.

Group opportunities and individual opportunities are available for those eager to share their time and talents with God's Kitchen. Additional event volunteer opportunities are available throughout the year.

For more information about volunteering or to schedule a group volunteer date, Contact Davina Bryan at dbryan@ccwestmi.org or 616-330-9514.



The gift of time and talent

- Volunteer as a group or individual on a weekday or on a Saturday.
- Special employee community service days are a great way for an organization to volunteer and support God's Kitchen with time and talent.
- Volunteer to deliver home delivered meals and support those with mobility restrictions.
- Take 100 meals to one of our rural distribution sites and support our rural neighbors.
- Sign up to support God's Kitchen as a Soup's On For All! volunteer.
- Share your creative talents and host a bowl painting party with friends and family.
- Visit our website for more information regarding ongoing volunteer opportunities and upcoming event volunteer roles.

Provide Food Resources



Organize a food drive

God's Kitchen's shelves are filled by the generosity of our community.

We are always accepting food donations! You can support God's Kitchen by providing the food resources needed to prepare a meal for someone in need.

Organizing a food drive at your school, church, or business is a tangible way for you to contribute to our mission and support your community.

Contact Karol Maurer at kmaurer@ccwestmi.org or 616-356-6207 to donate!

Kitchen needs:

Proteins

- Bulk Meat*
- Ground Beef*
- Chicken*
- Pork Loin*
- Peanut Butter

*Looking for these items frozen, or from a certified butcher properly labeled.

Vegetables

- Fresh Produce
- Anything frozen
- Canned Veggies (preferably size 10 cans)
- Split peas

Starches / Grains

- Boxed potatoes
- Rice (White/Brown/Wild)
- Lentils
- Barley
- Pasta



Help provide Funding



Help fund God's Kitchen

God's Kitchen is funded **solely** by the generosity of our community. You, your business or organization can feed the hungry by making a monetary donation and make an immediate impact on your community today.

\$500 = 227 meals
\$1,000 = 454 meals
\$2,500 = 1,136 meals
\$5,000 = 2,272 meals
\$10,000 = 4,545 meals



How to donate

- Visit our website at ccwestmi.org/donate!
- If you prefer to make a donation over the phone or have any questions, please contact Karol Maurer at 616.356.6207 or kmaurer@ccwestmi.org.
- If you prefer to make a donation by check, please make checks payable to: Catholic Charities West Michigan

Mail to Grand Rapids:
Catholic Charities West Michigan
Attn: Development
40 Jefferson Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

or

Mail To Muskegon:
Catholic Charities West Michigan
Attn: Development
1720 Park St
Muskegon, MI 49441

Show your *Creativity*



Host a bowl painting party

When? Whenever you want! Holidays, Birthdays, Family Reunions or any other group gathering!

Where: Wherever you want! Bowl painting parties can be held at any location.

Why: All proceeds from your bowl painting party help support our programs at God's Kitchen. Bowls that you paint and donate to CCWM will be used at our annual Soup's On For All! event, which benefits God's Kitchen.

Paint a bowl and help feed those in need!

\$10 to paint a bowl and keep it
\$8 to paint a bowl and donate it
\$15 to paint two bowls, one to keep
and one to donate

Contact Jean Sullivan to set up your party at jsulu50@icloud.com or 616.204.3706



Support our *Fundraising*



Support Soup's On For All!

For over fifty years, God's Kitchen has provided a meal to those in need. Soup's On For All! is a time when we come together and celebrate the programs of God's Kitchen with a night of food, friends, and fundraising.

This highly anticipated annual event offers attendees a sampling of soups and breads prepared by local restaurants as well as desserts and a variety of live entertainment.

Breaking bread, building communities

- This annual community event raised over **\$120,000** this year for God's Kitchen.
- Over **250** volunteers dedicate their time and talents to Soup's On For All!
- Over **800 guests** filled The B.O.B. to support Soup's On For All!

- Play a special role in Soup's On For All! by painting and donating bowls. These bowls will be sold and given away to each ticket holder.
- Volunteer, sponsor or attend our largest annual fundraiser for God's Kitchen, Soup's On For All!



Sponsor our *Fundraising*



Sponsor Soup's On For All!

The programs of God's Kitchen provide help and create hope for thousands of individuals facing food insecurity each year.

Support those in our community who need it the most, by partnering with God's Kitchen at Soup's On For All!



Sponsor Levels

PLATINUM SPONSOR | \$7,500

- Ten complimentary event tickets, VIP reception admissions and soup bowls Premier placement of company logo and link on website Premier placement of company logo on all advertising and promotional materials (including billboards) Mentions in traditional and social media promotions

GOLD SPONSOR | \$5,000

- Eight complimentary event tickets, VIP reception admissions and soup bowls Prominent placement of company logo and link on website Prominent placement of company logo on advertising and promotional materials Mentions in social media promotions

SILVER SPONSOR | \$2,500

- Four complimentary event tickets, VIP reception admissions and soup bowls Placement of company logo and link on website Placement of company name on program and event signage Mentions in social media promotions

BRONZE SPONSOR | \$1,000

- Two complimentary event tickets and soup bowls Inclusion of company name and link on website Placement of company name in program

SOUP SUPPORTER | \$500

- Two complimentary event tickets and soup bowls Inclusion of name in program

Sponsor Information

Sponsor Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Sponsorship Level

- Platinum Sponsor \$7,500
- Gold Sponsor \$5,000
- Silver Sponsor \$2,500
- Bronze Sponsor \$1,000
- Soup Supporter \$ 500

Total \$ _____

Method of Payment

- Check enclosed
- Charge my card

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date: _____ CSC# _____

Signature _____

- VISA
- MasterCard
- Discover

or you can scan here to pay with your
CC by selcting specify program and
typing "diaper days" in the box.



Please return this form to
Catholic Charities West Michigan
40 Jefferson Ave SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Explore, Engage, *Evolve*



Our mission to advocate for the most vulnerable among us requires that we bring awareness to the fundamental obstacles impacting food equity. Whether you're interested in volunteering, hosting a food drive or providing support through the gift of sponsorship, we invite you to learn more about the barriers that influence food access and nutrition.

Our team of food security advocates and program leaders can provide education and inspire action. We are available for classroom and group speaking engagements as well as group tours and education at God's Kitchen.

Contact Karol Maurer at kmaurer@ccwestmi.org or 616-356-6207 for more information.



Engage your community
through education.

Inspire advocacy
through awareness.

God's Kitchen
303 Division Ave S
Grand Rapids, MI 49503