



8791 McBRIDE PARK COURT
HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN 49740



Feeding the hungry throughout the north.

Organized in 1987, The Manna Food Project is a private 501(c)(3), non-profit corporation, comprising a food bank and food pantry. The purpose of our organization is to gather, organize, and distribute food to those in need throughout Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet Counties.

Your contribution helps feed families in need.

WWW.MANNAFOODPROJECT.ORG

FALL/WINTER 2009



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VOLUNTEER

The Manna Food Project is constantly welcoming volunteers to the operation. For information on volunteering, please contact Gabrielle Billion at 231-347-8852 or manna@mannafoodproject.org.

DONATE

The Manna Food Project welcomes donations of any size, both as product or financial contributions. Please call 231-347-8852 or email manna@mannafoodproject.org for information on making a donation.

RECEIVE

For a list of area pantries and soup kitchens offering services, please visit www.mannafoodproject.org or call 231-347-8852.

CONNECT

*Facebook:
The Manna Food Project Page*

*Web:
www.mannafoodproject.org*

HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM MANNA

Well, it has been quite a year here at The Manna Food Project. We constantly hear comments about what a great job we are doing at Manna but this job would not be possible without the fantastic support of the communities that we serve. How blessed we were to have completed our warehouse expansion just when our economy was hitting some hard times. How blessed we were that all the money was raised for the project prior to beginning the addition.

To truly appreciate the need for the warehouse expansion, we look at 2008 service numbers versus 2009. January 1 thru November 30, 2008, we distributed the equivalent of 928,340 meals to our agencies in Emmet, Charlevoix, and Antrim counties. This year numbers are up over 40%, with 1,548,323 meal equivalents distributed in the same time period during 2009. It is only because of the generosity of so many that we can even begin to keep up with the demand. None of this would be possible without the support of each and every person, business, foundation, service club, and church group that collected one can of soup or donated one-dollar to Manna.

Many of the clients using the services of the food pantries express true and sincere gratitude for what they receive, not only the food but also a kind word or a listening ear. Just knowing that someone out there cares enough to help makes a huge difference in so many lives.

It is during this Holiday Season that we pause and take this opportunity to say "thank you" for caring and for doing. Without your support over the past 22 years, The Manna Food Project would not be here to provide food for struggling families in northern Michigan. It is only with the continued support of many that we are able to make sure that our neighbors are not going to bed hungry. And yes, your support this year is more important than ever. Anything you can do, no matter how great or small, will be appreciated by those that receive your wonderful gift.

Have a very Merry Christmas and blessings for a Happy New Year!

Kathy Hart, Executive Director
The Manna Food Project

PROJECT CONNECT - FEBRUARY 3, 2010

Project Connect is a day of services for those in need. Job assistance, hair cuts, tax advice, and information on utility credits are just a few examples of the services offered at this all day event. The 2010 Project Connect will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall on US 31 in Petoskey (10am - 5:30pm). For more details on participating or attending, please contact Manna at 231-347-8852 or manna@mannafoodproject.org.



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MICHIGAN FOOD BANK TAX CREDIT

Many people are not aware of the extraordinary Food Bank Tax Credit offered on donations by the State of Michigan. Below is a sample of how this credit works when making a donation to our organization.

	<i>Married Itemizer:</i>	
<i>Gift</i>		\$400.00
<i>Savings from Federal Income Tax Deduction at 27%</i>		-\$108.00
<i>Savings from Michigan Food Bank Tax Credit</i>		-\$200.00
<i>Donor's Actual Cost</i>		\$92.00
	<i>Single Itemizer:</i>	
<i>Gift</i>		\$200.00
<i>Savings from Federal Income Tax Deduction at 27%</i>		-\$54.00
<i>Savings from Michigan Food Bank Tax Credit</i>		-\$100.00
<i>Donor's Actual Cost</i>		\$46.00

Please check with your tax consultant for tax savings in your particular bracket.

\$120,000 SAVED THROUGH VOLUNTEER HOURS

Volunteers are a critical part of the Manna organization. Individually, they offer support to the mission by stocking shelves, making deliveries, assisting with the pantry, and contributing to the overall operation of the Manna warehouse.

Collectively, they contribute greatly to the financial bottom line of The Manna Food Project. Minutes add up to hours and hours add up to work weeks. In the end, those work weeks equate to literally thousands of dollars saved in labor costs.

Estimating the dollar value of volunteer time at \$20.25 per hour, Manna has already saved over \$120,000 in 2009 through the generosity of those donating their time.

Thank you to everyone who works hard on Manna's behalf.

Volunteering with The Manna Food Project can be a wonderfully rewarding experience. Please contact Manna today for details on the many ways you can volunteer.

231-347-8852
 manna@mannafoodproject.org

RECENT NEWS

September 21 - The First Annual Golf Fore Manna golf outing was a tremendous success with over 40 golfers participating. A special thank you to all who made this event at Hidden River Golf & Casting Club such a success. The event raised \$2,390 for The Manna Food Project and plans are already in the works for next year's event on September 9, 2010.

November 23 - This year's Empty Bowls event was another great success with over 300 guests attending at Stafford's Perry Hotel in Petoskey. The event raised \$7,150 for The Manna Food Project.

Thanksgiving Day - The Manna Food Project was the coordinating agency for over a dozen area programs offering Thanksgiving Dinners to literally hundreds of area residents. Thank you to all involved.

November 28 - Odawa Casino Resort held their First Annual Chili and Wings Cook-off benefiting The Manna Food Project. Each of four winners received \$500.00 in Instant Optimum Rewards. The event raised \$847.00 in donated food product for The Manna Food Project.

December 5 - The Manna Food Project was one of more than a dozen active NFP organizations represented at this year's Alternative Gift Fair at First Presbyterian Church in Harbor Springs.

December 5 - A very special thank you to everyone involved with the Kuheana Benefit Breakfast at Red Mesa Grill in Boyne City. The event raised funds for The Manna Food Project's Boyne area pantries.

December 7 - The Glen's Market Supermarket Sweep, December 7, was a great deal of fun for everyone involved. The event raised over \$1400 in donated product from Glen's South in Petoskey and also kicked off the Glen's Scan Away Hunger program.

December 12 - Special thank you to Pet Supplies Plus in Petoskey for organizing their Pictures with Santa At Pet Supplies Plus. The event allows Manna to help those who are struggling to care for their beloved pets.

December 12 - The Manna Food Project was the benefactor of a free-will offering at this year's production of "The Christmas Schooner", put on by the Little Traverse Civic Theatre. Thank you to LTCT for choosing Manna as their benefactor.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN
 A WONDERFUL
 SUCCESS**

Volunteer Anthony Peters, oversaw the creation of a community garden this past summer at Petoskey United Methodist Church.

The garden was tended to by area residents filling community service hours. Harvesting items such as carrots, tomatoes, potatoes, peppers and onions, the garden yielded over 1,000 pounds of produce which was donated to The Manna Food Project.

Thank you to everyone who contributed.

**CLEAN HOUSE
 AND DONATE TODAY**

As the holidays conclude, Manna encourages everyone to clean house and take expired or unused food products into the warehouse for distribution.

Many area residents are now leaving for the winter months. Please consider making a donation.

SAVE THE DATE
 Visit cava in Bay Harbor on the evening of February 23 for a wintertime fundraiser benefitting The Manna Food Project. Details to follow!

PANTRIES, SOUP KITCHENS POSTED ONLINE
 In an effort to better service our clients in need of assistance, we now have a complete list of area pantries and soup kitchens noted on our website.
 Listings include locations and hours of operation for organizations throughout Antrim, Emmet and Charlevoix counties.



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231-347-8852

WEEKLY LOCAL PICK-UP DONATIONS

The Manna Food Project is thrilled to receive weekly donations from area grocers including Glen's Markets, Wal-mart, Crooked Tree Breadworks, Big Apple Bagels, Grand Traverse Pie Company, Julienne Tomatoes, Oleson's, Toski-Sands, Tannery Creek, and Bill's Farm Market. Please contact Manna directly for information on making weekly donations.