

SOUP KITCHEN of MUNCIE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

















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The year 2023 was a record-setter.

We served 40,000 people, which equals 80,000 meals. This is the highest number we have ever served in our 29 years of existence. Furthermore, we did it all while navigating some of the worst inflation in decades, with food prices hit especially hard.

Increased demand combined with increased food costs was not something we expected coming out of the pandemic. The year tested us, but I'm happy to report that we responded with grit and determination, because we know so many vulnerable people depend on us.

And we did it with help from many of you reading this report.

If you are a volunteer, a donor, a nonprofit partner, or if you attended one of our fundraisers, I want you to know how deeply we appreciated your support this past year.

We've never been more grateful.

Also in 2023, we hired a new kitchen manager as we lost our longtime manager to a full-time job. Our new manager is a retiree from BSU dining service. We are in good hands as she supervises the shift in the afternoon, guiding the volunteers to do the prep work getting food ready for the next morning.

Our morning supervisor and custodian continue to keep us going in the mornings collaborating with the volunteers to serve our guests every day Monday through Friday 9:30 to 11 a.m.

We expanded our board to 15 members and assigned members to committees that match their interest. This new energy has resulted in several new fundraising ideas. We have instituted a spring food drive that coincides with Lent, called "Forty Days of Giving." This has been successful in getting food items we needed to cook food and make sack lunches. We had a benefit at Tonne Winery called "Sip for Soup." It was a magnificent event that brought people out to bid on silent auction items while they enjoyed wine, live music, and charcuteries.

I hope you review our Annual Report 2023. Please check out our website where you can donate. Like and share our Facebook page. Remember we need your help to continue our work by feeding the neediest in our community. Please jump in with your gifts, your time, and talents.

Thank you to all that donate to the Soup Kitchen. We could not serve without you.

Please know how honored I am to serve this essential organization.

Loretta Parsons Executive Director



2023 Statistics

Delaware county is ranked indiana's 2nd highest county in percent of residents living below the poverty level.

- **20.2%** Delaware county residents living below the poverty level
- **17.5%** Delaware county overall food insecurity rate.
- **23.4%** Delaware county child food insecurity rate
- 66% Children in delaware county are eligible for some level of nutrition assistance.

2023 was our biggest year in our 29 years of feeding the hungry in Muncie and Delaware. We served close to 40,000 people, which equals close to 80,000 meals. Each person receives a hot meal and sack lunches for later. With inflation our costs nearly doubled.



SUPPORTERS

The demand is great and fundraising is a big part of what we do as a board.

Todd Brady

We are extremely grateful to our supporters for their donations of time, talent and treasure as part of our:

- Annual Appeal Campaign
- Monthly/Quarterly Donations from Knight of Columbus, Destiny Church, Panera Bread and • many other churches and organizations
- Grants from various agencies in our area: FEMA, Tri Kappa, Ball Brothers Foundation, Community Foundation, Rotary Club of Muncie, Osaic Foundation and PSI IOTA XI Sorority.

SOUP KITCHEN OF MUNCIE **DONORS - 2023**

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CHAMPIONS OF THE SOUP KITCHEN









We could not do what we do without our dedicated volunteers and staff!





Pictures from Summerfest 2023













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We feed the hungry of the Muncie Community with dignity and respect without regard to race, gender, sexuality, or religious preference.

The Soup Kitchen of Muncie is a non-profit, non-sectarian soup kitchen that serves those in need of food in Muncie, Indiana and the Delaware County Community. We serve all who are hungry with dignity and respect. Guests receive a hot meal and sack lunch.

We are serving Monday through Friday 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM.

Donations

Donations are always greatly appreciated and accepted! Online donations are now possible. Checks can be mailed or hand delivered to the kitchen.

In addition to monetary donations:

Food and supply donations are also welcomed! These donations can be in the form of bulk raw food items or in the form of sack lunches prepared by your group or organization. This is a great opportunity for youth groups or other organizations looking for a fun volunteer activity. For more information, please contact us!

Volunteer

Volunteers are always appreciated! All ages are welcome to volunteer, but children 13 and under need to have an adult present while they volunteer. For further information on volunteering with the Soup Kitchen of Muncie, please call our director, Ms. Parsons, at (765) 287-8439 from 7:00 am – 11:00 am on Wednesday – Friday.

Volunteer Positions Needed:

Kitchen Staff Cleaning Workers Drivers for Food Pick-Up Computer Savvy Individuals Fund Drive Organizers Donors of Bakery Items (esp. sugar), Fresh/Canned Food

Contact

Sign up for our email newsletter and join our Facebook social community. These small efforts will help spread the word about our cause and make a tremendous difference.

MAILING ADDRESS

The Soup Kitchen of Muncie PO Box 68 Muncie, IN 47308

LOCATION 920 East Charles Street, Muncie, IN



(765) 287-8439



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