



OLIVET
neighborhood mission

Newsletter

Spring 2016

Trying to find a way to give back to your community?

For as little as \$10 you can make a difference. The need for food in our community is growing every year. In 2015 the Mission distributed 199,853 pounds of food. Unfortunately, the food which we purchase from HACAP at a reduced cost only accounts for 60% of our total need. This is a 45% increase over the past 2 years. We were awarded the 2015 HACAP Award as the Linn County pantry which distributed the most food from HACAP. At present, we must supplement the HACAP food with items from local grocery stores. We are again outgrowing our space as we continue to meet an ever-increasing need in the community. With the support of our generous community, the Mission hopes to give more food to more families by expanding space to store non-perishable food items, donated clothing, and household items. All donations are tax deductible.



MENARDS®

Excellent Work, Menards!

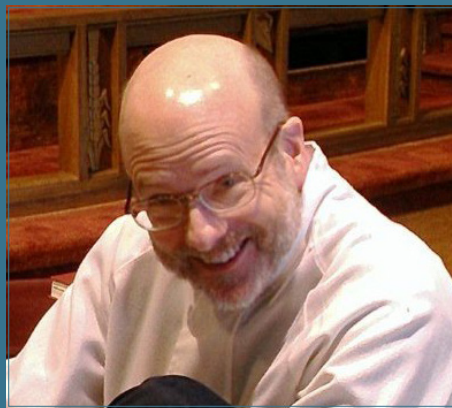
Menards on the SW side of Cedar Rapids is running a food drive for us during the months of February, March, and April.

Neighborhood Youth Program

Did you know Olivet Mission also has After-School and Summer Youth Programs? We partner with the Boys and Girls Club of Cedar Rapids to ensure the highest quality of programming. The focus of our youth program is to build character, support education, and provide structure during an otherwise unsupervised time for at-risk children, ages 5-13 years old. This program teaches the importance for good personal health and physical fitness, increases learning skills, develops stronger leadership qualities, and provides positive role models. Enhanced learning opportunities and field trips are included into the program curriculum appropriate times and as money allows. The summer program is already full with several on the wait-list. Funding and community donation levels directly influence the number of children we are able to serve, children-to-instructor ratios, and firsthand student exploration opportunities.

2015 Year in Review

- 24,739 individuals/families were served by clothing/household item distribution
- 7,281 food boxes distributed
- 20,016 adults/children received food from those food boxes
- 76 children participated in After-School & Summer Recreation Programming for 5,617 contact hours
- 568 individuals received coats through Coats for Kids
- 2,110 individuals received Back to School Supplies (coordinated event with 8 nonprofits)
- 681 individuals (160 families) adopted for Thanksgiving
- 550 individuals/children (205 families) adopted for Christmas gifts
- 7,004 volunteer hours worked in the Food Pantry and Clothing Closet programs valued at more than \$161,000



Donor Spotlight **Steve Berg**

"What motivates me to donate regularly is the memory of being unemployed for more than a year in the aftermath of the "Great Recession" of 2008. I lived in the neighborhood when I first moved to Cedar Rapids so Olivet Mission still feels like a neighbor."

Our Mission

Olivet Neighborhood Mission empowers community members by providing resources during their times of need. The Mission serves as a catalyst for community organizing, growth, and development of community spirit and identity. We advocate for individuals, groups, and causes which lack a voice and strive to establish social justice in our community.

Donate today at

www.olivetmission.org

click on the  link

Like us on  and see what we are up to next!

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Erica Carrico, Director

What an amazing year we had last year! In 2015 Olivet Neighborhood Mission far exceeded our goals and performed over 69,000 acts of service. Thank you to the entire community for your support in making this outreach possible. The Mission Board is exploring several exciting and innovative ways that we can continue to empower our community in 2016 and beyond by providing resources such as food, clothing, basic health, and quality youth programs to people who need it most.



230 10th St. N.W.
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

"Without the Mission, I don't know how I would put food on the table for my three boys."
 - Olivet Neighborhood Mission Client



Upcoming Events and Other Ways to Support Your Community

April 28th
 Mini fundraiser with Zio Johnno's! Summer is coming and we are entering a busy time of year at the mission with the school year wrapping up. Zio Johnno's will kindly be donating 10% of all sales to the Mission! This is a great way to fill your tummies and our food pantry at the same time. Invite friends, family, co-workers and come on out!!
Thursday April 28th at Zio Johnno's
 (2925 Williams Pkwy SW, Cedar Rapids)
 Order food anytime between 11:00am & 9:00pm

May & June
 Community Gardens - Half of our garden beds will be assigned to community members to grow their own foods, and the other half will provide additional fresh fruits and vegetables for distribution in our Food Pantry.

June 13th - August 5th
 Summer Youth Program 8:30am - 6:00pm. Lunch, snacks, and field trips provided (in partnership with Boys & Girls Club of Cedar Rapids).

August 23rd
 After-School Youth Program Begins 3:00pm - 6:00pm. Dinner included (in partnership with Boys & Girls Club of Cedar Rapids).

October 23rd
 Coat Distribution (in partnership with KCRG and Salvation Army) 8:30 - 11:30am.

October 20th - November 7th
 Holiday Adoption SPONSOR sign-up.

November 21st-25th
 Thanksgiving Basket Delivery.

December 14th - 23rd
 Christmas Basket Delivery.

Year Round
 Food Pantry and Clothing Closet open for service and donations
 Tuesday - Friday 8:30am - 11:30am,
 Saturday 9:00am - 11:30am.

How Your Donation Can Help

- \$10** will supply three families with a food box
- \$25** will buy two cases of canned veggies for our Food Pantry
- \$75** will prepare two community garden plots for upcoming season
- \$150** will provide field trips for one Youth Program member for a year
- \$575** will stock our Food Pantry for one week
- \$1,000** will provide a Summer Youth Program for three children

We Are The Neighbors of the Neighbors We Help