

**Emergency Overnight
Shelter and Services**

831 N. Sycamore St.
(Corner of Oakland & Sycamore)
Lansing, MI 48906

Loaves and Fishes



Ministries

**Transitional Housing
and Services**

Zacchaeus House for women
with children
Luke's House for single men

Telephone (517) 482-2099 Fax (517) 482-6848

Spring 2018

In Gratitude to Our Community Partner Creative Wellness

By Jenny Leaf, L&F Director



Over the years we have been blessed to be the recipient of support from many local businesses and have had the opportunity to partner with businesses in reaching out to the community in different ways. *One of our most generous partners has been Creative Wellness in East Lansing, Michigan.* It is very possible that you have seen Creative Wellness at a local event, providing massages or other services.

In the fall of 2016, Creative Wellness hosted an Open House where people could come in for massages or chiropractic appointments. *Loaves and Fishes Ministries received 100% of the payments received for these*

appointments. Most importantly, we were able to meet many of the clients and talk about the services we provide for our brothers and sisters in need of housing support, as well as about homelessness in general.

This past February, for the 2nd consecutive year, Creative Wellness chose to support us again at the Mid-Michigan Women's Expo in Lansing. They provided chair massages at their booth at this event for \$1 per minute. *And, as with the 2017 Expo, they donated 100% of the proceeds to Loaves and Fishes Ministries, presenting us with a check for \$1,400.* That's a lot of massages!

We certainly appreciate the financial support from Creative Wellness, but what is most striking is the connection we have made in the work we do in the community. Creative Wellness is active in attending to the health needs of the community through providing services such as massage therapy, chiropractic, acupuncture and energy work, just to name a few. Taking care of people is what they are passionate about and what they do well. We at Loaves and Fishes Ministries strive to do the same by tending to the most basic needs of our community in need by providing food, shelter, and welcoming hearts. We cannot thank Creative Wellness enough for making this connection and for supporting us in furthering their and our impact in the world.

What are you passionate about? How can you help? In what ways can we be creative and partner together to make your time and resources have the biggest impact and make the biggest difference in our community? We look forward to hearing from you and working together to meet the needs of our most vulnerable brothers and sisters. Call or email us with your ideas!

*The reach of the gifts you bring to Loaves and Fishes Ministries
and to our guests is far and wide, tall and deep. Thank you!*

Highlighting L&F Volunteer Service Fox 47 News Employees reach out with Dinners to Guests

By Jim Veurink, Co-President, Core Community Board of Directors

One of the special characteristics of Loaves and Fishes Ministries is the many friends, faith communities and employees in our Greater Lansing community who are actively involved with providing meals, staffing 6-10 pm shifts and supporting our guests by working overnight shifts. Every day we rely on the generosity and volunteerism of you, our faithful friends, to sustain the lives of our sisters and brothers experiencing homelessness.



Such is the work of Dana Kromer, Media Specialist, and her Fox 47 News WSYM TV Team who prepare a special taco meal each and every month. Dana, along with Christine Mitchell, Kristine Melser and Kristi Tabor, coordinate, supply and prepare the special ingredients to make an extraordinary dinner for our guests. Even a recently retired Fox 47 employee, Kip, has continued to donate money for meal ingredients!

For Dana, providing meals is a special opportunity to combine her love for cooking, gratitude for the help others have provided her family, and coordinating Fox 47's group effort to make a difference! Dana knows first-hand from family experiences the vulnerability of loved ones not having stable housing and reliable daily meals. Both her mother and sister had experienced homelessness and hard times. These experiences within her family have not been lost on Dana.

Through these personal encounters with her sister's and mother's tough times, Dana has returned her good fortune with the conviction that what she and her team can do for others, our guests, in turn, is to support them in developing skills to better their lives. "Through the opportunity of a warm meal, a comfortable bed, being loved and cared for by the Shelter," she said, "it is my hope and prayer that our guests find those tools to better themselves for the next day and develop a productive future."

THANK YOU, DANA AND THE FOX 47 NEWS TEAM, FOR YOUR OUTREACH WITH HEARTY MEALS THAT OFFER OUR LOAVES AND FISHES GUESTS STABILITY AND A FUTURE DEFINED BY HOPE!

To join our L&F volunteer team, contact Beth Young at volunteer@loavesandfisheslansing.org

Please consider helping to sustain L&F by:

1. using the enclosed donor envelope OR
2. make secure donations through our website at www.loavesandfisheslansing.org
Click on "Donate," then click the "Network for Good" button.



OR consider Legacy Giving (Next column)

SHAPING THE FUTURE WITH LEGACY GIVING



Plan now to share your bounty to help secure the future of our sisters and brothers experiencing homelessness in the Greater Lansing Area, by designating Loaves and Fishes Ministries as a recipient of a portion of your financial blessings in your Will or Trust.

May God bless you!

Honoring our Community Partners with our deepest gratitude!

By Joan Tirak, Co-President, Core Community Board of Directors

After 37 years of faith-filled service to our Loaves and Fishes guests, working with our dedicated staff and volunteers to keep our Loaves & Fishes Miracle alive, **we bow in homage to each and every one of you who have given of your time, talent, and/or treasure to this communal endeavor.** *Whether you have given \$1, \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1000...or several thousand, ALL are precious gifts that make the continuation of this critical work possible.* Because of this, we are most happy to report that 2017 was the 2nd consecutive year in a very long time that we were able to meet all of our expenses and have a modest surplus to begin the New Year! We pray that, with God's help, our L&F Miracle of service may thrive despite the challenges that each new year brings!



*(Photo top right) Loaves and Fishes Ministries Director Jenny Leaf along with Nancy from EVE, and Sophia and Lerato from Gateway all stopped in to pick up the quilts that were finished at **Country Stitches, Ltd. Quilt-A-Thon** over the 2017 Memorial Day Weekend. Thank you so much to all the volunteers who were able to create 36 quilts, bringing Country Stitches grand total of quilts finished this year to 224! Jenny was overjoyed to accept the gift of quilts for our guests with sincere gratitude to all who made this possible.*

WE ALSO HONOR ALL OF OUR OTHER COMMUNITY PARTNERS, WHO, LIKE OUR INDIVIDUAL FINANCIAL DONORS, ARE CRITICAL IN MAKING OUR L&F MIRACLE CONTINUE TO WORK!

Granger Foundation

Recently the Granger Foundation graciously awarded L&F with a \$9,000 grant to rebuild a dangerously failing retaining wall at Luke's House, our transitional shelter for single men. This is not the first time that Granger, which has a strong faith message on all their trucks, has come to our rescue. We are enormously grateful!

Department of Health and Human Services

We sincerely thank the HHS Vital Records and Health Statistics employees who generously provided items from our wish list: sheets, towels, cleaning supplies, etc.!

St. Michael's Parish Mom's Group

Our thanks to the Moms from St. Michael Parish in Grand Ledge who also generously provided items from our wish list: sheets, towels, cleaning supplies, etc. Thank you to all who donated to make this possible!

Summerhill Estates of Lansing

Harriet McCarthy, one of our life-long volunteers, who does 6-10 evening shifts at L&F's emergency overnight shelter, hooked us up with Summerhill Estates, since she lives in one of their properties. They put donation boxes in the lobbies of several of their locations to collect items for our wish list. Our thanks to Harriet and to the generous residents!

Grand Hotel Mackinac Michigan

Staff and employees adopted our shelter guests for Christmas and provided gift bags for each of our guests, filled with items that warmed their hearts and their bodies. Thank you so much!

Lansing Air Traffic Control Tower Employees

For some years now, FAA workers have shopped, wrapped, loaded and delivered specially purchased gifts for our L&F Transitional Homes Christmas gift project. Others made donations toward the purchases. What an incredible group, and what an amazing gift to our long-term transitional housing guests!

Creative Wellness, East Lansing

We have been incredibly blessed for the 3rd time in the past two years with Creative Wellness selecting Loaves and Fishes Ministries as the recipient of the \$1,400 in donations that their massage therapists received at 2018 Mid-Michigan Women's Expo. Our humble thanks to all of you! (Read more on pg 1)

Woody's Oasis Trowbridge East Lansing

Woody's Oasis restaurant collected \$244.00 in donations from customers who gave \$1 or more when making food purchases. This is the 4th year that they have partnered with our Holiday Helping the Homeless Fundraiser...for which we are exceedingly grateful!

DeWitt Soccer Club

Their website read: **DEWITT SOCCER CLUB TO HOLD FIRST EVER POP CAN DRIVE TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE AREA'S HOMELESS.** "No amount of returnables is too big or too small. 100% of the money generated will be donated to Loaves and Fishes Ministries, a short term homeless shelter located in Lansing." On Dec 1st players and their families went door to door requesting cans and bottles with a \$.10 Michigan return, then proudly presented L&F with a check for \$744.60. Our thanks to all who participated!

Finley's Grill & Smokehouse, South Cedar

Finley's hosted Loaves and Fishes Ministries for their Fund\$ for Friend\$ fundraiser on October 17th with L&F receiving 10% of all sales that evening. We were overjoyed with the number of L&F staff, volunteers, board members and friends who came, but also the number of those who were there for other events, all of which contributed to our being awarded \$360.00!

Schuler Books - Eastwood & Meridian

For the 3rd consecutive year L&F has done Holiday gift wrapping for Schuler customers. In gratitude, customers made free-will donations which totaled \$813.14. Many asked about L&F so we were able to joyfully share the good work that is done for our guests and invite them to join us as volunteers!



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Non-Profit
Organization
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Lansing, MI
Permit No. 362



Volunteer Appreciation Month!
Our deepest gratitude to
ALL of our L&F volunteers.
"Blessed are the merciful, for mercy
shall be theirs." Matthew 5:7

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



Playmakers, Michigan Fitness Foundation, and the Gillespie Group are teaming up to provide a monthly Fun Run and Walk in downtown Lansing. The monthly event will start and finish from the Lansing Brewing Company, and participants will be able to win raffle prizes, earn free swag for attending, and enjoy a night at their new favorite watering hole. Each month

will feature a new charity that we are looking to recognize and support for their work in our community. We hope these events will help raise awareness & funds for the cause.

**Please consider making a donation to
Loaves & Fishes Ministries, our partner charity for the month of May!**

To Donate Go to <https://runsignup.com/Race/Donate/MI/Lansing/brewrun11>

Join Us for the May 9th Brew Run and Walk

Location: 518 E Shiawassee St, Lansing, MI 48912

5:45 PM -7:00PM

Registration Opens April 25, 2018 at 12:37pm

To Participate Sign Up at

<https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/Lansing/brewrun11>