

Spring/Summer
2014

Volume 17, Issue 1



COOL Central Offices

127 W. Water Street
Waukegan, IL 60085
847-662-1340

COOL Pantry East

123 W. Water Street
Waukegan, IL 60085
847-662-1230

COOL Pantry West

25519 W. Highway 134
Ingleside, IL 60041
847-270-0411

COOL Family Housing

127 W. Water Street
Waukegan, IL 60085
847-662-1340



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COOL Ministries



COOL TALK

*"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.
Matthew 7:7*

Finally, spring is in the air! What a blessing it is to see the long winter come to an end; to see grass on the lawns once again, and know that flowers will soon begin to bloom and the leaves return to the trees. At COOL the winter seemed especially harsh as crowds of pantry visitors came to COOL day after day seeking help with food and shelter. They waited outside of the doors at COOL long before the pantry opened every day regardless of the snow, ice and bitter cold.

But spring is here! Winter has ended and we have a renewed sense of hope in this ministry. Last fall we shared with our supporters that the need to help COOL with the mission of feeding our hungry and homeless neighbors had never been greater. Finances were running low here at COOL and we asked in faith and in His name for the financial help necessary to carry out this mission.

Our prayers were answered. In fact, COOL received the support necessary to pay back all that was borrowed during our time of crisis and we are hopeful that donations will continue to arrive and that the many fundraising events planned in the year ahead will successfully raise the revenue needed to sustain this ministry. Like in the scripture, we asked and "it was given." On behalf of all of us at COOL thank you for continuing to help COOL to feed the hungry and house the homeless of Lake County.

Diane Thackston
Executive Director

COOL 12th Annual Golf Outing

Registration is now underway for the COOL Golf Outing at Midlane Golf Resort in Wadsworth, Illinois on Friday, June 19, 2015. Start building your foursome today and plan to spend a sunny Friday afternoon on the greens in support of the COOL Ministries.

Tee sponsorships are available for \$100.00. Please consider sponsoring a tee. We are seeking donations for the silent auction and raffle that will be held at the dinner following the event. You will receive a tax donation letter for these items.

For more information, to secure a tee sponsorship or donate items for the silent auction or raffle, please contact Diana Fishman at dfishman@coolministries.org.

Registration forms are available at the COOL website at www.coolministries.org.



PANTRY EAST HOURS:

Monday
1:00-5:00 PM
Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday and Friday
10:00 AM-2:00 PM
One Saturday per month
(Call 847-662-1230 for
details)

PANTRY WEST HOURS:

Monday
1:00-5:00 PM
Wednesday
10:00 AM-2:00 PM
One Saturday per month
(Call 847-270-0411 for
details)



Shopping List

- . Rice
- . Pasta
- . Dried Beans
- . Cereal
- . Soup
- . Canned Vegetables
- . Canned Fruit
- . Tomato Sauce
- . Spaghetti Sauce
- . Beverages
- . Peanut Butter
- . Pork and Beans
- . Canned Meats
- . Tuna
- . Macaroni and Cheese
- . Diapers
- . Baby Food
- . Formula
- . Toiletries
- . Paper Goods

COOL FOOD PANTRIES

It's hard to believe that SPRING is here. As I look out the window I see piles of snow in the parking lot across the street, reminding me that SPRING is actually not here.....YET ! Spring is a time for change, we change into our pastel colored clothes and put our winter clothes in the back of the closet. We begin to get our gardens ready for the annual planting of our flower beds and vegetable gardens. The days become longer, the days become warmer. For our pantry guests, spring means that receiving fresh produce is in the near future. It is great to see the smiles on the guests faces when they receive fresh produce from a church garden, from an individual donor, or from a local farm. Please think of the pantry when you plant your vegetables this year!!!! Just one additional row can make a needy family very happy. The cost of fresh produce is on the rise so many of our families cannot afford to purchase such items. As always, thank you for all you do for the COOL Food Pantries!!! Your generosity is always appreciated.



Counting my blessings,
Gayle Olson
Pantries Manager

Family Housing

A New Home, New Families, and New Reasons to Hope

You will be secure, because there is hope; you will look about you and take your rest in safety.
Job 11:18

Spring brings many reasons to hope after a long winter. The guests at COOL are happy for the nicer weather and the children are anxious to get outside to ride their bikes and play in the sunshine.

This spring we celebrate that COOL has a new building donated by a generous family who believe in our mission of transforming lives and helping families learn to become self-reliant. Located in Zion, Illinois, this beautiful recently renovated duplex has 2 bedrooms on each side, enabling COOL to give a new beginning to two more families year round. Both units are now housing families that are very grateful to be in the COOL program. They are setting goals, working hard, saving their money and hope to become self-sufficient this year.



This season we hope to begin a new project at COOL for the spring and summer. Our goal is to begin a "Garden of Hope" at our property on 30th Street in Zion. Gardeners we need you! Anyone wanting to help with this is welcome. Perhaps you know just the person to help us lead this project. Our goal is to teach families participating in the program to grow their own food as part of their self-sufficiency plan. This will be a great time of bonding and fellowship with our guests and will provide them with healthy fresh vegetables and the skills to make gardening a permanent part of their lives. If you are interested in helping with the garden or have donations or other skills to offer our families, please call Shari at 847-662-1340, extension 1.

Thank you for your support and prayers. May God bless you and give you lots of Sunshine!

In His Service,
Shari Shaver, Family Case Manager

Items Needed for Family Housing Units

- Kitchen Table/ Chairs
- Dressers
- Microwaves
- Toasters
- Coffee Pots
- Silverware/Utensils
- Mixers
- Throw/Area Rugs
- Vacuum Cleaners

COOL Finance Manager

I have been part of COOL since the summer of 2005 when I started volunteering with my mom, Gayle Olson, in the pantry. I spent my school holidays and days off working in the pantry and it was such an amazing feeling getting to help those in need. In October 2011, I was offered a part-time position as Pantry Assistant working on Mondays and Wednesdays so that there was always staff coverage at the Waukegan pantry. It was a great opportunity for me since I was a single mom attending college full-time at CLC along with working a part-time retail position. In February 2013, I was hired full-time at Six Flags as a supervisor in the park services department. This meant working 7 days a week from late February through the end of November, full-time at Six Flags and part-time at COOL, but it was worth it because the COOL mission meant so much to me. In December 2014, I was offered a position as Finance Manager at COOL after Cathy Melville retired to help offset the cost of a hiring a certified public accountant. Working with COOL has been a huge part of my life and I would like to thank Diane Thackston for the opportunity to continue to grow with COOL in our mission to feed the hungry and house the homeless. In my spare time I enjoy reading and spending time with my boyfriend and our children, Lukas, 4, and Linzy, 7 months.

Tera Redman
Finance Manager

COOL Fundraisers

This spring COOL Ministries is dining out to alleviate hunger and homelessness in Lake County, Illinois. We have upcoming dining events at two restaurants. We hope you can come out and participate.

Join us for a fund raising event at Sweet Tomatoes at 850 Waukegan Road in Waukegan on April 11, 2015 from 5:00-9:00 PM. Sweet Tomatoes will donate 15% of sales generated by your organization. Purchase a meal and a beverage and enjoy a great meal and help COOL raise funds. Guests must present an event flyer at time of purchase. Flyers are available on our website at www.coolministries.org.

Stop into Panera Bread at 6557 Grand Avenue in Gurnee (corner of Grand/Hunt Club) anytime on Friday, May 15, 2015 from 6:00 AM-9:00 PM and 10-20% of qualifying sales will be donated directly to COOL. Guests must present an event flyer at time of purchase. Flyers are available on our website at www.coolministries.org.

We rely on your support to make our fundraising efforts a success. If you have fundraising ideas or would like to organize a fundraiser for COOL, please contact us. And keep checking our website for future fundraisers that are being scheduled.

Please stop by our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/COOLfeedsthehungry> for future events.



Fundraising is a good thing!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Pantry Volunteer I

Assist pantry staff with sorting, packaging, and distributing food to visitors



Pantry Volunteer II

Assist pantry staff with unloading truck, moving boxes, and general support for large pick-ups and deliveries. Heavy lifting required. Times vary.

Unit Prep Crew

Individuals or groups to assist in preparing housing units for new guests. Times vary based on need. Tasks include cleaning and painting units, lawn care and minor repairs.

Furniture Volunteers

Volunteers needed to pick up donated furniture items and deliver to our storage garage or to one of our family housing units.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Check our web site at www.coolministries.org for the latest information on upcoming spring/summer events.

COOL Fundraiser at Sweet Tomatoes
Fountain Square, Waukegan
April 11, 2015, 5-8 pm

Spring Plant Sale
Board Fundraiser—Public Invited
Bethel Lutheran Church, Gurnee
May 9, 2015

COOL Fundraiser at Panera Bread
6557 Grand Ave, Gurnee
May 15, 2015, 6 am—9 pm

Annual COOL Golf Outing
Board Fundraiser—Public Invited
Midlane Golf Resort, Wadsworth
June 19, 2015

FOODSTOCK
Free Concert in the Park
Lake Bluff Village Green
June 28, 2015, 3-7 pm



COOL
 127 W. Water Street
 Waukegan, IL 60085

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Gurnee, IL
Permit No. 337



If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail please reply to lmorgret@coolministries.org

Board of Directors

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Tom Meyer	Vice-President
Michelle Ramon	Secretary
Kurt Kolseth	Treasurer
Rev Richard Grudt	Pastoral Advisor
Jennifer Clark	
Tim Douglass	
John "Guy" Gersich	
Richard Gunnell	
Diana Knoble	
Rebecca Patrick	
Rick Pearce	
Michael Ranieri	
Ken Swanson	
Georgia Williams, DDS	

COOL Board Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the 4th Thursday of each month at Bethel Lutheran Church on Grand Ave in Gurnee.

COOL Staff

Diane Thackston	Executive Director
Linda Morgret	Executive Assistant
Tera Redman	Finance Manager
Shari Shaver	Family Housing Manager
Diana Fishman	Grants Administrator
Gayle Olson	Pantry Operations Manager
Adelaida Lopez	Pantry Aide
Dave Ross	Resource Development Coordinator

MAXIMIZE YOUR GIFT TO COOL

We are always seeking new and additional ways to fund our services. Does your employer provide any of the following?

- Matching funds for contributions that you make to a non-profit organization.
- Contributions or grants to community organizations for which you volunteer.
- A foundation that provides grants to community organizations.

If the answer is YES, then please consider COOL as the recipient of your employer's generosity. We are willing to provide assistance, if needed, in making the application to your employer. Please let us know if your employer has a foundation that requires a formal grant application.

This fiscal year to date COOL has received an amazing \$7,127.35 in donations through corporate employee giving campaigns and company matching fund programs.

Donations to COOL through **Thrivent Choice** this fiscal year to date total **\$2,189.00**

Donations to COOL may be made via our website at www.coolministries.org. One-time donations can be made via PayPal by clicking on the "Donate" button. Ongoing donations can be set up through Thrivent's "Simply Giving" no-cost program. More info and application forms are available on the COOL website.

A copy of our most recent 990 may be viewed on the COOL website: www.coolministries.org

Our heartfelt thanks to Haapanen Brothers, one of COOL's most faithful neighbors, for their generous donation of printing services for our newsletter.

COOL would like to extend a special thank you to Help Them To Hope, Inc., The News Sun, and NorStates Bank for their generous support .