

# Monthly Newsletter

## October 2025

### Shop & Donate

#### Thrift store needs:

- 4T-Size 16 boys and girls clothes for Headstart and Cass County schools

#### Pantry needs:

- Shampoo, body wash, feminine products, toothbrush/paste, canned soup, vegetables

### Give

- All of our services stay in Cass County. See our "GIVE" Page at [helpinghandscassco.org](http://helpinghandscassco.org)
- YOUR TIME? We need volunteers for Thrift Store and Pantry.

### Receive Services

- Call 211 for a referral or 269-445-8104 for our referral procedures.
- With referrals, we provide:
  - food boxes
  - certain household goods
  - hygiene products
  - clothing
  - limited utility support

*This organization is operated exclusively for purposes described in Section 501C3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Helping Hands is an equal opportunity provider.*



1984 – 2024

40+ years of service to Cass County



## Helping Hands of Cass County

SHOP, DONATE, GIVE, VOLUNTEER, & RECEIVE SERVICES

**Our Mission:** Serve the economically challenged who live in Cass County and help them bridge the gap.

## A Salute to Volunteers



**MEET NICHOLE HOBBS**, who lives in Cassopolis with husband Brandon and three young children. Calling Nicole a stay-at-home mom would be misleading; she is very active volunteering for Helping Hands and for her church. Nicole has been an important part of the pantry team for the past year, and especially in the last weeks as manager Miki recovers her health. Nicole says of her role at the pantry, "I love getting to know people in the community." We can't thank you enough for dedicating your time to helping others, Nicole!

**THANK YOU TO MIDWEST ENERGY & COMMUNICATIONS** for donating meat purchased from the fair to area pantries.

### \* FOOD DISTRIBUTION DATES \*

#### Helping Hands Food Pantry:

408 East State Street

**Tues. & Thurs: 10 AM to 3 PM**

Call 211 or agency for referral

#### Feeding America Mobile

##### Pantry Trucks:

Open to all, must be present

+ At Pleasant View Church,  
M60 & Crooked Creek Rd.

**Fri. Oct. 3: 12:00 PM**

+ At Council on Aging, M60 &  
Decatur Rd. (sponsored by  
ACTION Ministries)

**Tues. Oct. 28.: 4:00 PM**

#### USDA Senior Food Program

##### At Helping Hands Thrift Shop:

Second Tuesdays

**Oct. 14: 12:00- 2:00 PM**

NEW ENROLLEES ON  
WAITING LIST

## YOUR SUPPORT AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

Hygiene supplies are a basic necessity for all of us, but have become pricey for many people in the county. Helping Hands offers hygiene products to folks who come to the pantry. The cost of providing these products has more than doubled in recent months. Volunteers from Helping Hands recently completed shopping, organizing, and delivering boxes of hygiene supplies to 20 Cass County schools. Area schools are even washing clothes for children whose parents can't afford a trip to the laundromat, so detergent was included in many of the boxes. Thank you **Diamond Lake Yacht Club** for delivering food and hygiene products, and **The Edward Lowe Foundation** offering to make hygiene products a focus in this year's Employee Give Back program. **Can you help us meet this growing need, especially body wash, shampoo, and feminine supplies?**



**Contact Us:****Helping Hands of Cass County**

130 S Broadway  
Cassopolis, MI 49031

**Need our Services:**

269-445-8104

[helpinghandsofcc@yahoo.com](mailto:helpinghandsofcc@yahoo.com)

**Give:**

Credit card

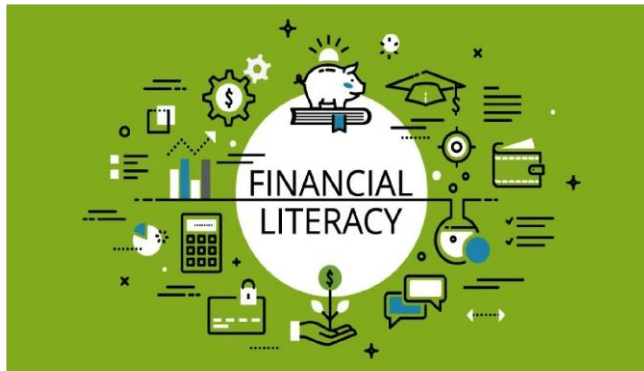


Venmo

[helpinghandscasso.org](http://helpinghandscasso.org)

**Find us at:**

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*



*“Financial literacy:” the skills, knowledge, and tools that equip people to make individual financial decisions and actions to attain their goals.*

**FINANCIAL LITERACY: PREVENTING SCAMS**

With four presenters from Huntington Bank and Monica McMichael, Cass County’s Clerk and Register of Deeds, financial literacy programs were offered at the Dowagiac and Cassopolis COA facilities to inform seniors about scams that target them. The nearly 40 attendees learned how to avoid scams targeting seniors, what to do if scammed, and specific scams cropping up in Cass County. Watch this space for details on the next programs scheduled for Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> sharing practical information on leaving assets to your loved ones.

**THANK YOU** to all who donated to, sponsored, and/or attended the **Forty Years Anniversary Fundraiser** held Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>. Helping Hands raised over three fourths of their \$40,000 goal! Funds will be used to sustain and expand our services, as well as to prepare for 40 more years of service to the county.

**Come and join our fun team!**

**To Volunteer: Call 269-445-8104 or email**  
**[helpinghandsofcc@yahoo.com](mailto:helpinghandsofcc@yahoo.com)**

### Thrift Store Specials:

**\$5 Bag sales** are held the last full week of each month.

**Check out Facebook**  
for other specials.

### Thrift Store Hours:

**Mon. – Wed.**

**9:30 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Thurs.**

**9:30 AM to 6:00 PM**

**Sat.**

**11:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

### MEDICAL EQUIPMENT DRIVE

If you have crutches or a medical boot that you are holding “just in case” you may need them for future use, please consider a donation to Helping Hands of Cass County during our upcoming durable medical equipment drive held Sept. 15th through Oct. 10th. Helping Hands keeps a supply of these items for people in need at no cost, as well as sharing mobility items with the Cass County Medical Care Facility.

All collected equipment will be transported to Midwest Mission in Pawnee, Illinois, who will distribute them through national and international organizations. In exchange, Midwest Missions will be providing bicycles to Helping Hands for an upcoming initiative. Donations of medical equipment, such as wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, and orthopedic supplies, are crucial for individuals experiencing mobility challenges or requiring tools for rehabilitation. The organization is also accepting sewing machines to aid overseas women-operated micro-businesses.

**What are you holding onto for someday, that someone could use today?** Please deliver your medical items to Helping Hands thrift shop at 130 South Broadway, Mon. through Thurs. from 10 AM to 3 PM or contact Diane Seifert at 269-699-5373 for more information.



**Helping Hands is Sponsoring  
Durable Medical Equipment Drive**  
September 15th through October 10th

This equipment will be transported to Midwest Missions in Pawnee, IL for national and International relief support.

Medical items dropped off at  
Helping Hands of Cass County  
130 South Broadway, Cassopolis,  
Mon - Thurs 10 AM to 3 PM

We are accepting wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, and orthopedic supplies  
Contact Diane Seifert at 269-699-5373 for more information.



## SOUPTOBER LOCAL PANTRIES FOOD DRIVE

As the weather turns colder, we all look forward to that hot bowl of soup! Helping Hands is again collecting soup. Our goal is 1,000 cans of soup to share across four area pantries. You can find collection boxes in local businesses, including Savage Bean, the Village of Cassopolis, G.W. Jones Bank, and Helping Hands thrift store. Several area churches will also participate in collecting soup. Thank you for making October a “Soup-er” month for people who need support.

## It's Souptober!

**Please donate:**

- Cans of Soup**
- Your favorite soup fixings -**
- Ingredients for your favorite soup**



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Prefer to Donate \$\$? Send to:

Church of Cassopolis

Church of God

Helping Hands of Cass County, Inc.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

