



We need you to help us!

Project Hope will depend on our Omaha Gives! Campaign on May 20th as our only Spring Fundraiser.

You can help us by creating a Cheer Page for Omaha Gives!

Cheer Pages provide a way for you to raise money on our behalf on the OmahaGives.org website. This feature allows you to create a custom web page with pictures, video, and a personal appeal. Once the page is set up, you can share it with your friends and family by posting on social media, sending emails with a link to your Cheer Page on OmahaGives.org, and asking them to help you reach your fundraising goal by making a donation. Cheer Pages make it even easier to support us during the Omaha Gives! day and year-round!

To set up a Cheer Page, you'll need to create an Omaha Gives! Donor profile. From there, you can then set up a page to promote Project Hope on OmahaGives.org. To get started:

1. Log in to, or create, your Omaha Gives! Donor profile.
2. Click on the "My Cheer Page" tab of your account.
3. On the "My Cheer Pages" tab, click on "Create Cheer Page".
4. Enter the information you want on your Cheer Page (i.e. a picture of you, a video about Project Hope, a personal message asking your friends and family to donate, etc.).
5. Create a custom URL for your Personal Cheer Page.
6. Set your fundraising goal. Perhaps start with \$250 or even \$1,000!
7. Press "Submit" and you're live! Begin to spread the word to your digital works and share the good give feeling.

As an incentive, everyone who donates \$50 or more to Project Hope for our Omaha Gives! Campaign will qualify for a drawing. There will be two winners. One prize is 2 tickets to the Escape to Margaritaville concert on July 12, 2020. The second prize is 2 tickets to the Rascal Flats concert on August 1, 2020.

2020 Pandemic Procedures at Project Hope

I do not want to bore you with more pandemic information. I do however think you might be interested in how this pandemic has changed the procedures at the food pantry.

Clients

As you well know, many people have been sent home to isolate themselves from the virus. This means that many families no longer have an income to rely on and the children are home needing to be fed three meals a day. In March of 2019, we served 337 families with 725 individuals and 132 of those households were new. In March of this year, we served 490 families with 1,489 individuals and 214 of those households were new. We anticipate that those numbers will remain high for many months this year as our community recovers.

Food and Expenses

Just when the number of clients increased drastically, our food donations took a nose dive as the churches that support us with food were instructed to close their doors. We do not usually have to buy groceries from the stores. We serve our normal monthly clients with food purchased from the Foodbank for the Heartland and the food donations from you. In March this year, we spent over \$1,225 at the local grocery stores purchasing cereal, canned meats, canned fruits and vegetables, soup, rice, pasta, sugar, peanut butter, crackers and other food items. These are items we need for every pantry.

Pantry Procedures

We had to adjust our pantry procedures rapidly to comply with local restrictions and provide for a safe environment for our clients, staff, and volunteers. The pantry doors are now closed to clients. We are serving our clients from their vehicles in the parking lot. Clients are completing registration and food need forms outside with staff and volunteers selecting their foods and delivering the sacks of food to them in the parking lot. Staff and volunteers are wearing face masks and gloves in the pantry area and while interacting with the clients. We are restricting staff and volunteers in the pantry to 10 or less and maintaining a distance of 6 feet between each other. Please pray for us to remain safe, healthy and able to serve those in need.