

Kids Against Hunger

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Rock County Rotary, Inc.



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"Local People Making a World of Difference"



Over 150,000 meals served!

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Spring 2009

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Our First Anniversary May 18

From its early beginnings, as nothing more than wishful thoughts by a small group of area Rotarians, Kids Against Hunger – Rock County Rotary, Inc. will celebrate its first complete year of operation on May 18, 2009. A cooperative effort of the Beloit, Edgerton, Janesville Morning and Janesville Noon Rotary Clubs, our mission remains today as it was a year ago - to eliminate hunger locally, and eradicate starvation and malnutrition world-wide.

Since its inception, Kids Against Hunger – Rock County Rotary, Inc. has brought community volunteers together, young and old alike, to package highly nutritious, life saving meals for those in need. Our program seeks not only to end hunger among the poor but to satisfy the hunger among prosperous Americans, a hunger for meaning and contribution.

Our first year of operation will be remembered not only for challenges including: bringing 4 unique Rotary Clubs together to form one cohesive organization, losing our first location to unprecedented flooding, applying for IRS 501(c)(3) tax status and then losing our second location due to space constraints, but also for many triumphs including: bringing over 500 community volunteers together to accomplish a common goal, supplying local relief organizations with a steady supply of food, receiving our IRS 501(c)(3) tax status, supplying food to Uganda and Cameroon, Africa and benefiting from a steady flow of contributions from many generous groups, churches, businesses and individuals. Since our initial event, we have packaged over 150,000 meals, well on the way to our goal of a quarter million by the end of 2009!

Even though the elimination of hunger and starvation is goal that won't be easy to accomplish, Kids Against Hunger – Rock County Rotary, Inc. remains committed to our mission. We believe our motto says it all – "Local people making a world of difference".

We've Helped Cedar Rapids Flood Victims

On February 6th, Kids Against Hunger – Rock County Rotary, Inc. shipped five pallets of food to benefit flood-affected families in Cedar Rapids, IA. When combined with an earlier shipment, this amounts to over 42,000 of our chicken-flavored-rice-casserole meals shipped thus far. Transportation of the food from Janesville to Cedar Rapids was provided free of



The collaborative effort between the Rock County Rotary-based organization and the Cedar Rapids West Rotary Club began shortly after the devastating June 2008 floods when President-Elect Chris Lindell attended a Rotary meeting in Beloit. According to Lindell, "even many months after the floods, groups like the Salvation Army are still providing meals and other relief to flood-affected people. Many families have not even had their power restored yet".

Besides providing free transportation for our product, Alliant Energy, through their community grants, has been an important sponsor of Kids Against Hunger – Rock County Rotary, Inc.

The Whole School Packed 8,420 Meals



Over the past year, Kids Against Hunger – Rock County Rotary, Inc. has had several clubs and classes volunteer to package food, but recently we had an entire school come to help! On Friday, March 27, all 150 students from St. Mary's School in Janesville took turns filling, sealing and packing bags of nutritious Kids Against Hunger food. In groups of 20 – 30, they volunteered about 45 minutes each to help produce 8,420 meals! The students ranged from pre-kindergarten to 8th graders. Each grade level was paired with another, resulting in older students helping the younger ones. They referred to this as a "Buddy System" and it really worked well.

At the completion of the day, the students presented Kids Against Hunger – Rock County Rotary, Inc. with a check for \$657.18, money they had raised from a school "penny war". These students have clearly learned a lesson in helping their neighbors. If your school group would like to schedule a future event, please contact Gary Bersell by email at gbersell@kanduindustries.com.

Kids Against Hunger - Rock County Rotary, Inc.

Board of Directors

President	John Wong	john.wong@micorp.com
Vice President	David Warren	dave@davesace.com
Secretary	Mari Anne Warren	mawarren01@centurytel.net
Treasurer	Mark Terry	markterry@terryprintsolutions.com
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Director	Gary Bersell	gbersell@kanduindustries.com
Director	Lawanna Schieldt	lawanna@ticon.net
Director	Gary Donalson	donalson@tds.net

www.rotarykidsagainsthunger.com—Webmaster: Karl Dommershausen

We Are One of 43 Helping Hungry People!

There are lots of hungry people in our world. The United Nations puts the figure at 850,000,000 (that's **850 million!**) who are suffering from malnutrition. About 1 child dies every 5 seconds from starvation. Those figures are so large we have trouble grasping them, but the answer lies in smaller outreaches of people who do what they can.



Kids Against Hunger—Rock County Rotary, Inc. is one of 43 satellites packaging nutritious food, from Honolulu, Hawaii, to Naples, Florida. We are the only such satellite in Wisconsin. The same food we package in our facility is packaged in all of the satellites.

In 2008, the **Kids Against Hunger** satellites

together packaged over **40 million** meals. Most of what is produced by our local volunteers stays local, but together the food was sent to 45 different countries.

You may have been part of a group putting the raw ingredients into plastic bags, sealing and boxing them and storing on the pallets. It may seem like a mundane activity, but remember, you are part of a great movement. And somewhere a hungry person will have something nutritious to eat because you were involved.

We've Moved To A New Location Again

Although we're in a new location, we still have the same neighbors! Our new home is at the KANDU Industries and Best Events facility at 1741 South Adel Street in Janesville.

One of the tenants at our former location was expanding so rapidly that they needed to take over the area we had been occupying. Luckily for us, the other major tenant, KANDU Industries, had room for us in their building just north of Kellogg Avenue (near the Simmons Mattress plant). We consider ourselves very fortunate to have many good corporate friends like KANDU who help us accomplish our mission of ending hunger.

DONATION FORM

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Organization _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Email Address _____

Please make checks or money orders payable to:

Kids Against Hunger—Rock County Rotary, Inc.

Donations may be sent to:

Kids Against Hunger—Rock County Rotary, Inc.

2719 Sharon Drive
Beloit, WI 53511

\$250 sponsors 1,000 meals
\$200 sponsors 800 meals
\$150 sponsors 600 meals
\$125 sponsors 500 meals
\$100 sponsors 400 meals
\$75 sponsors 300 meals
\$50 sponsors 200 meals
\$25 sponsors 100 meals

All donations are tax deductible. If you have any questions regarding your donation, please contact us at 608 752-1517

Frequently Asked Questions

How do you decide where the food will be sent?

Our Board of directors has chosen to first provide for the needs of the various Rock County Food Relief agencies and then to direct the balance nationally and internationally to areas where our Rotary Clubs are currently involved in other projects. Thus far these areas have or will include Cedar Rapids, IA, Uganda, Africa, Cameroon, Africa, the Philippines and Haiti. Other areas will be considered on case by case basis.

How does the food get to the Hungry people?

Locally, we coordinate deliveries utilizing Rotary Club volunteers. Nationally and internationally, we try to combine our food with aid shipping containers already heading to the destination. In some instances, we may need to pay to get our food to people in need.

Which local agencies have received and used your food?

So far our food has served clients of ECHO and The Salvation Army in Janesville, Caritas, Central Christian Church and the Merrill Community Center in Beloit, the Community Outreach in Edgerton, the Community Action Food Pantry in Milton and the Care Closet in Evansville.

How is the food paid for?

Kids Against Hunger – Rock County Rotary, Inc. is a 100% volunteer-driven organization. As a nonprofit entity, we raise all our funds from the generosity of individual donors, corporations, churches, civic groups and foundations. Put simply, the more money we receive from donors, the more people we can feed.

If I choose to donate, how much of my contribution actually goes towards food?

Because of a generous in-kind donation from KANDU Industries for our facility, and various in-kind donations from other organizations, over 95% of funds contributed will go directly towards paying for food and transportation costs.

How do I volunteer to help?

We have regularly scheduled packaging sessions on the first Wednesday afternoon and the first Saturday morning of every month. Alternate times can be arranged for groups from 10 to 30 people. Please contact Gary Bersell at gbersell@kanduindustries.com or 608 755-4123 to sign up.

Can I do more?

We have many opportunities for experienced packers to become "packaging coordinators". These volunteers assist and direct other packaging sessions. Please contact Gary Bersell to inquire at gbersell@kanduindustries.com or 608-755-4123.