

Celebrating Our Heroes In the Time of COVID-19!



# FROM OUR FEARLESS LEADER

#### We Made it!

As we have stepped into 2021 and taken some time to look back on 2020, I believe we can be truly proud of all that we have accomplished amid a global pandemic that wreaked havoc, not only on our city, but across our nation and the world. Stores and restaurants closed their doors. People were advised to stay at home and sanitize anything that crossed their threshold from the outside world. We were given lessons on proper hand washing, and we listened to many a debate on whether masks were helpful or harmful in stopping the spread of the virus.

Yes, indeed, it was a year of struggle. People struggled with isolation. People struggled with fear. People struggled with innumerable things, and from where I stood, I witnessed so many who did so with grace and understanding. It was a year that tested our resolve but revealed our ability to persevere.

I am so very grateful for the incredible team of staff and volunteers whom I have the privilege to work with at Isaiah 58 Ministries. When so many agencies closed their doors at the onset of the pandemic, we remained open, revising our procedures to ensure everyone's safety and well-being and suspending our boundaries to ensure everyone who needed assistance received it without question.

I especially want to recognize our Hunger Program Director, Meredith, Board Chair, Donna and board member Diann, as well as volunteer Joyce, who, within hours of the city's call to shut down all places of business except for essential services, developed a plan to ensure that we could continue to serve our community. Never skipping a beat, they opened the following day in a manner that ensured that everyone stayed safe and healthy.

In addition, many volunteers made the commitment to continue to work, despite the risks, because they knew that the need for food and other essentials was great and growing larger every day as people were furloughed or laid off from their jobs.

And even people needing to isolate in their homes stayed involved by making financial contributions, donating food and hygiene items, and pulling out their sewing machines to make masks, not only for themselves, but for their friends and family, and even people they didn't know.

We have indeed been the recipient of so much abundance during 2020, in so many different forms. Because of your generous "superhero" spirits, we have been able to care for the people in our community, providing food and hygiene as well as offering cleaning supplies and masks ensuring both their health and safety throughout this trying year.

2020 was a year we will not forget. It will become a marker of time where we say such things as "pre" or "post" pandemic" to determine when something happened.

For me, while some think the term has been over-used this year, I am calling it the year of the Superhero. All the people in our communities showed up, day in and day out, to care for others despite their own fears surrounding the pandemic. That is some Superhero behavior!

I hope, as we move forward, that we don't forget the courage and sacrifices they offered during this time, and that we continue to honor their selflessness, not only with words, but with actions. I hope that we truly honor our everyday superheroes by behaving in ways that show respect and unity for all people and all creation. I hope we continue to work towards a world that is not divided by opinions and attitudes, but united in a common goal of care for all of God's creation.



## FOOD PANTRY INSIDER INTELLIGENCE

2020 1\$ 4 \$+R4N93 Y34R +0 \$UMM4R1Z3. \\\/3 \/\/3R3 R0||1N9 4|0N9, D01N9 900D \\/\OR|<, B391NN1N9 +0 +H1N|< +H4+ \\/\/3 \/\/3R3 COM1N9 OU+ OF \\/\/1N+3R \\/\/H3N \*\*\/\/H4M\*\* 2020 B3C4M3 +H3 Y34R OF +H3 9R4C3FU| P1V0+

#### \*\*\*DECODING\*\*\*

2020 is a strange year to summarize. We were rolling along, doing good work, beginning to think that we were coming out of winter when "wham" 2020 became the year of the graceful pivot. I say graceful because I think that we approached the situation with a fair amount of grace, and pivot because almost every part of our programs had to change for the health and safety of the community.

In mid-March we moved to outdoor service of pre-packed bags, serving everyone who came, twice per month. April we hit a peak, distributing over 600 food pantry bags. We saw many new guests and heard stories of unemployment, remote learning, and transportation struggles. We moved Mobile Market to the Habitat ReStore parking lot and networked with other agencies to make sure we were serving some of the homebound folks in the area. We received over 10,000 masks to distribute and offered free flu shots. We did backpack distribution in a new way, setting families up for whatever kind of learning they were facing.

In September we made some changes to our services. We refocused on our core service area, and expanded it to include all of four zip codes - 63104, 63110, 63116 and 63118. This shift moved us from a service area of 6 square miles to a service area of 18.5 square miles. We also moved to a new database, giving us better information about our guests and new data to work with. In October, we reopened the clothing room once per week, by appointment. We then turned toward the holidays, where we distributed pre-packed bags for Thanksgiving and Christmas, and offered a holiday store.

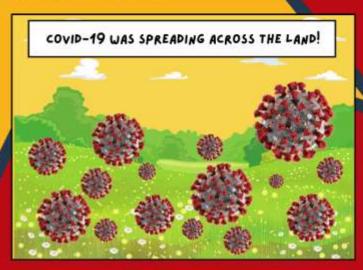
It is important to acknowledge that we did not do this work alone. In May, volunteers assisted with a food drive that gathered more than 11,000 lbs of food. The Food Bank suspended fees and increased options for perishable food. We were also able to become a temporary TEFAP food site, giving us more shelf stable food for those who qualified. Operation Food Search continued to provide food, and our grocery partners at Schnucks and Whole Foods continued to provide an abundance. We have seen such generosity this year - from school produce gardens to church food and hygiene drives, from folks shipping cake mix across state lines to local neighbors walking over some extra canned goods. After we overcame the initial pandemic food downturn, and when we were able to get a better handle on our process, we were able to anticipate, and meet, the needs.

Our volunteers are incredible. We limited the number of people in the building, and created stations to spread people out. We followed CDC guidelines, including masking, and each of our volunteers was thoughtful in their own life choices, keeping in mind that choices outside of the ministry can affect those inside of the ministry. We have been blessed with summer interns and new volunteers, working alongside continuing volunteers. It's a great team.

#### IN THE BEGINNING OF 2020 ...

ISAIAH 58 MINISTRIES WAS BUSTLING WITH THE DAY TO DAY
OPERATIONS OF THE MINISTRY AS THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS
WORKED TO CARE FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. LOUIS, THEIR GOAL TO
PROVIDE A VARIETY OF NUTRIENT RICH FOOD TO PEOPLE IN NEED
WHILE BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND STRENGTHENING THE
COMMUNITY WAS WELL UNDER WAY WHEN...













BUT OTHERS HAD NO MEANS TO STOCK UP ON FOOD AND TOILET PAPER.
WHAT WERE THEY GOING TO DO?

























































AS "SUPER" AS OUR HEROES ARE, ISAIAH 58 MINISTRIES IS ONLY ABLE TO CARE FOR SO MANY BECAUSE OF THE GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT OF THE MANY OTHER HEROES WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES.















THANK YOU ALL FOR
YOUR SUPPORT DURING
THIS UNPRECEDENTED
TIME!



### THANK YOU

TO ALL OF OUR SUPERHEROES WHO TRIUMPHED OVER ALL THAT 2020 PLACED IN OUR PATH. WITH AN UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO TEAMWORK, OUR SUPERHEROES WORKED TIRELESSLY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY, BRINGING HONOR AND RESPECT TO EVERYONE WHO GRACED OUR DOORS.



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Lynn A
Eldon B
Marcia B
Emily B
Joyce B
Donna B
Jim B
Peggy B
Jan B
Greta B
Diann B
Stacey C
Zofie C
Donna C
Peg C
Martin D
Esther D
Jim G
Yvonne G
Louise G
Mary H
Eugene H
Judy H

Vicki H

Julie H
George H
Connie H
Darrell H
Cathy H
Ellen H
Ivan I
Dennis J
Lawrence J
47
Jim J
Joe K
Roger K
Jacob K
Shari K
Glenn K
Prudence K
Bertha L
Linda L
Susan L
Jim L
Ed M
Steven M
Kendra N
Ed N
Jean N
Steve N

Jim O
Angela C
Marsha F
Amy R
Susan R
Larry S
Dale S
Carol S
Jim S
Deanna S
Janet S
Rich S
Jean S
Darryl S
Kathy S
Chris T
Donna T
Bill T
Bill T
Wendy T
LaNita V
Kathy W
Cathy W
Cindy Wi
Bernie W
Nan W
Sharon Y
Deb Y
Jeremy Y
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THANK YOU, TO THE MANY CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT ISAIAH 58 MINISTRIES. THROUGH YOUR GENEROUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT AS WELL AS YOUR DONATIONS OF FOOD, CLOTHING AND OTHER ITEMS, WE ARE ABLE TO SHARE ABUNDANTLY WITH OUR COMMUNITY.

WITH YOUR HELP WE CONTINUE TO BE REPAIRERS OF THE BREACH, AND RESTORERS OF STREETS TO LIVE IN!

100 Women Who Care

Acme Ignitorial

Affton Christian Church

American Cleaners and Laundry Co.

Bethel UCC Cahokia

Bonhomme Presbyterian Church

Bonhomme Presbyterian Church Men's Bible Study

Calvary Presbyterian Church

Celebration Church (Disciples of Christ)

Church Mutual Insurance Company

Church of St. Michael and St. George

Circle of Concern

Community Christian Church

Compton Heights Christian Church

DynaLabs

Eden Gleaners

Eden Theological Seminary

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Empowerment Center

Feed My People

First Congregational Church

First Divine Science Church

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

Girls Scouts of Eastern Missouri

Grace United Church of Christ

Hope United Church of Christ

Ivy Chapel United Church of Christ

John Burroughs School

Kiwanis Club of Hampton/Midtown

Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church

Mann Elementary School

Meals on Wheels

Mt. Tabor United Church of Christ

National Benevolent Association (DOC)

ABUNDANTLY BLESSED!

New Horizons Presbyterian Church Oak Hill Presbyterian Church

Old Newsboys

Operation Food Search

Overland Christian Church

Parkway United Church of Christ

Pyrene Fire Protection Company

Presbytery of Giddings Lovejoy

Prince of Peace United Church of Christ

Richard M Schulze Family Foundation

Rock Presbyterian Church

Schnucks

Southminster Presbyterian Church

Sports Med & Training

St. James United Church of Christ Women's Assoc.

St. Johns Episcopal

St. Johns Evangelical United Church of Christ

St. Louis Area Foodbank

St. Louis Association of the United Church of Christ

St. Louis Cardinals Care

St. Louis Community Foundation

St. Louis Mennonite Fellowship

St. Louis University Hospital

St. Lucas United Church of Christ

St. Margaret of Scotland Parish

St. Mark Presbyterian Church

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

St. Paul United Church of Christ

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

St. Peter's United Church of Christ

St. Phillip's United Church of Christ

St. Luke's Hospital

St. Louis Area Foodbank

Tower Grove Baptist Church

Webster Groves Presbyterian Church

Wellman Family Charitable Fund

Week of Compassion (DOC)

Whole Foods

THANK YOU ALSO TO THE MANY INDIVIDUALS WHO RESPONDED SO GENEROUSLY WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT, DONATED FOOD, CLOTHING, SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

### 2020 By the Numbers

Services Distributed	Total
Food Pantry Bags	4,363
Emergency Bags	158
Infant Needs	45
Senior Boxes	424
Thrift Store	99
Fresh Food Monday	435
Fresh Food Friday	503
Mobile Market	311
Thanksgiving Food	151
Christmas Food	137
Total Service Visits	6,626



Donations by Weight Food 379,102 Hygiene 3,794 Total 382,896

Please Note: We only record donation weights of food and hygiene. Clothing, school supplies, holiday toys, etc. are not reflected in these totals.

#### Volunteers

Estimated Volunteer Hours 2020	4,963
Approx vol. hours per week	94
Approx volunteers per week	28
Regularly "active" volunteers in system	n 83
COVID-19 active volunteers	32

## Budget

Income	2021 Budget	2020 Actual	2020 Budget
Supporting Partners	\$92,610	\$107,516	\$80,475
Fundraising	\$150,250	\$278,507	\$100,000
Misc.	\$600	\$0	\$600
In-Kind Donations			
Donated Food Received	\$650,000	\$650,923	\$600,000
Donated Clothing Received	\$350,000	\$150,000	\$350,000
Back-to-School & Holiday Store	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Total In-Kind Donations	\$1,030,000	\$830,923	\$980,000
Total Cash Income	\$243,460	\$386,023	\$181,075
Total In-Kind Income	\$1,030,000	\$830,923	\$1,161,075
Total Income	\$1,273,460	\$1,216,946	\$1,342,150
F	2021	2020	2020
Expenses	Budget	Actual	Budget
Ministry and Mission			
Donated Food Distributed	\$650,000	\$650,923	\$600,000
Donated Clothing Distributed	\$350,000	\$150,000	\$350,000
Back-to-School & Holiday Store	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Other	\$63,500	\$52,313	\$34,550
Total Ministry and Mission	\$1,093,500	\$883,236	\$1,014,550
Compensation and Benefits	\$149,774	\$136,733	\$135,291
Administration	\$41,717	\$42,360	\$31,817
Total Cash Expenses	\$254,991	\$231,406	\$201,658
Total Expenses (including In-Kind)	\$1,348,491	\$1,114,642	\$1,216,208

