THANK YOU to our partners and volunteers who helped make November and December a great end of 2020!

Community Action Partnership of Lake County,
Barton Senior Residences-Zion & Roberti Community House

Pop-up Drive-Thru Food Give-away
Community Action Partnership of Lake County (CAPOLC) along with partners Barton Senior Residences-Zion and Roberti Community House hosted a Pop-up Drive-Thru Food Give-away on Saturday, November 21, 2020. We distributed 200 food boxes which were supplemented by Barton’s goodie bags and Roberti’s additional food boxes for each household. The event was located at Barton Senior Residences in Zion. Families were directed by volunteers to the parking lot area and the boxes were placed in their cars. “Thank you to Barton for hosting this community give-away at their location and Roberti for partnering with us to make this event a success for the community.” said Mary Lockhart White, Executive Director and CEO of CAPOLC.

2020 CSBG Holiday Basket Give-away
December 8–11, 2020 Community Action Partnership of Lake County continued their long-standing Holiday Basket Give-away. Due to COVID-19, we hosted the event as a drive-up. Families who signed up, pulled-up and boxes of food and dairy products where placed in their trunk. This year, we were able to distribute 420 food boxes, including a large turkey and ham. The food baskets included everything needed to complete a Holiday meal for a family of six. You could see smiles on everyone’s faces. One man expressed how grateful he was to receive this basket, stating the basket would help him feed his family of 11 for the holidays.

“We want to send a thank you to Waukegan School District #60 and Molly Schaefer and Clarence Berry, Principals at Thomas Jefferson Middle School who provided the location. In addition, a special thank you goes to the staff who made a difference: Roberta Riley Mendoza, Head Secretary, our contact, she helped pack baskets; Maria Perez, Assistant Secretary delivered a basket to a family without transportation; Milton Moore, Family Manager who helped distribute baskets; and the custodial team Joe Davis, Maria Lopez and Cesar Diaz who helped distribute baskets and kept the areas sanitized daily.” said Mary Lockhart White, Executive Director and CEO of CAPOLC.
Community Action Partnership of Lake County & Rotary Club of Northbrook Drive-up Food Give-away

On December 16 & 17, 2020 Community Action Partnership of Lake County (CAPOLC) partnered with the Rotary Club of Northbrook for a food give-away at the CAP Catering Banquet Hall & Dining on Genesee. “Partnering with organizations such as the Rotary Club of Northbrook to distribute food to families, increases the impact in the community.” said Mary Lockhart White. The Rotary Club of Northbrook wanted to participate in a community service project that served families in need of food during these difficult times of COVID. Their club partnered with Outreach/Feed6 and Community Action Partnership of Lake County to provide 132 food pantry boxes which in total was 5,544 meal portions.

“We funded the project through a Rotary district grant and the club raised money. Outreach/Feed6 supplied the nutritious food and shipped the 132 pantry boxes to 11 Rotarians’ homes. At a Zoom social pantry box party, we decorated all the boxes and also supplied extra gifts of ‘Love’. CAPOLC picked up the 132 boxes from a central location in Northbrook and distributed the food to 132 families in Lake County. Rotary Clubs throughout the world have a common purpose ‘Service Above Self’. There are 1.3 million Rotarians worldwide. Rotary builds friendships, provides goodwill, and is beneficial to all.

Happy Holidays.” said Mitch Portugal, Northbrook Rotary Community Service Chairperson.

Karen said, “Please give my gratitude to everyone at CAP for always going above and beyond to reach out and assist communities in need. The food boxes were a blessing to me, my family and several seniors I was able to share with. Thank you so much.”

Delta Alpha Archons Visit Kitchen That Prepares Meals For COVID-19 Impacted Persons

Members of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Inc., North Suburban Illinois Chapter wanted to make an immediate positive impact against the reality of hunger caused by Covid-19. The Hot Meals Program of the Community Action Partnership of Lake County and its mission of serving 4,000 meals a month to its client base provided such an opportunity.

Paying It Forward

“I was happy to receive a call from one of our annual donors who had collected money to Adopt A Family this year. Staff got to work and chose a family. The father was very grateful and hadn’t even opened the envelope. Thank you for your giving spirit!”, said Mary Lockhart White. The anonymous donor said, “We are grateful for the blessings we received this year in spite of the pandemic, so we wanted to give to a family who was going through hard times this year a Christmas Blessing.”
CAP of Lake County gave Food Boxes to Dietary & Environmental Services department at Vista Health System Medical Center East

Community Action Partnership of Lake County gave 115 food and dairy boxes to the Dietary and Environmental Services (EVS) department staff at Vista Health System Medical Center East on December 17, 2020. Dr. Carmen Woods Hollowell MD FACOG Woods Women’s Group assisted us in identifying Vista staff who we could thank for their hard work during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Woods suggested the Dietary and EVS workers. We were connected with Beth Nissan, HR Director at Vista and set a date for the delivery.

Earlier in the day, a few of the Vista staff, Sean Sanchez, EVS Director, Andrew Niedermann, Manager, Jorge Ortiz, EVS worker and George Zires, EVS worker stopped by to pick up a few boxes for staff that would not be onsite later during the time we were dropping off the food boxes.

That afternoon, the CAP of Lake County team headed over to present the foods boxes to the staff. We were greeted by Craig Ferguson, Director of Food and Nutrition, Vista Health System. The team followed Craig to basement of the hospital where to our delight we were greeted by the smiling faces of most of the Dietary and EVS staff in the hall way. The boxes were heavy and full so everyone pitched in to carry or roll the boxes to their cars.

“Many many thanks to Dr. Carmen Woods Hollowell and the Vista Health System’s team for making this give-away possible!” said Mary Lockhart White, executive director and CEO of CAPOLC. “We are so pleased to hear that the Vista staff appreciated these food boxes.” said Mary Lockhart White.

“THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL OF YOUR HELPERS and for thinking about our staff at this wonderful, yet often difficult, time of the year. Our staff will truly love this!” said Beth Nissen.

“Beth, thanks so much for sharing! A picture is worth a thousand words. I have always and will always, continue to support Vista. Our North Star is in alignment for taking care of our community. Thanks, so much Community Action Partnership (Marsha and Lisa) for reaching out to me. When like minds connect magic happens. My best always!” said Dr Carmen Woods Hollowell MD.

“On the Food Service side, most of my female employees are single mothers with several children at home and this wonderful donation will really help them through the holiday season. We are very thankful for your organization and all of the individuals who have made this possible for our staff.” said Craig Fitzgerald, Director of Food and Nutrition.