March 28, 2024

Lake County News-Sun Chicago Tribune Attention: Editor 435 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Editor,

All of us at COOL Ministries are so thankful for the generosity and support of your readers who have given to Help Them to Hope over all these years. As well as for the volunteers who have worked to make this annual giving event so successful for so long. COOL is honored to be one of the organizations chosen to receive a donation from Help Them to Hope. The kindness and caring of the entire community is clearly demonstrated by this gift which will be used to purchase food for our hungry neighbors and provide housing for homeless families with children.

The support of Help Them to Hope enables COOL Ministries to give food to our Lake County neighbors in need. In fact, nearly 70,000 individuals were served at our pantry just last year! COOL Food Pantry is open five days per week and one Saturday each month to assure that families will never have to go hungry in Lake County. This year and last we have been serving more new neighbors in need than ever before, making this donation more crucial to our mission than ever.

In addition to feeding the hungry, COOL also operates a transitional housing program for unhoused parents with their children. Last year COOL provided shelter for 16 unhoused families which included 31 children and 19 adults.

Help Them to Hope's support enables COOL to provide this help to those who need it most. On behalf of all of the directors on our board, staff who work at COOL, volunteers who serve faithfully, and especially on behalf of those who receive help at COOL, we want to thank everyone involved for their generous support! You have made it possible for COOL to give hope to others and we appreciate every volunteer hour worked, every penny donated and your kindness over the many decades. Here at COOL Ministries we believe food and shelter are basic human rights, your giving helps to ensure we can fulfill our mission of feeding the hungry and housing the homeless.

Sincerely,

Mindy Lindholm Executive Director