

# PLENTY

fall 2015

food gatherers®  
fighting hunger where we live

MEMBER OF  
FEEDING™  
AMERICA

## Join us at the 10th Annual Vampires' Ball Friday, October 30

Put on your cape and sink your fangs into a spooky night of fun and good food at the 10th Annual Vampires' Ball hosted at Zingerman's Common Farms. Vampires' Ball is a festive, upscale gathering featuring food prepared by James Beard Award-Winning Chef Alex Young of Zingerman's Roadhouse.



Buy tickets at  
[www.foodgatherers.org/vampiresball](http://www.foodgatherers.org/vampiresball)  
or call (734) 761-2796.

Photo by Stevie B. Photography

**Dinner Package (6:00–11:30PM):** \$200 each *(limited quantity available)*

- Drinks and appetizers
- Seated, multi-course dinner prepared by Chef Alex Young in the farmhouse and dessert from Zingerman's Bakehouse
- All items included in the Drinks & Dancing package below

**Drinks & Dancing Package (7:30–11:30PM):** \$60 each

- Dancing and entertainment, including music, costume contest, tarot card reading, and photobooth
- Two complimentary drink tickets
- Late-night snacks from Zingerman's Roadhouse
- Premium goody bag



Photo by Abby Rose Photo

## Funds raised at Vampires' Ball benefit Food Gatherers Community Kitchen and Job Training Program

The mission of the **Food Gatherers Community Kitchen** is to engage and nourish our entire community. Located in the Robert J. Delonis Center, Food Gatherers staff and volunteers serve more than 100,000 meals to people in need each year.

The **Community Kitchen Job Training Program** provides low-income and at-risk youth (ages 17-21) with instruction in basic culinary arts, food safety, work ethics and life skills. Students build firm foundations for success in future careers while decreasing the chances of entering the shelter system or other emergency services.

The Food Gatherers Community Kitchen and Job Training Program are essential efforts in our overall plan to alleviate hunger and eliminate its root causes in our community.



# From the President ~

Dear Gatherer,

At Food Gatherers, we are always excited to detail the work you help make possible. This newsletter highlights daily activities of food procurement that happen throughout the year: Lots of pounds and lots of logistics!

Sometimes it is easy to overlook the obvious: we serve people; specifically, we serve our neighbors. Thanks to the support of our friends at Domino's and Faith in Action, one of our 150 partner agencies, we were able to capture how our hunger relief efforts impact the lives of Kate, her husband and her two children.

**Please spend a few minutes to better understand how folks just like you and me face food insecurity by watching Kate's video testimony at [www.foodgatherers.org/kate](http://www.foodgatherers.org/kate).**

Although this is not captured in the video, as Kate prepares a wholesome meal from donated food, Kate's young daughter invites the filmmakers to join them for dinner.

**To Kate and her family, thank you for reminding us that gathering efforts are not ultimately about pounds and logistics, but about love and sharing.**

Gathering with you,

  
Eileen Spring  
President/CEO



*"It's a good feeling to be able to home cook for your family."*

Why  
"Plenty?"

Our very first gatherers chose to call the Food Gatherers newsletter **Plenty** because we know there really is **plenty** of food for everybody. The problem isn't supply, but responsible use and distribution. In a nation of **plenty**, no one should go hungry.

Here at Food Gatherers, we rely on **plenty** of generosity and dedication to rescue food, deliver it to more than 150 partner programs, and serve the people who need it most. We can't do it alone! Together, with your commitment, volunteer work, and willingness to give, we can mobilize all available resources to fight hunger where we live.



# Driving Out Hunger

Have you ever driven down DhuVarren Road at 8:30 in the morning? It's a sight to see: **truck after truck, the Food Gatherers fleet moves out.**

Every morning, two food runners – one staff member and one volunteer – are ready to greet store employees at our 200+ food business partners, including your local market or grocery store. After filling our trucks with rescued food, they return to our warehouse where the morning's gatherings can be sorted and packaged.

As the afternoon sets in, the trucks leave our warehouse again, on a mission to serve our neighbors in need. Each day, they drive to a few of our 150 partner programs, where the food can be distributed, often in combination with other important services like nutritional education. This is no small feat: we're delivering enough food for nearly 14,000 meals every day!

Our trucks are our "connectors" – they connect businesses who donate food to those who need it. In fiscal year 2015, we distributed 6 million pounds of food, 60% of which was produce and protein!



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# Thank You

to our  
generous food donors  
for their  
commitment to serve!

## Top 10 Food Rescue Partners in Fiscal Year 2015

Gordon Food Service

Trader Joe's

Costco

Kroger Stores

Busch's Fresh Food Markets

Walmart Stores

Plum Market

Meijer Stores

Sam's Club

Whole Foods Markets

**We accept food donations at our warehouse** (1 Carrot Way, Ann Arbor, MI 48105)

Join Us!

Monday through Friday between 9AM-4:45PM,  
with extended drop-off hours on Wednesdays until 6:45PM.

**For more information, visit our "Give Food" page at [www.foodgatherers.org](http://www.foodgatherers.org).**

# Upcoming Events:

## Rockin' for the Hungry

December 2-6  
Kroger Stores in  
Washtenaw County



Food Gatherers volunteers and radio personalities from Ann Arbor's 107one will be "freezin' for a reason" at our largest annual outdoor food and fund drive, broadcast live from Kroger on South Maple Road. You can participate by dropping off food or cash donations, purchasing food to donate, or by making a donation at the register.

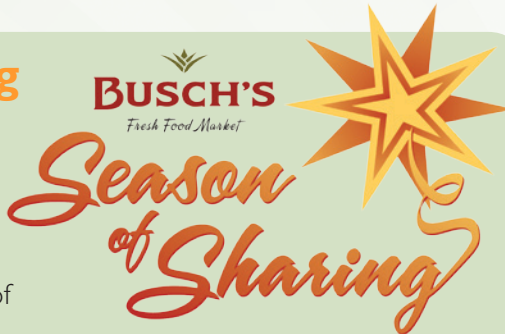
## Giving Tuesday #GIVINGTUESDAY™

December 1  
Participate at [foodgatherers.org/donate](http://foodgatherers.org/donate)

Celebrate #GivingTuesday with a gift to Food Gatherers. We are thankful for the efforts of our volunteers, partner programs, and staff in working together to nourish our community. This national day of giving is a great opportunity to join us!

## Busch's Season of Sharing

November 16-25  
Busch's Fresh Food Markets  
in Washtenaw County



Give a cash or food donation of any amount at Busch's stores. In addition, pre-assembled bags of non-perishable food and vouchers representing perishable items like meat and produce can be purchased for \$5-\$10.

## Whole Foods Feed 4 More

November 23 - December 6  
Whole Foods Markets in Washtenaw County



Feed 4 More is a customer and team member donation program where all proceeds benefit Food Gatherers! Support families of four in need of food by donating \$5, \$10, \$25 or any amount at Whole Foods cash registers in Ann Arbor.

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