

Special Thanks for Helping Others

Posted by Ravo Root on Friday, Apr 10 at 3:12 PM in Camden Central School District

I came across a quote today, “your hardest times often lead to the greatest moments in life” (Ziegler). This pandemic is certainly not a great moment in life, given the pain and suffering people are experiencing. However, greatness can come from hard times like these. Greatness can be as simple as taking advantage of the time to spend with your immediate family or slowing down in order to make the time to eat dinner together, have in depth conversations, or play a game and laugh together. Remembering the most important things in life and slowing down to refocus on them is another example of where greatness can come from. How about, prioritizing the safety and interest of others ahead of doing what is most convenient for us.

During this difficult time, we have had many, many school employees donate their own, time, money and effort to help others. On behalf of everyone who has given back and helped others around them I want to recognize a group of amazing volunteers helping to feed our families in need, the Food For Thought Project.

Food for Thought Program:

Core Team (founders of program):

Brittany Willson
Jessica Perusse
Kathy Lynch
Randi Swancott
Tracy Willson

Kathy’s identified “extended” team to support current needs (includes individuals to support program operations, sort food items received and pack weekly boxes/bags):

Ariel Leabo
Brian Lynch
Brittany Arnold
Diana Carpenter
Jenna Hastwell
John Dean
Judy Lynch
Kate Wilson

Kim Dean
Michelle Mellon
Michelle Williams
Stephanie Hazelwood
Sydney Dean (Executive Assistant Intern)
Trent Leabo

Delivery Team: *The first group listed is the diehards who have delivered every week!! All district staff and some with family for support.*

Becky Ouellette & children
Greg Jerome
Heidi Turner
Jamie Turner
Janice Plumley & son
Jeff Doran
Jenna Hastwell
John Dean
Kelly Doran
Kim Dean
Kim Hughes & husband
Michelle Mellon
Michelle Williams

Others who have delivered at least once:

Caitlin Haggerty
Colleen O'Brien
Danielle Plumley & daughter Maggie
Diana Carpenter
Kate Wilson
Sara Mitchell
Tammy Mitchell

Storefront turned into a warehouse for the food prior to delivery:

Owned by Todd and Tracy Willson

I am hopeful that by acknowledging this group of volunteers it is a tribute to all of the efforts made by the Camden Community as a whole to take care of those in need.

I wish you all the best. Stay safe and be smart.

Have a Happy Easter and a Happy Passover!

Dr. Ravo Root
Superintendent of Camden Central Schools