

## **Dear Community Members:**

Homestead High School AP Literature teachers and students invite you to participate in a food and book drive benefiting Family Sharing of Ozaukee County. We are also accepting monetary donations to Family Sharing, The Milwaukee Rescue Mission, and The American Legion Post 457.

The drive will begin January 4th and end February 1st, a time of high need for community service organizations.

Recently, we have found ourselves contemplating ways to bring the citizens of Mequon and Thiensville together. At the core of what builds unity — as well as collaboration and mutual respect — is a commitment to figuring out what we are *for* as a community. Building unity takes work. However, the nature of positive work *fills us up* instead of exhausting, stressing, and depleting us.

At this point in history, we believe all of us must ask ourselves, "What are our *shared* core values?" Furthermore, we believe our answer to this question has the power to bring us together.

As students of literature, which makes us more aware of the human condition, we have a shared value of kindness. With a focus on generosity to those among us who are most in need of support, we seek to create positive transformation as a result of our community involvement and passion. Through this drive, we hope our positive actions, rooted in generosity and gratitude, will model for and involve the next generation in efforts that demonstrate how a collective focus on the greater good creates relationships that can carry us through tough times *together*. Thus, we invite all members of the community to participate in this month-long food and book drive.

<u>Family Sharing of Ozaukee County</u> is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1978 and is the longest standing food pantry in Ozaukee County. They provide food, free of cost, to Ozaukee County residents who are in need. The proceeds from their upscale resale store help fund their food pantry. To support this local organization, we will gather not only food for the pantry itself but also books for them to sell in their store. Books, particularly easy readers and books they do not think they can sell, will be donated to the American Legion for distribution to refugees currently staying at Fort McCoy.

At Homestead, we will also accept monetary donations in the form of checks written out directly to **Family Sharing of Ozaukee County**, **The American Legion Post 457** in support of The Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative, and/or **The Milwaukee Rescue Mission**. Please join us in our efforts to demonstrate kindness and to build unity.

With Gratitude,

Mrs. Cicero, Ms. Rauch, and Homestead High School's AP Literature Students

## Mequon-Thiensville Together Food and Book Drive Donation Details & Locations

### What to donate?

- Gently used hand or soft cover fiction and nonfiction books: classics or contemporary; children's books. Books should be in good, "sellable" condition.
- Toilet paper & diapers
- Non Perishable food items, especially:
  - Canned carrots or other vegetables
  - Crackers
  - Diced. canned tomatoes
  - Pasta or rice
  - Instant oatmeal packets

## **Homestead High School**

5000 W Mequon Rd, Mequon, WI 53092

\*Homestead Only: If you wish to make a monetary donation, checks should be made out directly to one of three organizations:

- Family Sharing of Ozaukee County
- The Milwaukee Rescue Mission
- American Legion Post 457 (for donations to the The Milwaukee Homeless Veterans Initiative)

# Range Line Community Center

11040 N Range Line Rd, Mequon, WI 53092

### Frank L Weyenberg Library

11345 N Cedarburg Rd, Mequon, WI 53092

## **Outpost Natural Foods**

7590 W Mequon Rd, Mequon, WI 53092

## **Piggly Wiggly**

6111 W Mequon Rd, Mequon, WI 53092

### **Metro Market**

11558 N Port Washington Rd, Mequon, WI 53092