

# BUIST COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE CENTER

June/July 2009

## Client Hours:

Monday 2:00pm-6:30pm  
Wednesday 9:00am-2:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am-11:30am

## Office Hours:

Monday 10:00am-2:00pm  
Tuesday 10:00am-2:00pm  
Thursday 10:00am-2:00pm

## Community Suppers

Held at

The ROCK

Dinner is served  
from 5:30-7:00pm

All are welcome.  
NO CHARGE!

June 25

July 30

August 27

September 24

October 15

November 26

(Thanksgiving Day 12-2pm)

December 17

## From the Director...

Our cup overflows...

We just celebrated our volunteers! We are so thankful for the gifts they bring and their willingness to serve here at the Center. We continue to assist about 200 families each week and our volunteers are vital to our ministry. They live out the meaning of the word service – the performance of labor for the benefit of another, and active service to God.

We are reminded of this prayer from Mother Teresa –

The fruit of silence is Prayer

The fruit of prayer is Faith

The fruit of faith is Love

The fruit of love is Service

The fruit of service is Peace.

We continually see the evidence of this fruit in our volunteers and it +flows into the lives of our clients.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.....

*Shirley TenHarmsel*

## Community Suppers

Our first supper was held Thursday, April 23, at the ROCK. We had a great turnout. About 90 people from the Community enjoyed brats, sauerkraut, hot-dogs, veggies, chips and apple pie. At our May supper, we served over 100 people a spaghetti dinner complete with salad, breadsticks, and ice cream for dessert. We welcome a local chef, John Sprague, whose expertise and know-how in the kitchen is greatly appreciated!

We had small groups from 1st Byron Center CRC, Corinth Reformed Church, families and individuals from the Byron Center area serving with us. We welcome groups and individuals to volunteer at our future suppers. If interested, please call 583-4080.



8306 Byron Center Avenue

Byron Center, MI 49315

616.583.4080

[www.buistcac.org](http://www.buistcac.org)

## Volunteer Spotlight

"Retirement is a good time to do things to help others." These are words from Bill and Norma VanPopering, who volunteer at the Center. Bill is our cardboard cleanup guy on Mondays. Norma helps us stock on Thursdays and both of them are available at other times if needed. This is what they say about volunteering: "Helping out at the Center gives us opportunity to use our time and energy serving others. We enjoy meeting all the people who are helping keep the Center a happy and 'joy-filled' place. We pray God will bless everyone who is given help." Thank you Bill and Norma, we appreciate you!



*I Peter 4:11b  
If anyone  
serves, he  
should do it  
with the  
strength God  
provides, so  
that in all  
things God  
may be  
praised  
through Jesus  
Christ.*

## Blessings All Around

Did you know that we are partnering with Volunteers in Service, Byron Community Ministries, and The Buist Foundation to recruit and train church members who are willing to be a mentors for individuals in the Community?

The definition of "mentor" is – counselor, coach, teacher, friend, companion, helper and person who advises.

A few of our clients are partnered with a mentor from the community and various needs are being met. Transportation, a friendly visit, respite for a caregiver, a financial coach...we see God at work in the lives of our clients.

Bernita Tuinenga from VIS comments, "One of the referrals was in church with her mentor/friend, this match is fantastic!"

We continue to seek out opportunities to serve here at the Center and in the community. If this type of ministry attracts you, please call us at 583.4080.

## Comments from our clients:

"Thank you so much, it has been a blessing for us to have a food pantry like this to go to. It would be impossible to make our monthly obligations without the extra help. The people at this organization are so helpful and friendly. Thank God for all the volunteers during these difficult times."

"People like you are blessings 'cause you help a lot of people with food and clothing. Without you guys I don't know what we would do."

"I want to say thank you to those who donate their time, money and goodwill to those of us struggling in these poor economic times. I am down to working three days a week and the help you provide is greatly appreciated. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

