Generous Hands, Inc.
P.O. Box 313, Vicksburg, MI 49097
269.370.7965 | www.generoushands.org

Our mission
The mission of Generous Hands, Inc. is to benefit hungry children by addressing their physical, emotional, nutritional, and educational well-being.

2012 Accomplishments

- Prepared and distributed nutritional newsletters to each family quarterly
- Partnered with South County Community Services in the fifth Annual Backpack Bonanza with over 135 children receiving school supplies and haircuts
- Hosted the Fall Extravaganza featuring a food demonstration by Chef Ryan Soule and a Silent Auction which raised over $6500 for Generous Hands
- Participated in the 9/11 Family Day of Service in Kalamazoo
- Continued summer pack distribution for about 64 families who were interested in picking up Friday Packs over the summer
- Distributed a grant from the Conservation Fund which allowed our families to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at the Vicksburg Farmer’s Market
- Re-affiliated with the Food Bank of South Central Michigan allowing us to greatly reduce our food bills
- Completed strategic planning sessions to refocus our organization
- Benefited from the 1120 volunteers (531 adults and 589 children) providing 1,115 hours of faithful support to make Generous Hands a success.

How to Donate

Online at www.generoushands.org

Mail a check to:
Generous Hands, Inc
P.O. Box 313
Vicksburg, MI 49097

Please include Generous Hands Endowment Fund in the check’s memo line.

More information is available online at www.generoushands.org

“Every day, children in every county in the United States wake up hungry. They go to school hungry. They go to bed hungry. One in five children lives in a food insecure household.”

Investing in our Children

Endowment Fund

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In 2004, ten women in a local Bible study made a commitment to Vicksburg children to provide backpacks of food to those at risk to go hungry on the weekends. Our plan was simple, our concern was genuine, and the Vicksburg community supported us every inch of the way. That first year, twenty children at Sunset Lake Elementary benefited from our commitment. Expansion to all five schools in the Vicksburg Community Schools district resulted in exponential growth of the Friday Pack program, so that during the 2012-2013 school year, over 200 Vicksburg children received weekly backpacks of food.

Generous Hands provides other benefits to the Vicksburg community as well. We have educated our community about hunger (nearly one in four children in America live in poverty). We have taught many children (and adults) about the value of community service, and provided a tangible way for concerned citizens to help hungry children. We have educated both children and adults about nutrition and what a healthy diet looks like. We have encouraged our Friday Pack families to make healthier food choices by providing weekly coupons for milk, bread and eggs at our local Family Fare store, and coupons for meat, cheese, eggs, fruit and vegetables at our local Farmer’s Market. Finally, we have demonstrated that difficult community problems can be addressed by concerned, ordinary people.

The work of Generous Hands has become an integral part of how the Vicksburg community helps hungry children. Our goal is to ensure that this important work continues. To continue this work in good times and bad, we want to take advantage of a unique opportunity. The Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KCF) manages endowment funds for many nonprofit organizations in the county. They require $50,000 to start an endowment fund. The Vicksburg Foundation has agreed to match any money we raise (up to $25,000) to establish an endowment. This means if we can raise $25,000, they will match it and a $50,000 endowment will be established at KCF for Generous Hands. The interest from this fund can then be used for ongoing expenses, and will help us to provide backpacks in years when contributions may lag.

We hope that you will thoughtfully consider making a significant gift to the Generous Hands Endowment Fund. Your gift can be given as a one-time contribution or over the course of our three year fund drive. We (and the endowment experts at the KCF) would be happy to discuss the options available for long-term giving, memorial giving, and gifts of securities or property (see attached information).

Thank you for caring for hungry children, both now and in the future.

Sincerely yours,
The Board of Directors
of Generous Hands