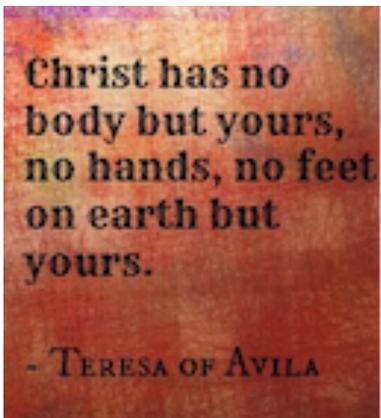


Ministry Spotlight

The Caring Center of Boone Co.

What is The Caring Center?

The Caring Center is a multi-program, not-for-profit organization providing food, clothing, and more to fulfill its mission to stabilize families in crisis and to move those caught in poverty towards self-sufficiency. They help families and individuals living in generational and situational poverty, and those in the community who are food insecure.



Programs Provided by The Caring Center:

Food Pantry & Food Education – Families may choose food from the pantry shelves that their family enjoys, based around nutritional guidelines. Items in the food pantry are provided by donations and some come from the on-site garden. The Caring Center clients also are encouraged to attend monthly meetings to discuss food issues, learn to manage food dollars, and address participants’ immediate needs. The Caring Center partners with the Purdue University Extension to provide weekly hands-on group meetings to explore creative ways of cooking and learn the value of nutrition.

Clothing - The Caring Center distributes clothing to families in need through the Clothing Closet and offers other household items including furniture through The Caring Center’s retail shop, Classic Reruns. Proceeds from this non-profit thrift store help fund The Caring Center’s Food Pantry.

Getting Ahead – This professionally designed program engages individuals in poverty in a 13 to 16 week class designed to help develop their resources and personal-skills inventory in order to help make a more prosperous life for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Feeding Our Future – This program is a partnership between The Caring Center and other local community organizations to meet the needs of children facing poverty and food insecurity.

Transitional Housing – In-crisis families or at-risk clients may receive temporary housing in a structured, managed home environment with comprehensive case management.

How can you help?

To be successful in supporting The Caring Center, each of the St. Alphonsus Parish programs designed to assist, needs your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Watch for opportunities throughout the year to donate food, money, clothing, and needed items. Whether you have an hour to spare or would like to be regularly involved, The Caring Center Ministry welcomes your help. Families can volunteer together to work a Black Bag Food Drive weekend, or assist with the Christmas Giving Tree. The Caring Center also welcomes volunteers to help sort food and stock shelves.



Coats Collected for the Caring Center



Parishioners Make Birthday Boxes

Contact Information:

Parish Contact: Jennifer Dolack

Email:
outreach@zionsvillecatholic.com

"Numerous programs assist our clients, but these opportunities are available only through the involvement of our patrons and volunteers. We need you to be part of the solution to hunger and poverty by getting involved and serving our neighbors with The Caring Center."

-Mike Einterz, President of The Caring Center Board

St. Alphonsus Parish Giving Opportunities:

“Black Bag” Food Drives – Four times each year, St. Alphonsus parishioners provide food to help stock the food pantry shelves. In 2017, parishioners donated 13,715 pounds of food. Collection months for 2018/2019 will be September, November, February, and May.

Birthday Boxes – St. Alphonsus’ RE classes annually collect cake mixes, icing, and party supplies and place them into hand-decorated “birthday” boxes which provide all of the basics for a parent or guardian to throw a birthday party for a child or teen. Fifty boxes were made and delivered in 2018.

Monetary Donations – The Caring Center receives parishioner support through the generosity of the Knights of Columbus’ October Fest, a portion of the St. Alphonsus collection for Outreach, and individual parishioners’ direct monetary donations.

Share the Warmth – Each fall, The Knights of Columbus collect coats and blankets for families of The Caring Center.

Christmas Giving Tree – Each year, St. Alphonsus parishioners generously provide Christmas gifts of clothing and personal items for teens in need.

Homeless Supplies – This year, the St. Alphonsus teenage youth will be collecting items for The Caring Center to distribute to those in need.

The Caring Center Hours:

Mon. & Wed. - 8am - 2pm

Tues., Thurs., & Fri. - 11am - 5pm

First Sat. of each month - 9am - noon