



June 25, 2020

Dear Friends and Community Members,

Fred Rogers said, “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’ ” Even in these challenging times you can still look to The Waysmeet Center to find the helpers. In times when desperation, unkindness, and divisiveness are common, in times when people really need assistance with basic needs, in a time when the answer from so many other places is, “We can’t help you right now,” the answer from The Waysmeet Center is: **TOGETHER we will make a brighter way and a brighter day.**

When times got tough recently, we were able to expand the hours of our Cornucopia Food Pantry to meet the increased need. From our Food Rescue Program, to Waysmeet Center residents, to local community members, our volunteers came together in spite of the risks of rescuing food from area grocery stores and volunteering in the pantry so that food would be available to anyone who was experiencing food insecurity.



**Time after time over 40 years, The Waysmeet Center has risen to meet the needs of individuals while also teaching amazing young people what it means to engage thoughtfully and meaningfully in their world.** As you may have heard, Larry Brickner-Wood, the long-time Executive Director of The Waysmeet Center, has moved on to be the Interim Minister at Lee Church Congregational, which has been a consistent friend and supporter of The Waysmeet Center for many years. The Waysmeet Center has every intention of continuing to do the good work that it started many years ago.

The Waysmeet Center offers many ways for college students to learn and work in situations that help them recognize that they are a part of a greater community. We offer internships, volunteer opportunities, and also occasions for students and other community members to come together through programs such as our monthly Community Dinners and Drum Circles. (You can see the ground we covered last year further along in this letter!) These are all opportunities to spread the message of kindness and compassion centered in social justice that is the hallmark of The Waysmeet Center.

**A former resident of The Waysmeet Center’s intentional student community put it simply, saying, “I cannot imagine a world without The Waysmeet Center!”** The Waysmeet Center can only continue to make an impact in this world with your help. As a nonprofit organization, support for our annual budget and programs relies on individual donations from folks like you. You may give online at [www.waysmeetcenter.org](http://www.waysmeetcenter.org) or directly by mailing a check in the provided return envelope.

If you are a long-time supporter, we are very grateful for your support! If you are just becoming familiar with us, we welcome you to the movement of making the world a better place for all! Won’t you please

invest in helping us continue to be a light in the world by making your donation today? A contribution of any amount is greatly appreciated.

**TOGETHER we can make kindness, compassion, and inclusivity more prevalent in our world!**

Sincerely,

*Chuck Goeller*

Chuck Goeller  
Interim Executive Director

Waysmeet Board of Directors

Emily Briand, Kristen Butterfield-Ferrell,  
John Mince, Kylee Noga, Vince Noga,  
Aubrey Porter, Shanti Scott, and Avary Thorne

## YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Highlights of significant services and achievements in 2019:

- > **Over 1,500 people fed** annually at the Community Dinners and drum circles. Since 2005, over 20,000 people fed.
- > **795 food baskets** distributed throughout the year. This means 3,180 people were fed with 100,000 pounds of food distributed at a value of over \$95,000.
- > **4,000 annual patron visits** at the Cornucopia Food Pantry representing over 16,000 separate food distributions to families and food valued at over \$100,000.
- > **Over 250,000 pounds of food rescued** in our Food Rescue and Recovery Program, involving over 20 volunteers and 10 local partners.
- > **Over 400 student and community volunteers** utilized and 12 internships provided.
- > **Our Flames of Hope program assisted over 25 people** with housing assistance, health care costs, educational costs, support services, car repairs, bicycle replacements, legal assistance, utility bills, rental assistance, and more. In 2019, over \$50,000 in assistance was provided. Since 2003, over 200 people were served with assistance valued at over \$200,000.



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Instagram: @waysmeet\_center

### Contact us:

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*“Where all paths converge... Where all journeys connect... Where All Ways Meet”*