Today more than ever, I am so grateful for you and your kindness and compassion towards our Hand2Hand students and our vision to eliminate weekend child hunger in West Michigan. 2020 has been a unique year for all of us, but God continues to move powerfully through Hand2Hand, and your partnership has been crucial to the work we have been able to do. We honestly could not do this without you and your generous support.

In August at our Hand2Hand kickoff, we gathered with our 111 church partners to distribute their backpacks for the year and to join together in prayer to ask God to move and bless the movement He has called us to - feeding and praying for the most vulnerable kids throughout West Michigan. We challenged our volunteers to step out in “crazy faith” to do whatever God was asking them to do. Many of them responded and began serving more students, taking on another school, or assisting higher need Hand2Hand churches and schools.

In November at our Hope for Kids dinner, Dustin, a former Hand2Hand student, was our guest speaker. Dustin is an amazing young man who received Hand2Hand as a child and now volunteers. Much of Dustin’s success story is due to his relationship with his partnering church. Hand2Hand is the tool God can use as our churches respond with love and mercy to their local community and feed kids over the weekend.

Dustin shared at our dinner, “I didn’t realize how bad things were when I was younger, but now I do. I work now so I don’t receive Hand2Hand - I’d rather leave it for those who need it more. I like packing food and volunteering for Hand2Hand because I know how much it means to the kids and their families. Never underestimate what this food does for kids and their families.”

Dustin’s story inspired us to press on with our mission. Never in a million years did any of us imagine what “crazy faith” and inspiration we would need just six months later when the pandemic and school closures began. I invite you to continue to review our Impact Report to see how our communities helped us continue to feed hungry kids and their families during school closings.

As we grew to feed 8,007 students this year, we were mobilized with our local church partners to continue Hand2Hand when the pandemic began. Our staff, church partners, volunteers, and donors rose to the great challenge of still feeding most of our students. Hand2Hand food deliveries were often made directly to our families’ front doors or at school food distribution sites. As bulk food became difficult to obtain, we began The Win-Win of West Michigan, which is also fully explained in this impact report.

I can’t express enough my gratitude to you. Without a doubt, where there is hope, there is faith, where there is faith, miracles happen. Enjoy seeing the work we have accomplished together!

Cheri Honderd, Founder and Executive Director, Hand2Hand
“Thank you for giving me yummy food.” - Student

CONTINUING TO FEED MORE KIDS!

During this past school year, Hand2Hand has seen the following growth.

- **1651 MORE STUDENTS** - currently serving 8007!
- **5 MORE SCHOOL DISTRICTS** - currently in 37 school districts in West Michigan!
- **38 MORE SCHOOLS** - currently serving 206!
- **11 NEW CHURCHES** - total of 119 church partnerships!

New Districts include Holton, Mona Shores, Muskegon Heights, Oakridge, and Kent City.

Hand2Hand launched successfully into Muskegon County this year by partnering local churches with 10 schools.

**2019-2020 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS***

Please contact us to receive our 990, info@h2hkids.org.

Hand2Hand is an organic movement that relies on the financial donations of individuals, businesses, churches, and foundations but also relies on volunteer hours and food donations.

**For every $1 given, Hand2Hand received an additional $3.16 through volunteer hours, food donations, donated warehouse and storage space, and other in-kind contributions.**

Your continued financial donations are needed and appreciated as we expand into more schools!

*As of June 15, 2020.*
COMMUNITY H.O.P.E. PACKING EVENTS
Hand2Hand held 23 H.O.P.E. (Hands of People Everywhere) events in West Michigan at 7 different locations. **We packed a total of 47,416 packs with the help of 756 volunteers, ages 3 and up.**

On September 12, 2019, Herman Miller and Hand2Hand partnered together for what was the biggest packing event in Hand2Hand history. From 2:00am in the morning until 4:00pm, over 1,000 Herman Miller employees packed 30,400 breakfast packs, snack packs, lunch kits, and dinner kits.

Keller Williams Rivertown hosted a Hand2Hand packing event during their annual Red Day where they spend the day giving back to the community!

Upward Bound Georgetown held a food collection for Hand2Hand students. They collected 25,161 food items weighing 2,527 pounds! Pictured are some of the players praying over Hand2Hand and for our students.

Hand2Hand received the Grandville Jenison Chamber Non-Profit of the Year award and our impact was recognized by the State of Michigan.

“Hand2Hand gives me peace and comfort knowing that my students are going home with some food over the weekend. The story that sticks out to me the most was how one boy collected his food and divided it up each day for him and his two little sisters. He would cook and prepare it for them each day to make sure they had food to eat each day. These were so precious to him and his sisters, I don’t know what he would have done without them!” - Teacher

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“The Win Win and the gift cards you purchased helped our restaurant stay afloat for the first couple of months [of Covid-19] and we are so grateful. Thank you!” - Restaurant Owner (Please keep reading for more information about Win Win!)
Hand2Hand has been selected as a charity partner for the AMWAY RIVER BANK RUN which has been postponed until fall! We’d love for YOU to join our team. Our motto is any race, any pace, so come walk, jog, or run with us on October 24 and help us spread awareness! You can join our team at h2hkids.org/run/.

Increased nutrition continues to be a priority of Hand2Hand. This past school year, Church Partners were given a gift card each month to purchase fresh produce for our families.

“Fresh fruit has brought smiles to so many little nuggets! It always shocks me what the hype will be for the year and this year, oranges and apples are it. I have to sometimes force my own children to eat their fruits and vegetables, but when offered to someone who may not have them available at all times, they are almost as appealing as a dessert! Melts my heart!” - Elementary school teacher

The Hughes family has been supporting Hand2Hand since 2017 by putting on the Hughes Musical Christmas Show at their Zeeland home throughout the month of December. Since 2017 they have raised $10,729.82 with their Christmas Light Show and in 2019 alone raised $4,149.82.

On September 7, 2019, Gary and Nancee VanderHeide hosted the Cold Water Cup, a plastic golf ball tournament to collect funds and food for Hand2Hand. This unique and exciting tournament raised $5,300! To join us on September 12, 2020 at 3:00pm for the 2nd Annual Cold Water Cup, please contact katie@h2hkids.org

“Why a student was excited to tell me about her food bag arriving the first couple of weeks. She added, ‘My mom is broke. So I’m glad we get this!’ Warmed my heart to see how much she appreciates Hand2Hand.” - Teacher

“Hand2Hand has been providing for himself and his family. He has learned about so much more than academics, and every morning he comes in, looks us in the eye, shakes our hand, and says, ‘Good morning.’ He picks up the Hand2Hand food for him and his family and he is learning how to be responsible for himself and those he loves. Thank you for helping him to have what he needs on the weekends!” - Scott Joseph, Principal Byron Center High School

BYRON CENTER HIGH SCHOOL was involved with the FOX 17 FOOD FIGHT FOR WEST MICHIGAN and chose Hand2Hand to be the recipient of their food donations. Students collected 7,103 food items weighing 4,362 pounds!
HOW COVID-19 IMPACTED HAND2HAND FAMILIES...

“You are saving more families than even you can realize. People are stressed and you are taking a big part of their stress and putting it on your shoulders.” - Cal DeKuiper, Superintendent of Zeeland Public Schools

When COVID-19 began the community was eager to volunteer and support Hand2Hand kids. Many gave financially, and instructions were given for how to collect and pack food kits safely for those who wanted to volunteer.

**COVID-19 Mass Food Distribution:**
People were so generous when COVID-19 hit. The much needed donations allowed us to provide additional food to our church partners.

“Today I met little Adrian, who is 6. He was SO EXCITED! He had this [sign] for me and he literally danced and pumped his fists!” - Volunteer

As Hand2Hand volunteers brought food to the front doors of our Hand2Hand children, they were often met with signs, children waving and blowing kisses at them through the window. Often prayer requests and updates were also shared by the parent or guardian.

“Lucas was taught a theme of ‘Be the Change’ at his school. As an end of year project each student had to pick something to do to be the change for another person. When I asked Lucas what he would like our family to do he said he wanted to help the Hand2Hand kids. So we packed snack packs as a family (even Emma helped by putting in the popcorn and fruit snacks) and brought them to the trailer.” - Volunteer

“Wyoming is one of the beneficiaries of your kindness and care and an unwavering commitment to feed our kids. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. You are amazing and I appreciate you and everything you are doing is making a difference. Hand2Hand has stepped up in an amazing way to impact our families - even through COVID-19. I am honored to partner with you. We couldn’t do what we are doing if we weren’t connected with Hand2Hand.” - Craig Hoekstra, Superintendent, Wyoming Public Schools.

**DONATED FOOD PACKS INCLUDED:**
- 4,296 breakfast packs
- 779 lunch kits
- 3,718 snack packs
- 408 dinner kits

37,210 individual items were donated through these packings!

**COVID-19 CASH DONATIONS**
- $273,682 cash donations
- $12,738 worth of food donations
- $74,593 Win Win donations (see following page)

Families picking up their Hand2Hand food in Zeeland. Herman Miller donated masks for us to pass out to families as well as their weekend food.
The Win Win for West Michigan idea came after Cheri began praying for a solution for our inability to purchase food for our families immediately after COVID-19 hit. Food was scarce so she turned to prayer. She gives credit to God for this idea about how we could get our families meals, as well as benefit our restaurants who were struggling to keep their employees working.

When she shared her idea with the Hand2Hand staff, they quickly put wheels on it and made it come to life! We sought funding through matching grant support from The Peter C. and Emajean Cook Foundation and The David and Carol VanAndel Family Foundation for $30,000. Our amazing donors contributed another $40,000 which gave the Win Win for West Michigan wings to fly!

The Win Win consisted of asking local restaurants to provide a dinner, lunch, or breakfast option for a family for four that they would make a profit on, but that we could also reasonably purchase. As our church partners passed out gift cards, we shared with each family what their gift card would purchase (the cards did not include ordering off the menu or drinks).

Hand2Hand successfully and quickly partnered with 30 restaurants in 17 of our school districts, handing out over 4,100 gift cards to our families. The Win Win had a huge impact on our families and the West Michigan community restaurant owners! We are so grateful to establish relationships with these great restaurants and we wish them future success as they have blessed our families so well!

NOTES FROM A FEW FAMILIES:

“Hello! We received our gift card from Hand2Hand. We have never ordered from this restaurant before due to financial reasons. The meal was so nice for several reasons. First, it was just a ‘blah’ evening where none of us wanted to cook, and we were all getting on each other’s nerves. Being able to order pizza was a fun way to turn the evening around for us! Second, it was nice to try the pizza. Our school has had fund raiser nights there, but we’ve been unable to participate due to finances. Our pepperoni pizza was delicious, and those bread sticks - AMAZING! We have heard so many good things about their food. It did not disappoint! Third, I was a little nervous when ordering because of having to say I had a H2H gift card. Sometimes you just don’t know how you will be treated by others. The staff person who took my order over the phone was so nice and didn’t make me feel uncomfortable. It was GREATLY appreciated! While we didn’t pay for our food ourselves, we will surely be recommending this restaurant to others and do what we can to support this outstanding local business! Thank you for all you do for our community!”

“I just would like to thank you for blessing us with the gift card we received in the H2H bag! I picked up the pizza & bread sticks tonight! We have seven children and this helped us out with a dinner we can’t say thank you enough!”

“Our family is so grateful for the gift of a delicious prepared meal. We have both lost our jobs recently and have 2 sons, to be able to pick up a warm meal was such a treat! Your generosity and kindness is such a blessing. Thank you for being who you are and doing what you do.”

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Hand2Hand and Northpointe Christian Middle School (NPC) partnered together for NPC’s first-ever ImpAction program. This year-long program engaged NPC’s 50 sixth graders throughout the year by hosting and attending packing events, fundraisers, and spreading awareness. Northpointe Christian Students and families raised $5,691.25 for Hand2Hand students!
“Today one of my students received a Hand2Hand bag in her locker. She came running into the room this morning and said, ‘The food fairy came to my locker and left me food! I am so excited to show my dad! Do you think she will come back again?’ I told her that it would arrive every Friday. She replied, ‘This is the best thing that has ever happened to me!’, as she smiled from ear to ear. Thank you so much for providing this for our kids!”

- Elementary Teacher

We believe that together we can eliminate weekend child hunger in West Michigan and the best is yet to come!

Our goal for the 2020-21 school year is to grow into 31 new schools to begin providing weekend food to at least 1,550 more students who experience weekend hunger. We also anticipate a greater need in our current schools due to the economic effects of COVID-19 for many families. Potentially, we could be feeding and praying for a total of 10,000 kids by June 2021.

Our greatest challenge and dream for the immediate future is to have a Hand2Hand building where our offices and warehouse space attach in one facility. Although Fair Haven Church and Sound Off Signal have generously provided office and warehouse space, we need one facility so we can be at one site and become even more efficient and effective.

As we continue to grow in the number of students we reach, we can pro-actively seek donated, and bulk priced purchased food for our church partners so that we can be more cost-efficient. A larger warehouse is needed for this dream to be attainable.

With the uncertainty of the COVID-19, this school year, we will be mobilized with three different operational plans so that our students can continue to receive Hand2Hand, regardless of potential school closures. We will strengthen and be innovative as we face future obstacles, and we will focus on the implementation of food distribution during extended school breaks, including summer and emergencies.

Hand2Hand’s committed ‘food fairies’, (see above story)...we mean church coordinators and volunteers...are the boots on the ground that enables us to feed and pray for 8,007 students each week in 206 schools!

A very special thank you to Linda Cole and Karen Thompson who became our very first volunteer Hand2Hand Coordinators in August 2008. After 12 full school years of serving, blessing, loving, feeding, and praying for kids in their local school, (and witnessing many miracles) they are ‘retiring’. We are amazed at your hearts and passion to serve others.

Hand2Hand loves partnering with local businesses to help feed 8,007 West Michigan students! Hosting a Hand2Hand packing event is a great way to engage employees and give back to the community. This year Hand2Hand had more than 150 businesses in West Michigan donate 3,294 hours to collect and pack food for Hand2Hand! (Photo: Transcorr National Logistics)
Join Us!
In lieu of our Annual Fundraising Dinner, please join us as we put...

HOPE IN ACTION

October is Child Hunger Awareness Month!
You’re invited to join us in fun and creative ways as together we raise awareness and financial donations.
We are looking for businesses and individuals to help us by becoming matching sponsors.
Fun information coming to you soon about how you and your family can put Hope into Action!
If you would like to be a sponsor, contact katie@h2hkids.org.

Hand2Hand delivers nutritious food to students over the weekends and extended school breaks by mobilizing churches, schools, individuals, and businesses to join together, providing hope and opportunity to thrive.

The value of food provided to kids in 2019-2020: $1.5 million!

WEEK(END) CHILDHOOD HUNGER IN WEST MICHIGAN

Over 80,000 kids in West Michigan receive free and reduced lunch at school five days a week. That does not include the weekend!
That’s roughly 1,112 school buses filled with kids being dropped off at home each weekend who are at real risk of having little to no food for 68 hours!
Hand2Hand exists to eliminate that 68 hour gap so every kid has an opportunity to thrive.
Hand2Hand does that by mobilizing schools, churches, businesses, and individuals to provide a backpack of nutritious food over the weekend.

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When this note comes in the mail....❤ Together, #WeAreHand2Hand

Hand2Hand
because a hungry child hurts
2900 Baldwin St
Hudsonville MI 49426

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED