



December 8, 2023

Dear Friend,

Cup of Grace Ministries would like to take this opportunity to THANK YOU for your support in 2023! Without faithful and generous donors, we would not be able to provide food, clothing and other services to those in need in our community. Over the past 7 years Cup of Grace has not only served thousands of weekly community meals, it has grown and established the following community programs:

School Clothing Closets. We currently have a clothing closet in every school in the Lakeland School District and in the Lakeland Head Start (for a total of 12). Each closet provides needy children with seasonal appropriate clothing, including winter coats, snow pants, jackets, shoes, socks and underwear. Additionally, we provide toiletry items and school supplies in each school closet. A volunteer is assigned to each school to maintain the closet and re-stock when items are needed. Prom dresses are donated and kept at the Timberlake Junior High School closet for any student who needs a dress in the Lakeland School District. **Our clothing closet is currently one of our biggest financial needs. Our 2023 closet budget ran short - the needs are great for families in this current economic climate.**

Clothing for Adults and Infants. We have added in-house clothing closets for adults and infants, including a diaper bank (wipes, too).

Childrens' Lunch Program. This program provides lunches for children who participate in the Spirit Lake Library's year-round reading program and also to children in the park during the summer months. We added additional activities to the lunch program such as a visit from the Tooth Fairy, as well as crafting and book distribution events.

Buddy Bags are provided to first responders to deliver to children in crisis situations.

Food Pantry/Family Assistance. Our food pantry is open 5 days a week for people in our community who need help with food. We also provide gas and other assistance (utility bills, etc.) to families in crisis situations.

Community Partnerships. Our dream of being able to partner with other community organizations is finally coming to fruition in 2023. We have been able to help in establishing the Spirit Lake Community Coalition, which consists of the Spirit Lake Food Bank, Spirit Valley Food Bank, Spirit Lake Senior/Community Center, Spirit Lake Events, and ourselves. Our first joint project has been putting together and distributing Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes.

Cup of Grace started with a call from God. As the founder, in my heart I wanted to follow the Book of James where we are encouraged to not only wish for people to have food, clothing and shelter, but to provide those things to them. I longed to have a place where our community could come together and provide for each other. We started with 15 volunteers (with crock pots) and our first meal served 23 people. We now have over 100 volunteers and serve thousands of meals each year, along with providing other basic needs for many children, individuals and families. God is faithful - He proves it over and over.

Thank you for considering Cup of Grace in your year-end giving. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, and your donation is tax deductible.

Sincerely,

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