

March 18, 2021

Lake County News-Sun
Chicago Tribune
Attention: Editor
435 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Editor,

The staff, volunteers and all of those we serve here at COOL Ministries are so very grateful for the generosity and support of your readers who give to Help Them To Hope and also for the volunteers who work to make this annual giving event successful. COOL is honored to be one of the organizations to be chosen to receive a donation from Help Them To Hope this year. It is because of such generous donations as these that COOL Ministries was able to serve over a half a million meals to families in need all over Lake County last year.

COOL needed these funds more than ever this last year, as we have seen the need for our services grow each and every day. The rising cost of food has brought many new comers to our pantry that have never before used COOL's services. Each and every day of the five days a week that COOL Food Pantry is open we see a line around the building of people waiting to be served. Our Transitional Housing Program for families has also seen an increase an applicant's, especially since the eviction moratorium expired. Along with the cost of food rising, rent prices too have soared. Rent on even the most modest two bedroom apartment in Lake County is often astronomically high and unattainable for low income families. With donations from campaigns such as Help Them To Hope, COOL is able to provide safe and well maintained two and four bedroom apartments for families that would otherwise be homeless.

Help Them To Hope's support together with individual donations, other grants and fund raising events enable COOL to provide help to those in Lake County who need it the most. On behalf of the board of directors, the staff who work at COOL, volunteers who serve faithfully and especially on behalf of those who receive help at COOL, we want to thank everyone involved for generous support of our programs!

Sincerely,

Mindy Lindholm, Executive Director