

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

"Fill the Freezer" Food Drive

Hillsdale, Michigan – July 6, 2017

In response to the continued need for food pantry services in Hillsdale County, the Hillsdale County Community Foundation YOUTH (Youth Opportunities Unlimited Throughout Hillsdale) will be holding a "Fill the Freezer" Food Drive on Friday, July 21st. The food drive, which will be held at the Hillsdale Market House, will support local food pantries with donations of frozen and non-perishable food items, as well as personal care products.

As Market House customers shop, the YOUTH hope that customers will purchase "extra" items to donate for the event. YOUTH committee members will be on hand from 11 am until 6 pm, hoping to fill the freezer, on loan from Brad's Appliance, many times over during that time. Area businesses and community organizations are also encouraged to host internal food drives, and bring collected items to the Market House on July 21st to contribute to the project. Any monetary donations will be used to purchase needed items for the participating food pantries.

Food pantries that will benefit from this food drive include King's Kupboard, Lifeline, Litchfield United Methodist Church, Salvation Army, and Waldron First Church of Christ. The YOUTH have chosen to sponsor this event once again because the members recognize the challenges that many families face with food insecurity, and hope to alleviate some of the stress and suffering of those in our communities.

The Hillsdale County Community Foundation YOUTH was established in October of 1991. The YOUTH Advisory Council has an ongoing program for studying the assets, needs, and concerns of the



young people of Hillsdale County. YOUTH has a special endowment fund, initially made possible by a challenge grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, to make available grant dollars to benefit and involve young people in Hillsdale County. Anyone wishing further information regarding the YOUTH may call the Foundation office at (517) 439-5101 or visit <u>www.abouthccf.org</u>.

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