



Des Moines Area Hunger Hike

April 14, 2022

Des Moines Area Hunger Hike Concludes 52 Year History in Des Moines Metro

After careful consideration by the board members of the Des Moines Area Hunger Hike, a heart-filled and intentional decision has been made to end the Des Moines Area Hunger Hike, a non-profit 501c3.

The Hunger Hike has served as a visible witness to the concern around food insecurity, both locally and globally, as hundreds of people of all ages, a coalition of institutions, organizations, denominations, and faiths gathered to "walk so that more may eat." Since 1969, Hikers have raised over \$1 million dollars to help alleviate hunger in our community and abroad. Donations have been distributed among nonprofit agencies and programs that provide food to those experiencing hunger and food insecurity.

Last year's Hike, held October 2021, raised approximately \$23,000. Funds are being allocated currently, March 2022.

A few reasons for our decision to conclude the Hike:

- Since the pandemic began in 2020, a decrease in interest has been felt, which many other non-profits have also had to address.
- During the peak of participation in the Hike, from 1989-1992, we had approximately 90 churches and 25 local school, city, and local agencies participating. The last few years there has been a slow decline, with about 20 organizations involved currently.
- Over the 52 years of Hiking, the ability for individuals to give directly to local agencies in need has been simplified and made more convenient, especially through online giving.

The Des Moines Area Hunger Hike would not have lasted for 52 years in the Des Moines Metro area if it weren't for the generous donations made from all of the Hikers throughout the years. Years of support from board members and volunteers have made this a beautiful legacy that will surely be missed. The generosity and loyalty seen in the Des Moines Area Hunger Hiker gives us hope as we move forward.

This doesn't mean that the fight to end hunger in Des Moines will end! There are so many organizations throughout the metro that combat food insecurity in Iowa and around the world.



Des Moines Area Hunger Hike

Below you will see a list of the organizations we have allocated funds to in the past few years. It is our hope that you'll continue to support the cause of alleviating food insecurity in the future.

New Horizons Adult Day Center
The Beacon
WesleyLife Retirement Services, Inc.
WesleyLife Meals on Wheels
Children and Family Urban Movement
CWS - CROP Hunger Walk
Hope Ministries
USCRI Des Moines
Central Iowa Shelter & Services
Epworth Community Dinners
Harbor of Hope Mission
Catholic Council for Social Concern, Inc. DBA Catholic Charities
Haitian Assets for Peace International
Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC)
Knock and Drop Iowa
Iowa Chapter, Iowa-Yucatan Partners of the Americas
Zion Lutheran Church
Seed Programs International
IMPACT Community Action Partnership
Young Children - Priority One d/b/a Nutrition 4 Young Children
EMBARC
Hawthorn Hill
Bidwell Riverside Center
Children & Families of Iowa
Mary's Meals USA
Self-Help International
Church World Service
The Connection Cafe
Meals from the Heartland

Sincerely,

The Board of the Des Moines Area Hunger Hike