



Hats For Hunger

For just \$1 Wear a Hat to school _____ to show you care!



Join me . . .

in fighting hunger!!!

Everyone is invited to lend a helping hand towards fighting poverty and hunger in our community.

An easy way to offer a hand to those in need is paying \$1 for the opportunity to wear a favorite or funny hat to school.

Each dollar collected for this project will be donated to the local, Hamilton County, Food Rescue program.

Wear a Hat!



FOOD + RESCUE

Hamilton County



The following are sample announcements that student council members could read over the announcements during the hunger initiative “Hats for Hunger”.

Monday: This week we will be taking a brief moment each day to discuss how we can become better citizens, as we consider the problem of hunger in our world and community, and what we can do as citizens to help solve the problem.

- 1.02 billion people across the world are hungry, meaning 1 in every 7 people in the world.
- Every day, almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes—which is one child every five seconds.
- Hunger is the most extreme form of poverty, where individuals or families cannot afford to meet their most basic need for food.
- Countries in which a large portion of the population battles hunger daily are usually poor and often lack the social safety nets we enjoy, such as soup kitchens, food stamps, and job training programs. When a family that lives in a poor country cannot grow enough food or earn enough money to buy food, there is nowhere to turn for help.

- Tomorrow we will take a look at hunger in The United States. On Friday, Carmel Elementary will be sponsoring “Hats for Hunger”, which will allow you to wear a hat to school in support of the organization Food Rescue, which is fighting the problem of hunger right here in Hamilton County. So don’t forget to bring your dollar and your hat on Friday for “Hats for Hunger.”

Tuesday: In the United States of America, over 40 million citizens live in poverty without enough money to provide basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter. This includes over 12 million children. Unlike in other countries, it is rare for hunger or starvation to be a cause of death in America due to the economic prosperity our nation has enjoyed in the last several decades, which allows the United States the privilege to provide citizens a helping hand that are going through difficult times. This help comes in the form of food pantries, soup kitchens, and food stamps. Tomorrow we will learn about one of the solutions to the problem of hunger in America. Don’t forget, on Friday, we will be sponsoring “Hats for Hunger”, which will allow you to wear a hat to school in support of Food Rescue, so don’t forget to bring your dollar and your hat on Friday for “Hats for Hunger.”

Wednesday: In 2006, 22 million Americans utilized food banks or food pantries to provide meals for their families. A food bank is a place in a community that receives food donations from citizens and businesses to provide assistance to families that are struggling to make enough income to buy food for their families. There are 32 food banks in Hamilton County alone, and 10,530 citizens who find themselves in need of food assistance. In 2009, over 35 million Americans utilized the services provided by food banks, which was a 60% increase in just 3 years. In 2011, the number increased to 37 million Americans, meaning 1 out of every 10 Americans. Hunger is on the rise in America, and fresh ideas and volunteers are needed to keep up with the increased demand. Tomorrow we will discuss how we can support our local food banks. Don't forget, on Friday, we will be sponsoring "Hats for Hunger", which will allow you to wear a hat to school in support of Food Rescue, so don't forget to bring your dollar and your hat on Friday for "Hats for Hunger."

Thursday: In 1997, the Department of Agriculture estimated that 96.4 billion pounds of the 356 billion pounds of edible food in the United States was never eaten, which means 27% of all our food supply in America is wasted. In 4 short years, Jonathon Bloom, author of book American Wasteland, now estimates the number is more like 40% of our food is thrown away. Some of that food is the result of overproduction from food establishments such as

restaurants and grocery stores. Saving that food and delivering it to local food banks is what the organization Food Rescue is all about, and tomorrow we will learn about some of the things that Food Rescue does in our community and country to make sure children and families in need are fed. And of course, don't forget, tomorrow we will be sponsoring "Hats for Hunger", which will allow you to wear a hat to school in support of Food Rescue, so don't forget to bring your dollar and your hat tomorrow for "Hats for Hunger."

Friday: Food Rescue is an organization that was founded right here in Hamilton County in 2008. In just 4 years, Food Rescue has inspired citizens in 18 states, using over 1,500 volunteers to pick up food from food establishments that is the result of over production. Food Rescue has saved over 10 million dollars of retail value food since their inception. That total includes over 125,000 Little Caesars pizzas each year, many of which are delivered to the largest food bank in Hamilton County, which is Third Phase. 1,200 times each month in the Indianapolis area, Food Rescue volunteers save perfectly good food from being wasted, and provide a critical service to children and families in need in our country. By supporting organizations such as food banks and Food Rescue, citizens are able to show that they truly understand what it means to be a part of a community, where each person is valuable, no matter what their circumstances might be. Thank you for bringing your dollar and wearing your hat today for "Hats for Hunger", and being a citizen that demonstrates caring and compassion for everyone in our community.