

SEPTEMBER
2020



Here's What's Brewing

Over the next few months, we're excited for you to hear from some of our supporters...
People who have navigated this adventure for years, and who have
invested deeply of themselves because they believe in all MUGS will be!

I initially supported MUGS because I had history with its Executive Director, Bethany Paterson. That history was a shared vision about people coming together and making positive progress on the challenges of their community — whether social or economic, short or long term. MUGS is an example of, “How the community sees the problem drives how the community solves the problem.” While the idea of a coffeehouse / community center isn't novel, MUGS is most definitely a program unique to its region!

The MUGS mission is exciting on so many levels. The potential self-sufficiency of the coffeehouse is good. But the potential of people connecting, affirming, mentoring, laughing and crying together is one of those “MasterCard Priceless” qualities that knows no bounds. Self-sufficiency for people is embodied in MUGS' mission of skills-building, but the connecting empowers that self-sufficiency, and gives hope. Such interest in and care for neighbors is a community value that builds generations of people who are rooted by a vested interest in each others' success and well-being.

I'm patient with the process because truly great things take time. A healthy organization that grows well is built on trust, and MUGS requires your trust... in its potential and in its methodology. MUGS is 'swimming upstream' within a broader culture of self-focused, instant gratification, “not-my-problem” values. But **there is a better way to live,** and a community that literally meets over coffee and can be

trusted to serve and care for each other is that way! And I truly believe that, if we're being honest, we would all want to live in that community.

~ Mrs. Karen Woods
Muskegon, MI



Thank you,
Karen!

HAPPY LABOR DAY

The first Monday of each September is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of the American workers. Special thanks to each of you for your tireless contribution to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country!

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