



2024 Summer Stats

14,099 Lunches Served

Our eleven weeks of serving lunches began on Wednesday, May 29. Our last day was Wednesday, August 14, 2024.

During those eleven weeks we served 14,099 lunches. This is a record high since we started the program in 2019, excluding 2020. This is a 9% increase from the number of lunches we served in 2023.

389 Children Representing 137 Families

While 389 children were registered for the summer lunch program representing 137 families. The number of children registered in 2024 increased by 6% from 2023. The number of families in 2024 increased by 8% from last year.

On an average day we served 273 children. Not every child received lunch every day. Some only received lunch on certain days of the week. Others only received lunches for a few weeks during the summer. Lots of families were working families so they only received lunches as it fit their schedule. There were families with transportation issues or medical issues. There were 6 families that registered but never picked up lunch after a phone call, text and email. There were 4 families that failed to show up most days in Chagrin and 5 families whom registered after we discontinued delivery to that area of the county.

- *23 children were from Burton*
- *27 children were from Chagrin Falls*

- 45 children were from Chardon
- 17 children were from Chesterland
- 7 children were from Claridon – Chardon School District
- 27 children were from Claridon – Berkshire School District
- 1 child was from Garrettsville
- 33 children were from Hambden
- 1 child from Hiram
- 18 children were from Huntsburg
- 5 children were from Kirtland
- 3 children were from Mespotamia
- 58 children were from Middlefield
- 11 children were from Montville
- 15 children were from Munson
- 54 children were from Newbury
- 7 children were from Parkman
- 1 child was from Rock Creek
- 1 child was from Russell
- 22 children were from Thompson
- 9 children were from Troy
- 4 children were from Windsor

Ages

All children in school and younger were able to participate in our lunch program. The ages of our registered children were as follows:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| - 10 – age 1 | - 26 – age 11 |
| - 27 – age 2 | - 25 – age 12 |
| - 25 – age 3 | - 27 – age 13 |
| - 15 – age 4 | - 17 – age 14 |
| - 26 – age 5 | - 20 – age 15 |
| - 25 – age 6 | - 13 – age 16 |
| - 30 – age 7 | - 13 – age 17 |
| - 27 – age 8 | - 3 – age 18 |
| - 31 – age 9 | - 1 – age 19 |
| - 28 – age 10 | |

139 Volunteers

“Now That’s What I’m Talking About!” – Summer Lunch, a Claridon Community Helps program is 100% volunteer driven. There are no paid employees.

110 volunteers donated 1,719 hours this summer on Monday, Wednesday and/or Friday mornings preparing and packing lunches. An additional 186 hours were spent on the program outside of Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning between the first day we started serving lunch and the last day.

At the end of the summer, 243 delivery routes were made possible by 42 volunteers. These 44 volunteers (15 of which also helped prepare lunch) gave 486 hours of their time and the cost of operating their vehicles to deliver lunch to the children.

In total 139 volunteers gave 2,391 hours of their time and talent this summer. Of these 139 volunteers, 88 were adults and 51 were students.

26 Delivery Locations – 25 Homes

Each day seven drivers delivered to multiple locations within the county. Some lunches were even delivered to the home of the child(ren) if the parent did not have transportation or would be at work and unable to pick up lunch at the delivery time. This was also contingent upon their home being on the route. While a few families picked up their lunch at Claridon Congregational Church, the rest were delivered to the following locations where families met our drivers to gather the children’s lunches.

Burton:

- *Burton Library*
- *Tiffany’s Learning Center*

Chagrin Falls:

- *Chagrin Falls Park*

Chardon:

- *Chardon Christian Fellowship Church*

Chesterland:

- *Chesterland Park*

Claridon:

- Claridon Congregational Church
- Jacques
- Headwaters Park – Both entrances

Hambden:

- Leaders Properties
- Hambden Elementary School

Huntsburg:

- Huntsburg Town Hall
- Highland Acres

Middlefield

- Middlefield Library
- Mineral Lake Park
- Pilgrim Mennonite Church
- All Around Daycare

Montville:

- Montville Community Center

Munson:

- Scenic River Retreat

Newbury:

- St. Helen Church
- West Geauga Self Storage
- Mailbox Station on Diane Drive

Parkman:

- Parkman Congregational Church

Russell:

- Russell Administrative Building

Thompson:

- Rustic Pines Mobile Home Park

Troy:

- Troy Community House

\$31437.32 Total Expenses

Total expenses for “Now That’s What I’m Talking About!” – Summer Lunch program does not include Claridon Community Helps monthly insurance, telephone, website and garbage pickup during the summer. All expenses are paid from money received through donations and grants. It is not funded by the state or other agencies.

The cost per lunch was \$2.23. The estimated cost per lunch was \$3.58 per child. Thanks to numerous donations we were able deliver a homemade meal \$1.35 below our estimated cost per meal.

\$27,426.80 in Food Expenses

Food purchased for the children totaled \$27,426.80. The number of meals served increased by 7% from last year. Our food expenses decreased by 1% from 2023.

This was possible because of the very large donation of chicken we received from New Mercies Church. We also received a large donation of meat and cheese from Geauga Food Pantries. The food drive Geauga County Public Library held in April supplied us with many shelf-stable items. Lastly, Geauga County Schools held a food drive in March. This greatly reduced the items we had to purchase.

\$4010.52 in Non-Food Expenses

Our Non-Food expenses increased by \$1,023 from last year. This increase was due to the kitchen utensils we use on a daily basis that needed to be upgraded in size. The little household colander no longer worked for us. We needed to replace multiple roasters as we wore them out. We also needed utensils with longer handles that were made for commercial cooking size pots and not the small pots and pans one has at home.

Claridon Congregational Church

“Now That’s What I’m Talking About!” Summer Lunch is a Claridon Community Helps program. Claridon Community Helps is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We are a separate organization from Claridon Congregational Church, but one would never know it as we work so well together. The Congregation welcomes us with open arms and supports us in all our endeavors.

1 Amazing Community

I say this often, yet I cannot say it often enough, we live in an amazing community. People freely share their time and are not afraid to open their pocketbooks to purchase the items we need to make the summer lunch program happen. Claridon Community Helps was able to offer "Now That's What I'm Talking About!" because of you! Together, we are making a difference!

*Thank
You!*

- **Claridon Congregational Church**
- **138 Volunteers**
- **University Hospital – Geauga**
- **Great Lakes Growers**
- **Chagrin Valley Rotary Club**
- 4H Junior Leadership Club of Geauga County
- Adam & Becca Fisher
- Aggie Sojka
- Alan Dawson
- Amanda Fleck
- Anne & Sid Clouser
- Anonymous Donor
- Aquilla Village
- Arthur & Taylor Rice
- Auburn Township
- Barb & Dave Partington
- Barb Stocker
- Barb Townsend
- Berkshire Class of 1988
- Berkshire Schools
- Bev & Gary Sprowls
- Bev McClelland
- Bonnie & Tracy Jemison
- Burton American Legion Post 459
- Burton Township
- Candace Hollard
- Cardinal Schools
- Carla Ronnebaum
- Chagrin Falls Township
- Chardon Schools
- Chardon Township
- Chardon Veterinary Hospital
- Cindi & Skip Boehnlein
- Claridon Township
- Countryside Truck Service
- Cristine Lewis
- Crowe LLP
- Cynthia & Terry Robinson
- David & MaryEllen Hoffman
- Dean & Ellen Peska
- Debbie Scott
- Destination Geauga
- Donna Vaccariello
- Doug & Carolyn Price
- Dylan & Emily Cozens
- Ellen McDougall Peska
- Emma Maloney
- Fitness Plus
- Fundraising Supporters
- Geauga County Auditor
- Geauga County Clerk of Courts
- Geauga County Commissioner

- Geauga County Library
- Geauga County Prosecutor
- Geauga County Sheriff
- Geauga County Treasurer
- Geauga Credit Union
- Geauga Financial Services
- Geauga Growth Partnership
- Geauga Hunger Task Force
- Geauga Planning Commission
- Geauga Public Health
- Geauga Republican Party
- Geauga Soil & Water
- Hambden Township
- Heather Petrie
- His Daughter
- Horizons Christian Assembly
- Howard Hanna
- Huntsburg Township
- Ilona Daw Krizman
- In Memory of Chuck Strazinsky
- In Memory of Dian Derus
- In Memory of Gail Miller Smith
- Jackie Cholley
- Jeannine Soltis
- Jennifer Deren
- Jim Romask
- Joe Pokorny
- John Ingold
- John Miller
- Karen Noce
- Katherine Brock
- Kathy Pinkava
- Kelly Minnick
- Kent Geauga
- Kim & Larry Armstrong
- Kuni Nyzen
- Leadership Geauga
- League of Women Voters
- Lindsey Sinclair
- Lisa Wilson
- Lisette & Joseph Steidl
- Lois Tiber
- Lydia & Dave McKenzie
- Mapledale Farm
- Marvelous Mouse Travels, Leanne Sidley
- Melissa Noble
- Molten Metal Equipment Innovations
- Montville Township
- Munson Township
- Nancy Bihary
- Nancy Wright
- New Mercies Church
- New Testament Baptist Church
- NOAH
- Pam Austin
- Parkman
- Pat Hauser
- Patterson Fruit Farm
- Pattie Group
- Patty Loveland
- Richard & Nan Norton
- RMS Empower Inc
- Roger Mezak
- Ron & Debbie Barak
- Ronyak Paving
- Russell Township
- Saint Patrick Parish
- Shannon Stewart
- Sue West
- Susan Vokoun
- Thompson Township
- Tim Frank Septic Cleaning
- Valley Christian Preschool
- Vickie List
- Village of S. Russell
- Wendy White
- WenMar Associates
- West Geauga Schools
- White House Chocolates