



## For Immediate Release

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# Fustini's Team Steps Up Efforts to Fundraise on Behalf of Kids' Food Basket of West Michigan

(Traverse City, MI) –With the order to close schools throughout Michigan, the challenge to get food to kids in need has grown. With that in mind Fustini's is expanding their fundraising efforts for **Kids' Food Basket** by launching a donation page on Facebook where they will match every dollar donated.



**DONATE**

Donation Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/1083664012012624/2927192860671735/>

“It is urgent that we all step up our support of kids food basket work. It's vital to our community. Fustini's is so pleased to support Kids' Food Basket of West Michigan with this fundraising project. Our mission is to improve community health through diet and nutrition, and I see so many ways that the Kids' Food Basket initiatives are perfectly aligned with our mission,” states Fustini's owner, Jim Milligan.

Kids' Food Basket is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to nourishing kids throughout this challenging time in West Michigan. With this health pandemic effecting all families, the need is greater than ever for programs such as Kids' Food Basket. In addition to donations to buy foods to bring in, here are a few immediate needs: Canned refried beans, fruit

cups, snack size zipper bags, pudding cups, meat sticks, extra-large lunch bags, toasted oat cereal, pretzel twits, and gold fish or cheez-its.

Kids' Food Basket feeds nearly 9,000 kids per day through the Sack Supper program. Hundreds of community members volunteers daily to ensure kids suffering from food insecurity get a fresh, ready-to-eat, nutritious meal delivered barrier-free. In Ottawa and Allegan Counties alone, Kids' Food Basket delivers 1,100 Sack Suppers to seven schools, but the work is not finished. Right now, more than 11,000 kids do not have consistent access to healthy evening meals.

All Ottawa and Allegan operations reside in the back of Peace Lutheran Church. However, the shelves are at program capacity. In the ongoing fight against childhood hunger, Kids' Food Basket will move into their own building, allowing the organization to serve an additional 600 kids per day. With the support of the community, Kids' Food Basket will make the big move beginning summer 2020.

Fustini's, an olive oil and balsamic vinegar tasting room, opened its doors first in Traverse City, Michigan, in 2008 and then opened three. The business quickly grew, adding another three locations in Petoskey, Ann Arbor and Holland. Fustini's has expanded their products and services to include pantry items, cookbooks, and a school of cooking. To learn more about Fustini's or to purchase any of their holiday packages online, visit [www.fustinis.com](http://www.fustinis.com).

*\*\*\*Matches will be made up to \$5,000.*

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