

# Friends of Swoop's

## February 2019



### Upcoming Events

#### March Madness: Mar. 4-Apr. 5

It's almost that time of year again, when Swoop's Food Pantry invites 16 buildings at EMU to put on their game faces, and compete in our March Madness Food Drive Competition. Support your favorite building on campus by donating non-perishable foods, household items, school supplies and more! Collection days will take place on Fridays throughout the month (3/15, 3/22, 3/29, 04/5). For any additional questions, email us at [swoops\\_pantry@emich.edu](mailto:swoops_pantry@emich.edu).

### Farewell Rae Anne!

As many of you know, Swoop's Food Pantry opened in September 2015 after a lot of time and work by Haley Moraniec, BSW & MSW Graduate. What you may not realize is that there were others working behind the scenes to help Haley's idea become a reality. One of those pivotal

people was Rae Anne Yuskowatz, Director of Development for the College of Health and Human Services. While some of our "social work" slant was focused on figuring out how to get students food, Rae Anne offered a fresh and important perspective. Her contribution truly helped shape the pantry in becoming what it is today, and her expertise resulted in the ability of the pantry to reach so many students. Rae Anne helped name the pantry and forged community relationships, which resulted in the Sabo endowment, as well as secured ongoing donations from Jiffy and Drakes Batter. Rae Anne was patient in teaching us the importance of marketing, sharing the pantry's story with others and not biting off more than we could chew. Many times we have turned to Rae Anne for advice and guidance in helping to break down barriers that affect EMU students' success. Recently,

Rae Anne has taken on a new and important role outside of EMU with the Make a Wish Foundation. Although we miss Rae Anne's smile, laughter and energy, we wish her the very best in her new venture! We will always remember her advice and how she helped launch Swoop's, and we look forward to seeing her continue to help others!

### Fresh Thyme Market

Fresh Thyme Farmers Market, located here in Ypsilanti, has been a supporter of Swoop's Food Pantry for the past two years. As our community partner, they give us donations of health supplements, food, snacks, and even home items. This past Fall they held a month long food drive which resulted in \$1600 in total raised. The food drive focused on selected items that Swoop's Food Pantry was in need of. Shoppers were greeted by a Swoop's volunteer, and given a flier with a list of items

**FRIENDS OF SWOOP'S**

needed. The shoppers would purchase and donate their selected items from the list, then drop them off into a large crate for Swoop's. This food drive, within the store, was a huge help in keeping our shelves full, especially during the Fall semester. Their month-long food drive ended with a Harvest themed event with barbecued foods and more to be purchased, with the proceeds going to Swoop's Pantry. We thank Fresh Thyme for their continued partnership and support. Their generosity and support has not only helped sustain our shelves with a wide selection of organic items, but also in helping us positively impact students in their health and success.

**Swoop's Supporters**

**EMU Biology Department**

Back in December 2018, as Swoop's Food Pantry was preparing to give away our annual holiday baskets, the giving spirit was heavy in the Biology Department here at EMU. Dr. Tom Mast and Dr. Margaret Hanes rallied their department together to raise \$400. Instead of giving the money to Swoop's, Dr. Mast thought of the idea of taking the fund, and seeing how much he could buy then delivering the bulk to the pantry. Tom called the pantry one afternoon to inquire about the pantry's current needs. A couple of weeks later, Tom showed up to Swoop's with a truck bed full of food! With

help from the Swoop's Team, boxes of various nonperishables were unloaded into the pantry. "Swoops gave me a list of the types of foods/goods that were the most useful. After that I tried to buy things that I would want to eat in a dorm room," Tom commented. The Swoop's Team would like to give a huge thank you to Dr. Hanes, Dr. Mast, and the entire Biology department for their generous donation!



**Thank you for your continued support! If you know other people who may be interested in receiving Swoop's newsletter, please feel free to share this with them or put them in touch with us!**

[swoops\\_pantry@emich.edu](mailto:swoops_pantry@emich.edu)

734-487-4173

Or visit us in person:

104 Pierce Hall

**MOST NEEDED ITEMS**

Thank you for helping us fill our shelves! Because of your generosity, our "most needed items" list has changed. Please see below for what Swoop's needs most at this time!

- Rice Sides
- Cereal
- Pasta/Pasta Sauce
- Granola Bars
- Spices
- Baby Formula
- Soup
- Canned Pineapples
- Re-usable Bags
- Gently-used EMU Graduation Gowns

**Be on the lookout for our April newsletter!**

**Follow us on Social Media:**

**Facebook:** Swoop's Food Pantry **Instagram/Twitter:** @swoops\_pantry

**Want to become a Friend of Swoop's?**

Send an email to [sympa@atari.emich.edu](mailto:sympa@atari.emich.edu) with the subject line "subscribe friends\_of\_swoops FirstName LastName" and leave the message body blank.