

# Friends of Swoop's August September 2019



## Upcoming Events

### Swoop's Food Pantry Open House

Tuesday, September 3  
11:00AM-1:00PM  
104 Pierce Hall

Curious about Swoop's? Fly into our second annual Open House! Come and meet some of our team members and participate in our mini scavenger hunt to learn more about the pantry. Light refreshments will be provided. All are welcome!

### Fall Food Drives

Help Swoop's Pantry stock up for the beginning of Fall by donating during your college's opening meeting & food drive:

- **College of Arts & Science: Sept. 3**
- **College of Education: Sept. 3-7**
- **College of Business: Sept. 6**
- **College of Engineering and Technology: Sept. 13**
- **College of Health and Human Services: Sept. 20**

## Swipes for Swoop's 2019: Chartwells and Swoop's come together to support students

We are happy to share that we are collaborating with Chartwells for our second year to provide students with hot meals while on campus. The idea for Swipes for Swoop's originally came from EMU alumnus, 2018 student government senator and Swoop's volunteer, Lewis Jacques. After consulting with other students, Lewis discovered that many students reported having excess Flex Dollars that they had no use for and were going to go to waste as a result. Lewis identified this as an opportunity to support Swoop's Pantry. He collaborated with Chartwells to create the Flex Dollar donation campaign, Swipes for Swoop's.

At the end of the 2018 winter semester, students were encouraged to donate excess Flex Dollars at EMU Dining Services' cash registers and

\$5,000 was raised, exceeding the initial goal of \$2,000. Swoop's was able to use the money to provide twenty-five students with Flex Dollars for the 2018-2019 academic year. The project was a huge success as demonstrated by the response of the students who were awarded the flex dollars.

One student said:

*"I am one of the many students experiencing homelessness on the campus of Eastern Michigan University. Without the support from Swoop's Food Pantry I would have no food to eat whatsoever. I truly pray that you are able to continue to provide this service in the future. I told a multitude of my friends that they can donate their extra flex to Swoop's. Some students had about \$1000 left over at the end of the semester; instead of using it I told them to donate it. Thank you so much for creating this plan. I am so grateful."*

The written responses from this survey were so moving and inspiring to Swoop's Pantry and EMU Dining Services that the two departments decided to collaborate again this year to make this campaign an annual tradition. In April 2019, EMU Dining Services and Swoop's Pantry increased the goal to \$5000 and EMU rose to the challenge! As a result, twenty-five more students will be awarded Flex Dollars. This project has been a successful collaboration to help students overcome barriers they face while earning their degree.

**Meet Christa Reid**



We are happy to announce a new member of the Swoop's Food Pantry family, Christa Reid. Joining EMU in October 2018, Christa currently serves as the Director of Development for the College of Education and the College of Health and Human Services. She will be assisting Swoop's with finding interested donors as well as building new partnerships within the community. Christa is most excited about joining the fight against food insecurity on college campuses. Outside of EMU, you may catch Christa on the silver screen, as she has been an extra in a few films shot right here in the Great Lakes State.

**Meet Sara Ajeen**



Welcome our newest BSW intern at Swoop's, Sara Ajeen. Sara will be working with the pantry Fall 2019-Winter 2020. Sara previously worked as an Administrative Assistant at Central Academy in Ann Arbor, where she worked with primarily Arab and Arab American students. One of Sara's favorite hobbies includes baking! Her favorite things to bake are Tiramisu and Crème Brûlée! Her favorite place to eat is Ruth Chris Steakhouse. The most adventurous place she has traveled to is Rome, Italy! We are happy to welcome her to our team!

**Most Needed Items**

**Thank you for helping us fill our shelves! Here is what Swoop's is currently in need of:**

- Cereal
- Pasta Sauce
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Ramen
- Large Snacks such as Pretzels, Tortilla Chip, Etc.
- Body Wash
- Baby Wipes
- Shaving Cream
- Dish Soap
- Laundry Detergent

**To make a monetary donation, please visit [emich.edu/give](http://emich.edu/give)**

**Swoop's Supporters**



United Dairy Industry of Michigan

Be on the lookout for our October newsletter!

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