



**Hillsdale County**  

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**community foundation™**  

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**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**“Fill the Freezer” Food Drive to Benefit Local Food Pantries**

Hillsdale, MI, October 12, 2011 –

In response to the increasing need for food pantry services in Hillsdale County, the Hillsdale County Community Foundation YOUTH (Youth Opportunities Unlimited Throughout Hillsdale) will be holding a “Fill the Freezer” Food Drive on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. The food drive, which will be held at the Hillsdale Market House, is planned in order to support local food pantries with donations of frozen and non-perishable food items.

As Market House customers shop, YOUTH hope that customers will purchase “extra” items to donate for the event. YOUTH committee members will be on hand from 11 am until 6 pm, hoping to “fill the freezer” many times over during that time. Brad’s Appliance will be providing a freezer for the day. Area businesses and community organizations are also encouraged to host internal food drives, and bring collected items to the Market House on October 19<sup>th</sup> to contribute to the project. Any monetary donations will be used to purchase needed items for the participating food pantries.

The food pantries that will benefit from this food drive include King’s Kupboard, The Salvation Army, Hands of Mercy, El Bethel Church, Hillsdale Baptist Church, Litchfield United Methodist Church, Lifeline Food Pantry, and First Church of Christ in Waldron. “The YOUTH have chosen to

sponsor this event once again as their community service objective for this year,” said Amber Yoder, HCCF Communications Officer. “The YOUTH members recognize the challenges that many families are facing with the depressed economic conditions in Hillsdale County and all over the state, and want to do what they can to hopefully alleviate some of the stress and suffering of those in our communities.”

The Hillsdale County Community Foundation YOUTH was established in October of 1991. The YOUTH Advisory Council has an ongoing program for studying the assets, needs, and concerns of the young people of Hillsdale County. YOUTH has a special endowment fund, initially made possible by a challenge grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, to make available grant dollars to benefit and involve young people in Hillsdale County. Anyone wishing further information regarding the YOUTH may call the Foundation office at (517) 439-5101 or visit [www.abouthccf.org](http://www.abouthccf.org).

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