



December 2017



Chelsea

603 S. Main Street
Chelsea, MI 48118
734-475-3305
M, T, Th, F: 9am-4pm
W: 9am-7pm

Dexter

7275 Joy Road
Dexter, MI 48130
734-426-7002
Wednesdays: 12-7pm

Mission: Providing essential supports to alleviate the effects of hunger and poverty for those in the Dexter and Chelsea communities.

Fun Food Facts From Faith In Action



At Faith in Action, our goal is simple: turn hungry into healthy. We know that food insecurity is a bigger issue than simply having enough calories. It involves access to fresh foods and the knowledge

of how to cook and consume foods creatively. Partnerships with other agencies and community supporters help us along the way.

- Food Gatherers delivered more than 80,000 pounds of food this year in 148 deliveries. This includes rescued food and USDA products for an estimated overall value of \$146,802!
- Meijer Simply Give has leveraged the power of local dollar donations with a corporate match that gave more than \$25,000 in food gift cards for the pantry.
- Washtenaw County Prescription for Health enabled 35 people from Chelsea to set health and activity goals that included \$100 in free Farmer's Market tokens and the support of peers and professionals.



- Key FIA staff members are ServSafe trained, and CookStars participants bring food demonstration skills back to our pantries.
- There is always a "focus on fresh" at the pantries, with fresh fruits, vegetables, and frozen meats as the core of our food offerings.
- Community gardeners in both Chelsea and Dexter donate their extra produce to FIA when the growing season is at its peak.
- Congregations, Scouts, students, and community groups bring collected items to us for distribution. ■

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To learn more about FIA see our website www.faithinaction1.org or visit us on Facebook at Chelsea/Dexter Faith In Action.



Need help applying for SNAP or Medicaid?

We can help you!
FIA has staff with special training to help you apply for publicly funded programs or to help with case problems.

Call (734) 475-3305 for an appointment.

From the Board President *Our Mission at Faith In Action*



**Lori Minnick, President
Faith In Action**

Our mission is to provide essential supports to alleviate the effects of hunger and poverty for those in the Dexter and Chelsea communities. It takes many hands and feet to achieve this and as we take time to reflect on the year, we are once again reminded of the overwhelming generosity of our donors, volunteers, staff, and board members.

Every month at our board meetings, Nancy and Doug tell us about the challenges facing some of our neighbors. This motivates us again and again to try to make life a little better for these people. More than 200 households make use of Faith in Action's core services over the course of a year, with nearly 7,000 total service contacts. The number of lives that we reach in these two small towns is amazing. It is because of your huge hearts that we are able to continue and expand our programs and services.

There are many opportunities to participate in the great work of Faith in Action. If you are not familiar with what we do, please contact the FIA office, visit the website, or friend us on Facebook (Faith in Action-Chelsea/Dexter).

On behalf of the board, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for all the ways you support Faith in Action and pray that you will continue to partner with us in the New Year. ■

Lori A. Minnick

Lori Minnick,
Board President

Humanitarian of the Year John Hansen



Sandy and John Hansen (front) pictured with their daughter Claire, and her husband, Eric Robinson (back) after John had been presented with the Faith In Action 2017 Humanitarian of the Year Award.

Each year, the FIA trustees name a community individual who personifies the spirit of Faith in Action, someone who seeks to serve the community and make it a better place. John Hansen has served the Dexter community in both high profile positions and in quiet, behind-the-scenes ways over the past several decades. As a principal, Superintendent, State Representative, and Rotarian, John has a broad reputation as a calming voice of reason and a sharp wit. In his current role as moderator for the Dexter Forum, he helps keep the community informed and educated about local events and issues. As an FIA supporter, John has been our volunteer auctioneer and regaled our attendees to give generously. He said, "Think of the letter of Paul, who was writing to the folks in Corinth. He opined that a purpose of charity was to help ensure that those who have much do not have too much, and those who have little do not have too little. It implies that having much is not the sin but having too much is the problem. Most of us have much. Whether it is too much is a personal decision we have to make. It also implies that there will always be those who have little. Again, that is not the problem. Too little is the problem, and we can help fix that."

Thank you, John, for your service and friendship to Faith in Action! ■



**Familiar Faces and
Friends of Faith In Action!**



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at Faith In Action

Q: Do people have to pay for anything at FIA?

A: We have been blessed with enough support that all our services are provided free of charge — from the clothing room to the food pantry to the medical equipment closet items.

Q: Do you accept cars for donation?

A: Yes! We give away cars in working order to families who need transportation, with a preference given to those who need transportation for work. We also help people with bus passes, gas vouchers, and some car repairs.

Q: Who can get services at FIA? Do people have to prove that they need help?

A: Chelsea and Dexter is our main service area and documentation of household income is required. More importantly, we take a look at the whole situation in a home: is there enough food, who is employed, does everyone have health insurance, are the cars in good working order, are the kids signed up for free or reduced school lunch. People are often surprised at the ease of the process and how generous our help can be.

Q: Can I donate large furniture?

A: Unfortunately, FIA does not have room for large furniture. Kiwanis on Jackson Road and Habitat for Humanity both accept large furniture items. Kiwanis allows us to bring clients in to get items free of charge.

Q: Can you use volunteers at FIA? What do they do?

A: We use 50-60 volunteers on a weekly basis at our two FIA locations. Volunteers answer the phones (it rings dozens of times daily), sort clothing room donations (25+ donations come in daily), check in customers (20-25 each day), organize the food pantry, escort shoppers through the pantry, help people access the equipment room, and much more. We provide training for all these activities and help you help others. ■

Persons in family/ household	200% of FPL-Annual	Monthly
1	\$24,120	\$2,010
2	\$32,480	\$2,707
3	\$40,840	\$3,403
4	\$49,200	\$4,100
5	\$57,560	\$4,797
6	\$65,920	\$5,493
7	\$74,280	\$6,190
8	\$82,640	\$6,887

Visit www.faithinaction1.org
to find out more!



603 S. Main Street
Chelsea, MI 48118

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Dexter, MI 48130

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How Do I Help?

Please consider a gift to Faith In Action

Using your envelope saves mailing costs — funds we can use for FIA programs.

Please clip and mail the donation form below to: **FIA, 603 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118**



**Yes! I'd like to
put my faith into
action and help
my neighbors!**



_____ Name

_____ Street Address City State Zip

We/I would like to support Faith In Action with a tax-deductible gift of:

\$_____ Pay online with PayPal at www.Faithinaction1.org

\$_____ I have enclosed a check **payable to Faith In Action**

\$_____ Please charge my credit card: Visa MasterCard

_____ Account Number Expiration Date Security Code

_____ Signature

My gift is in Memory of Honor of _____ Name

Please send notification of my gift to: _____ Name

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