

Americans Feeding Americans- A Community Day



Americans Feeding Americans trucks.

March 31st, 2010 was a day the “City of Good Neighbors” will not soon forget as Americans Feeding Americans-Feed The Children made a stop in Buffalo. It was 1 of 30 cities chosen for the distribution of 3 tractor trailer loads of pre-packed food and toiletries to be given to 1200 families. A sea of volunteers and families lined a blocked off portion of Busti Street between Maryland and Hudson on that day. Volunteers passed out goods and directed traffic as 1200 families came out to redeem their vouchers for their boxes of goods. The Buffalo Dream Center is a partnering agency with Feed The Children and chose to provide vouchers to 1200 families



on the West Side-one of the poorest neighborhoods in Buffalo. The Belle Center and Buffalo AmeriCorps also partnered, adding direct impact service to the Buffalo community through a massive neighborhood debris clean-up and more. Michelle Johns from The Buffalo Dream Center stated: “Through these partnerships our goal is to show the residents that we care about their well-being.” This event and the others that will take place around the country are a part of Feed The Children’s nationwide campaign to raise awareness to hunger in our nation.

All systems were a go as Pastor Eric and wife Michelle Johns of The Buffalo Dream Center orchestrated the over 200 volunteers who came out to participate in Americans Feeding Americans–A Community Day. College students and other organizations lent a hand to not only help distribute the goods but also clean up the neighborhood and work securing the area for a smooth distribution process.

The vouchers that were distributed allowed for 1200 households to receive 40lbs of food and hygiene products. An event such as this was greatly needed in our community. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics for Buffalo, NY, at the onset of the year unemployment rates were at an incline. The lack of employment can make it difficult for families to get the supplies that they need for everyday survival.

There is a quote by Henry Ford that states: “Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” It’s good to know that there are organizations within the community who are aware of the problems, acknowledge the problems and are willing to unite in a great way, to then act upon the problems that are plaguing our community. Overall, this event was a huge success; not only because 1200 families received some much needed goods, but also because we united as a community and worked together. Buffalo is in fact the “City of Good Neighbors.”

