

HISTORY

FISH of Grand Blanc is a local 501 (c3) non-profit organization that was founded in 1974. The first FISH group began in England in 1961 and the word FISH represents the symbol the early Christians used to identify themselves.

FISH of Grand Blanc provides emergency and temporary services to all residents living within the Grand Blanc Community School District.

FISH is comprised of volunteers desiring to express their love and concern for neighbors in their community.

FISH is supported by the Grand Blanc Community Schools, individuals, churches, service organizations, businesses, and clubs throughout the year by providing monetary, clothing, food, hygiene, paper, cleaning and laundry/cleaning supply donations.

Please call our Hot Line (810.695.1880) to become an active sponsor or volunteer and reach out to your neighbors.

HOT LINE

810.695.1880

The Hot Line is available for residents to call 24 hours a day.

However, volunteers only return calls between **9 am and 5 pm** Monday thru Friday.

Calls may include a need for referral services, a request for emergency food supplies, transportation to a local doctor or dentist, and to offer donations or become a volunteer.

Regardless of the nature of the call, a FISH volunteer will endeavor to assist you with your request in a timely manner.

- ❖ **FISH of Grand Blanc in a non-profit 501(c3) organization**
- ❖ **FISH of Grand Blanc's annual budget is \$25,000**
- ❖ **FISH of Grand Blanc receives donations from local churches, schools, businesses, grants, and individuals**
- ❖ **All monies and donations stay within the Grand Blanc Community**



“Neighbors

Helping

Neighbors”



***ALL CONTRIBUTIONS REMAIN
IN THE GRAND BLANC
COMMUNITY***

FISH of Grand Blanc

PO Box 367

Grand Blanc, MI 48480-0367

Phone: 810-695-1880

E-mail: fishofgrandblancmi@gmail.com

FOOD

Temporary and emergency basis



FISH maintains a Food Pantry at Hill Funeral Home that stores supplies needed for Food Calls. Each call costs FISH about \$63.00 in addition to the donated items. Supplies also include hygiene, paper, laundry and cleaning products. Food calls have risen from an average of 15 per month in 2009 to the 2014 level of 35 per month.

CLOTHES CLOSET:

Perry Center – 2nd Floor
1st Wednesday of the Month
(September – June)
5:00 – 6:30 pm



The closet provides free clothing for the children in our community as inventory allows. In addition, FISH partners with the Salvation Army's Coats for Kids to insure they stay warm in the colder months. The closet distributes clothing for 40-45 persons per month.

FEED THE BUS:

*(Held Spring and Fall to stock
Food Pantry)*

The Spring Drive is held the 1st Saturday in June and the Fall Drive which is partnered with Bauman's Running Center is held in November the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

Non-perishable food items
Hygiene, Paper Products
Laundry & Cleaning Supplies



CHRISTMAS BASKETS

To Qualify, you must

- *Live within GB School District
- *Receive FREE School Lunch
- *Must receive Food Stamps



Baskets are available to qualifying families thru community sponsorships. They include food for a holiday meal, sufficient quantities to carry families through the time students are out of school. In addition, hygiene, paper, laundry and cleaning products are included. Gifts are purchased for the children as well. The suggested average cost for sponsorship (*depending on family size*) starts at \$125 to purchase basket items and \$75 per child in gifts/clothing items.

BACK to SCHOOL NIGHT:

*(Limited to previous year
Christmas Basket recipients)*

The Salvation Army's Back Pack Program partners with FISH and FISH provides school supplies including pens, pencils, crayons, glue, scissors, paper, notebooks, etc in each Pack.

Back Packs are distributed in August prior to the school year beginning. Recipients receive shoe certificates, and a visit to the Clothes Closet where they also are given a new outfit including underwear and socks.



SHOE DRIVE:

New and Gently Used Shoes
Winter Boots

A Community-wide new/gently used Shoe Drive is conducted each Spring the 1st Saturday in June for a free shoe distribution on the same day as the Elementary Open Houses the following school year.



FREE & REDUCED SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM for GB COMMUNITY

SCHOOLS

2012-13

8,684 Students

2,259 Free

463 Reduced

31%

2013-14

8,546 Students

2,229 Free

454 Reduced

31%

2014-2015

8,492 students

1,982 Free

472 Reduced

28.9%

CHRISTMAS BASKET

DISTRIBUTION

2012

223 Baskets – 814 individuals

12 referrals

2013

234 Baskets – 852 individuals

17 referrals

2014

204 Baskets – 753 individuals

7 referrals

(referrals -families referred to other agencies due to lack of sponsorship)
