



# Hastings Family Service

40 Years of Help and Hope

Dear Friends,

My daughter Taylor is a very observant kindergartner and she recently asked if she could take some extra fruit snacks and oranges (her favorites) to school. Taylor insisted that she needed them to give to her classmate *Cory* and when I asked why, she simply said, "Because *Cory* is always hungry." Imagine two 5-year old kids having a conversation on the playground where *Cory* told Taylor, "I don't like summer because I like school lunch and now I'll only get to eat in the morning." Taylor didn't really understand why *Cory* didn't have enough to eat, but she invited her friend to come to our house for lunch every day this summer...

If it were only that simple... Kids have a way of looking at the world in a simple yet profound way — a way that tells them anything is possible. As a kindergartner, Taylor hasn't yet learned that solutions aren't always easy, but I love that she believes that they are always possible and that she can personally make a difference. So can you!

Did your own child or grandchild sit next to a hungry classmate this past school year? Did you know that hungry kids have difficulty learning and paying attention, more absenteeism and more medical issues than children with adequate nourishment? **Feeding hungry children like *Cory* throughout the summer is possible with your help.**

The face of hunger has changed during this economic downturn. People are living paycheck to paycheck; a medical emergency, the sudden loss of a job or even a major car repair can cause people who have always been self-sufficient to need a little extra help. Children make up 45% of the hungry who visit the food shelf at Hastings Family Service.

**Picture the face of a hungry little boy with brown curls and a hopeful smile, or the agony on the faces of his parents who can't provide him the food and nutrition he needs... and please consider a gift to Hastings Family Service.** Help HFS reach out to the hungry, the elderly and homebound, those who have lost jobs, and those who are desperately trying to feed their children and stay in their homes. Together we can make a difference in the lives of our neighbors who need a little help and hope.

With a grateful heart,

Amy Sutton  
Resource Development Director



P.S. Did you know that Hastings Family Service can purchase food from Second Harvest Heartland at 12 cents per pound? That means your gift of \$50 buys over 400 pounds of food or your gift of \$100 buys over 800 pounds of food for hungry families! Your generosity goes a long way—thank you for making a difference.