

Twice As Nice Mother & Child NEWSLETTER



Twice As Nice Mother & Child

AUGUST 2014

Dear Friends,

As summer comes to an end, we look forward to what Fall and Winter brings—a new school year, colder temperatures, changing leaves, apple picking, bonfires, pumpkin patches, celebrating the holidays with family and friends. Yet for many people in our communities, little will change since “need” is not limited to just one season. For them, obtaining even the most basic of things like food, clothing and shelter—things that most of us take for granted—can be a daily struggle. Tough choices must be made about whether to pay the rent or buy groceries. Hunger becomes an issue when the only food that many children will get is what they receive at school. Falling temperatures make clothing that much more of a necessity. Homelessness forces people to seek warmth and shelter wherever they can find it, even if it is just for one night. Just stop, look and listen for a moment and you will see examples of the faces of “need” all around you. While we continue to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, we often forget those who are less fortunate than ourselves. We not only fail to recognize that there are people who can really use a helping hand, but we fail to offer ours. Most of us can, and should, do more for others.

Twice As Nice Mother & Child strives to ensure that families have their most basic needs met by providing gently used items and other assistance FREE OF CHARGE. Over the past few months, we have been focusing our efforts on developing partnerships with local businesses for donation drives and fundraising events. We have also been working diligently to not only increase awareness about our organization through marketing and social media, but to communicate our mission to as

many other charitable agencies as possible so that we can provide help to even more families. We can, and do, offer much needed assistance and hope to families who are faced with difficult challenges.

Although our organization has been blessed with fairly regular item and financial donations for the past four years, the level of need in our community far exceeds the volume of donations that we receive. We are working hard to close that gap, but we simply cannot continue our ministry without help from others. Many items in our inventory go out as quickly as they come in, so we are always in need of more donations. Twice As Nice Mother & Child does not receive any type of government aid or other funding, so our organization relies solely on the generosity of others. To date, we have not been disappointed by all of the wonderful support that we have received. For that, I am truly grateful—and so are all of the families that have benefited from it. I am confident that the new few months will bring even more blessings and support for our growing organization.

So, as we prepare for another change of season, perhaps it is a good time to think about making a change within ourselves. How can we make a difference in the lives of others? What can we do to share the blessings that we have received? How can we be a hero to someone in need? The opportunity to give back is always there. The question is whether or not you will take it.

Blessings,

Ann Marie Mathis
Executive Director

SPECIAL THANKS!

Heather Jarvis, Center Director
Lindenhurst KinderCare

Partnered with us for a clothing drive at her center from August 1st -15th

Randall Szmanesky
Owner of Park Place
Car Wash & Detail
Teamed up with us for a charity car wash on August 30th

CRITICAL ITEMS NEEDED

GENTLY USED OR NEW

Car Seats
Strollers
Pack 'n Plays
Crib & Toddler Bedding Sets
Maternity Clothing
Boys & Girls Clothing
(Newborn – 5T)

TESTIMONIAL

“Thank you so much for your continued generosity! It is helping us so much to get back on our feet! You have made a bigger difference in our lives than you will ever know.”

-The Hodge Family

When shopping on Amazon.com visit **smile.amazon.com** and select Twice As Nice Mother & Child as your charity of choice and Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to Twice As Nice Mother & Child.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

NEWS & NOTEWORTHY



Ann Marie Mathis
and Jenna Brandt,
Owner of Fresh Salon



Brooklyn Mathis, Daughter of Ann Marie Mathis

Twice As Nice Mother & Child partnered with Fresh Salon in Grayslake, Illinois, for a diaper and donation drive on July 19th. We tagged on to the salon's annual customer appreciation event that was being held that evening and received an overwhelming amount of support from those in attendance. Thank you to all who stopped by and made donations to our organization! We raised over \$500 for local mothers and children—and also received several donations of diapers!



Looking for a way to get ready for the new school year and help families in need? Support our fundraising campaign with Mabel's Labels beginning on August 13th! Mabel's Labels provides personalized, durable name labels to organize the house and keep track of the stuff that kids lose. Their award-winning products are laundry, dishwasher and microwave safe—and 100% guaranteed. They are perfect for school supplies, shoes, sports gear, clothing, bags and more! Check out the new back to school label packs! Shop online at <https://www.mabelsfundraising.com/c/13583> and a percentage of all sales through this fundraising campaign will benefit Twice As Nice Mother & Child!



CLOTHING DONATION DRIVE

We are partnering with KinderCare in Lindenhurst for a clothing donation drive!!

Date: August 1st – August 15th, 2014
Time: 6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (normal center hours)
Location: KinderCare Learning Center - Lindenhurst
 599 Falling Waters Way,
 Lindenhurst, IL 60046
www.kindercare.com/our-centers/lindenhurst/il/301706

Summer is nearly over, which means that fall and the start of a new school year will be here before you know it. Are you wondering what to do with all of the Spring/Summer clothing in your closets that may not fit you or your kids next year? Donate it to Twice As Nice Mother & Child! Your donation will help mothers and children in the community—and it's tax deductible! Bring a donation of gently used maternity clothing (all sizes) or children's clothing (newborn through 5T) to KinderCare any time during those two weeks to be entered in a drawing for a FREE 4-week Learning Adventure! Donors will also have a chance to win a \$100 VISA gift card!



We are partnering with Park Place Hand Car Wash for a charity car wash and fundraising event!

Date: Saturday, August 30, 2014
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 (Weather Permitting*)
Location: Park Place Hand Car Wash
 34450 Route 45 North
 Third Lake, IL 60030
www.parkplacehandcarwash.com

Do you want to get your car washed and support a great cause? COME TO PARK PLACE CAR WASH ON AUGUST 30TH! Make a tax-deductible donation of \$5.00 or more to Twice As Nice Mother & Child and get 20% off your car wash that day! All donors will be entered to win a Park Place gift card for a FULL DETAIL PACKAGE! The highest donor of the day will win a \$100 VISA gift card! Mark your calendars, dirty up your car and join us at Park Place to help us provide much needed assistance to local families!

NEWS & NOTEWORTHY

Twice As Nice Mother & Child has been invited to be the guest speaker at the R.E.S.P.O.N.D. Illinois meeting on September 10, 2014! R.E.S.P.O.N.D. (Respecting Every Single Person through Outreach, Networking and Diversity) is a group of 35-40 social service agencies throughout the Lake County, Illinois area that are partners for effective collaboration. The social service agencies include local townships, foster care facilities, community assistance providers, the Salvation Army and job centers. The group meets once a month and discussions are focused on agency service updates as well as sharing information about new organizations that can assist them in their efforts to help those in the community.

We are very excited to have this opportunity to introduce Twice As Nice Mother & Child, share our story and discuss the types of assistance that we can provide to families in need. We are looking forward to developing partnerships with as many of these agencies as possible so that we can make an even bigger impact in the communities that we serve. Together we can make a difference!

"Every time you become a better version of yourself, the consequences of your transformation echo through your marriage, family, parish, nation and beyond to people and places in the future."

-Matthew Kelly

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Stay in touch with us and subscribe to our news feeds to stay up to date with our current events.



DINE & DONATE EVENT!

Date: Saturday, September 13, 2014
Time: 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Location: Ad-Lib Geocafe
475 S. Route 45
Lindenhurst, IL 60045
www.adlibgeocafe.com

Do you want to experience spontaneous cooking without limits? Do you want to enjoy upscale dining in a casual environment and support a great cause? COME TO AD-LIB GEOCAFE ON SEPTEMBER 13TH! Make a tax deductible donation of \$20.00 or more to Twice As Nice Mother & Child and you will have a chance to win the following fantastic prizes:

- Spontaneous Dinner for 6 – Chef's Choice (\$400 Value) – excluding tip and alcohol
- Bottle of Wine (\$200 Value)
- Ad-Lib Gift Card (\$200 Value)

*Can't make the event, but still want to donate? Raffle tickets are being PRE-SOLD NOW, so get yours today! The drawing will be held on September 14th, 2014, and you need not be present to win.

Mark your calendars, bring your appetite and help us provide much needed assistance to local families!

cacao
Sweets & Treats

BABY SHOWER!

Date: Saturday, September 27, 2014
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Cacao's Sweets & Treats
122 Center Street
Grayslake, IL 60030
www.cacaosweetsandtreats.com

Do your closets and garage need to shed some "baby weight"? Do you have gently used baby items like clothing (newborn to 5T), strollers, car seats, diaper bags, bouncers or pack 'n plays that your kids have outgrown or no longer use? Donate them to Twice As Nice Mother & Child! Your donation will help mothers and children in the community—and it's tax deductible! Bring your items to our "baby shower" at Cacao's Sweets & Treats on September 27th; sample some fantastic treats, and get 30% off your total bakery purchase that day! Financial donations will also be accepted (cash, check or credit card). All donors will be entered to win a \$25.00 Cacao Sweets & Treats gift card!

Mark your calendars, start boxing up those "extra pounds" of stuff and help us provide much needed assistance to local families!