

HILLSDALE

DAILY NEWS

MATCH DAY

Funds raised, doubled

By Nicole Dominique

HILLSDALE — The community's selflessness washed over a host of organizations Friday as funds were raised and doubled through the Hillsdale County Community Foundation's (HCCF) Community Match Day. Donated funds were either donated anonymously or taken upstairs, where representatives of 14 local non-profit organizations were stationed all day long. Some organizations said it was a humbling opportunity; others enjoyed being able to put a face to the name of a regular donor.

"We were out of money," said Pastor Dennis Haarer of the Hands of Mercy Food Pantry. "We'll be able to serve 1,000 people through this. We could not have done it without the help of the community foundation ... what a friend to the community."

Jill Yehl of the Food Bank of South Central Michigan said it was good to see so many donations to food banks the organization serves. Those donations will be deposited into the food banks' accounts at FBSCM so they can attain more supplies for local people.

Nancy DeBacker, executive director at Alpha Omega Women's Care Center, said it was nice to see area non-profits brought together.

"We're all in this together," she said. "It's great to see the other organizations."

Most organizations had set fundraising goals for the day, and by early afternoon many had surpassed those goals.

"It's been twice as good as I thought it would be," said Clark Loy of Hillsdale Area Men with Vision, an organization that builds wheelchair ramps for community members. "It's really been awesome."



Yoder and Bisher hold up HCCF's goal thermometer after reaching 100 percent.

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