

September 6, 2023

State Representative John Fitzgerald, Chair Local Government & Municipal Finance Committee P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Chair Fitzgerald:

This letter is to request your support and approval of House Bill 4861. The support and approval would allow Kids Food Basket, with its very important mission, to create a greater, more accessible presence in Muskegon County and provide much needed support to the children and families in our community.

Access to healthy, nourishing food for children and families in Muskegon County is critical now more than ever. Muskegon County ranks higher than the State of Michigan average for children in high-poverty neighborhoods, experiencing food insecurity, and having limited access to fresh, healthy foods.

The ability to have the permanent home of Kids Food Basket at 97 East Apple Avenue is vital to meet the needs of our community. This property is located in the City of Muskegon which is near public transit and will allow for an accessible location for all. Kids Food Basket will make the location their permanent home allowing them expand services to meet the increasing needs of Muskegon County.

Muskegon County supports the mission of Kids Food Basket and strongly encourages the continuation and expansion of this important program within Muskegon County to support the children and families within our community and place them on the path towards a healthy future.

Sincerely,

Mark Eisenbarth

Muskegon County Administrator