



BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

3rd Annual Kick It For Cans Charity Kickball Game Raises Over \$30,000 to Help Fight Local Hunger and Support Local Families in Need

(CONKLIN, NY) Two local school districts have partnered to raise over \$30,000 to help fight hunger in their communities and support local families in need – and have fun doing it.

On Wednesday, May 20, 2026, 5th graders from Susquehanna Valley Central School District's Donnelly and Brookside Elementaries competed with 5th graders from Chenango Valley School District's Chenango Bridge Elementary in the 3rd Annual Kick It For Cans charity kickball game, dubbed "Battle of the Valleys" to raise money for their local school and community food pantries.

"Kick It For Cans" began as an idea by School Resource Officer Tony Wood when he witnessed two BCSO deputies joining an impromptu kickball game after dropping off a donation to SV's Saber Food Center pantry in 2023.

Wood took that germ of an idea and partnered with the SV School District, the Broome County Sheriff's Office and the Broome County District Attorney's Office to create the First Annual Kick It For Cans Kickball Tournament with Donnelly and Brookside Elementary Schools in 2024.

In its first year, Kick It For Cans raised \$7,000 for the Saber Food Center Pantry, followed by \$10,000 raised in 2025.

This year, Chenango Valley Central School District has joined the cause to help raise money in support of their Warrior Fund, which assists local CV families in need with food, clothes and utilities assistance.

Together, both school districts have raised \$23,751.00 for local families in need. On Wednesday, the Broome County Sheriff's Office contributed an additional \$7,000 to help get this year's total to over \$30,000 raised to benefit Broome County children and families in need.

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“Susquehanna Valley is thrilled to host the third annual Kick it for Cans Kickball tournament,” said Susquehanna Valley Central School District Superintendent Natalie Brubaker. “We’re especially excited to grow the impact this event has on our local students and families by including the Chenango Valley school community in this game! This event is designed to raise both awareness and funds for the battle against hunger in both our immediate and greater communities. While we have again achieved this goal, we also reap the added benefits of teaching students about teamwork, sportsmanship, and action-based service leadership. We could not do any of this work without the real-life modeling of these attributes by the dozens of adults who support our efforts. Thank you to all who play a part in this great day - students, staff, administrators, families, the Office of the Sheriff, the District Attorney's Office, CHOW and all of our other generous sponsors.”

Chenango Bridge Elementary is proud to participate in Kick It For Cans and support the Warrior Fund,” said Chenango Bridge Elementary Principal Jennifer Yurko. “This event gives our students the opportunity to come together, have fun, and see firsthand how helping others can make a real difference in their community.”

“It’s a great day, not only for the kids at SV and CV, but for the entire community,” said Sheriff Fred Akshar. “I could not be prouder of our School Resource Officer Tony Wood, the creator of this event, and the growth and sustainability he’s brought to the program year after year. Our BCSO Family is honored to be a part of it.”

“With so many families struggling with hunger in our community, we need less activism and more actionism,” said Les Aylesworth, Director of CHOW. “ These local students and their school districts have stepped up and delivered real help for those in need in Broome County.”

“Our kids get to see adults working together and the positive change we can make together, and that’s important,” said SV social worker Stacey Stilloe, founder of the Saber Food Center and co-founder of Kick It For Cans with SRO Tony Wood. “Sometimes building something meaningful takes work, but when it comes to our community, it’s worth it. Thank you to our community sponsors for showing up for our kids and our students. Thank you for showing them what community kindness and teamwork looks like.”

Sponsors of this year's Kick It For Cans fundraising effort include:

- Susquehanna Valley HS Class of 1986
- Broome County Sheriff's Law Enforcement Association
- Griffiths Engineering & Architecture
- 21st Century Pool and Spas
- Sanico
- Yager's Body Shop
- Tokos Contracting
- The Blakeslee Family
- Newman Development Associates
- Town of Binghamton Sabers
- TCC Construction
- Miller Auto Team
- Silver Contracting
- Jackson & Bergman LLP
- The Bensley Family
- LB Montana
- Mirabito
- Cheri Lindsey Memorial
- Joseph & Rosemary Mirabito
- Peoples Security Bank & Trust
- Meier Supply
- Visions Federal Credit Union
- Gallagher Baker PC
- Nirchi's
- Broome County Sheriff's Office
- Corrections Division Local 2012
- Broome County District Attorney
- Sheriff Fred Akshar
- Brookside PTA
- Cops 4 a Cause
- CEP Custom Creations
- United Methodist Church
- Universal
- Robbins Signs
- Amazon
- Scorpion
- The Luce Family
- Wegman's
- Bee Bop Clubhouse/Allison Reeves
- The Battisti Family
- Worldwide
- Dance Intention
- Key Bank
- Cetera Investors
- Spiedie and Rib Pit
- Weis
- Jason Garnar
- Progressive Dental
- Harding Brooks Insurance
- Susquehanna Anesthesia Affiliates

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