

February 2021

## Flour Shop Donates a Sweet \$800

You may have heard of “flower power” back in the 1970s, but in 2020 we have “Flour Power!” Two eager girls decided to take their love of baking to another level by creating a business that would raise money for a charity near and dear to their hearts.

Back in early November, twins Mikayla and Nicole thought about doing a bake sale to benefit a nonprofit organization that will someday help their Uncle Mike have a home of his own. But in the midst of a pandemic, a traditional bake sale just wouldn't work – so they decided to sell their homemade cookies on their own website and donate the profits to Home of My Own of WNY.



With help from their mom Kathryn Kartalis, a member of the marketing committee for Home of My Own, a website was developed, the cookie menu was created and the girls got baking. Customers could choose from lemon, chocolate chip, chocolate-chocolate chip, peanut butter, or cut-out cookies in various shapes and designs. And if looking for gluten free cookies they included several varieties on their menu to choose from as well.

Aside from all the fun, Mikayla says, "I love helping others while being able to do something I like."



Before you know it the girls reached full baking capacity and SOLD OUT before Christmas. In just a few weeks, they completed all their orders and raised \$800 for Home of My Own of WNY. After doing schoolwork all day, they spent their evenings and weekends baking.

Home of My Own of WNY is a 501(c)(3) status nonprofit charitable corporation in WNY whose focus is to provide inclusive, residential options to adults with developmental disabilities who desire independent living and community engagement with minimal support. The goal is to create apartment communities tailored to these individuals who desire to live in a safe, social and integrated community with lifelong sustainability.

Reasonably priced cookies, made with love and for a great cause, these bakers are planning to open their site for more sales in 2021. Stay tuned to see what sweet treats they come up with next.