



DID YOU KNOW?
An average of 100,000 pounds of food is distributed from the Foodbank each day.

FALL 2015

THE FOODBANK FOCUS

A publication of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank

Serving Carroll, Holmes, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas and Wayne Counties



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Your generosity helps so many just like Angela

"This is a wonderful, wonderful place," says Angela smiling brightly, referring to the sense of community created at Journey's End food pantry.

Angela first visited Journey's End for food assistance, and years later is one of their most dedicated volunteers.

"When I first started coming to Journey's End, they gave me fresh fruits, vegetables, breads and salads," said Angela.

"My family is eating more of what we need than we used to. It's because of the kindness I saw here that I knew I needed to do something more."

Angela has been struggling with Multiple Sclerosis for the past 14 years. As a single mom on a fixed income, Angela occasionally



utilizes the same food pantry where she loves to volunteer.

"I only receive food when I really need it," says Angela. "I want to save it for the families that need it more than I do."

When asked to describe what Journey's End does for her community, she compares them to being a great friend.

"Journey's End has a heart of helpfulness," Angela says. "They are there to take your back in hard times, and you know you can always go to them; you can always count on them."

Journey's End is a meal program of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank in Tuscarawas County.



THANK YOU to our employees and our entire community for helping us achieve a second NorthCoast 99 award, which recognizes the Foodbank as one of Northeast Ohio's best places to work! The award commends organizations for their ability to maintain great workplaces that support the attraction, retention and motivation of top performers.



EAT, DRINK & FEED MANY.

Help us feed our neighbors in need this holiday season

Each year, the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank joins with community members during the holiday season to provide food to families in need. The Foodbank's annual holiday campaign aims to take action for these children and their families facing hunger.

The community rallies to support the Foodbank during the holidays, and you can too! You are invited to join hundreds of local companies, non-profit organizations, governmental bodies, schools, social groups and faith-based organizations in hosting food & funds drives to feed our neighbors in need.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

"It's our job at Asian Sun Martial Arts to teach our students the importance of discipline, confidence and lessons of community and helping those around you. We hosted a food & funds drive last year for the Foodbank and found some of our students had no idea other kids weren't as blessed as them. We've challenged ourselves to double our in-house food & funds drive for the Foodbank this year!" - Steve, Master Instructor and Director of Operations

HOST A FOOD & FUNDS DRIVE

Hosting a food & funds drive is an easy way to give back to those in need in our community during the holidays. Please visit akroncantonfoodbank.org or contact Stephanie Knori at sknori@acrfb.org for more information on how to start a holiday food & funds drive.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS

A tax-deductible gift is always welcome, which can be made online or via postal mail marked "holiday campaign." With the partnerships and strong purchasing power of the Foodbank, every \$1 donation to the Foodbank = 4 meals.

DOUBLE YOUR DOLLAR DAY

The Foodbank will hold its fifth annual "Double your Dollar Day" on what has traditionally been the largest online-shopping day of the year, Cyber Monday, November 30, 2015. For every \$1 that is donated, a generous friend of the Foodbank will make a matching gift. On this day, \$1 = 8 meals.

**Your life, your time
and your involvement
matters to us.
WE NEED YOU!
Please help us
meet our ambitious
goals for 2015.**

LONG HAUL AGAINST HUNGER

In early December, the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank will proudly join with local radio stations 98.1 WKDD, Rock 106.9, 99.7 Canton's New Country, 640 WHLO and My 101.7 for the annual Long Haul Against Hunger, where listeners of the five stations are invited to drive by and drop-off non-perishable food and monetary donations in Akron and Canton.

**For additional campaign
details, please visit
akroncantonfoodbank.org.**

HONOR ROLL

FALL 2015

Akron Area Interfaith Council
Akron General Medical Center
Allstate Giving Campaign
American Endowment Foundation
Aultman Health Foundation
The Ball Foundation
BJ's Charitable Foundation
Bober, Markey, Fedorovich & Company
Cardinal Health Foundation, Inc.
Chapel Hill Community
Chicken Open
The College of Wooster
Color Vibe
Darden Foundation
Mary and Dr. George L. Demetros Charitable Trust
Dominion Foundation
Donovan Family Fund of Akron Community Foundation
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Feeding America
The First Congregational United Church of Christ
FirstEnergy Corporation
FirstMerit Foundation
Laura B. Frick Charitable Trust
GAR Foundation
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Hubbell Power Systems, Inc.
Huntington National Bank
John Kaylor Memorial Fund of the Wayne County Community Foundation
JPMorgan
Macy's/Bloomingdale's
W. Paul & Thora J. Mills Memorial Foundation
The Mitsui USA Foundation
Harold W. Picking Charitable Fund of Wayne County Community Foundation
The Progressive Insurance Foundation
Charles E. & Mabel M. Ritchie Memorial Foundation
Sandridge Food Corporation
The Sisler McFawn Foundation
Stark Community Foundation
Summit Athletic Running Club
The Timken Company
Walmart Foundation
Wayne Homes
Wells Fargo
The Welty Family Foundation
Westfield Insurance
Wichert Insurance Services, Inc.
Woodforest Charitable Foundation

The Honor Roll recognizes our top supporters of the season. Together we are the difference between hunger and hope.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Welcome volunteers to the Foodbank family

Volunteers at the Foodbank find a place, a purpose, a family to be a part of, a connection to a cause and a community to love and be loved by. We value your time and energy spent here at the Foodbank.

It's because of your commitment that the Foodbank has launched a new program to recognize our most dedicated volunteers.

Become a V.I.V. (Very Important Volunteer) by volunteering five or more times before the end of the year. On your fifth visit to the Foodbank, you will receive a special gift!

MEET MARY ANN, V.I.V.

Mary Ann is an office volunteer that has volunteered at the Foodbank more than 30 times this year, and she helps to

manage our volunteer database.

When asked what her favorite part of volunteering was, she looked at our volunteer team and said, "Working with them." She then said, "The Foodbank is filled with positive energy, and every time I leave, I get a sense of accomplishment, and I know I made a difference today."

"Every week we rely on hundreds of volunteers," said Melissa Link, Volunteer Program Leader.

"From those who work with the food in our warehouse, to those that input data or work on various mailings. Volunteers have a family here, and we value their efforts! We couldn't do our work without them."



Run with Santa at Selfless Elf



In the spirit of the holidays, the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank invites you to become an elf by participating in the third annual 5K Selfless Elf run/walk on Saturday, December 19, 2015. Selfless Elf is an exciting way to embrace the holiday season while supporting those in need during the Foodbank's holiday campaign.

Dress up in your favorite festive holiday-themed costumes or running gear, and run or walk the 3.1-mile course beginning and ending at the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank.

REGISTER TODAY AT SELFLESSELF.COM



Hunger Action Month brings 2,000 volunteers to fight hunger

This past September, the Foodbank celebrated Hunger Action Month and asked you to take action to fight hunger in our area, all month long. All 200 Feeding America food banks across the country participated in this movement, while locally, community members rallied around this campaign!

On September 3, businesses, community members, elected officials and Foodbank supporters wore orange- the color of hunger relief. Please visit the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank's Facebook page to view the album of all who shared their orange style on social media.

On September 11-12, the Foodbank honored Patriot Day, the National Day of Service and Remembrance by hosting Operation Orange, the third annual 24-hour volunteer event! Volunteers worked (and danced!) through the night at the Foodbank. A tremendous

thank you to the Dominion Foundation for donating \$15,000 in honor of Hunger Action Month and Operation Orange.

On September 25, the Foodbank held the first annual Hunger Action Day of Service. During the day, scheduled volunteer groups from Dominion, Ernst & Young and FedEx helped the Foodbank celebrate its member hunger-relief programs like food pantries and hot meal sites by completing requested volunteer projects!



Thank you for attending Taste of the Pro Football Hall of Fame

“Energy and generosity filled the Pro Football Hall of Fame as community members gathered to meet the legends of the game and support hunger-relief efforts. Thank you for joining us at this thrilling party, and for believing all families in our community deserve access to healthy, nourishing meals.”

DAN FLOWERS

Because of your support of Taste of the Pro Football Hall of Fame, the largest fundraiser of the year for the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, the Foodbank will be able to provide enough food for nearly 700,000 meals!



SHY Cellars was crowned the Grand Champion at the event for the third consecutive year by serving braised barbecue boneless short ribs with smoky garlic mashed potatoes.

The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization recognized by the IRS. If you know anyone who might be interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact the Marketing Department at info@acrfb.org or 330.535.6900.