

DID YOU KNOW?
1 in 7 Ohioans struggles with hunger.

SUMMER 2011

THE FOODBANK FOCUS

A publication of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank

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



AKRON-CANTON REGIONAL

**FOOD
BANK**

A member of **FEEDING
AMERICA**

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HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Hundreds of people lined up at the Wayne County Fairgrounds for a basic need – food. More than 1 in 7 or 15.2% of Wayne County residents are food insecure, meaning they lack consistent access to a nutritious, well-balanced diet. The Foodbank and one of its member agencies, the Wooster Hope Center, joined forces to target the problem and to provide food to these families in need.



On May 14, nearly 15,000 pounds of cabbage, potatoes, onions, vegetable juice and other items were handed out through a direct food distribution at the Fairgrounds. The food distribution served 274 households with a total of 858 individuals benefiting from the food. Around 40 volunteers from the Wooster Hope Center and United Way helped with the distribution by handing out food or assisting clients with carrying their food items.

“The need for food assistance in Wayne County is apparent, and we are excited that we’ve found a way to meet this need,” said Richard Frazier, Director of the Wooster Hope Center.

The Wooster Hope Center designed the event as a Community Resource Day, with social service agencies present to educate clients on their services and share information on available assistance. Frazier shared that the Hope Center is about collaboration, but also education. He wants to ensure that people know what is going on in their community and what is available to them. The Hope Center

also distributes hygiene products, clothing and other supplies and offers free haircuts.

This was the first of an ongoing food distribution that will continue to take place the second Saturday of each month except in September and December. Putting food on the table is a struggle for many in Wayne County and the partnership between the Foodbank and the Wooster Hope Center will enable these vulnerable families access to food to help meet their needs.

“It is hard to ask for help,” said Dan Flowers, President and CEO of the Foodbank.

“And we are very pleased to be a part of this group effort to get food in the hands of Wayne County residents in need.”

The Foodbank operates six monthly direct distributions in Medina, Summit, Stark, Portage and Wayne Counties. Each month, the Foodbank distributes approximately 90,000 pounds of food through its direct distribution programs.

CORPORATE & FOUNDATION GIFTS

Ada C. and Helen J. Rank Charitable Foundation	\$5,000
Akron Children's Hospital Employee Foundation	\$2,000
Akron Community Foundation	\$800
Akwen, Ltd. (Wendy's)	\$20,000
ALDI, Inc.	\$1,000
Aultman Health Foundation	\$23,325
Brockman, Coats, Gedelian & Co.	\$4,000
First Lady Karen Kasich	\$1,775
FirstEnergy Family Credit Union, Inc.	\$1,000
FirstEnergy Foundation	\$1,000
Kenneth L. Calhoun Charitable Trust	\$5,000
Leadership Akron Philanthropy Project	\$3,500
Lisle M. Buckingham Endowment Fund of the Akron Community Foundation	\$4,640
Lockheed Martin	\$5,000
M.I.K.A.H. Charitable Foundation	\$1,000
Main Street Gourmet	\$2,244
Marathon Petroleum Company	\$1,000
Nationwide Insurance Foundation	\$40,000
New Clevelanders Club	\$2,200
Newman's Own Foundation	\$5,000
Northern Ohio Golf Charities Foundation, Inc.	\$18,589
PNC Foundation	\$5,000
Scott Process Systems Incorporated	\$500
Sequoia Financial Group, LLC	\$500
Summit County Disc Golf Association	\$2,021
The Dr. Jack and Libby Jacobs Family Foundation	\$500
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company	\$2,500
The H.E. Graves, Jr. Family Foundation	\$1,000
The Hillier Family Foundation	\$1,000
The J. M. Smucker Company	\$35,000
The Sue and Mal Ames Fund of the Akron Community Foundation	\$500
The Timken Company	\$5,000
The Union Hospital Association	\$2,500
Trirosis of Stark County, Ohio	\$1,200
Wal-Mart Foundation	\$2,522
Willard Stephenson Foundation	\$7,500
Wm. H. & Jeanne Belden Philanthropic Fund of Stark Community Foundation	\$2,000



September is Hunger Action Month

CANSTRUCTION

This year, for the first time, Akron area architectural and engineering firms participated in the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Society of Design Administration CANstruction event, a competition combining engineering and design excellence with a unique way to feed the hungry. Six teams competed and built giant-sized structures made entirely out of canned food. The Foodbank is very grateful for the donation of 16,000 cans used in the competition.

September is Hunger Action Month, when everyone in America is asked to take action to fight hunger in their community, all month long. Hunger Action Month is your opportunity to join a movement that has a real and lasting impact on our effort to feed more people in our community than ever before. Whether it's by advocating and raising awareness, making donations, or volunteering, you can find a way that's right for you to make a difference.

We encourage you to participate in our 30 Ways in 30 Days campaign to take action throughout the month, each day, in a new way! We have created a calendar of 30 exciting ways to get involved, such as attending local events, writing letters to legislators or holding a food drive. Visit our website to download a calendar and start fighting hunger in our community.



NATIONWIDE HELPS FIGHT HUNGER

The Foodbank recently received a grant of \$40,000 from the Nationwide Insurance Foundation, as a part of a \$1 million donation being made to the national office of Feeding America. This local donation will provide 120,000 meals to the hungry in our community.

such a strong partnership with Nationwide and appreciate not only their financial donations, but their strong volunteer support."

"We are very pleased to receive this donation from the Nationwide Insurance Foundation," said Dan Flowers, President and CEO of the Foodbank. "We are very fortunate to have

Local Nationwide co-chairs for the Harvest for Hunger Committee, Scott Kunkel and Latana Harbison, along with other Nationwide associates volunteered at the Foodbank in May. The group of volunteers filled, sealed and labeled bags of carrots in preparation for distribution. Afterwards, Scott and Latana presented Flowers with a check for \$40,000 from the Nationwide Insurance Foundation.



"Nationwide is pleased to support Feeding America Food Banks in the communities we call home and across the country," said Chad Jester, President of the Nationwide Insurance Foundation. "We're also proud of the thousands of Nationwide associates who selflessly give of their time and energy in support our corporate hunger-relief initiatives."



SAVE THE DATE September 20, 2011

Taste of the NFL Co-Chairs: Linda DeHoff & Lara Wilson

Join us at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton for Taste of the NFL benefiting the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank. Meet Hall of Fame Enshrinees and enjoy tastings from local chefs and wineries while raising awareness and dollars toward the fight against hunger. For more information, please contact Leslie Letner at 330.777.7572 or lletner@acrfb.org. To purchase tickets online, please visit <http://go.acrfb.org/tnftt>.

Plant a Row For The Hungry!



Do you plant a garden or have a farm? When gardening, often you end up growing more of a few items that you can't seem to use, so rather than letting this surplus go to waste, why not share it with those in need? Through our Plant a Row for the Hungry program you can help individuals in your neighborhood struggling with hunger by donating your excess harvest to the Foodbank. Last year, local gardeners donated 17,148 pounds of fresh, nutritious produce.

Participating in the program is simple. Take your donation to any of the following drop-off sites from now until September 31.

Canton Road Garden Center

1881 Canton Road, Springfield Township
Drop-off times: Monday through Friday,
8 am to 7 pm, Saturday, 8 am to 6 pm,
Sunday, 9 am to 5 pm

Crown Point Ecology Center

3220 Ira Road, Bath Township
Drop-off times: Monday through Friday,
8 am to 4 pm, Saturday, 8 am to noon

Stow Administrative Offices

3760 Darrow Road, Stow
Drop-off anytime

Stow Community Garden

5070 Stow Road, Stow
Drop-off times: 7 am to 9 pm
seven days a week

Farnam Manor Museum

4223 Brecksville Road, Richfield
Drop-off times: Monday through
Friday, 10 am to 7 pm

Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank

350 Opportunity Parkway, Akron
Please call 330.535.6900 to
schedule a drop-off appointment



WE NEED YOUR HELP IN 2011

**Plant a Row for the Hungry
Produce Collection**
June to September

Hunger Action Month
September

**Taste of the NFL
Pro Football Hall of Fame**
September 20

Hunger-Free Families Campaign
November & December



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Visit our Website
www.akroncantonfoodbank.org

What is your legacy?

The first spring I spent in my new house, I was pleasantly surprised by the number of flowers that bloomed. There were tulips and daffodils along the borders of our property, there was a dogwood that was absolutely beautiful in bloom, and best of all, there were black raspberry bushes throughout our four acres. Summer was beautiful with all of the mature green trees that we used for shade and the fruit from the apple and pear trees was delicious. Then came my favorite season of all and I was in awe at the warm, bright colors of the leaves and all of the trees that were in various stages of growth.

Bob and Jacki, the previous owners, loved the property and it was apparent to me that first year. Jacki, has since passed away, but I thank her every season for the gift she left me. It was her legacy to me. What is your legacy? What is important enough to you that you will pass it along to the next generation? A gift from your estate can feed the hungry for generations to come. It's simple to continue your legacy through the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank's bequest program. If you are interested in including the Foodbank in your will or estate plans, please call me at 330.777.2308.



Gina

Gina Campbell
Manager, Individual Giving



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Nearly half of the food distributed by the Foodbank is provided through the programs included in state and federal budgets. These programs are critical to our operations, and the threat of spending cuts and reductions to food assistance programs must be approached proactively. Across the state, the Ohio food banks have collected more than 25,000 paper plates from agencies and clients expressing the importance of emergency food programs, and nearly 7,000 signatures supporting the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks (OASHF) State Budget request. The Foodbank would like to sincerely thank those of you who have helped us by making your voices heard, and we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our state legislators for listening and for supporting our mission. The funding the Ohio House provided to the Ohio Food Purchase program and the Agricultural Clearance program will enable us to serve the increasing number of friends and neighbors that rely on us for food and for hope.



Dan Flowers presents Pam Simpson of Giant Eagle a Harvest for Hunger Shopping Cart Award at the Harvest for Hunger Campaign Celebration Event on May 20, 2011



Dan Flowers, Foodbank; Deanna Reed, Akron Postmaster; Greg Falstick, National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC); Stephanie York, City of Akron; Gary Wyatt, Postal Worker; and Jane Greenland, USPS at the Stamp Out Hunger Press Conference on May 11, 2011



Bruce G. Obenour, Jasna Keller, and Barb Pizzute, from AKWEN, LTD Wendy's presents Dan Flowers, President and CEO, Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank with a generous gift

If you know anyone who might be interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please contact the Marketing Department at info@acrfb.org or 330.535.6900. Thank you for joining the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank in the fight against hunger.

