



DID YOU KNOW?
Nearly 1 in 3 of all individuals served by the Foodbank are children.

FALL 2014

THE FOODBANK FOCUS

A publication of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank

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



350 Opportunity Parkway
Akron, OH 44307-2234
main: 330.535.6900
fax: 330.996.5337
akroncantonfoodbank.org



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Richard Wilson, Chair
- Mark Purtilar, Vice Chair
- Jim Bowen, Treasurer
- Bernett Williams, Secretary
- Shelly Allio
- Lisa Backlin
- Robert Bender
- Chris Coughlin
- James DeLuca
- Michael Dowling
- Lia Easler
- Patricia Gibbs
- Kristin Hannon
- Thomas Haight
- Suzanne Hobson
- Nicole Koharik
- George Sarkis
- William Shivers
- Pamela Simpson
- Jan Wojno

Daniel R. Flowers
PRESIDENT & CEO

Thank you for helping veterans like Darrell

Your Foodbank recently participated in Hunger in America 2014, the largest study of hunger conducted in the nation. The study was based upon surveys completed by our member agency program staff and interviews with those facing hunger to capture detailed information about who is hungry and their circumstances.

The results of the study revealed that, in our community, your Foodbank is serving approximately 263,200 different individuals every year.

assistance unless he has helped others in need first. He volunteers at Open M, making sure individuals and families have their bags loaded with all the fresh food they need. He even volunteers at the Foodbank on Saturdays with his church.

When asked about giving back, Darrell said, "Giving back is one of my callings. I love to do it; it feels good to help someone!"

The Hunger in America data provides an invaluable resource for us to develop programs that best support people in need. To learn more about Hunger in America 2014, please visit akroncantonfoodbank.org.

Surprisingly, the study stated that 1 in 5 families served by the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank report having at least one member that has served in the military, like Darrell.



Darrell Bradley began his service to the United States Air Force in 1974. When his service ended, he had trouble standing for long periods of time due to his job in the military, and also because he has diabetes.

At 58 years old, Darrell lives alone, on a fixed income and finds himself choosing between paying bills and buying groceries.

Darrell visits Open M food pantry, a member agency of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, but Darrell won't accept food

"Giving back is one of my callings. I love to do it; it feels good to help someone!"

Darrell, age 58, repacks carrots at the Foodbank.





WE'RE EXCITED FOR YOU TO GET INVOLVED

HUNGER FREE
families

YOU CAN CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WHILE HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED



For individuals and families facing hunger, the holidays are just another time of year to make tough decisions about paying necessary bills or buying groceries, but you can help! You can make a difference in the lives of our hungry neighbors during the holidays by participating in the Hunger-Free Families holiday campaign.

This year, take action for the nearly 1 in 4 children and their families struggling with hunger by helping to keep your Foodbank's shelves stocked during our busiest time of year, the holiday season.

North Coast 99
WINNER

FOODBANK WINS NORTHCOAST 99 AWARD

The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank is proud to be recognized by ERC as one of Northeast Ohio's best places to work. The award recognizes organizations for their ability to maintain great workplaces that support the attraction, retention and motivation of Top Performers. "We are beyond proud to be included in this incredible group and hope it inspires other non-profits to embrace progressive employment practices for the hard-working people in our sector," said Dan Flowers.



GET READY TO ENTERTAIN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Save the date for No Muffin Left Behind—Holiday Edition Discount Bake Sale—on Saturday, **November 8, 2014**. Main Street Gourmet will bring thousands of pounds of delicious frozen bakery items like cookie dough, muffins, brownies and much more! Everything is \$1.25 per pound, and \$0.25 of each pound will go directly to help the Foodbank feed people in our community.



PURCHASE YOUR WENDY'S KEYTAG

Visit your local participating Wendy's in Akron as well as in Portage and Stark Counties to purchase a \$1 Frosty™ Key Tag. Present your Key Tag each time you order and receive a free Jr. Frosty™ through February 2015. Proceeds from the Key Tag sales benefit your Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank because of the generous support of local Wendy's franchises, AKWEN, LTD and Canton S-Group.

HOST A FOOD & FUNDS DRIVE

You can be a Hunger Hero by joining hundreds of local companies, government bodies, schools and faith-based organizations in team-building activities by hosting a food & funds drive to help feed our neighbors in need. Please visit akroncantonfoodbank.org or contact Stephanie Hinchliffe, shinchliffe@acrfb.org or 330.777.1055 for more information on how to become a Hunger Hero!

HUNGER HEROES UNITE AT LONG HAUL AGAINST HUNGER

On Friday, November 21, 2014, you can donate to the Foodbank while staying warm in your car. The Foodbank will proudly join with local radio stations 98.1 WKDD, Rock 106.9, My 101.7, 640 WHLO and 99.7 Canton's New Country for the Long Haul Against Hunger, where listeners can drive by and drop off monetary donations and non-perishable food in Akron or Canton. For locations, please visit akroncantonfoodbank.org.

DOUBLE YOUR DOLLAR DAY

On the largest online shopping day of the year, Cyber Monday, December 1, 2014, every \$1 that is donated to your Foodbank will be matched by a generous friend of the Foodbank!

GIVING TUESDAY

Help us support local restaurants that support your Foodbank on December 2, 2014! Visit any participating restaurant and they will donate a percentage of your bill to the Foodbank! For a list of restaurants, please visit akroncantonfoodbank.org.

Taste of the NFL tackling hunger

The largest fundraiser of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, Taste of the NFL at the Pro Football Hall of Fame, was an incredible success because of you! Thank you for joining your Foodbank, and helping to raise enough for 700,000 meals!

A tremendous thank you goes to this year's Taste of the NFL co-chairs, Greg Long and Gary Smith. The Foodbank would also like to thank all of the guests, the food and beverage providers, the Pro Football Hall of Fame, the Hall of Famers and our sponsors, including our title sponsors: The Grainger Foundation, WAKR, WONE, WQMX and ANN for making this great event possible!

Looking to go out to dinner tonight? Please support these local restaurants that made Taste of the NFL such a success!

Cilantro Thai & Sushi Restaurant, Chocolates by Erin, Desert Inn, Dunkin' Donuts, The Galaxy Restaurant, The Game Grill + Bar, Georgio's Grille, Hudson's Restaurant & Catering, Kosar's Wood-Fired Grill, Main Street Gourmet, Meeker Wines distributed by Esber Beverage, Or Derv Foods, The Overlook, Pav's Creamery, Pepsi Food Service, The Rail, Robert J. Events & Catering, SHY Cellars, Troutman Vineyards, University Hospitals Ahuja Medical Center, The Winery at Wolf Creek and The Wooster Inn.



Congratulations to SHY Cellars on being named the Grand Champion of Taste of the NFL for the second year in a row!



David Baker, President of the Pro Football Hall of Fame, introduces Hall of Famers at Taste of the NFL.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Hunger-Free Families campaign
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

Ron Marhofer Auto Family
Locations Collect Donations
OCTOBER 15 - NOVEMBER 30

CORE Young Professionals Hall Event
NOVEMBER 5

Long Haul Against Hunger
Drive by and Donate Event
NOVEMBER 21

Double Your Dollar Day
DECEMBER 1

#GivingTuesday
DECEMBER 2

Selfless Elf 5K
DECEMBER 20

For event details, visit
akroncantonfoodbank.org



RUN WITH US IN YOUR HOLIDAY-THEMED GEAR

In the spirit of the holiday season, you're invited to participate in the Selfless Elf 5K run on Saturday, **December 20, 2014**. This is an exciting way to embrace the holiday season while celebrating your support of the Hunger-Free Families campaign. Visit selflesself.com for more details or to register.



JUMP INTO FREEZING WATER

Jump with us into the freezing Portage Lakes with the Polar Bear Club. On **February 21, 2015**, the 12th annual Polar Bear Jump will raise financial donations to benefit the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank! To get involved, please visit akroncantonfoodbank.org.

HONOR ROLL

FALL 2014

Akron Area Interfaith Council
Akron Bar Association
Akron Children's Hospital
Akron Children's Hospital
Employee Foundation
Akron General Health System
Aultman Hospital and AultCare
BJ's Charitable Foundation
Glenn R. & Alice V. Boggess
Memorial Foundation
Bridgestone Americas Trust Fund
Brockman, Coats, Gedelian & Co.
Cargill Incorporated
CESO, Inc.
The Charter One Foundation
Christ Foundation
Color Vibe
Dominion Foundation
Donovan Family Fund of Akron
Community Foundation
ExxonMobil Corporation
Feinstein Family Foundation
FirstMerit Bank Foundation
Albert W. and Edith V. Flowers
Charitable Foundation
GOJO Industries, Inc.
The Grainger Foundation
JoAnn Stores, Inc.
John G. Taggert Community
Fund of Wayne County
Community Foundation
KMC License Services
Glenn and Karen Leppo Family Fund
of Akron Community Foundation
The Roger & Susan L'Hommedieu
Family Fund
Lockheed Martin
Macy's/Bloomingtondale's
Making Smiles Foundation
Medical Mutual of Ohio
The Mitsui USA Foundation
Harvey and Kimberly Nelson
Family Fund of Akron
Community Foundation
Harold W. Pickering Charitable
Fund of Wayne County
Community Foundation
The Progressive Insurance Foundation
Sequoia Financial Group, LLC
The Sisler McFawn Foundation
Sterling Jewelers, Inc.
Summa Health System
Walmart Foundation
Walmart Store #2361
Walmart Store #5285
Denise G. & Norman E. Wells
Family Foundation
The Welty Family 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 TO YOUR FOODBANK! HUNGER ACTION MONTH BRINGS 1,500 NEW VOLUNTEERS TO THE FOODBANK FAMILY

Orange is the color of hunger awareness, and this past September, the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank felt the glow of orange as you took action to fight hunger, all month long.

The month kicked off with community supporters wearing orange to show their support of hunger-relief on September 4. The following day, energy filled the Foodbank as Operation Orange, the 24-hour volunteer event, began.

Billy Soule, representing Akron Mayor Don Plusquellic, presented the Foodbank with a proclamation declaring September to be Hunger Action Month in the City of Akron.

More than 1,500 community members including George Brown of the office of Senator Rob Portman, Sarah Lowry of the office of Senator Sherrod Brown, Ginger Baylor of the office of U.S. Representative Marcia Fudge, U.S. Representative Tim Ryan, Ohio Senator Frank LaRose and Ohio Representative Zack Milkovich along with numerous local mayors and city council members attended Operation Orange.



Dominion was among dozens of groups that assembled volunteer groups for Operation Orange.



Toni and George volunteer at Operation Orange.

Volunteers like Toni and her husband George worked multiple shifts through the day and into the night. Toni and George are regular volunteers at the Foodbank, and volunteered for four different shifts at Operation Orange, totaling 16 hours! When asked why they kept returning, Toni said, "We had to finish the project. I was afraid it wouldn't get done, and this is just too important. Working towards a great cause, and volunteering to help people in our community, it's always better when more people help. I know it's always better together."

Many thanks to the numerous Operation Orange sponsors, including our top supporters Dominion, Sam's Club, Rotary Club of Akron, Mimi Vanderhaven and 91.3 The Summit.



Foodbank staff show their support of Hunger Action Month by wearing orange, the color of hunger awareness.

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.

A member of **FEEDING AMERICA** **OHIO**
ASSOCIATION OF
FOODBANKS