



DID YOU KNOW?

The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank is a 4-star rated charity by Charity Navigator.

SUMMER 2016

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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Thank you for helping families this summer like Stephanie's

Stephanie is a recent graduate of Kent State University and is currently searching for a job. Because of health issues, the search has been harder than expected. She can't stand for long periods of time, is hearing impaired and struggles with frequent seizures.

With lingering bills and the cost of raising her six-year-old and nine-year-old daughters, her family of four is barely making ends meet.

Through a friend, Stephanie heard about Our Community Hunger Center food pantry, a partner hunger-relief program of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank. Since the pantry opened earlier this year, Stephanie has been in a few times for groceries.

"I wish people in the community knew hunger is entirely circumstantial," said Stephanie. "When many people think about hunger they think, 'Oh they are being lazy or not working enough,' but my boyfriend works hard from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. every week day, and we still struggle to get by."

Since finding this food pantry so close to her home, Stephanie is not only thankful for the

fresh breads, produce and fruit they are able to receive—but thankful for the opportunity to provide her daughters with nutritional choices.

"Food is more than food; it's experiences with my kids," said Stephanie. "The variety of nutritional food coming from the Foodbank is inspiring. Just last week, I took home kale from this pantry. I made kale chips, and the kids are now asking for them over the potato chips!"



With the help of this pantry, it takes a little of the pressure off of Stephanie's family.

She is looking forward to the day she can come to the pantry solely as a volunteer—to help others that find themselves in her current situation.

HONOR ROLL

SUMMER 2016

Affinity Medical Center
Akron Children's Hospital
Akron Children's Hospital Employee Foundation
Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Alcoa Foundation
Aultman Health Foundation
Barberton Community Foundation
Bober, Markey, Fedorovich & Company
Bridgestone Americas
Buehler's Fresh Foods
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Combined Federal Campaign CFC
City of Akron
Cleveland Clinic Akron General
ComDoc
Panera Bread
The Dunkin' Donuts & Baskin-Robbins Community Foundation
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Fairlawn & Hudson School of Music
The First Congregational United Church of Christ
FirstEnergy Corp.
FirstEnergy Foundation
Fisher Foods
Laura B. Frick Charitable Trust
GAR Foundation
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
The Bruce & Erica Greer Family Foundation
The Hillier Family Foundation
Huntington National Bank
JPMorgan
Nationwide Insurance Foundation
Harvey and Kimberly Nelson Family Fund of Akron Community Foundation
OEConnection
Ohio Edison
Pampered Chef
Park Auto Group
Charles E. & Mabel M. Ritchie Memorial Foundation
Roetzel & Andress
Ron Marhofer Auto Family
Sequoia Financial Group, LLC
Shearer's Snacks Charity Foundation
The J.M. Smucker Company
Willard Stephenson Foundation
Summit County Executive's Office
Taste of the NFL
Tuscora Park Health & Wellness Foundation
United Way of Greater Stark County
The Vespoli Family Fund
Walmart Foundation
Wayne County Community Foundation
The Denise G. & Norman E. Wells, Jr. Family Foundation
Westfield Insurance

The Honor Roll recognizes our top supporters of the season.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

HARVEST for HUNGER

Celebrating 25 Years of Harvest for Hunger

The 2016 Harvest for Hunger campaign has raised more than \$1,065,000 plus 116,000 pounds of food to date for the Foodbank.

Because of generous supporters like you, the Foodbank will be able to provide more than 4 million meals to those struggling with hunger in our community.

"Harvest for Hunger is the community's efforts that makes millions of pounds of food free to charities and people in need through the Foodbank," said Dan Flowers, President and CEO of the Foodbank.

Mark Cohen, Publisher of the Akron Beacon Journal and Jim Porter, Publisher of GateHouse Ohio Media, led the 2016 campaign. More than 200 businesses and organizations held food and funds drives to support Harvest for Hunger. This year's top financial donors were FirstEnergy Corp. and The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. The Aultman Health Foundation had the largest food drive this year collecting more than 6,400 pounds.

Together, local supermarkets raised \$479,000 and nearly 9,000 pounds through Check Out Hunger, which allowed shoppers to scan coupons and make donations at the checkout register.

Participating supermarket and retail partners included Ace Hardware, Buehler's Fresh Foods, Dave's Supermarkets, Dunkin' Donuts, Fisher's Foods, Giant Eagle, Heinen's Fine Foods and Panera Bread.

THANK YOU to our friends, our partners and all the people who continually give us their time and talents so freely and openly.



Mark Cohen and Jim Porter thank Campaign supporters at the Harvest for Hunger Campaign Celebration Event



Campaign supporters from the Akron Beacon Journal at the Harvest for Hunger Campaign Celebration Event



SARTA and Foodbank employees collect Harvest for Hunger donations during Stuff the Bus



FOODBANK 2020 LEAD GIFT ANNOUNCED

The Foodbank has received a very generous lead gift to support our strategic plan from Sequoia Financial Group in honor of their 25 years of service to the community. This lead gift will assist in closing the meal gap in our community, as laid out in the Foodbank's new five year strategic plan.

SEQUOIA
FINANCIAL GROUP



Learn more at
Foodbank2020.org



Dear friends,

In Northeast Ohio, the face of hunger will surprise you.

A new report released by the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank and Feeding America entitled **Map the Meal Gap 2016**, revealed that in Northeast Ohio,

one in seven individuals and nearly one in four children will face hunger this year.

The information that Feeding America, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Census Bureau provides with this study is what we report, but we wish it was better news. We are actively engaged in the fight to prevent hunger in this community, and this data demonstrates a pressing challenge that is deserving of our local response. This data also reminds me that our ability to do the work that we do, hinges upon public support, and **we hope this study moves you to get involved.**

My work puts me on the front lines of hunger every day, and I have seen firsthand the consequences, particularly for children, of not having enough to eat. Children are predominantly vulnerable to consequences like adverse physical, behavioral and mental health effects due to insufficient nutrition.

The Foodbank's hunger-relief partners like food pantries, hot meal sites and shelters support families with children at food programs throughout the year, and during the school year through an increasing number of afterschool backpack programs.

Thank you for your continued support. We cannot do the work we do alone.



Dan Flowers

Dan Flowers
President & CEO

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Hunger doesn't take a summer vacation and neither do we.





This summer, congress is working to complete the child nutrition reauthorization bill, which could contain harmful changes to the nutrition safety net for children. Please join your Foodbank as we advocate to strengthen children's access to the food they need to thrive. Sign up to receive advocacy alerts at akroncantonfoodbank.org/advocate.

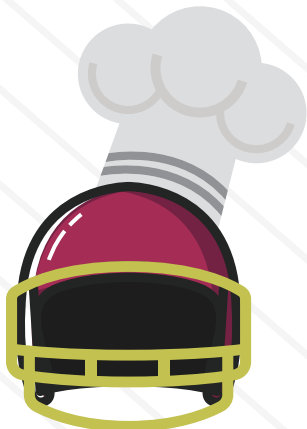
Sign up to volunteer.

The help volunteers supply is real, tangible, and relied on by more than 263,200 different people who benefit annually from the food we provide. To find the volunteer opportunity that is right for you or your group, visit akroncantonfoodbank.org/volunteer or contact our volunteer department at 330.535.6900.

Follow the Foodbank on social media.

Look for the official social media channels for the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

-  Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank
-  @ACRFoodbank
-  @ACRFoodbank
-  Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank



YOU'RE INVITED

August 30, 2016

Please visit akroncantonfoodbank.org/taste for additional details and to purchase tickets.

Presented by WQMX/WONE/WAKR/ANN



FOURTH ANNUAL
24-HOUR VOLUNTEER EVENT



September 9 & 10, 2016

Join us beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 9, 2016, when approximately 125 volunteers will be sorting and inspecting donated food in the Foodbank's 83,000 square-foot warehouse every 2 hours until 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 10, 2016.

Sign up today at OpOrange.org!

WIN THIS GUITAR AUTOGRAPHED BY 15 MUSIC LEGENDS.

Every \$5 raffle ticket purchased will provide 20 meals for those in need! Purchase raffle tickets online August 1 through September 30.

akroncantonfoodbank.org/guitar



Thank You Major Partners

Strong community partnerships are essential to our effort to not only serve, but to empower individuals and families facing hunger in Northeast Ohio. We are delighted to recognize our top partners for their support, and partnership, and hope that you continue to support these local partners, as they proudly contribute to us.

LEADERSHIP PARTNERS

200,000 + Meals



MISSION PARTNERS

80,000 + Meals

Akron Area Interfaith Council
Akron Beacon Journal
Akron Children's Hospital
Bimbo Bakeries
Dean Dairy Food Company
FreshMark, Inc.
GateHouse Ohio Media
General Mills, Inc.
GOJO Industries, Inc.

Haslinger Family Foundation
Heinz
Huntington National Bank
iheartmedia
Charles Robert Jelm Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Marc's
Northern Ohio Golf Charities Foundation, Inc.

Robert O. & Annamae Orr Family Foundation
Sequoia Financial Group, LLC
Shy Cellars
The Sisler McFawn Foundation
United Way of Summit County
WAKR, WONE, WQMX, ANN
Walgreen's

Recognition opportunities are based on total donations received during the previous calendar year. If you or your company would like more information on this program, please contact Leslie Genovese, lgenovese@acrfb.org or 330.777.7572.



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS MAKING CONNECTIONS. MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

CORE is made up of motivated, energetic young professionals interested in growing their professional network while helping feed those struggling with hunger in our area. Please visit akroncantonfoodbank.org/CORE for additional details and to register for our next event on August 10, 2016.

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.

