

Cincinnati's Oldest Soup Kitchen

Over-The-Rhine Kitchen
Walnut Hills Kitchen
Walnut Hills Pantry

Nourishing the Body, Mind, and Spirit



Kitchen Bites and Pantry Delites Nov 2010

Our Flood of Guests Continues

Mother Teresa said, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." At the Kitchens and Pantry we struggle with locating sufficient food and funds, especially with the major increase since summer in the number of hungry people arriving daily. The Drop Inn Center now only serves meals to their residents and the new Washington Park fence hinders others from serving meals to the homeless. Still, we have just been able to meet the challenge of additional guests thanks to our Weekend Warriors, our daily volunteers, and our regular food donors. Our continued success in caring for the poor with meals and groceries is because of generosity from YOU! Throughout this year of difficult economic times, YOU have been our source of support and compassion. **As you make your plans for the holidays, know that we continue to count on YOU! Please remember us with a donation today!**

Organizations Investing in Our Community

Did you know that Cincinnati has the third highest poverty rate in the USA (worse than NY, LA, or Chicago)? Or that about 33% of Cincinnati's children live in poverty? Many organizations have chosen to invest in the communities where they live and work. Here are some of the organizations who are addressing tough local issues in partnership with the Kitchens and Pantry. We salute them in putting their values into action!

- ✓ **Decosimo Certified Public Accountants** again chose the Kitchens and Pantry for their annual food drive and included a generous monetary donation.
- ✓ **Coca-Cola** employees supplied and served a meal at the WH Kitchen, also donating 5,000 drinking cups and provided various Coke products for pantry bags that week.
- ✓ As at the beginning of football season each year, several **Bengal wives** visited the OTR Kitchen for one of their monthly service dates. **Sheila Kelly, Allison Young and Anna Peko** served a delicious meal to our guests. A special thanks to **Domata and Anna Peko** for donating a supply of foods for our pantry program.
- ✓ Previously **Macy's Customer Service** helped serve meals at the WH Kitchen, but now have stepped up to join the Weekend Warriors by shopping, cooking, serving dinner every other month at the WH Kitchen starting in March 2011.
- ✓ Again this year, **Procter & Gamble** visited the WH Kitchen and Pantry to prepare and serve a meal as part of their *Live, Learn, and Thrive* efforts to utilize their brands and people in helping children around the world. P&G also donated several cases of body wash, mouthwash, deodorant, and dish soap to the Pantry – personal care items highly valued by our guests.
- ✓ Executives and staff from **Molina Healthcare** volunteered for the day at the OTR Kitchen and made a generous donation to offset the cost of our recently purchased van.
- ✓ **Cheryl Hill and General Electric's Corporate Compliance Department** will prepare and serve the Thanksgiving meal at the WH Kitchen on November 24, the second consecutive year serving the holiday meal. This thoughtful volunteer group also provides the paper products used for the meal to reduce our overhead spending.

The Board of Directors of the Kitchens and Pantry has elected Rita Nzinga as Board Vice President to replace Jerry Barney who recently resigned after five years of service. Thank you, Jerry, for your dedication!

We're Electronic!

On November 2, the Pantry rolled out our first software program with an electronic signature pad to track pantry eligibility forms. While this may seem ordinary in 2010, we are the second pantry in Ohio to adopt electronic record-keeping. The software creators, who wish to remain anonymous, donated the software and were present for the launch. We will keep electronic and manual records through the end of the fiscal year to ensure accurate recordkeeping with the new electronic system.



Future Angels

Estate planning can be an opportunity for you to ensure the good work you value can continue.

Please consider making the Kitchens and Pantry part of your will or estate. Contact

Patricia Wakim, Executive Director, at 513-961-1983, ext. 1, or

aposome@juno.com for a confidential discussion.



Easy, Secure Ways to Support the Kitchens & Pantry:

- ✓ Mail a check to P.O. Box 6045, Cincinnati, OH 45206
- ✓ Secure donation thru www.overtherhinekitchen.org [click on Make A Donation]
- ✓ Call 513-961-1983, ext 2, for gifts of food, supplies, or equipment





Bags of Thanks

- ♥ Good wishes to **Nancy Becker** granting our wish of a new Cuisinart food processor for the WH Kitchen.
- ♥ Good wishes to **Frisch's** for donating five cases of drinking cups for our guests. We were completely out!
- ♥ One of our serial donors is also a cereal donor, **General Mills**, supplying breakfast foods for Pantry bags.
- ♥ **All Saints Parish** donated over 160 pies from their Market Day Pie Drive - enough to supply both Kitchens for the holiday meals! One of our long-time weekend warriors, **Patty Sidenstick**, made the connection for us. 
- ♥ **Presto Foods** received our enthusiastic thanks as we received from them many generous gifts: chicken, sausage, pasta sauce, chips, French fries, peppers, mushrooms, cheese, and sauces, plus food safety gloves and food containers.
- ♥ Two stellar thank yous to **Starfire** who stocked shelves, assembled pantry bags, and made treat bags for the children who visit the pantry with their parents. Starfire enables individuals with disabilities to become active in their community.
- ♥ **Eurochoc Americas** donated 23 cases of exceptional chocolates. Merci de toutes vos bontés, Patrice LeMarie!
- ♥ Blessings to **Temple Sholom** for your gift of paper goods and food from your September food drive. We needed them!
- ♥ Our friends at **Matthew 25 Ministries** donated 225 cases of chicken flavored rice. This popular side dish was used in meals at the Kitchens as well as distributed to our guests in their pantry grocery bags.
- ♥ We are glowing thanks to customer service representative, **Rick Floyd**, of **Phillips Supply Company**. Rick donated his time and service call charge to discover and repair a broken switch on the OTR Kitchen floor buffer. Thanks Rick!
- ♥ Our long-time sponsor, **Isaac M. Wise Temple**, is coordinating all turkey donations needed for the OTR Thanksgiving meal. This is a huge burden lifted for us during the busy holidays! 
- ♥ A commercial meat slicer was donated to the WH Kitchen by **Brother Gene Mayer of the Franciscan Friars**. We can now more easily handle large deli meats and blocks of cheese. Please consider us for these larger types of gifts!
- ♥ For the third consecutive year **Tony Jones and his basketball team** have sponsored a meal at the WH Kitchen. During the year, the team raises money at their games to pay for the food and supplies used in cooking and serving the meal.
- ♥ Thank you to volunteer **Judy Caldwell** for recruiting a new donor of delicious bread, **Giminetti Baking Company**.
- ♥ **Richie's Fast Food** serves great southern and soul food. Each week two stores now donate extra chicken to us. Yum!
- ♥ On two occasions in September, **Springer Elementary School** donated enough individual cartons of orange juice for all our guests to enjoy during two meal services. Super tasty and nutritious! Kids, orange you glad you shared with us?

CU@OTR: Students Move Their Community

At the Kitchens and Pantry we actively support young people who demonstrate their compassion for others by interacting with and reaching out to those less fortunate. Please consider contacting the Kitchens and Pantry as your school develops long term programs and repeat opportunities for students to work with members of their community. Cheers to our stars!

- @ In September, seven students from **Ursuline Academy** began volunteering every week at the WH Kitchen and Pantry as part of their government and economic responsibility class. A new student group will participate every six weeks throughout the school year. Each of the classes will end their service opportunity by serving the meal to our guests.
- @ Thirty confirmation students from the **Isaac M. Wise Temple** including **Senior Rabbi Kamrass and Rabbi Baden** served lunch at the OTR Kitchen. The children also made sack lunches for guests to take with them.

Try A Day With Us!

- **Opportunities at both Kitchens Tuesday, Wednesday, &/or Thursday:**
 - Preparation 9:00-11:30a.m. and/or
 - Serving 12:00-1:00p.m. and/or
 - Clean up 1:00-2:00p.m. and/or spend the day with us!
- **Opportunities at Pantry on Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday:**
 - Bag groceries, stock shelves, etc. - 9:00-11:00a.m. or 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.
 - Finish bag preparation, distribute groceries to guests - 1:30-3:30p.m.
- **Pick up donations on Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday:**
 - Requires a valid driver's license. Use our cargo van.
 - 9:00a.m. – approx. 12:00p.m. (depends on the number of pick ups)

Wish List

- 9" (or larger) plates - plastic or Styrofoam
- 8 oz. cups - paper, plastic, or Styrofoam
- 2 commercial emersion blenders (21" shaft)
- 60 gallon trash bags
- 2 - 5 gallon coolers to replace the leaking coolers used to serve mealtime drinks at the WH Kitchen



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and save us a stamp!

Email us at aposervice2@juno.com