

Alliance Community Pantry
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July, 2018 Volume VII, Issue 7 Barb Armitage, Editor

MANY DONATIONS END THE SCHOOL YEAR

STUDENTS COLLECT FOOD FOR FOODBANK

Alliance, Marlinton and Minerva were among the 22 school districts that collected and delivered roughly 41,300 pounds of donated food to the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank in May. The food collection was the second annual “Hunger: The Bus Stops Here” fundraising drive that included school districts from five counties that are members of the Stark County Educational Service Center. The Foodbank continues to collect food and financial donations as part of its ongoing Harvest for Hunger campaign. This year’s goal is to provide \$1.31 million and 100,000 pounds of food, the equivalent of more than 5.2 million meals.



Dick Duro Passes - Our Tribute



Before the pantry opened there were three groups involved in the effort - Kiwanis, First Christian Church and Alliance of Churches. The First Christian Church had been distributing food regularly for over 20 years, thanks to the efforts of Dick Duro. He

shopped, organized and distributed food for his church for over 20 years. Even as we planned a food pantry that would be open more hours and days each month, we were awed and inspired by his long-time commitment to meeting hunger needs in Alliance. His work helped lay the groundwork for the Alliance Community Pantry. He will be missed.

BUCKEYE GIRLS STATE RETURNS

As they’ve done for several years, 20 of the nearly 900 Buckeye Girls State students visiting Mount Union in June visited the pantry and gave it a good cleaning. The 900 girls arrived with over 4,000 pounds of food which they donated to the pantry. In addition, their advisors and staff made a cash donation of \$300.

Following a brief history and explanation of the pantry the girls to the right cleaned. BGS has been a terrific supporter of the pantry and we hope to see them again next year.



NUTRITION INFORMATION FROM KSU STUDENTS

Clients at the pantry received important information in June from Kent State University nursing students. Mercedes Lancia and Megan Greller, students in Pamela Rafferty-Semon's Community Health class, gave nutrition lessons and the importance of proper diet to clients.



They discussed the vital nutritional value of fruits and vegetables and how to incorporate them into healthy meals, and how to prepare a balanced diet. Using handouts and informative bulletin boards, they went into detail on how to read food labels, with a focus on limiting sugar, trans fat and sodium.

The Kent nursing students have offered hands-on lessons in the past, and we always welcome them to the pantry.

Alliance Community Pantry Board Members

- Betsy Brown
- Betsy Cornell
- Joe Cullum
- David Daniels
- Marcia Domino
- Dave Floyd
- Jim Greiner, Treasurer
- Carol Henry
- Jody Konigseker, Pres.
- Kathy Kramer
- Mike Patterson, VP
- Glenn Rupp, Past. Pres.
- Betty Rush
- Bob Shaffer
- Gary Wagner, Secretary
- John Whitehair
- Sonya Wood
- Kyle Woodrow

WORLD TUNA DAY!? - Who Knew?

May 2 is internationally recognized as World Tuna Day and, as a result, the public relations students at Mount Union collected cans of tuna to share with our clients.



Alysha David, president of Mount's Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), and Courtney Pleasant delivered the cans of tuna to the pantry. The tuna was collected at the library when the PR students "sold" raffle tickets for chances to win items from the bookstore, including a hoodie, a water bottle, a t-shirt and a Mount mascot stuffed animal. Students got a raffle ticket with a donated can of tuna. The group's advisor is Dr. Angela Ferraro.

While pantry board and management changes each year, several of us who were on the ground floor when it opened like to stay involved. We meet periodically to talk about ways to improve service and assess progress. Recently Dave Puterbaugh, Betsy Cornell and I met to reflect on the last 8 years. Of the many surprises over the years, perhaps the biggest is that the pantry has maintained service all this time with no paid help. **We continue to run fully staffed by volunteers.** It's been an amazing ride. Thanks, Barb A



Students Prepare for work in Nonprofits

According to their teacher Beth Canfield-Simbrow, after a lengthy and animated discussion, her SOC 350 grants and planning class at the University of Mount Union awarded their annual \$1,000 class grant to the Alliance Community Pantry to be used to purchase food.



The class came to the pantry to clean during the semester and Beth said the students were impressed by how much need there was for food in the community, and how well the pantry was able to meet that need! She said they especially enjoyed meeting the pantry's "cleaning crew" of Corrine Hirvela, Judi Brush, Jane Helwig and Mike Patterson, who all served as excellent advocates for the pantry.

Money for the grant came from Mount Union's annual Trash to Treasure sale at the end of the school year which was organized by Abby Honaker Schroeder. The university has always been a wonderful supporter of the pantry through its gifts, food donations and many volunteers.