



**Pantry offers new clear, fresh, concise website thanks to talented volunteer**

We look back at our 13-year history of operating our pantry with all volunteers who want to make a difference in the community, and we see volunteers with a wide range of talents. We have volunteers experienced in personnel, finance, human relations, construction, electrical work, carpentry, warehouse organization, creative communications, office skills, and those who can do anything to make things work.

One of our talented volunteers who works as a screener on Wednesdays is Veronica Lanzer who used her experience and talents to redesign our website. Veronica has a background in marketing and sales in the travel industry, and has worked with anything and everything related to marketing, social media, and e-mail campaign websites.

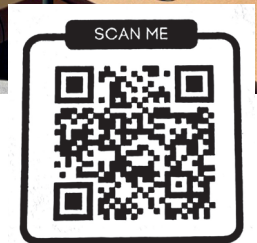
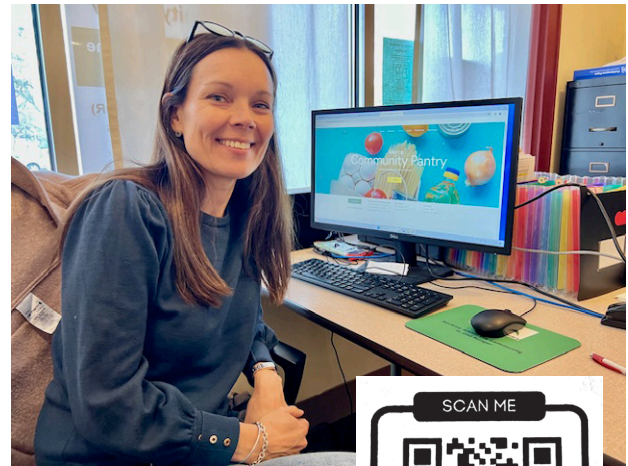
Our new website has it all and, thanks to Veronica, it's easy to find whatever you need.

You'll read about our history and how we operate with volunteers, how you can sign up to be a volunteer, and what jobs you might have. The site talks about how we are organized with a board or directors, pantry and day managers, warehouse personnel, screeners, packers, truck drivers and various coordinators, and an office manager.

Our clients can also find how to easily sign in and register to get food, how often they can pick it up, and when we are open. The site points out that clients visited us 12,942 times last year and we gave out 979,163 pounds of food.

And, of course, the website spells out the various ways individuals, businesses, schools and organizations can support us.

Please visit us at:  
**alliancecommunitypantry.org**



**SPREADING THE WORD AT COMMUNITY SUMMIT**

Our pantry took advantage of reaching a new audience on Feb. 1 when Bruce Helsel and Mike Patterson manned a table at the University of Mount Union's first Alliance for Community and Equity Summit.

The summit focused on building an inclusive community by overcoming inequities, and sessions throughout the day offered strategies to tackle the pressing challenges faced by organizations and our community,

Our pantry joined other organizations and non-profits to share information and handouts about the work we do. It was an important and productive day and, as a result, we attracted a couple new pantry volunteers.



## Our greeters & screeners are a key component to pantry operation

We had 12,942 people stop to pick up food at our Pantry last year and the first people to meet them were our Door Greeters and Screeners.

Greeters meet the clients at the door and collect photo ids, and the two screeners sitting inside in front of their computers to register each visit into PantryTrak, a data insights tool created by food banks and pantries across the country to help pinpoint opportunities to serve our hungry neighbors.

Clients are then given a ticket to present at the next pantry door to receive their cart of food. Clients may receive food every two weeks. The screeners also register new families.

Our data entry supervisor is Jan Horning.

Monday and Tuesday screeners have dedicated their time for nearly 10 years, and the two Wednesday crews have many new volunteers. We couldn't serve our community without them.

Monday greeters and screeners are Jo Van Fossen, Carol Bradway and Judy Douglas; Tuesday we have Pat Gates, Margaret Wise, and Sue Butler; and alternating to register clients on Wednesdays are Jan Horning, Diane Schuller, Veronica Lanzer, Cathy Henderson, Paula Lee, Doug Hendel and Victoria Bonner.



## GROWING FOR GOOD

Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024, was officially recognized as "Growing for Good Day" announced by Akron Mayor, Shamas Malik, as Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank unveiled its renovated Main Campus in Akron. Local leaders, campaign investors and volunteers, elected officials and board members helped the foodbank celebrate this historic milestone.

"The ribbon cutting formally concluded the \$17.5 million investment in our region's fight against food insecurity, and opens the door to a new era in our work," said Dan Flowers, President and CEO of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank.

The main campus renovation includes 10,000 sq. ft. welcome center, doubles the cooler and freezer space, adds new community spaces, and, upgrades to staff workspaces.



### FROM ALLIANCE COMMUNITY PANTRY BOARD

Betsy Brown, Pat Gates, Jim Greiner- Treas., Bruce Helsel- Pres., Jan Horning, Ivory Lyons, Missy Miller, Tim Morrison, Mike Patterson- VP, Jim Perone - Sec., Glenn Rupp, Betty Rush, Chris Schade, Beth Simbro, Marge Simmons, Cathy Torma, John Whitehair