



Alliance Community Pantry

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MOUNT UNION SUPPORT, A HALLOWEEN TRADITION

The help we get from Mount Union students has been consistent since we opened our pantry 15 years ago, and a day in early November was a prime example.

On Halloween students hiked all over town on collecting more than 3,800 pounds of food donated by city residents, and a few days later about 20 students from Beth Simbro's Women's Health Class worked with pantry volunteers to help organize and sort through the food. Others helped rake leaves.

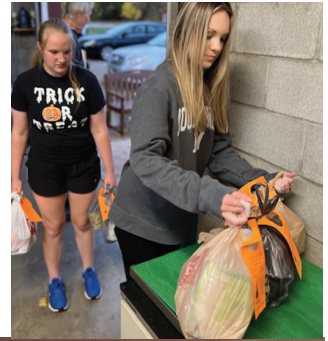
The annual event is organized by the Regula Center under the direction of Abby Schroeder. Mount's Greek organizations and clubs are assigned neighborhoods around the campus where members leave door hangers a few days before Halloween letting neighbors know they'll be collecting food donations on trick-or-treat night. Over the years the tradition has brought in more than 45,000 pounds of food for the pantry.

Topping this year's competition was Alpha Phi Omega with 989 pounds of food collected, followed by Sigma Alpha Epsilon with 666 pounds and Alpha Delta Pi with 538.

Pantry volunteers helping out were Jim Menegay, Sebastian Schubert, Keith Best and Libby and Mike

Patterson. Mount's Sigma Nu students who helped collect and organize the food were Ashley Cooper, who weighed and recorded the donations, and Troy Wise, Jacek Strotz and Aiden Everetts who helped pack it up.

We thank the Mount students and the community for helping us to live up to our goal of "Working within the community to end hunger."



HUNGER AWARENESS

We, along with several other pantries in the area, enjoyed an evening celebrating Hunger Awareness Month, an annual event put on by the Stark County Hunger Task Force recognizing the work being done to alleviate hunger in our communities.



Attending the Nov. 14 dinner were four Alliance Community Pantry board members, from left, Bruce Helsel, Mike Patterson, Pat Gates and Jan Horning.

Conducting the evening at the Zimmerman Symphony Center in Canton was executive director of the task force Stephanie Sweany who talked about all the work

being done by the Hunger Task Force's network of 37 pantries which pass out nearly 34,000 pounds of food a month.

Special awards went to Joan Benore, Backpack Volunteer of the Year; Adult Developmental Services, Pantry Volunteer of the Year; Louisville Community Cupboard, Hunger Fighter of the Year; and Goodwill industries of Greater Cleveland and Central Ohio, Community Pantry of the Year.



SUPER TRACKSTERS



Some friendly competition among members of Mount Union's track this year was a huge benefit to helping us provide more food for the people we serve.

Mount Union head track

coach, Kevin Lucas, seen here, and assistant coach Alek Erwin delivered 720 pounds of canned and packaged food on Nov. 5 that was collected by members of their track team. It was part of what the coaches call the Alliance Mega Bowl, which this year was the 13th year for the event.

Track team members were broken into three teams of around 30 participants each and they compete in various fun competitions. Among those were an obstacle course run, a wall sit where they pass a medicine ball, a push up competition, and this year a canned food collection for the pantry was part of the Mega Bowl.

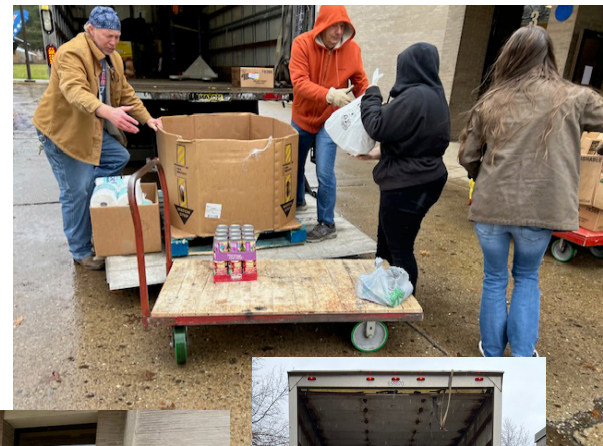
We totally appreciate the many creative ways Mount Union staff and students find to support our pantry.



HONOR SOCIETY FOOD DRIVE

Alliance High School's National Honor Society students continued their tradition of collecting food for our Pantry clients during the holiday season. Under the guidance of advisor Candace Worrell, the NHS students collected 737 cans and boxes of food, along with paper products, which our clients will certainly appreciate. Food drives such as this provides a wider selection of food and products for the people we serve.

Pantry volunteers Glenn Rupp and Bruce Helsel picked up the donations the Friday before Thanksgiving with the help of custodians and students. The pantry thanks AHS's NHS students, and our clients appreciate their continued support.



FROM ALLIANCE COMMUNITY PANTRY BOARD

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

