



## ANOTHER FACE OF POVERTY



As she does every semester, Dr. Beth Canfield-Simbro introduces some of her Mount Union classes to our Alliance Community Pantry by having them come down for a tour and spending time cleaning and doing chores that might help us serve our clients. On March 20 it was her Many Faces of Poverty class that worked hard for over an hour guided by our pantry manager Debbie Skubiak.

We always appreciate showing off our pantry and getting help from Mount Union students in so many ways.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPORT

The support we get from across the community continues to impress us at the Pantry. We would not be able to serve our clients without the support from individuals, schools, businesses, organizations, and clubs. Another example of that was clearly illustrated when Jayme Smith, a counselor at Alliance Middle School, stopped at the Pantry in the afternoon with her family to deliver food that has been donated by students at the middle school.

Jayme and her husband, Jon, and children Jojo, Jylliann and Jaymes carried 260 pounds of canned food and cereals that have been collected by the students of the middle school.

We thank them and everyone who continues to help feed those in need in the community.



# JAPANESE STUDENTS HELP OUT

A tradition since our pantry opened in 2010 continued the morning of March 24, as 13 students from Hiroshima Jogakuin Junior & Senior High School in Japan stopped in to help serve our clients. The students have been coming to Mount Union every year since 2010 – except for three years during the Covid pandemic – and among their many experiences has always been helping out at the pantry.

The girls, who had never seen a pantry, worked hard all morning sorting through and repacking a variety of packaged food, preparing and filling the baskets to be delivered outside to our clients, and helping load food into people's cars.

The students in grades 10th and 11th have been staying with families in the community and, in addition to working at the pantry, they have attended some Mount Union classes, designed some pottery at Hot Pots, visited Glamorgan Castle, met with some Alliance High School students, and enjoyed a meal at Chick-fill-A. That Thursday they also attended and shared their story with the Alliance Kiwanis Club.



They were accompanied by their Jogakuin teachers Florence Smith, who has made five trips to Mount Union, and Eiko Mae, who was making her first trip to Alliance. Escorting them from Mount Union was Darrell Gaitor, Residence Life Coordinator, who works with Dawn Daugherty, director of International Student Services.

Our pantry volunteers always look forward to their visit.



Students wrote about what a positive experience their work at the food pantry was. One student wrote about how important it was for her to see that people who utilize the food pantry aren't just "poor people," but that the need for a pantry can be for a variety of reasons.

## ALLIANCE COMMUNITY PANTRY BOARD

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