

Neighborhood Services, Inc.

Purpose

Neighborhood Services, Inc. was founded in 1965 by churches in the university district area, existing in the effort to alleviate poverty and provide food services, and material assistance to persons in need.

We improve the quality of life in the Columbus community by compassionately and respectfully serving our neighbors in need. This includes those from working, low-income families and individuals, unemployed individuals and their families, and single heads of household with young, dependent children.

Impact

In 2014, Neighborhood Services, Inc. provided a 7-day supply of food to 5,951 families. Additionally, 427 families visited our monthly fresh produce market, 218 families received a 3-day supply of food we call a “Go Bag” when they are without the correct eligibility documents or are homeless, 94 families visited our clothing room, 406 families received

back-to-school supplies, 170 families filed their taxes using AARP Tax Aide, and 627 children received Christmas gifts.

Stories from our neighbors:

- Jenna’s luck ran out when store-wide schedule cuts hit all employees hard. “I never expected to be in this situation. I’m starting to realize I was clueless about hunger, you really don’t get it until you’ve been there”.
- Sean walked to the pantry with a large rolling suitcase – a resourceful move when you have to carry groceries over a mile home. Sean has lived in central Ohio for about 20 years. Originally from New York, Sean was a welder at General Motors -- a good paying job that supported him, his wife, and their three kids. When those jobs disappeared, Sean found himself using a food pantry for the first time in his life. “Things could be worse,” he says. “One of my old coworkers is living in a homeless camp now,” he nervously laughed. “From a twenty-dollar-an-hour job to being homeless, it’s just crazy.”

Ohio State Partners

Public Health in Action
Ohio Union
University Area Commission
CAUSE program
Board Immersion program
Leadership in Community 2571

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers staff our food pantry Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. They register clients, help them shop in the Choice Food Pantry, assist with stocking shelves and perform other duties as needed.

We also rely on volunteers for many of our seasonal programs, including our back-to-school program, Christmas adoption program, and special holiday food programs at Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Contact

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Neighborhood Services, Inc.
Bring Your Hunger

50 ~1965 YEARS 2015~
of serving our neighbors

