



## 30 Partners in 30 Days



### **Broad Street Food Pantry: *More need & programs, but same mission for 40 years***

Broad Street Food Pantry's ties with Mid-Ohio Foodbank are so deep that they were actually involved in the planning for the initial Operation Feed Food Bank (later renamed Mid-Ohio Foodbank).

"Our food pantry was started in 1971 in response to all the requests for food assistance being made to the church office," says Pantry Manager Kathy Kelly-Long. "A group of women in our congregation, led by Elizabeth Robinson, collected donations and stocked a small pantry to provide help to those who requested it."

Not much has changed since except, obviously, the size of the operation. Kelly-Long says the pantry now serves an average of 1,500 people per month, about 45% of which are children, and in their last fiscal year they helped 3,245 different households from 51 different zip codes.

"With a poverty rate of 40% and no full service groceries in our immediate vicinity, many clients rely on us as a regular source of their monthly food supply," notes Kelly-Long. "This understanding, coupled with a growing awareness of the relationship between diet and health, has led us to focus more effort on increasing the nutritional value of the food we provide our clients. We have been grateful for the support of the Foodbank in providing more fresh produce through shop thru and the produce markets."



Other initiatives at the food pantry include providing recipe tips and a new Grab & Go lunch program,



which debuted this summer. The pantry also works closely with COMPASS, the homelessness prevention ministry of Broad Street Church, to provide a wide variety of additional services, ranging from nutrition classes to HIV testing.

"These services are available to all clients of either the food pantry or COMPASS at no cost," Kelly-Long says. "All these programs are in keeping with our goal to help our clients improve their health and well-being."

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Learn More

**Broad Street Food Pantry**  
[www.bspc.org](http://www.bspc.org)  
614-221-6552

**Mid-Ohio Foodbank**  
[www.midohiofoodbank.org](http://www.midohiofoodbank.org)  
614-274-7770