



## 30 **P**artners in 30 Days



### **Holy Family Food Pantry & Soup Kitchen: 32 years serving Franklinton & downtown**

In the late 1970s, Fr. Francis X. Schweitzer of Holy Family Church recognized a great need in the surrounding Franklinton community on Columbus's West Side. The church's ministry to low-income individuals began as a small food distribution out of the church basement, giving out whatever products they were able to gather to hungry people in the community. Holy Family partnered with Mid-Ohio Foodbank a couple of years later.

Today, Holy Family Food Pantry serves almost 3,000 people per month, with the Soup Kitchen serving an additional 8,000 meals. These numbers do not include the numerous brown-bag meals that the agency distributes to homeless and others clients.



Most food pantries have a set service area, especially inside of Columbus. Holy Family has set their service area as zip codes 43215, 43222 and 43223, but Pantry Director Frances Carr says they won't turn folks away, even if they don't reside in these areas. She recognizes that a lot of times, when an individual is hungry, other food pantries that normally serve their area may not be open or available. Both the Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen are open daily, Monday through Friday, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Part of Holy Family's philosophy is to be sure that every person is treated with compassion and respect. "We have a policy here," says Carr. "Everyone should be treated like you want to be treated. You don't feed people what you wouldn't feed yourself. That's worked out really well for us."

Carr and the Holy Family team are grateful for the faithful volunteers who help them get food out to those who are hungry. The agency relies on a wide variety of groups, including insurance companies, school children, other organizations, and local lawyers & doctors, to keep the pantry & soup kitchen running.

There are many people in Franklinton and the surrounding areas who have recently lost their jobs or been laid off due to the poor state of the economy. Carr says that illness is also a constant drain on people's incomes, causing them to need the services of the Food Pantry & Soup Kitchen. The folks at Holy Family are working hard to make sure that, regardless of situation, no one goes hungry.

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Learn More

Holy Family Food Pantry & Soup Kitchen  
[www.holyfamilycolumbus.org/sec\\_skmp.html](http://www.holyfamilycolumbus.org/sec_skmp.html)  
614-461-9444

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